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PRESS-RELEASE

IIT (ISM) Dhanbad Collaborates in Seva Parv 2025 Awareness Programme at Sona Devi University, Ghatsila

As part of the nationwide observance of *Seva Parv 2025*, a day-long awareness programme on environmental challenges was successfully organized today at Sona Devi University, Ghatsila, Jharkhand. The event was hosted by Jharkhand EIACP (PC-HUB), Department of Forest, Environment & Climate Change, Government of Jharkhand, in collaboration with the EIACP Programme Centre (Resource Partner), Department of Environmental Science & Engineering, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad.

The programme began with the ceremonial lamp lighting, followed by the felicitation of the Chief Guest, Shri Prabhakar Singh, Founder & Chancellor of Sona Devi University. In his special address, Shri Singh emphasized the role of youth in building a sustainable future and called for active community participation in environmental stewardship.

Prof. Alok Sinha, Head, Department of Environmental Science & Engineering and Coordinator, EIACP (PC-RP), IIT (ISM) Dhanbad, delivered a keynote lecture on "*Water Pollution Management.*" He underscored the urgency of addressing wastewater discharge from industrial and domestic sources and highlighted innovative treatment methods and policy approaches to safeguard freshwater resources.

Prof. Suresh Pandian E., Associate Professor, Department of Environmental Science & Engineering and Co-coordinator, EIACP (PC-RP), IIT (ISM), spoke on "*Urban Air Pollution.*" He explained the causes and consequences of deteriorating air quality in cities, the significance of the Air Quality Index (AQI), and its linkages to public health, while stressing sustainable practices and policy interventions.

A joint presentation on *Mission LiFE* was made by Mr. Sameer Suman, Programme Officer, Jharkhand EIACP (PC-HUB), and Mr. Bishwajit Das, Programme Officer, IIT (ISM) EIACP (PC-RP). They highlighted how adopting pro-environmental habits and sustainable lifestyles can help mitigate the climate crisis.

The event also featured an open-room discussion on "*Environmental Challenges: Air and Water in Jharkhand,*" encouraging participation from faculty, students, and local stakeholders. The interactive exchange fostered community-driven ideas for tackling regional environmental issues.

The programme concluded with the *Mission LiFE Pledge*, administered by Mr. Pankaj Kumar, Information Officer, Jharkhand EIACP (PC-HUB), reinforcing the participants' commitment to sustainable living and environmental protection.

Around 300 participants, including students, faculty, officials, and local stakeholders, attended the programme. Their enthusiastic involvement reflected the true spirit of *Seva Parv*, which stands for selfless service and collective responsibility. Through insightful lectures, discussions, and pledges, the event reinforced the message that *service to the environment is service to humanity.*

Rajni Singh
Dean (Corporate Communications)