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PRESS-RELEASE

Prof Debi Prasad Mishra, Director NITTTR Kolkata delivers lecture on ‘Relevance of Bharatiya Traditional Technology in Modern Times’ as part of orientation session for new entrants of batch of 2024 of IIT (ISM)

The day 4 of the five- day special orientation programme held today for the newly admitted undergraduate students of IIT (ISM) witnessed an insightful talk by Dr Debi Prasad Mishra, Director, National Institute of Technical Teachers’ Training and Research (NITTTR), who spoke on **Relevance of Bharatiya Traditional Technology in Modern Times**.

Dr Mishra, a Professor in the department of Aerospace Engineering and Design Programme, IIT Kanpur, presently serving as Director NITTTR whose areas of interest are Propulsion, Combustion, Computational Fluid Dynamics and Atomization, while addressing around 1000 students at Penman Auditorium of IIT (ISM) in presence of IIT (ISM) Faculty members and officials led by Prof Sukumar Mishra, Director IIT (ISM) spoke at length on ancient Indian technology and laid stress on revival and re-establishment of ancient Scientific and Technological Culture in India.

He said, “The problems afflicting the human kind in modern times are due to excess exploitation of natural resources by man armed with power of modern Science and Technology, wrong philosophy of Science and Technology, wrong philosophy of life, society controlled by greedy market forces, lack of leadership with proper vision, intellectual bankruptcy, degradation of human value system, wrong educational methodology and lack of spirituality”

“The solution lies in looking back to our cultural heritage which thrives over thousands of years, investigating the ancient scientific heritage of our civilization, redefining the philosophy of Science and Technology” further explained Prof Mishra.

Prof. Mishra who has published over 260 research papers in International/National Journals and conference and also has 32 research consultancy projects to his credit from various agencies, research labs and industries during his hour long lecture spoke about the relevance of certain ancient Indian technologies in modern era, including, Astronomy and Astrology; Ayurveda, Surgery and Yoga; Agriculture Engineering, Languages and Grammar; Meteorology; Textile Technology; Music & it’s Instruments etc.

Citing an example of problems associated with the modern technology, he took the example of Modern Agricultural Farming and said, “Artificial Fertilizers and herbicides washed away pollutes, rivers, lakes and other water resources and the solution lies in natural farming, which helps to achieve good crop yield without harming the natural habitats or environment”

Prof Mishra, who has prepared a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC), Introduction to Ancient Indian Technology on Swayam Platform of NPTEL, during his talk at IIT (ISM) also highlighted the problems with the modern irrigation system and said that the solution lies with the implementation of traditional Anicut Tecnology, whereby a masonry check dam is built across a stream to store water for irrigation management.

Prof Dheeraj Kumar, Deputy Director; Prof Rajni Singh, Dean Corporate Communications and others were also present during the occasion.

Rajni Singh
Dean (Corporate Communications)