

## **VARIOUS MINISTRIES/DEPARTMENTS OF THE GOVERNMENT SIGN MoU for IMPACTING RESEARCH INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY**

The **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU)** was signed in New Delhi today for promoting research in premier technical institutions through the IMPRINT programme by the 25 Ministries/Departments of Government of India including Ministry of HRD. The Union HRD Minister presided over the function. On the occasion of signing of MoU she said that earlier the research work was done in piecemeal and there was no sustainability in the technology related work as it was totally dependent on the funds released by Ministry of HRD. She said that it was for the first time in the history of our country that all IITs have come together as a family and have undertaken this unique initiative of IMPRINT wherein they have taken upon themselves to carry the technological innovations at the door steps of the common man and also use it for the welfare of mankind.

Among other Ministers who were the Guests of Honour at the occasion were Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Minister of Communications and IT; Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of State for Power, Coal and New and Renewable Energy; Shri Jayant Sinha, Minister of State for Finance; Shri Vishnu Deo Sai, Minister of State for Steel and Mines and Shri Sudarshan Bhagat, Minister of State for Rural Development.

All the Ministers assured their full cooperation and support in taking forward the research work under 10 technology domains as envisaged under IMPRINT to achieve overall development of the country .

*IMPacting Research INnovation and Technology (IMPRINT)*, is a flagship national initiative of the Government which was launched on November 5, 2014. *IMPRINT* is a multi-disciplinary, multi-partner and multi-goal oriented national programme aimed at technology development covering all engineering disciplines, steered by all IITs and IISc.

*IMPRINT* aims to synergize with all the major initiatives of the Government of India like Make in India, Digital India, Skill India, Namami Gange, Skill India, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, Swachh Bharat Mission etc; and other Ministries of Government of India are engaged in research covering these domains, and there is a need to converge the efforts to avoid duplication of efforts.

*For achieving this synergy*, in a meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2015 on implementation of *IMPRINT*, it was decided to sign a formal MoU among all participating Ministries/Departments for achieving coordination, prioritization and synergy among all the schemes/projects/programs to ensure alignment between the programs and avoid overlapping, leading to successful, effective and efficient implementation of such development programs of Government of India.

Ministry of Human Resource Development would be responsible for the following: Laying down the Policy for implementation; coordination with the other departments; Resolving the difficulties in implementation; and meeting 50% cost of the project cost. The other departments and the Ministries would be responsible for defining the requirements of research for inclusion in the IMPRINT programme; participating in the Apex Committee meetings for selection of the

projects ; and to review the progress of the projects from time to time as a part of the Apex Committee.

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