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## **PRESS-RELEASE**

### **Valedictory Function Marks the Conclusion of the Five-Day Educational and Cultural Trip of Uttarakhand Youth at IIT (ISM) Dhanbad**

The five-day educational and cultural trip of 31 youth from Uttarakhand, organized under Phase V of the Government of India's Yuva Sangam program, concluded today with a Valedictory Function at the Golden Jubilee Lecture Theatre of IIT (ISM) Dhanbad. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from the visiting youth, who shared their transformative experiences of the journey.

**Prof. Dheeraj Kumar**, Deputy Director of IIT (ISM), graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Addressing the contingent of 17 male and 14 female participants, Prof. Kumar remarked, "Programs like Yuva Sangam are instrumental in shaping the youth into future leaders with broad exposure. By 2047, when India aspires to be among the top two economies globally, these young minds will lead the nation across various fields."

**Shri Prabodh Pandey**, Registrar of IIT (ISM), emphasized the critical role of youth in nation-building. "India is a nation of youth, and every individual has a significant part to play. We are confident that the knowledge and experiences gained during this program will help the participants grow into better individuals," he said.

**Prof. S.K. Gupta**, Dean of Students' Welfare, encouraged the youth to share their newfound knowledge with their communities. "The learnings from this trip should be disseminated widely, creating a ripple effect of growth and understanding," he stated.

**Prof. Sanjeev Anand Sahu**, State Nodal Officer of Yuva Sangam, lauded the initiative's impact. "The Government of India's investment in Yuva Sangam is a step towards creating sensible individuals, responsible citizens, and compassionate human beings," he said.

#### **Highlights of the Five-Day Journey**

The youth contingent from Uttarakhand, accompanied by three coordinators and a nodal officer, embarked on a journey filled with cultural, educational, and industrial exploration:

- **January 17 & 18:** The team visited **Raj Bhavan** and explored cultural and historical sites such as **Pahadi Mandir** in Ranchi.
- **January 19:** Upon returning to the IIT (ISM) campus, the group visited the **Belgarhia township** in Dhanbad to witness the rehabilitation efforts for residents affected by underground fires in the Jharia Coalfield Region. The visit also included an exploration of the **longwall mining gallery** at IIT (ISM) and a tree plantation drive on campus.
- **January 20:** Participants observed open-cast mining operations at the **Kusunda Colliery and Sijua Mines** and later explored the **hydroelectric power production process** at Maithon.

The program is a collaborative effort between **IIT (ISM) Dhanbad** and **IIT Roorkee**. Earlier, under Stage I of Yuva Sangam Phase V, 43 youth from Jharkhand visited Uttarakhand from November 30 to December 4, 2025, exploring sites like Dehradun, Haridwar, Rishikesh, and conducting industrial visits.

The Yuva Sangam initiative aims to foster national integration and cultural exchange, providing youth with opportunities for holistic growth and cross-regional understanding.

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