



भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (भारतीय खनि विद्यापीठ), धनबाद Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines), Dhanbad

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PRESS-RELEASE

IIT (ISM) Dhanbad Hosts National Workshop “TUN-AID 2025” on Tunnelling Advancements

The Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines) Dhanbad, inaugurated a three-day national workshop titled “*Tunnelling Advancements in Difficult Grounds: Numerical Modelling and Machine Learning Approach (TUN-AID 2025)*” on Monday at TEXMiN, i2H Building.

The event, jointly organized by the Department of Mining Engineering and the Indian Geotechnical Society (IGS) Dhanbad Chapter, brought together an enthusiastic mix of students, researchers, and professionals from disciplines such as Mining Engineering, Tunnelling and Underground Space Technology, Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, and Fuel, Mineral & Metallurgical Engineering.

Industry delegates from Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL), PMT Infrascience, and MEGA Group also participated, reinforcing the vital link between academia and industry in advancing tunnelling technologies. The inaugural ceremony was graced by **Chief Guest Dr. Manoj Verman**, ROCSCIENCE Representative – India & South Asia and President of the ISRM Commission on Hard Rock Excavation, and **Guest of Honour Dr. A. P. Singh**, Honorary Secretary, IGS. Both shared valuable insights on emerging research and industrial practices in tunnelling through complex geological conditions.

The event is being organized under the **patronage of Prof. Sukumar Mishra, Director, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad**, and presided over by **Prof. Dheeraj Kumar, Deputy Director. Prof. B. S. Choudhary**, Head of the Department of Mining Engineering and Chairman of TUN-AID 2025, along with **Prof. Sarat Das**, Secretary, IGS Dhanbad Chapter, also addressed the gathering, emphasizing the importance of cross-disciplinary collaboration and advanced computational approaches in modern tunnelling.

The inaugural session saw active participation and was lauded for its well-coordinated execution by **Prof. Swapnil Mishra (Convener), Prof. Gopi Krishna (Co-convener)**, and the student coordinators — *Jyoti Jagajjita Raj, Susmit Mantayya Swami, and Ashwani Kumar*.

Over the next two days, the workshop will feature expert sessions, interactive discussions, and technical presentations. International speakers **Dr. Bineshian Hoss** (Australia) and **Prof. Kim Byungmin** (South Korea) will address participants in hybrid mode, while **Prof. V. M. S. R. Murthy** will deliver a session on November 4. Other eminent speakers include **Dr. Mainak Ghosh Roy (NHPC), Dr. Priyanka Bhartiya (COWI), Dr. Anshul Sindhwani (L&T), Mr. Rohan Pawade (L&T), Ms. Sharada Niphade (L&T), Mr. Vishal Bansal (NHAI), and Mr. Chiranjib Sarkar (Geoconsult)**.

With a focus on integrating numerical modelling and machine learning approaches in tunnelling and underground engineering, *TUN-AID 2025* aims to foster innovation, collaboration, and capacity-building among students, researchers, and professionals alike — marking a major step toward advancing underground construction technologies in India.

Rajni Singh
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