



भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (भारतीय खनि विद्यापीठ), धनबाद Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines), Dhanbad

For Immediate Release; March 21, 2026

PRESS-RELEASE

Nobel Laureate Kailash Satyarthi Calls for 'Compassion Quotient' at IIT (ISM) Centenary Lecture

Historic launch of Abanish Chandra & Binapani Sinha Memorial Lecture Series

Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines), Dhanbad marked a **historic milestone** with the successful hosting of the First Centenary Lecture under the Abanish Chandra & Binapani Sinha Memorial Lecture Series at the Penman Auditorium. Nobel Peace Laureate Shri Kailash Satyarthi delivered the lecture, marking the **first-ever visit of a Nobel Laureate** to the IIT (ISM) campus.

The programme was presided over by **Prof. Sukumar Mishra, Director**, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad. **Prof. Rajni Singh, Dean (Corporate Communications)**, played a key role in organizing the event seamlessly and also anchored the programme.

Instituted through a generous endowment by distinguished alumnus **Shri Mihir Sinha (1966 Batch, Petroleum Engineering)** in memory of his parents, the lecture series aims to promote **meaningful interdisciplinary dialogue** at the intersection of science, technology, and the humanities. The initiative reflects the institute's commitment to integrating **technical excellence with human values** in its centenary year.

In his keynote address, Shri Kailash Satyarthi underscored that compassion is not mere sympathy or empathy, but a **powerful, action-oriented force** capable of transforming society. He emphasized that true compassion stems from a deep sense of responsibility towards others' suffering, leading to conscious and meaningful action. Introducing the concept of a "**Compassion Quotient (CQ)**", he urged individuals to cultivate awareness, emotional connectedness, and accountability.

Highlighting contemporary challenges, he cautioned against **growing indifference in modern society** and stressed that compassion must guide all domains, including technology, governance, business, and judiciary. Advocating for "**compassionate AI**", he called for embedding ethical responsibility in technological advancement to ensure inclusive and humane progress. He also encouraged students to become **change-makers blending knowledge with empathy**.

Welcoming the distinguished speaker, Prof. Sukumar Mishra described the occasion as historic for the institute and expressed gratitude to Shri Mihir Sinha for instituting the lecture series. He also conveyed wishes for his speedy recovery. Emphasizing the role of technology in societal welfare, he noted that **true peace emerges when science serves humanity**, citing Shri Satyarthi as a global example of transforming local action into worldwide impact.

In a message read out by Prof. Rajni Singh, Shri Mihir Sinha expressed regret over his inability to attend due to hospitalization following an accident. He described the lecture series as a tribute to his parents' humanitarian values and highlighted Shri Satyarthi as a **symbol of compassion and courage**. He further emphasized the importance of humanities in nurturing **empathy, critical thinking, and a just society**.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from faculty, students, officers, and staff, with the Penman Auditorium witnessing an **overwhelming response and vibrant engagement**. The lecture concluded with a renewed sense of purpose among attendees, making it a memorable and inspiring addition to the centenary celebrations of IIT (ISM) Dhanbad.

Rajni Singh
Dean (Corporate Communications)