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## **PRESS-RELEASE**

### **IIT (ISM) Dhanbad Launches 40-Day Solar Training Programme for Women under CSR Initiative in Collaboration with ReNew Foundation**

In a significant step towards women empowerment, skill development, and promotion of green livelihoods, a 40-day training programme on solar-based solutions commenced today at the Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines) Dhanbad. The initiative, titled “Skilling Women Drive”, is part of the institute’s CSR project in collaboration with ReNew Foundation, the philanthropic arm of ReNew.

The training, aimed at fostering employment generation among women and promoting micro-entrepreneurship, focuses on equipping participants with technical skills to become solar panel and solar pump technicians. A total of 80 undergraduate girl students from SSLNT Women’s College, Dhanbad are participating in the training, which includes both theoretical sessions and hands-on laboratory practice.

The course will be conducted by 12 expert trainers, evenly divided between theoretical and practical modules. Participants will gain valuable exposure in state-of-the-art facilities, including the Electrical Circuit Laboratory and Analogue-Digital Laboratory at IIT (ISM) Dhanbad.

Speaking on the initiative, Prof. Vedantham Lakshmi Srinivas, Assistant Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad, said, “This programme is a meaningful step toward equipping young women with future-ready skills in the renewable energy sector. Practical training in real-world lab settings will be a game-changer for their careers.”

This programme is a part of the broader “Project ReNew Surya”, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)-based collaboration between IIT (ISM) Dhanbad and ReNew Foundation. The project is designed to upskill 350 individuals from coal mining backgrounds, both women and men, in solar technology. With an overarching goal of creating green jobs and enabling a just transition from coal to renewable energy, Project ReNew Surya is a step toward sustainable development and economic empowerment.

Through this initiative, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad continues to demonstrate its commitment to inclusive growth and capacity building in alignment with India’s renewable energy and climate goals.

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