



# भारतीयप्रौद्योगिकीसंस्थान (भारतीयखनिविद्यापीठ), धनबाद Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines), Dhanbad

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## **PRESS-RELEASE**

### **One-Day Stakeholders' Meeting and Brainstorming Session on Capacity Building and Training Program for Tribals in Jharkhand held at IIT (ISM) Dhanbad**

The Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines) Dhanbad, successfully conducted a **Stakeholders' Meeting and Brainstorming Session** on “Capacity Building and Training Programmes on Basic and Advanced Level Information Technology and Computer Training for Tribals in Jharkhand” on October 17, 2025.

This initiative, sponsored by the **Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India**, under the **Centre of Excellence at IIT (ISM) Dhanbad**, aims to empower tribal youth through digital literacy, skill enhancement, and technology-driven employment opportunities.

The event, held at the **Conference Hall of the Department of Management Studies and Industrial Engineering**, brought together a diverse group of stakeholders to deliberate on strategies for effective implementation, monitoring, and future expansion of the programme.

The session began with a traditional lamp-lighting ceremony led by **Prof. Sukumar Mishra, Director, IIT (ISM)**, in the presence of **Prof. Dheeraj Kumar, Deputy Director**, and **Prof. Sandeep Mondal, Head, Department of Management Studies and Industrial Engineering (DMSIE)**. Representatives from the **Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Department of SC, ST, Minority and Backward Class Welfare, Government of Jharkhand, Tribal Research Institute**, and the **Office of the Tribal Welfare Commissioner** also participated.

Eminent academicians from the **Central University of Jharkhand, Ranchi University**, and **S.P. College, Dumka**, alongside representatives from the **Jharkhand State Livelihood Promotion Society (JSLPS)**, **NGOs, EMRS schools, local entrepreneurs**, and **industry experts**, shared valuable insights during the brainstorming session.

The programme is being led by **Prof. Rashmi Singh, Assistant Professor**, and **Prof. Niladri Das, Professor**, along with **Prof. Sandeep Mondal** and **Prof. J.K. Pattanayak** from the Department of Management Studies and Industrial Engineering. The dedicated project team includes **Mr. Nilesh Kumar, Mr. Sunny Kumar, Ms. Somana Banerjee**, and **Mr. Firdaus Ansari**.

Delivering the **presidential address**, **Prof. Sukumar Mishra**, Director, IIT (ISM), emphasized that *true progress begins at the local level and expands globally*. Speaking about the initiative under the Centre of Excellence for Tribal Development, he highlighted the importance of engaging with tribal communities possessing rich, untapped knowledge. He lauded the faculty efforts in reaching remote regions and underscored that *technology must harmonize with humanities and management to address societal needs*. Prof. Mishra reiterated that holistic education—integrating **STEM with compassion**—is vital for sustainable and inclusive growth.

**Prof. Dheeraj Kumar**, Deputy Director, highlighted that the meeting aimed to gather **feedback from stakeholders** to strengthen and refine the ongoing training programmes for tribals.

In her **welcome address**, **Prof. Rashmi Singh** outlined the journey of the **Centre of Excellence for Tribal Development**, established at IIT (ISM) Dhanbad in **2023**, and elaborated on the various **training programmes**



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in **Basic and Advanced IT and Computer Training** funded by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. She mentioned that these programmes are designed to enhance employability through hands-on training in **computer operations, software applications, and internet use**, with recent activities including a **three-day boot camp for EMRS students**.

**Prof. Sandeep Mondal, Head, DMSIE**, welcomed the participants and shared an overview of the **Department's history, academic initiatives, and outreach activities**, reaffirming IIT (ISM)'s commitment to inclusive and sustainable development through technology and management education.

This interactive session served as a platform to build a **collaborative framework linking academia, government, and industry**—fostering sustainable digital empowerment among Jharkhand's tribal communities. Through collective dialogue and knowledge exchange, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad continues to advance its mission of promoting **inclusive growth, digital empowerment, and sustainable livelihoods** for tribal populations.

Rajni Singh

*Dean (Corporate Communications)*