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<u>**PRESS RELEASE**</u>

## Eminent experts of Ministry of Labour and Employment hail the Innovative ideas of participating students at Smart India Hackathon.

As the two day mega event of grand finale of Smart India Hackathon organized by Innovation Cell of Ministry of Education at one of the 75 nodal centres at IIT (ISM) concluded today after four rounds of evaluation by a panel of 18 Judges including six senior officials of Ministry of Labour and Employment they all came all praise for all the 113 participants of 19 teams, including their innovative ideas, rigorous effort in carrying out analysis of the problems assigned to them and their passion to solve them.

The Jury comprised of Mr Deepangkar Guha, Deputy Secretary Ministry of Labour and Employment; Dr Shikha Anand, Director –National Career Service Portal; Dinesh K Dharni, Deputy Director (IS) Employment Provident Fund Organization (EPFO); Dr Helen R Sekhar, Senior Fellow (Faculty), Coordinator, National Resource Centre on Child Labour; Dr Otojit Kshetrimanyun, Fellow (Faculty), VV Giri National Labour Institute and Ashwani Kumar, Joint Director DGE, Employment Provident Fund Organization.

Shikha Anand said, "The innovative ideas used by students as part of 36 hour brainstorming exercise to solve the problems of our department (Labour & Employment) are worth appreciation and some these can be implemented".

"Some of the ideas put forth during the event speaks volumes of farsightedness of the students and very innovative in nature" said Anand.

Dinesh K Dharni on the other hand said, "The effort put in by the participating students to involve technology to find out solution of the six problems of our Labour and Employment Department including one of Employment Provident Fund Organization as part of the Smart India Hackathon is a right step to involving youth in positive direction.

Helen R Shekhar said "While witnessing the generation next putting their best of efforts to solve the problems being faced by different departments we had the glimpse of Future of India"

She also lauded IIT (ISM) for perfectly accomplishing the role of nodal center of SIH with all perfection be it on front of hospitality for participating students, mentors, experts or other arrangements.

Other experts of the Ministry of Labour and Employment including Deepangkar Guha, Otojit Kshetriyam and Ashwani Kumar while elaborating about the objective of organizing Smart India Hackathon also appreciated infrastructure, facilities and above all the team spirit at IIT (ISM) Dhanbad.

Notably, IIT (ISM) acted as one of 75 nodal centers for the grand finale of Smart India Hackathon which began on August 25 at 9.33 a.m. and 19 teams from different engineering colleges from across the country took part in the event during which 18 judges including 12 internal judges besides the six judges of the ministry of Labour and Employment carried out four rounds of evaluation of the coding process of the participants.

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