

**PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**IMPRINT INDIA LAUNCHED BY THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA AT THE VISITOR'S
CONFERENCE**

**"SCIENCE IS UNIVERSAL BUT TECHNOLOGY MUST BE LOCAL," SAYS PRIME
MINISTER SHRI NARENDRA MODI**

New Delhi, November 05th, 2015

The **IMP**acting **R**esearch **IN**novation and **T**echnology (**IMPRINT**) **India** brochure was released today at the Visitor's Conference at Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi. 'IMPRINT India' is a Pan-IIT and IISc joint initiative to develop a roadmap for research to solve major engineering and technology challenges in ten technology domains relevant to India. The brochure was released by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in the presence of the President of India Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Union HRD Minister Smt Smriti Irani, MoS for HRD Shri Ram Shanker Katheria and MoS for Chemicals and Fertilisers Shri Hansraj Ahir. The first copy of the brochure was presented to the President of India Shri Pranab Mukherjee. The President later launched the 'IMPRINT' India.

The President of India said that, if the institutes of higher learning come together, they can make a difference in a short span of time to higher education sector in our country. IMPRINT India is synergizing platform for institutions, academia, industry that encourages research & innovation, making it socially more relevant. The President appreciated efforts of Ministry of Human Resources Development with special mention of Global Initiative for Academic Networks (GIAN) and recently launched National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF). He also added that the New Education Policy (NEP) must alter the dynamics of the education sector and help us achieve the GER target of 30 percent by 2020, a goal we cannot afford to miss.

In his remarks on the occasion, the Prime Minister laid stress on the importance of innovation and technology for the progress and development of the nation. He said institutions of higher education should give primacy to innovation in learning. He further added that finding solutions to challenges like global warming and converting waste to wealth were key to the rise of India. He exhorted institutions of higher learning to focus on areas such as defense manufacturing. "Science is universal but technology must be local," the Prime Minister said.

The Union HRD Minister Smt Smriti Irani while speaking on the occasion said that **IMP**acting **R**esearch **IN**novation and **T**echnology (**IMPRINT**) provides an overarching vision that guides research into areas that are predominantly socially relevant. She thanked the Prime Minister at the Visitor's Conference for sharing his vision of enabling foreign academicians to come, Teach in India, at government institutions across the Nation at no added cost to the students under a programme called 'GIAN.' She added that starting this November, in the coming one year, under GIAN 400 foreign academicians will be welcomed in government institutions to impart new knowledge to students here and share new teaching methodologies with faculty.

The Minister further added that the Ministry of Human Resource Development has resolved, with the blessing of the Prime Minister, to build an Indian MOOCS platform which would bring in close to 2.5 lakh hours of e-content on a single platform thereby possibly making it the world's largest repository of electronic learning resources under a single window. From school education modules of levels 9 to 12 to varied courses in Aerospace Engineering, Biotechnology, Atmospheric Science and languages, 'SWAYAM' will ensure universal access to high quality education for every Indian. She gave her sincere thanks to institutions present at the occasion who have confirmed close to 714 courses that will be specially designed for 'SWAYAM'.

Other dignitaries present at the function were Shri Vinay Sheel Oberoi, Secretary, Higher Education and Secretary to the President of India, Smt Omita Paul.

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