

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT,  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION, REPUBLIC OF INDIA AND  
THE MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION, SULTANATE OF OMAN**

In view of the long-standing and distinguished relations between the Republic of India and the Sultanate of Oman, herein after referred to as the "Parties" the two Parties, desirous of furthering their ties by developing cooperative links in the field of Higher Education in areas of mutual benefit; have entered into discussions and have reached the following understanding:

1. Both Parties shall encourage their cooperation in the field of Higher Education through the following means:

- Exchange visits of academic professionals, officials and students from universities, colleges, and Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in each of the two countries in order to build understanding of each other's expertise and achievements. This includes delivering lectures and holding symposiums on topics of mutual interest;
- Joint organization of seminars, scientific programs, and training courses in areas of mutual benefit;
- Formulation of joint research programs and the application of findings in mutually beneficial ways;
- Exchange of books, scientific documents, library materials and learning resources through electronic networks; and
- Accreditation of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in each country, both public and private, as agreed between the Parties according to the applicable domestic laws and regulations of each country.

Such activities shall be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

2. The Parties shall support the cooperation among universities and HEIs in India for the purpose of concluding twinning agreements directly with private HEIs in Oman.
3. The Parties shall facilitate the exchange of teaching and learning materials, information, research findings and other resources, as well as organizing Higher Education-related exhibitions and seminars.
4. The Parties shall support the exchange of experience and sharing of expertise in all areas, especially in the following fields:

- Planning and development of higher education systems;
- Human resource development;
- Information systems and statistics;
- Project management and exchange cooperation on this field;
- The equivalency of academic qualifications;
- Distance Education; and
- The accreditation of Higher Education Institutions.

Such activities shall be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

5. The Parties shall offer (insofar as possible) academic scholarships and seats to students from the partner country in various majors at the undergraduate and graduate levels. The numbers and majors of the aforesaid programs shall be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.
6. The visiting Party shall cover its own travelling expenses and the hosting Party shall provide accommodation, internal transport, and medical care expenses (excluding Chronic Diseases).
7. This Memorandum shall not interfere with the obligations of other agreements between the Parties.
8. The Parties shall establish a Joint Working Group to implement this program. The Joint Working Group shall be chaired, on behalf of the Government of the Sultanate of Oman by a representative of the Ministry of Higher Education; and on behalf of the Government of Republic of India, by a representative of the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development along with the participation of representatives of other agencies of the Parties, as appropriate.  

The Joint Working Group shall meet alternately in India and Oman, as the Parties may mutually decide, to review the implementation of this program. Consultation through diplomatic channels may be used as a substitute for meetings, if necessary.
9. The Parties shall apply this memorandum in accordance with the domestic laws and regulations of their countries.
10. The Parties shall develop an implementation program for this Memorandum through diplomatic channels.

This memorandum shall come into effect from the date of its signature for a period of three (3) years. It shall automatically be extended for a further period of three (3) years, unless either Party submits to the other Party six months written notice prior to the date of expiry of this agreement, stating its intention to terminate or amend the memorandum of understanding

In the event of expiry of this Memorandum, the programmes and projects already agreed upon and which have not been completed, will remain valid until completion.

Signed on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007 in New Delhi.

Ministry of Human Resource  
Development  
Department of Higher Education  
Republic of India



(E AHAMED)  
Minister of State for External Affairs

Ministry of Higher Education  
Sultanate of Oman



(HAMED MOHAMMED AL RASHDI)  
Minister of Information