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## **PRESS-RELEASE**

### **National Space Day Celebrated with Enthusiasm at IIT (ISM) Dhanbad**

IIT (ISM) Dhanbad witnessed spirited celebrations of **National Space Day** on August 21 and 23, marked by a series of innovative, hands-on competitions designed to ignite curiosity and inspire the next generation of space enthusiasts. The events were jointly organised by the **Naresh Vashisht Centre for Tinkering and Innovation (NVCTI)** and the **Aeronautics and Space Technology Club (ASTC)**.

The celebrations began on **August 21** with the **AeroFold Challenge**, an exclusive event for school students from Dhanbad and nearby districts. Divided into three grade categories (Classes 1–6, 7–10, and 11–12), participants demonstrated creativity and aerodynamics knowledge by designing paper planes competing in two categories – distance and airtime. The event drew an enthusiastic response from schoolchildren, sparking early interest in aerospace science and providing them an opportunity to experience the IIT (ISM) campus firsthand.

Continuing the momentum, a series of **student-exclusive flagship events** were organised on **August 23** within the IIT (ISM) campus:

- **Windcrafters: A Battle of Wits and Wings** – Freshers teams designed and tested elastic-powered gliders at the Gymkhana Ground, competing for maximum flight distance while demonstrating ingenuity in aerodynamics and structural design.
- **Hydrojet Ascent** – At Amber Ground, participants constructed and launched water-powered rockets using PET bottles, showcasing their grasp of thrust, lift, and drag in an eco-friendly, high-thrill contest.
- **Quiz the Cosmos** – Hosted at Penman Auditorium, the quiz engaged participants in a multi-round contest on astrophysics, space exploration, satellites, and scientific history, combining knowledge with quick thinking and strategy.

The events drew active participation from both IIT (ISM) freshers and school students, fostering a culture of hands-on learning and healthy competition. Attractive prizes, trophies, and certificates were awarded to winners, further motivating participants.

The celebrations were coordinated by **Prof. Badam Singh Kushvah** and **Prof. Prashanta Mahato**, with **Ramesh Prasad** serving as Co-Coordinator. They emphasised that such initiatives not only celebrate India's achievements in space exploration but also nurture young innovators to pursue careers in STEM fields.

The dual-day celebrations brought together creativity, curiosity, and competitive spirit, making National Space Day 2025 at IIT (ISM) Dhanbad a memorable tribute to India's remarkable journey in space science.

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