



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 Opens Centenary Foundation Week; PM Principal Secretary Dr. P. K. Mishra Praises Institute's Century-Long Role in Nation-Building

IIT (ISM) Dhanbad began its **Centenary Foundation Week** on Wednesday with a ceremony that blended tradition, technology and national purpose, marking one of the most historic moments in the institute's 100-year journey. The inaugural session, graced by **Dr. P. K. Mishra, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister**, was conducted with solemn **Vedic chanting, shankh naad and ceremonial lamp-lighting**, setting a dignified and emotionally resonant tone for the celebrations. The session was anchored by **Prof. Rajni Singh, Dean (Corporate Communications)**, whose poised moderation drew appreciation from the Chief Guest for its clarity and warmth.

Director **Prof. Sukumar Mishra** welcomed the gathering with a deeply reflective address, stating that the centenary marks **"not merely a celebration, but an affirmation of mission."** He described IIT (ISM)'s evolution—from its founding in 1926 on the model of the Royal School of Mines, London, to its emergence as a multidisciplinary IIT—as a journey shaped by **excellence, resilience and service to the nation**. He underscored the institute's expanding contributions in **Mining 4.0, clean energy, digital engineering, sustainability, AI and critical minerals**, asserting that **"the future we begin shaping today holds even greater promise."**

MNIT Jaipur Director **Prof. N. P. Padhy**, felicitated as a distinguished guest, praised IIT (ISM)'s remarkable transformation and said that very few institutions in India embody such a deep legacy of national impact. Calling the institute **"an inspiration for the technical education ecosystem,"** he lauded its research momentum, innovation culture and global linkages. He acknowledged Prof. Mishra's leadership for infusing **"clarity of vision and dynamic progress"** into the institute's next-century roadmap, and emphasized the need for collaborative ecosystems to drive India's aspirations for **Viksit Bharat @ 2047**.

British Deputy High Commissioner **Andrew Alexander Fleming** brought an international dimension to the ceremony, expressing delight at being part of IIT (ISM)'s centenary. He inaugurated the TEXMiN collaboration with UK-based **Geotech** to establish a digitization lab and described the partnership as a reflection of the **UK-India Vision 2035**. Calling critical minerals a cornerstone of the future, he said the collaboration strengthens shared goals in **innovation, sustainable supply chains and advanced mining technologies**. He recalled that the partnership began during a mining conference last year and affirmed his confidence in expanding UK-India cooperation with IIT (ISM) in the years ahead.

The most awaited address of the morning came from **Dr. P. K. Mishra**, whose speech combined national vision with institutional appreciation. Calling IIT (ISM) **"a national asset that has strengthened India's capacity in mining, technology and human capital for a century"**, he praised the institute's role in nurturing scientific excellence. He highlighted India's strong economic fundamentals, **technology-driven governance**, and frontier achievements in **space, green energy, quantum technologies and digital public infrastructure**. Linking IIT (ISM)'s next century to India's roadmap for **Viksit Bharat @ 2047**, he emphasized the importance of advancing research in **critical minerals, AI, sustainability and public-purpose technologies**, and underscored the need for **women-led development**, inclusivity and environmentally responsible innovation. Dr. Mishra said he was impressed by the institute's innovation ecosystem and expressed confidence that **IIT (ISM)'s faculty, students and alumni will play a defining role in shaping the nation's technological future**.

Following the formal speeches, the Chief Guest and dignitaries embarked on a series of inaugural visits as per the detailed schedule, including a walkthrough of the **Virtual Reality Mine Simulator Lab**, a symbolic **Centenary Plantation Drive**, and the unveiling of multiple advanced research and training facilities at TEXMiN such as the **Digital Mining Infrastructure Lab powered by Private 5G**, the **TEXMiN-Geotek Drill Core Digitisation Laboratory**, and underground mining simulation galleries. A key moment of the day was the unveiling of the **Gyan Vigyan Prangan**, a vast innovation arena showcasing **AI-driven industrial systems, digital twins, robotics, clean-energy**



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prototypes, 3D metaverse-based mining applications and Indian Knowledge Systems, reflecting the institute's bold stride into its second century.

The ceremony concluded with the **word of gratitude delivered by Prof. Dheeraj Kumar, Deputy Director**, who acknowledged the Chief Guest's inspiring guidance, the dignitaries' presence, the meticulous efforts of faculty and staff, and the spirited participation of students and alumni. The inaugural session closed with the **National Anthem**, marking the end of a morning that carried the weight of history and the energy of the future.

As IIT (ISM) enters its centenary week—filled with academic conclaves, exhibitions, alumni interactions, student showcases and cultural evenings—the institute stands reaffirmed in its commitment to national development. The day's events projected IIT (ISM) not just as an institution celebrating its past, but as a **future-shaping force aligned with India's vision for Viksit Bharat @ 2047**, poised to lead in areas of strategic technology, sustainable progress and global scientific leadership.

Rajni Singh

Dean (Corporate Communications)