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## PRESS-RELEASE

## Renowned UT Austin Professor and Alumnus Prof. Indranil Bardhan Delivers Expert Talk on AI Applications in Business and Healthcare at IIT (ISM) Dhanbad

The Department of Management Studies & Industrial Engineering, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad, hosted an insightful guest lecture today by globally renowned academician and IIT (ISM) alumnus, **Prof. Indranil Bardhan**, currently Professor at the McCombs School of Business, University of Texas at Austin. The session, held at the departmental auditorium, centered on the theme "AI Applications in Business and Healthcare" and witnessed enthusiastic participation from over 50 research scholars and faculty members.

Prof. Bardhan, a 1988 graduate in Mining Engineering from IIT (ISM), returned to his alma mater after nearly 37 years. In his lecture, he walked the audience through his illustrious academic and professional journey—from completing his master's at Penn State University to earning a PhD in Management Science and Information Systems from the University of Texas at Austin in 1995. He has since conducted extensive research in digital health, value-based care, and AI/machine learning applications in healthcare.

Dividing his talk into three segments—his personal academic journey, ongoing research projects, and a recent co-authored article "*Digital Future in Healthcare Research*" (published in *Information Systems Research*, an INFORMS journal)—Prof. Bardhan emphasized the growing relevance of interdisciplinary research.

He shed light on the complexities of healthcare information systems, noting that the sector's diverse stakeholders and global variations present rich avenues for inquiry at the intersection of IT and healthcare. Touching upon emerging AI applications, he cited innovations such as **digital avatars for mental health** and **AI-augmented clinical decision-making systems** as transformative tools capable of improving healthcare outcomes.

Prof. Bardhan also underscored the role of technological innovations in advancing both clinical practices and theoretical understanding by revealing new socio-technical dynamics. He cautioned, however, that while technology holds vast potential, researchers must adopt a balanced perspective—carefully considering both benefits and unintended consequences of healthcare IT implementations, particularly their impact on workflows and patient care.

Highlighting future research opportunities, he encouraged scholars to explore emerging domains like **ICTs in** health crises and AI-driven innovations, which offer scope for meaningful contributions to both academic theory and real-world practice.

The session concluded with an engaging Q&A and interaction between Prof. Bardhan and the participants, marking an intellectually enriching afternoon and a memorable homecoming for one of the institute's distinguished alumni.

Rajni Singh Dean (Corporate Communications)