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PRESS-RELEASE

IIT (ISM) Dhanbad Mourns the Passing of Distinguished Alumnus Dr. R. N. Sharma

It is with profound sorrow that the Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines) Dhanbad, announces the passing of Dr. R. N. Sharma, a revered alumnus of the 1946 Mining Engineering batch. Dr. Sharma breathed his last on the morning of May 22, 2025, at his residence in Jamshedpur. He was 101 years old and is believed to be the only known centenarian among ISM alumni.

Born on March 15, 1924, into a noble family, Dr. Sharma led a life marked by distinction, integrity, and service. He was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer just a month prior and was undergoing treatment at Tata Main Hospital (TMH). His condition deteriorated on the night of May 21, leading to his peaceful demise the following morning.

A towering personality in India's industrial history, Dr. Sharma served as Chairman of Coal India Limited (CIL) from January 1979 to March 1982, playing a pivotal role in shaping the nation's coal sector. He also held key leadership positions at Tata Steel, earning immense respect for his strategic foresight and principled leadership.

Dr. Sharma was not only an outstanding professional but also a compassionate community leader. As President of the Cancer Society in Jamshedpur, he spearheaded numerous health awareness and cancer prevention campaigns, leaving behind a legacy of care and commitment to public welfare.

His unmatched contributions to industry and society, combined with his humility, eloquence, and dedication, have left a lasting impact on all who had the privilege of knowing him.

The IIT (ISM) Dhanbad community mourns this great loss and extends heartfelt condolences to Dr. Sharma's family. His memory will remain etched in the annals of ISM's illustrious history.

Rajni Singh
Dean (Corporate Communications)