

Memorandum of Understanding
between the
Ministry of Human Resource Development
of the Republic of India
and the
Federal Ministry of Education and Research
of the Federal Republic of Germany
on
Cooperation in the Field of Higher Education

Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Human Resource Development of the Republic of India and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research of the Federal Republic of Germany on Cooperation in the Field of Higher Education^{1*}

The Ministry of Human Resource Development of the Republic of India and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research of the Federal Republic of Germany (hereinafter referred to as the sides) acknowledge the many years of successful cooperation between the two countries in the field of higher education and wish to intensify such cooperation.

They appreciate the good relations between German and Indian institutions of higher education which they have been cultivating for many years.

They also recognize the great potential held by German and Indian higher education institutions for the further development of bilateral relations in the field of higher education for the benefit of both participants.

Thus they have come to the following understanding with regard to extending the existing cooperation:

Section 1

Both sides agree on a new funding programme entitled "Indo-German Strategic Partnerships in Higher Education" (IGSP), which is supposed to be financed jointly and whose aim is to intensify existing partnerships between German and Indian institutions of higher education and to open up new and innovative areas of cooperation.

The IGSP programme will comprise of a funding mechanism which will enable the participating institutions of higher education to develop teaching and research profiles for their partnerships in keeping with their own specific institutional

¹For India, the term "Higher Education" as used in this document will include "Higher and Technical Education"

objectives and strategies. The funding will focus on establishing joint research projects that will include joint supervision and student exchange.

Funding will be provided, in particular, for study and research periods of German and Indian graduates and young researchers and for visiting lectureships and research stays of German and Indian researchers at the partner institutions, as well as for joint workshops, summer schools and publications.

The IGSP programme will be open to all disciplines.

Each side intends to provide a total of 3.5 million Euros for an initial programme period of four (4) years (2013 - 2016). Each side is prepared to cover the costs incurred by its own higher education institutions involved in the programme.

In late 2015, both sides will decide jointly on whether to continue the programme beyond 2016. The further details of the programme are currently being addressed jointly at working level. The call for proposals under the programme is due to be issued in the second quarter of 2013.

Responsibility for the concept and the financial and organizational administration of the programme lies with the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) on the German side and with University Grants Commission (UGC) on the Indian side.

Section 2

Both sides have jointly decided to establish a Joint Higher Education Working Group which will serve as a platform for dialogue and the exchange of information.

The mission of the Joint Working Group will be to determine the progress made in bilateral cooperation and to draft strategies for its further development.

The Joint Working Group will be chaired by the Director General (BMBF) from the German side and the Joint Secretary (MHRD) from the Indian side. Both sides will determine their own members in the Working Group.

The Joint Working Group will meet alternately in India and Germany. The travel costs incurred by the members of the delegations participating in meetings of the Joint Working Group will be covered by their respective governments. Entertainment and local transport expenses will be financed by the host government.

Section 3

This Memorandum of Understanding will come into operation from the date of its signing. It may only be amended by mutual consent of the participants.


Signed in Berlin on April 11, 2013, in duplicate in the English language.

For the
Ministry of Human Resource
Development of the
Republic of India

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M.M. Pallam Raju'.

Dr. M.M. Pallam Raju
Minister of Human Resource
Development

For the
Federal Ministry of Education and
Research of the
Federal Republic of Germany

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Johanna Wanka'.

Dr. Johanna Wanka
Federal Minister of Education and
Research