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## PRESS RELEASE

**On a mission to transform the lives of tribal people of rural hinterland Jharkhand, IIT (ISM) team reaches Gopalpur village of Karmatand block of Jamtara district; apprise farmers about the government schemes meant for their welfare.**

On a mission for the last 15 months to transform the lives of tribal people of remote areas of Jharkhand, a team of Department of Management Studies and Industrial Engineering of IIT (ISM) today reached at Gopalpur Village of Karmatand Block of Jamtara.

The team led by Dr Rashmi Singh, Assistant Professor of Department of Management Studies and Industrial Engineering of IIT (ISM), which reached the village this morning took stock of living condition and lifestyle of tribal populace of the village besides holding meeting with local representatives of the village to apprise them about the various government schemes.

The visit was organized as part of series of workshops being conducted since July last year under the Department of Science & Technology sponsored project worth Rs 60.75 lakh project, titled, "Improving the Economic well-being of Scheduled Tribe Communities (ST) using Game Theoretic and Operations Research Techniques in Jamtara District of Jharkhand State"

The focus of the project is the agricultural sector as it the main source of income for the people of Jamtara district said, Prof Rashmi who is also the Principal Investigator of the project and was accompanied by Prof Niladri Das, Co Principal Investigator of the project.

"During the visit to the village followed by the formal interaction with the local people we found tha Irrigation facilities are not upto the mark the area despite the fact that river Ajay flows through the village" said Singh.

Prof Niladri Das on the other hand observed that despite possessing the skill of making dona patta plates (Dry Leaf made plates) which can serve as source of sustainable environment the local people lack machines & equipments to meet the demand.

"Lack of initial capital & fund crunch is the main hurdle for the local people there for starting the economic activities" said Prof Das and added that they apprised people about the government schemes through which the fund can be procured for starting the agriculture based economic activities.

"The government schemes & programs are not delivering the desired results due to lack of customized Interventions for tribals' further observed Prof Rashmi Singh and added that the didi cafe run by women of Gopalpur panchayat as SHG in DC office Jamtara is classic example of innovative idea run by the tribal women

Rajni Singh

**Dean (Media & Branding)**