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IIT-I explores turning waste into wealth for sustainable construction



Our Staff Reporter
INDORE

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Indore is conducting a five-day international workshop titled Solid Waste Application for Sustainable Construction Involving High-end Techno-managerial Approaches (SWACHTA) from Nov 16 at the institute.

Sponsored by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, the workshop is being organised in collaboration with South Eastern University of Sri Lanka (SEUSL). It will focus on emerging technologies, including nanotechnology and geopolymer technology, applications of waste-based materials in roads, bridges, pavements and building components, and innovative approaches to solid waste management.

Additional Municipal Commissioner Prakhar Singh attended the inaugural ceremony as the chief guest. South Eastern University of Sri Lanka Vice Chancellor Prof SM Junaideen and IIT Indore Director Prof Suhas S Joshi were also present.

The inaugural session was attended by Prof Sreedeep from IIT Guwahati, Prof Anju Singh from Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Mumbai and Prof Shruti from IIM Indore, along with industry experts from diverse sectors, faculty members, researchers, academicians and delegates from India and Sri Lanka.

Their participation underscored the importance of interdisciplinary expertise, industry-academia partnerships and international collaboration in developing innovative and practical solutions for sustainable construction.

Addressing the gathering, Joshi said, Sustainable development requires innovative thinking and effective utilisation of available resources. Converting solid waste into useful construction materials is an important step towards building a circular economy. Such international collaborations provide a valuable platform for sharing knowledge, advancing research, and developing practical solutions for a sustainable future.

The workshop aims to explore innovative approaches for converting solid waste into valuable and sustainable construction materials, thereby promoting resource efficiency, sustainable infrastructure and circular economy practices.

It will also facilitate the exchange of research insights, showcase practical applications and foster collaborative initiatives between Indian and Sri Lankan institutions in sustainable construction and environmental management.

The workshop is being coordinated by Dr Lalit Borana and Prof Mrigendra Dubey from IIT Indore, whose efforts have brought together experts, researchers and professionals from India and Sri Lanka to facilitate academic and institutional engagement.