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PRESS RELEASE

GeoNX-2026 concludes at IIT (ISM) Dhanbad; experts stress role of computational geotechnics in nation-building

The two-day Expert Discussion and Hands-on Training Program “GeoNX-2026” on Slope Stability, Tunnelling and Open Pit Mining using MIDAS GTS NX concluded on Friday at with experts highlighting the growing importance of computational geotechnics and numerical modelling in modern mining and infrastructure projects.

The valedictory session was addressed by IIT (ISM) Director Prof. Sukumar Mishra, Prof. R.K. Sinha, Acting Head of the Department of Mining Engineering, and Prof. Swapnil Mishra, Coordinator of GeoNX-2026. During the concluding session, the speakers underlined the need for advanced analytical tools for safer tunnelling, slope stability assessment and underground excavation projects in view of India’s rapidly expanding infrastructure sector.

Prof. Sukumar Mishra linked the technical themes of the workshop with the country’s infrastructure push under the PM Gati Shakti initiative and said that modern infrastructure projects require rigorous scientific analysis and advanced computational methods. Prof. R.K. Sinha emphasised that computational geotechnics has become central to mine safety and underground construction practices, while Prof. Swapnil Mishra called for greater interdisciplinary collaboration among earth science and engineering disciplines through numerical modelling platforms.

The programme, organised by the Department of Mining Engineering in association with the IGS Dhanbad Chapter and supported by MIDAS IT and TEXMiN, witnessed participation of more than 80 students, researchers, faculty members and industry professionals.

The workshop had begun on May 8 with an inaugural session presided over by Deputy Director Prof. Dheeraj Kumar in the presence of Prof. Keka Ojha, Dean (CEP), Prof. R.K. Sinha and Prof. Swapnil Mishra. Over the two days, participants attended expert lectures and hands-on sessions on NATM tunnel analysis, slope stability, underground excavation and open pit mine modelling using MIDAS GTS NX software.

Expert sessions were conducted by Dr. Soumiya Chawla of IIT (ISM), Mr. Chiranjib Sarkar, Principal Engineer of GEOCONSULT India, and Dr. Siddharth Pathak, Technical Support Engineer at MIDAS. The programme concluded with certificate distribution and discussions on future collaborations in AI-assisted geotechnical analysis and real-time slope monitoring.

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