



# भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (भारतीय खनि विद्यापीठ), धनबाद Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines), Dhanbad

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Academicians, Industry Experts and Policy Makers mull over the multitude of issues pertaining to Just Transition in view of Net Zero Emission by 2070 during a day seminar organized by IIT (ISM) in association with TERI**

As top experts from across the country congregated at Kolkata on January 31 to discuss Just Transition with respect of future of coal and pathways to low Carbon Footprint they delved deep into multitude of aspects, including the challenges and opportunities faced by our country in reducing emission and ensuring the socio economic wellbeing of coal dependent communities.

The occasion was the daylong seminar organized by IIT (ISM) Dhanbad in association with TERI which began with the Key Note address of Ajay Kumar Rastogi, Chairman Task Force, Sustainable Just Transition and Green Hydrogen, Govt of Jharkhand during which he laid stress on sustainability as the key aspect for transition and said that any transition can't be just if is not sustainable.

Regarding the challenges of just transition he said, "The main challenge lies in quantifying or assessing the magnitude of impact of this transition on human being in terms of impact on their livelihood and source of income like jobs etc"

"This type of situation may lead of large scale migration due to loss of source of livelihood which is quite common in Africa and should be avoided here" said Rastogi.

"Related to this is challenge of taking the people along the process of transition as they need to be reskilled or unskilled as per the changing pattern of economy in view of transition of energy usage pattern" further said Rastogi.

"The loss of land due to desertification caused in the process of transition also needs to the addressed with the plan to carry out intensive vegetation as such deserted land also serves as source of pollution" said Rastogi.

"As energy security is a major concern during the process of just transition so we will have to look towards solutions like converting coal to gas as work is already going on this regard in Australia" said Rastogi.

Prof Rajni, Dean, Corporate Communications, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad who is also the convener of the conference in her presentation on Skilling the Informal Workforce in a Coal Belt and Making them Future Ready, said that the human being are situated at centre of any change.

"Though, humans are generally seen as homogenous group but the heterogeneity needs to be identified and skilling and upskilling of human resources is much needed for just transition which embodies capacity and capability building exercises for sustainable and equitable future" further added Prof Singh.

Jayanta Mitra, Senior Fellow TERI who is also the convener of the, seminar in his address carried out the context setting and said that that the seminar is aimed at multistakeholders engagement on repurposing of coal mining infrastructure, Coal Consuming MSMEs, energy transition issues and strategies for diversity the fossil fuel based economy, encouraging cross learning, mutual deliberation and the development of a roadmap for an equitable future.

Rajni Singh

***Dean (Corporate Communications)***