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PRESS-RELEASE

IIT (ISM) Dhanbad Strengthens STEM Education Among BCCL PAP and Underprivileged Students Through Regular School-Based Learning Programme

Reinforcing its commitment to inclusive and quality education, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad is conducting regular STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) classes for students of Classes IX and X in schools located in Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) operational areas. The initiative aims to promote scientific temper, strengthen conceptual understanding, enhance analytical abilities and encourage students to pursue higher education and careers in STEM disciplines.

The programme primarily benefits children from underprivileged backgrounds, including those belonging to Project Affected Persons (PAP) families—households affected by mining and other development activities. STEM, which integrates Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, is widely recognized for fostering critical thinking, innovation, creativity and problem-solving skills among young learners.

The initiative is being implemented by the **Department of Management Studies & Industrial Engineering, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad**, under the guidance of **Prof. Rashmi Singh** and **Prof. Niladri Das**, who are leading the programme as Coordinator and Co-Coordinator respectively. Supported under the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme of BCCL, the initiative seeks to bridge educational gaps and create greater academic opportunities for students residing in coalfield regions.

Regular classes are currently being conducted at **Bhagirath Brahmachari High School, Girls High School, Railway Colony, Bhaga**, and **H.S. Bhuli Nagar**. As part of the programme, Prof. Rashmi Singh, Prof. Niladri Das and other IIT (ISM) experts regularly visit the schools and conduct structured academic sessions designed to supplement classroom teaching through interactive, student-centric and experiential learning methodologies.

The programme builds on a series of STEM outreach initiatives conducted by IIT (ISM) Dhanbad in recent weeks at schools across BCCL operational areas, including programmes at Nawagarh, Jharia, Rajganj and Bhaga. Through innovative demonstrations and hands-on experiments, these sessions have helped students better understand scientific concepts while nurturing curiosity and scientific inquiry.

The principals of the participating schools, along with teachers and students, have appreciated the initiative and its positive impact on student engagement and learning outcomes. Regular classes will continue throughout the programme period to ensure sustained academic support and meaningful long-term educational benefits for participating students.

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