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PRESS-RELEASE

Weeklong Workshop on Critical Minerals; Nature, Recovery and Uses concludes at IIT (ISM)

The week long workshop on Critical Minerals; Nature, Recovery and Uses organized by Exploration Geology Lab, Department of Applied Geology, IIT (ISM) concluded today with the participants terming inputs received during the training as skill enriching and knowledge enhancing.

Expressing their views during the feedback session of the valedictory function held today at the Lounge of Executive Development Centre (EDC) of IIT (ISM), the participants said that they are returning from the conference with renewed confidence to work for the exploration & production of Critical Minerals.

Speaking during the function as Chief Guest, Shri Deepak Kumar Sinha, Former Director, Directorate of Atomic Mineral Exploration and Research (DAMER), Atomic Mineral Division, DAE, GOI, who is presently working as CEO, Special Projects of Gujrat Mineral Development Corporation (GMDC) said, "Though it is bit difficult to do things in Government Organizations but in society like GMDC we can do many things and if required we can sign MoU Jharkhand State Mineral Development Corporation for joint work in the area of Critical Minerals"

"We are open for cooperation at GMDC to any organization and very soon we will also hiring experts including those who have served in relevant government organizations" said Sinha.

Regarding the exploration of critical mineral he said, "We have to move towards the exploration of Critical Minerals by chalking out a well-planned strategy as per which have to first rule out such critical minerals out of 24 which we are not going explore at present, as we can't work on all 24"

He further said that that while planning to explore the critical mineral we should also analyze, what is Geology as the Geology should be conducive for the utilization that particular critical minerals.

Prof Dheeraj Kumar, Deputy Director, during his Presidential address said, As exploration of critical minerals is very crucial so we at IIT (ISM) are working to set up a state of art center here on Critical Minerals having all the equipment's which are required to explore to critical mineral deposits, which India is lacking at present"

"I visited Curtin University in Australia a few months back and realized that they are doing much better in this regard and we don't have the facility like there and following Curtin University has extended financial support for setting up of such centre at IIT (ISM) and we will also be investing fund through our SPV, TEXMiN to set up such centre here which help in exploration of Critical Minerals.

Earlier Prof Sahendra Singh, Coordinator of workshop delivered the welcome address while Prof Sushant Sarangi, HoD Applied Geology lauded the organizers for organizing the workshop.

Notably altogether 45 participants participated in conference during which eight invited Speakers delivered talk and Shri Janardan Prasad, Director General of Geological Survey of India (GSI) also addressed the participants on July 17.

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