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PRESS-RELEASE

The three-day National Conference on “Emerging Trends in Earth Sciences: Geohazards and Resource Management,” ETES 2024, kicks off at IIT (ISM); more than 170 experts from across the country delve deep into the pertinent issues, including the geoscientific challenges of the mining industry.

More than 170 geophysicists from different IITs, NITs, research institutions, and industries congregated at IIT (ISM) to participate in the three-day national conference on “Emerging trends in Earth Sciences: Geohazards and Resource Management.” ETES 2024 delved deep into the various issues, including advances in near-surface exploration, physics of Earth’s interior and planetary system, mine safety, and geoscientific challenges of the mining industry, during the inaugural day today.

The three day event being held from September 27 to 29, 2024 inaugurated by Padmshree, Harsh k Gupta; Former Secretary, Ministry of Earth Science, Government of India as chief guest at Golden Jubilee Lecture Theatre of the Institute in presence of others, including Dr JR Kayal, Former Deputy Director General, GSI, who was present as Guest of Honour and Prof. Dheeraj Kumar, Deputy Director, IIT (ISM) is being organized by Department of Applied Geophysics of IIT (ISM) and is aimed at providing a platform for exchanging ideas and learning, disseminating knowledge and making the vision of our honourable prime minister, for Make in India a reality through closer and more practical cooperation in line with emerging trends in Earth Sciences.

Addressing the gathering of experts, Padmshree, Harsh k Gupta, an alumnus of the Department of Applied Geophysics of IIT (ISM), 1963 batch, highlighted the lack of proper emphasis on geology education at the school level and underscored the significance of geology education and said that “the very sustainability of planet Earth depends on how we understand about it, but how do we learn about it without knowing geology as it includes all relevant science, including geophysics, etc.?”

He also lauded the organizers for organizing the conference, which has a focused approach on the very relevant topics, and said that during his present visit to the campus he visited the Department of Mining Engineering and the Department of Applied Geophysics and said that the Earth Sciences Department of IIT (ISM) is one of the most important seats of learning in relevant domains.

Dr. JR Kayal, who is also a 1969 batch alumnus, pointed out that prediction of geohazards can help to avert losses of life and property, and geophysicists should work in this direction, although work is already going on accurate prediction of geohazards.

He also emphasized the importance of mapping geohazards for sustainable mining, among other things.

Prof. Dheeraj Kumar, Deputy Director, IIT (ISM) who also presided over the function during his address to the people, said, “Being in the mining engineering field, we face the problems related to monitoring and mapping of geohazards like landslides, and we seek the solution of these problems from geophysicists.

Prof. Sanjit Kumar Pal, Head of Department of Applied Geophysics, who delivered the vote of thanks, threw light on the history of the Department of Applied Geophysics of IIT (ISM).

The day also witnessed the inauguration of Geoconfluence 24, a student-led initiative during which a host of events, including a 24-hour hackathon, Geosabha Debate, a quiz competition, etc., are scheduled from September 27 to September 29.

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