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PRESS-RELEASE

IIT (ISM) Dhanbad Hosts HackFest 2025, a 36-Hour Tech Innovation Marathon

The Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines), Dhanbad, has once again become a hub of innovation and collaboration as over 125 teams from premier technical and academic institutes across the country gathered to participate in HackFest 2025, a 36-hour national hackathon. The event, organized by the Office of Dean, Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship (IIE) from April 4 to 6, 2025, commenced today with a grand inaugural ceremony at the Penman Auditorium, graced by Prof. Sukumar Mishra, Director of IIT (ISM), as the Chief Guest.

In his address, Prof. Mishra encouraged the young technocrats participating in the competition to enjoy the festival and winning or losing is secondary. He emphasized the significance of sense of enjoying in having better productivity.

Prof. Dheeraj Kumar, Deputy Director threw light on the history of organizing the hackfest at IIT (ISM) also exhorted students to work on such ideas which are in tune with SDG goals

The event will see the participating teams working intensively over the next 36 hours on a wide array of cutting-edge problem statements. Prof. Alok Das, Dean IIE, shared insights into the nature of the challenges, which range from building an AI-powered autonomous border surveillance system to developing a mobile app for ticket sales tracking and event analytics. Other notable challenges include the design of decentralized arbitration systems, AI-powered multichannel sentiment monitoring, real-time Q&A assistants using streaming data, and interactive gaming applications like HectoClash.

Prof. MK Singh, Dean Academic; Prof SK Gupta, Dean of Students Welfare; Shri Prabodh Pandey; Registrar, IIT (ISM) were also present during the function as other distinguished guests.

Giving Details, about the significance of the hackathon, Prof. Saurabh Srivastava, Faculty Coordinator, said, "With a total prize pool of ₹1 lakh and attractive goodies, HackFest 2025 is more than a competition. It's an opportunity for young minds to get noticed by top companies, many of which are offering internship opportunities to participants with outstanding projects."

Echoing the spirit of innovation, Mr. Ramesh Prasad, Technical Officer at the Naresh Vashisht Centre for Technology and Innovation, noted that HackFest is aimed at fostering a culture of entrepreneurship and real-world problem-solving. "This event is about pushing technological boundaries and creating solutions that have real, tangible impact," he added. So far, over 650 students, including 250 from outside institutes, have registered for the event, reflecting its growing national appeal.

Student coordinators Shreyansh Sandilya, Rukhsar, Aishwarya Saini, and Sumit Gupta are spearheading the logistical and organizational efforts, ensuring a smooth and impactful experience for all participants.

HackFest 2025 promises to be a thrilling journey of creativity, coding, and collaboration, where innovation meets execution, and tomorrow's solutions begin to take shape today at IIT (ISM) Dhanbad.

Rajni Singh
Dean (Corporate Communications)