



## भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान भुवनेश्वर Indian Institute of Technology Bhubaneswar

### **PRESS RELEASE FOR DISSEMINATION**

### **STUDENTS AT IIT BHUBANESWAR SECURE FIRST PRIZE AT MINERAL DEVELOPMENT AWARENESS AND QUIZ PROGRAMME (MDAQ) – 2019**

**27<sup>th</sup> Aug, 2019:** Ms. Lynette Dias and Mr. Pritom Sharma, M.Sc. (Geology) students of School of Earth, Ocean & Climate Sciences of IIT Bhubaneswar emerged as the overall winner of Mineral Development Awareness and Quiz Programme (MDAQ) – 2019. MDAQ-2019 was organised by Society of Geoscientists and Allied Technologists (SGAT) from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> August 2019 at Joda, Keonjhar district, Odisha. In all 25 teams participated with two students each. The programme is unique being the only one of its kind in the country. The previous MDAQ-2015 edition was won by the students of IIT Bhubaneswar.

The activities under this programme included visits to mines, haulage, loading and unloading systems, processing and metallurgical plants, nursery, plantation, environment protection measures, water harvesting structure among others. Identification of specimen of rocks, ores, minerals and metallurgical products, photographs, interpretation of satellite imageries followed at the last by oral quiz.

This is indeed a proud moment for each one at IIT Bhubaneswar. Prof. R V Raja Kumar, Director complemented the winners, and wished that participation and winning becomes a practice at the institute. The Director re-iterates that each faculty member of the institute should strive to foster innovative thinking and creativity amongst students, in class rooms, laboratories and beyond.

The institutions who participated in the programme include Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, IIT, Kharagpur, Bhubaneswar & Jamshedpur, IEST, Shibpur, NITs of Rourkela & Raipur, Government College of Engineering, Keonjhar, Jadavpur, Presidency, Utkal, Sambalpur and Ravenshaw Universities, AKS University, Satna, University College of Engineering, Kothagudam (Telengana), Khallikote Auto College, IGIT, Sarang and DD Auto College, Keonjhar. IIT, Bhubaneswar emerged as the overall winner in the competitions.

This year's programme was sponsored by Tata Steel and collaborated by the Department of Steel & Mines, Govt. of Odisha. Support was extended by Rungta Mines, Essel Mining and Industries and Tata Sponge Iron Ltd. SGAT was represented by Mr. A B Panigrahi, General Secretary, Mr. Trilochan Mohanta, Joint Secretary, Mr. Sujit K Mohanty and Mr. N R Patnaik, Executive Members. Mr. B. K. Mohanty, Former, Director (Mining & Geology) and Advisor SGAT conducted the program. SGAT has been organising Mineral Development Awareness Programme (MDAP) for the last 29 years on annual basis to update the students pursuing PG course in Geosciences, Degree Courses in mining, metallurgical, mineral and environment engineering about the latest developments in the respective disciplines.



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