

for information and W.A. B.R. .

BY SPEED POST / EMAIL

F.No.33-5/2025-TS.III

Government of India
Department of Higher Education
Ministry of Education

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Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi,
dated, the 29th August, 2025

To

- (i) The Directors of 31 NITs; and
(ii) The Director, IEST, Shibpur (W.B.).

Subject: Signing of MoU with Foreign Universities / Institutions – regarding.

Madam \ Sir,

The Ministry has been receiving a number of references from the NITs and & IEST, Shibpur, on the above mentioned subject, for seeking administrative approval.

2. The matter has been examined in light of the provisions under the National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research (NITSER) Act, 2007 and Statutes framed under the Act. It is seen that Section 13 of the Act, declares the Board of Governors of the Institute as the apex decision making body responsible for general superintendence, direction and control of the affairs of the Institute and shall exercise all the powers of the Institute.

3. Similarly, Section 6 (1) (I) of the NITSER Act, empowers the Institute to:

"co-operate with educational or other Institutions in any part of the world having objects wholly or partly similar to those of the Institute by exchange of teachers and scholars and generally in such manner as may be conducive to their common objects."

4. It has been further seen that the ICC Division of Ministry vide guidelines dated 17.12.2015 regarding signing of MoUs with foreign agencies, has specifically mentioned that:

'if there is a provision in the Act (under which the institution has been established) to enter into an agreement with the foreign institution, the institutions can enter into MoUs / Agreements with the approval of their respective Board of Governors provided there is no additional financial implication for the Government over and above the lump sum annual grant already provided to the institution and the MoU / Agreement conforms with the National Education Policy, Acts of Parliament and any other laws of the land in vogue'.

...contd./-

29/08/25

5. All NITs and IEST, Shibpur are, therefore, requested to take necessary action in the matter, in the light of the explicit provisions already available under the NITSER Act, 2007, adhering to ICC guidelines as mentioned above. However, to disseminate knowledge through distance learning mode to various parts of the State or country or abroad - in case of signing of agreement with any foreign agency, provisions under clause (xiii) of Statute 8 shall continue to be followed in letter and spirit. Similarly, signing MoUs with Chinese Institutions / Universities shall continue to be governed by the instructions contained in this Ministry's OM dated 20.09.2019 (copy also enclosed).

6. The information regarding signing of MoUs with foreign Institutions may be shared by NITs with Ministry from time to time, initially by way of correspondence to the Ministry and later through a portal to be developed for the purpose.

7. This issues with the approval of Secretary (HE).

Yours faithfully,


[Veena Dunga]

Deputy Secretary (NITs-I)
Tel: 23384159

Copy to:

- ✓ (i) The Registrars of all 31 NITs and IEST, Shibpur (West Bengal) – for records and further appropriate action.
- (ii) Guard File.

F.No.6-2/2015-ICC
Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of Higher Education
(International Cooperation Cell)

Room No.407-C, Shastri Bhavan
New Delhi, the 1st August, 2016

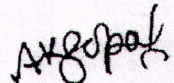
OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Entering into agreement with foreign agencies for cooperation in field of education

Reference is invited to this Department's O.M. of even number dated 17th December, 2015 (copy enclosed) on the subject cited above.

2. It is further being clarified that if an institutional level MoU/Agreement/any other instrument is proposed to be signed during a VVIP visit, viz., President, Prime Minister, HRM, MOSs of MHRD, or any other Cabinet Minister, it should be vetted by the concerned Bureau of the MHRD and clearance of MEA also obtained.

3. All Bureau Heads in the Department of Higher Education and in the Department of School Education & Literacy are, therefore, requested to adhere to the above procedure henceforth and inform the institutions accordingly.


(A. K. Gopal)
Under Secretary (ICC)

Enclosure: *As above*

Copy to:

1. All Bureau Heads in the Department of Higher Education and in the Department of School Education & Literacy.
2. Sr. PPS to Secretary (HE)/Sr. PPS to Secretary (SE&L).
3. All Divisional Heads in both the Departments.
4. CMIS for uploading on e-office portal.

(Restricted circulation only)

F.N.13-22/2016-ICC
Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of Higher Education
International Cooperation Cell

206 - C, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi,
Dated the 20 September, 2019

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between
Indian Universities/Academic Institutions with Chinese
institutions/universities- regarding.

Reference is invited to this Department's O.M.No.6-2/2015-ICC dated 17.12.2015 and 01.08.2016(copies enclosed) vide which instructions were issued for entering into agreement/MoU/EEP with foreign agencies/academic institutions for co-operation in the field of education. Now with the approval of the competent authority it has been decided that *"In addition to other clearances, prior approval of the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of External Affairs **must** be taken by the Academic Institutions/Universities before signing of MoUs/Educational Exchange Programme (EEP)/Agreements/Joint Declaration of Intent (JDI)/Letter of Intent (LoI) etc. with Chinese institutions/universities."*

A.K. Gopal
(A. K. Gopal)

Under Secretary to the Government of India
Tele: +91-11-23072112
Email: ak.gopal@nic.in

Encl: as above

To,

1. **All Bureau Heads (in Both Departments)** with the request to issue an advisory to all CFEIs under their administrative control to comply with the directions of MHA and MEA.
2. **Chairman, UGC** with the request to issue an advisory to all Indian private Universities/Institutions who have signed/proposed to sign an agreement/ MoU with Chinese Universities for students/faculty exchange programmes should necessarily take clearance from all the concerned authorities including Ministry of Home Affairs.

Sanjay
Dr. (HRS) (SOS)
20/9

for 20/9.

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URGENT

F.No.6-2/2015-ICC
Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of Higher Education
(International Cooperation Cell)

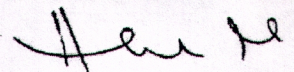
Room No.516-C, Shastri Bhavan
New Delhi, the 17 December, 2015

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Entering into agreement with foreign agencies for cooperation in field of education – reg.

In supersession of all earlier issued instructions for entering into an agreement with foreign agencies for cooperation in field of education, the following course of action is to be adopted:

- a) In cases of MoUs/ Agreement at Institutional level, where there is a provision in the Act (under which the institution has been established) to enter into an agreement with the foreign institution, the Institutions can enter into MoUs/ Agreements with the approval of their respective Board of Governors provided there is no additional financial implication for the Government over and above the lump sum annual grant already provided to the institution and the MoU/ Agreement conforms with the National Education Policy, Acts of Parliament and any other laws of the land in vogue. The representative(s) of the Department in the Board of Governors may safeguard the interests of Government at the approval stage; and
 - b) If there is no provision in the Act of the Institution for signing MoU/ Agreement with the foreign institutions, MoUs/ Agreements may be signed with the approval of the Ministry in consultation with the Ministry of External Affairs.
 - c) In cases of MoUs/ Agreements between Government to Government, approval of the Cabinet may continue to be taken in terms of extant instructions and after completion of the laid down process.
2. All Bureau Heads in the Department of Higher Education and in the Department of School Education & Literacy are requested to circulate these instructions to all Subordinate/Attached bodies, Constitutional/Statutory Bodies, Autonomous Organizations/Institutions and authorities under their administrative control for strict adherence.



(Alok Mishra)
Director (ICC)
Tel: 23381058

Copy to:

1. All Bureau Heads in the Department of Higher Education and in the Department of School Education & Literacy.
2. Sr. PPS to Secretary(HE)/PPS to Secretary(SE&L).
3. All Divisional Heads in both the Departments.