

PRESS NOTE

Date- 01/05/2022

Gujarat University, is signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Glasgow on the auspicious occasion of “Gujarat Day” and Indian Institute of Sustainability is going to impact study for Narmada canal and Statue of Unity on the livelihood of the people

University of Glasgow

The University of Glasgow is a public research university in the city of Glasgow, Scotland. Founded by the papal bull in 1451, it is the fourth-oldest university in the English-speaking world and one of Scotland's four ancient universities. Glasgow University served all of these students by preparing them for professions: law, medicine, civil service, teaching, and the church. It also trained smaller but growing numbers for careers in science and engineering.

Gujarat University and Indian Institute of Sustainability

Gujarat University is the state's oldest and largest university catering to the needs of higher education of about 400000 students scattered across 328 affiliated colleges. The idea of setting up the university was conceived in the 1920s by Mahatma Gandhi and the seed of inceptions was laid down by Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

Gujarat University has now ambitious plans to serve the citizens of the country and wishes to extend its support and assistance to the sector of sustainability. Gujarat University has established Indian Institute of Sustainability with the mission to train and educate the citizens in tune with a sustainable society and a sustainable planet by bringing best practices for air, water, soil, space, climate, forest, environment, natural resources, forestry, smart cities, agriculture, SDGs, human rights, diplomacy and sustainable public policy. IIS promotes excellence through innovative and applied research and impacting the world through policy, practice, training and continuous engagement, focusing on value chain, research, sustainability, and livelihood.

About the event

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will be signed between Gujarat University and University of Glasgow today in presence of Professor Sir Anton Muscatelli, Hon.Vice-Chancellor; Prof. Himanshu Pandya, Hon.Vice-Chancellor, Gujarat University; Rachel Sandison, Vice-Principal of the University of Glasgow; Professor William Cushley, Assistant Vice Principal, External Relations, University of Glasgow, Dr Rajiv Kumar Gupta, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Gujarat; Mr. Peter Cook, British Deputy High Commissioner; Prof. Asit K. Biswas, Distinguished Professor, University of Glasgow and University of Gujarat; Dr. Cecilia Tortajada, Professor-in-Practice, University of Glasgow; Ms Rittika Chanda Parruck, Director of Education, British Council; Mr. Vernon D'Souza, Assistant Director Programmes, West India; Professor Moyra Boland, Dean for Global Engagement in Central and South Asia, University of Glasgow; Mr. Sudhanshu Jangir, Director, Indian Institute of Sustainability, Gujarat University. The Indian Institute of Sustainability will be coordinator for this MoU from Gujarat University. Both Universities has designated following representatives that will serve as primary contact for the implementation of this MoU. The primary contacts will manage institutional communications between the Parties. If necessary, thematic contacts, designated as the need arises, will manage communication on substantive issues.

On this occasion Hon'ble VC of University of Glasgow said that this is the new beginning of the relationship and soon the delegation of University of Glasgow is going to visit Gujarat University. Prof. Himanshu Pandya, Hon'ble VC of Gujarat University said that through Indian Institute of Sustainability, with the partnership University of Glasgow Gujarat can be the leader in Sustainable Development goals and he also told that this historical day will add new frontiers in the relationship of both of the countries.. Dr. Rajiv Kumar Gupta, IAS, Additional chief secretary, Government of Gujarat University, said that

there is need of impact study for impact of Narmada canal on the livelihood of the life on the people of Gujarat as well Statue of Unity's impact on livelihood of the people. Both the projects, he will be assigning to Indian Institute of Sustainability, Gujarat University.

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The MoU focuses on the knowledge-sharing in terms of exchange program for students and researchers, joint research activities, lectures and symposia, and exchange of research related technical expertise. The vision for this MoU is to develop a mutual growth framework on the basis of sharing of academic knowledge and research activities.

Academic institutions play the role of designing the future of a nation and the world as well. In the current era, where Science and technology facilitates easier global connectivity, it is imperative that academic institutions take the lead to make the life on Earth a sustained one by aiming for the various SDGs of United Nations. A collaborative approach of different academic institutions is the way forward for such visions. The MoU between the two universities will help the associated people at each side to address the existing problems with a broader vision. Under this MoU, the two universities will collaborate for different research projects that aim towards sustainability in various aspects. Students and research fraternity of both the universities will get a chance to understand the work culture, problems and approach to solve those problems by visiting each other's campuses under various exchange programs. The delegates present during the MoU signing marked the event as the beginning of new frontiers for growth of the two universities and the two nations as well.

Prof Asit K Biswas who was also present during the signing of MoU, underscored the management of water resource in India, and asked to work towards development of architectural framework for water treatment and conservation which has a significant functional lifetime. He also emphasized on the need to raise a skilled manpower which works in specific direction.

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