



HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES DIGEST

May-July 2026

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (ISM)
DHANBAD

From the HOD's Desk



Dear Colleagues, Alumni, Research Scholars, Students, Staff and all well-wishers,

With great pleasure, we present the Departmental Newsletters, which serve as a platform to engage, enlighten, and strengthen our commitment to fostering an environment that encourages critical thinking, scholarly inquiry, and interdisciplinary dialogue. Through focused research and innovative pedagogy, we aim to deepen our understanding of human society, culture, and the arts.

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Our faculty and researchers continue to traverse beyond the conventional boundaries of research, engaging with challenges through the interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary lenses of history, philosophy, literature, education, sociology, psychology, and more. This year, we have launched several new research initiatives and projects highlighting the relevance of the humanities and social sciences in today's rapidly changing world. These initiatives reflect our commitment to academic excellence and demonstrate our desire to connect our work with real-world impact. We are particularly proud of the strides we've made in fostering a more inclusive and diverse academic environment, a crucial aspect of maintaining the vitality of our disciplines.

Thank You.

Prof. Gyan Prakash
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ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTRE FOR INDIAN KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS (CIKS)

The Centre for Indian Knowledge Systems (CIKS) has been established at IIT (ISM) Dhanbad as an interdisciplinary academic and research centre dedicated to exploring the rich traditions of Indian knowledge and their relevance to contemporary science, technology and society.



The Centre provides a platform for bringing together Indian Knowledge Systems and modern scientific and technical education, drawing upon the Institute's strengths across Earth Sciences, Physics, Mathematics, Engineering, Chemistry and Mineral Engineering. It will promote interdisciplinary research and academic initiatives that explore the connections between traditional knowledge and contemporary areas of inquiry.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTRE FOR INDIAN KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS (CIKS)

CIKS will support academic courses and specialised programmes on Indian Knowledge Systems, while encouraging critical and research-oriented engagement with India's contributions to science, technology, philosophy and the social sciences.

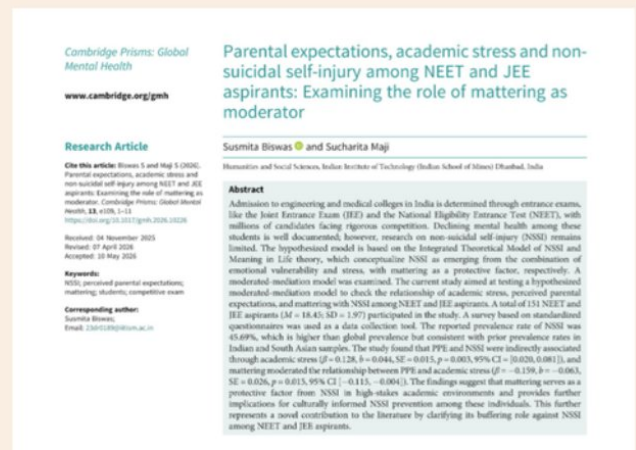


The Centre will further facilitate research collaborations, conferences, workshops, short-term courses and summer/winter schools, creating opportunities for faculty, students and researchers to engage in interdisciplinary scholarship. Its areas of focus will include sustainable resource management, materials science, consciousness studies and the application of Indian Knowledge Systems to emerging fields such as artificial intelligence, sustainable engineering and cognitive sciences.

Through these initiatives, CIKS aims to contribute to the preservation, critical study, dissemination and contemporary application of Indian Knowledge Systems, fostering innovative and globally relevant research and education.

Susmita Biswas and Prof. Sucharita Maji published a paper titled - "Parental expectations, academic stress and non-suicidal self-injury among NEET and JEE aspirants: Examining the role of mattering as moderator" in Cambridge Prisms: Global Mental Health.

<https://doi.org/10.1017/gmh.2026.10226>



Sofiya Shahiwala, Prof. Rahul D R, and Marwa Sidheeque published an open-access paper titled, "The CLEAR-Qual Framework: Guidelines for Open Qualitative L2 Research" in Studies in Second Language Acquisition. The paper introduces the first practitioner-informed guidelines for conducting accountable and open qualitative research in second language contexts.

<https://doi.org/10.1017/S0272263126101685>



Kadambari P S and Prof. Rahul D R have published "The Role of Individual Differences in Task Complexity and Language Performance: A Systematic Literature Review Protocol" in Research Synthesis in Applied Linguistics.

<https://doi.org/10.1017/S0272263126101685>

PUBLICATIONS & PAPER PRESENTATIONS

Susmita Biswas (Co-author: Urvi Shukla, Sucharita Maji, Gerald Jordan, and Karl Andriessen) published a paper titled: "The impact of family-related psychosocial factors on suicidal ideation among adolescents: a systematic review" in BMC Public Health.

<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-026-27928-7>



Dr. Sucharita Maji presented her research (Co-author: Vidushi Razdan) at the Gender and STEM international conference at University of Salzburg. The presented research was a part of a symposium, titled, 'Gendered STEM Higher Education in India'.

Yashika Subba is selected as a Moving Mountain Fellow for the 2026 cohort, funded by the Mountain Sentinels and Colorado State University. Through visual ethnography, her fellowship project will document local perspectives of people in response to climate and livelihood in the Eastern Himalaya.



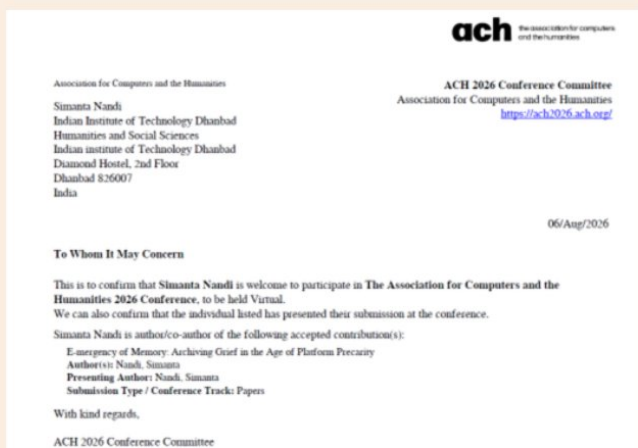
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT



Sofiya Shahiwala has been appointed as a member of the Editorial Board of Language Teaching Research Quarterly (Scopus-indexed; SJR Q1).

Simanta Nandi successfully completed the Summer Research Internship of the project title 'Mapping Memory, Mapping Meals: A Digital Archive of Indigenous Food Traditions' at Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (ISRO-IIST), Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, under the supervision of Dr. Gigy J Alex

<https://mappingmemorymappingmeals.github.io/IIST/#>.



He also presented a research project proposal titled "E-mergency of Memory: Archiving Grief in the Age of Platform Precarity", got also full registration bursary for this in the International Association for Computers and the Humanities (ACH) 2026 Annual Conference, held on June 24-26, 2026.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Editorial Board

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