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## **Press Release**

**BBC Lodon honours IIT (ISM) alumnus, Late Shri Jaswant Singh Gill on the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of great mine rescue of 1989 in which 65 miners trapped in a flooded mine in Raniganj were rescued; releases audio story on the rescue carried out single handedly by Late Shri Jaswant Singh Gill by fabricating 2.5-meter steel capsule on the spot.**

BBC London has released the audio story of great rescue of miners carried out by Late Shri Jaswant Singh, a 1965 Mining Engineering alumnus of IIT (ISM) Dhanbad. The audio story based on the talk of BBC's Rachel Nylor of BBC with Sarpreet Singh; son of Late Jaswant Singh Gill has been released as part of witness history series of BBC on 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of rescue of 65 miners.

Notably, Jaswant Singh Gill who was posted in Mahabir Colliery of Eastern Coalfield Limited in Raniganj during the time of incident in 1989 when water from the adjoining areas gushed into the mine due to rupturing of one of the walls of the colliery during coal excavation process, fabricated a 2.5-meter steel capsule on spot. The capsule was later drilled inside the mine to the spot where 64 miners were lying trapped. Gill who went inside the mine through the capsule every time brought all the 64 miners safely outside the mine. Shri Jaswant Singh Gill was honoured with Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak by the then then President of India, Late Shri Ramaswamy Venkataraman in 1991.

A Bollywood movie Mission Raniganj, the Great Bharat Rescue Starring Akshay Kumar was also released last year based on the great rescue carried out by Late Shri Jaswant Singh Gill and Coal India also honoured him with a lifetime achievement award.

IIT (ISM) students, officers and faculty members and staff got the opportunity to interact online with Bollywood star Shri Akshay Kumar ahead of release of movie on September 29, 2023, who played the lead role in the upcoming movie, Mission Raniganj, based on the valiant act of our alumnus, Jaswant Singh Gill, Mining Engineering.

During the interactive session with the IIT ISMites, during the last year Shri Akshay Kumar who joined live from London, took questions from students and responded to their queries and expressed his desire to visit IIT (ISM). Prof J K Pattanayak, the then Director of IIT (ISM) who was present during the online interaction held at Penman Auditorium along with Prof Dheeraj Kumar Deputy Director and Prof Rajni Singh Dean (Corporate Communications) besides the other faculty members greeted Akshay Kumar for the movie featuring the act of daredevilry of Late Shri Jaswant Singh Gill.

Rajni Singh  
**Dean (Corporate Communications)**