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## **PRESS-RELEASE**

### **IIT (ISM) Dhanbad Organizes Boot Camp for Top EMRS Students under Ministry of Tribal Affairs' Reward Scheme**

Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines) Dhanbad, under the aegis of its Centre of Excellence supported by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India, has launched a three-day Boot Camp on Information Technology and Computer Training for high-achieving students from Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) across Jharkhand. The Boot Camp, being held from 17th to 19th July 2025, is part of the Reward Scheme focused on enhancing digital literacy and capacity building among tribal youth.

The inaugural ceremony of the camp took place today at the Management Hall of the institute, where Director of IIT (ISM) Dhanbad, Prof. Sukumar Mishra, addressed the participating students as the Chief Guest. He spoke about the role of science and technology in shaping the future of nations, citing the historical example of the United Kingdom's rise during the 15th century through scientific advancements. He encouraged the students to fully engage with the opportunities offered during the Boot Camp.

The event is being led by Prof. Rashmi Singh as Principal Investigator, along with Co-Principal Investigators Prof. Sandeep Mondal and Prof. Niladri Das. Prof. Mondal, who also heads the Department of Management Studies and Industrial Engineering, emphasized the importance of cultivating observation skills as a key to personal and academic growth.

This residential training programme brings together 30 top-performing students from seven EMRS institutions located in different districts of Jharkhand—Salagadih, Kathijoria (Dumka), Bhognadih (Sahibganj), Tasaria (Godda), Basia (Gumla), Kujra (Lohardaga), and Torsinduri (West Singhbhum). The Boot Camp curriculum blends theoretical knowledge with practical exposure and includes training modules on computer fundamentals, Microsoft Office tools, Tally ERP 9.0, and Python programming.

As part of the immersive experience, students will be visiting various innovation and incubation centres within the IIT (ISM) campus, including TexMin (Technology Innovation Hub), ACIC-i2H, CIL Incubation Hub, and NVCTI. They will also be introduced to the academic and research ecosystem through guided tours of the Central Research Facility, Central Library, Robotics Lab, Geological Museum, and the Student Activity Centre. A cultural evening has also been planned to allow students to showcase their talents and celebrate their rich tribal heritage.

Prof. Rashmi Singh noted that the carefully curated programme is aimed at nurturing digital competence and academic curiosity among tribal students, empowering them to explore future opportunities with greater confidence. Prof. Niladri Das, in his vote of thanks, mentioned that the Centre of Excellence at IIT (ISM) has already trained over 1,500 EMRS students and continues to stand out as one of the leading CoEs under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

The Boot Camp will conclude on 19th July with a Valedictory Ceremony and Award Distribution, celebrating the achievements and enthusiasm of the participating students.

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