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## **PRESS-RELEASE**

### **IIT (ISM) Dhanbad Marks World Environment Day with a Series of Awareness and Action-Oriented Activities**

In a spirited celebration of World Environment Day, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad, through its EIACP Programme Centre (Resource Partner), Department of Environmental Science and Engineering, organized a series of awareness and action-driven events that resonated with **this year's global theme, "Ending Plastic Pollution Globally,"** under the campaign #BeatPlasticPollution. The initiative aimed to instill a sense of environmental responsibility, especially among the youth, and emphasized the need for sustainable practices and collective action against plastic pollution.

The day commenced with a rejuvenating **Yoga Session held at the Student Activity Centre**. Organized in collaboration with the Sports & Physical Education Centre, IIT (ISM), the session was inaugurated by Prof. Sanjoy Mandal, Associate Dean (Students Welfare), who graced the occasion as Chief Guest. The 90-minute session featured guided yoga and meditation, breathing exercises (pranayama), insights into yogic lifestyle, and a brief discourse on the connection between personal wellness and environmental sustainability. The session promoted holistic well-being aligned with eco-conscious living.

Following the yoga session, a **plantation drive was launched near the SBI Bank** on campus in collaboration with the Horticulture Section of the institute. The drive was inaugurated by Director, Prof. Sukumar Mishra, along with Mrs. Sakuntala Mishra, President of Deepti Ladies Club, IIT (ISM). Saplings of evergreen, fruit-bearing, flowering, and ornamental plants were planted with an objective to foster environmental stewardship and enhance campus biodiversity while promoting climate resilience.

A Sit-&-Draw and Poster Making Competition was also held at the Student Activity Centre, with participation from school children and undergraduate/postgraduate students. The competition, inaugurated by Mrs. Sakuntala Mishra, provided a platform for young minds to artistically express their understanding of and solutions to plastic pollution. Art materials were provided, and a documentary screening further enriched the awareness efforts.

The day culminated with a national conference and report release titled *"Innovating for Clean Air,"* hosted at the Golden Jubilee Lecture Theatre. The event was organized by the Dhanbad Municipal Corporation in association with the Department of Environmental Science and Engineering, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad. Shri Aditya Ranjan, Deputy Commissioner of Dhanbad, attended the function as Chief Guest during which Shri Ravi Raj Sharma, Dhanbad Municipal Commissioner; Prof. MK Singh, Dean Academic; Prof. Alok Sinha, HoD, the Environmental Science and Engineering were also present. The conference brought together experts, policymakers, and academics to discuss innovative strategies for improving air quality and sustainable urban living.

The World Environment Day celebrations at IIT (ISM) Dhanbad underscored the institution's unwavering commitment to environmental protection and sustainability through education, action, and community engagement.

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