

For Immediate Release: April 1, 2025

## PRESS-RELEASE

## IIT (ISM) Dhanbad Celebrates Utkal Dibasa with Cultural Grandeur

The Kalinga Samaj of IIT (ISM) Dhanbad marked the 90th foundation day of Odisha, Utkal Dibasa, with a vibrant cultural celebration at the Penman Auditorium of IIT (ISM). The event showcased the rich traditions of Odisha through music, dance, art, and cuisine, reinforcing the institute's commitment to cultural diversity and heritage.

Mr. Gourahari Das, a renowned creative writer, journalist, and academician, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. He was joined by Prof. Sukumar Mishra, Director of IIT (ISM), along with distinguished guests, including Prof. D.C. Panigrahi, former Director of IIT (ISM); Prof. J.K. Pattanayak of the Department of Management Studies & Industrial Engineering and former Director of IIT (ISM); Dr. P.K. Panigrahi, Dr. B.K. Purohit, Dr. Sujata Hota, and Mrs. Sakuntala Mishra, President of Deepti Ladies Club and wife of Director Prof. Sukumar Mishra.

The event commenced at 6:15 p.m. with an introduction to Utkal Dibasa by B.Tech students Tushar and Chinmay. This was followed by the ceremonial lighting of the lamp by the esteemed guests, symbolizing the enlightenment and cultural richness of Odisha. The dignitaries were then felicitated, after which Mr. Gourahari Das delivered an insightful speech on the significance of Utkal Dibasa and the importance of promoting Odia culture, customs, and traditions on a global scale.

A series of enthralling cultural performances ensued, beginning with a captivating Odissi dance, followed by a melodious song rendition by Prashant. The audience was treated to a spectacular Sambalpuri dance performance, a poetry recitation by Trupti, and a mesmerizing Gotipua dance. Other highlights included performances by Manisha Manjan, Susmita, and Soumendra, along with a Kathak dance presentation and solo performances by Ashutosh and Rupal. The grand finale featured the staging of 'Mughal Tamasha,' a traditional folk drama of Odisha, which was the highlight of the festival.

The celebration of Utkal Dibasa at IIT (ISM) Dhanbad not only paid tribute to Odisha's glorious history but also provided a platform for students and faculty to immerse themselves in the cultural vibrancy of the state. The event successfully fostered a sense of unity and appreciation for India's diverse traditions.

Rajni Singh Dean (Corporate Communications)