

## FICCI signs agreements with three US institutions

The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) Monday signed three agreements for cooperation with three leading US institutions.

The memorandums of understanding (MoU) between FICCI and the IC2 Institute at the University of Texas, Polytechnic Institute of New York University (NYU-Poly) and the Institute of International Education were signed in Washington, where Prime Minister Manmohan Singh will meet US President Barack Obama Tuesday.

The MoU with the IC2 Institute seeks to forge stronger ties for future technology commercialisation programmes, the industry chamber said in a statement issued here.

Both organisations will explore possibilities of cooperation in the context of academic programmes, scientific exchanges and cooperative research.

The agreement with the NYU-Poly seeks to develop programmes and events to facilitate government, industry, and higher education partnerships in research and business.

The two organisations have agreed to bring their respective strengths to meet India's growing demand for world-class research and development facilities that attract global talent.

NYU-Poly, New York City's most comprehensive engineering and technology institutions of higher education, will showcase the successes of American models of private-public partnerships at events in India and the US.

FICCI will engage academic, research, government, and business entities in the cultivation of public-private partnerships.

The MoU signed by FICCI with the Institute of International Education (IIE) aims at strengthening higher education between India and the US.

IIE, a leading not-for-profit educational and cultural exchange organisation in the US, will collaborate with FICCI to facilitate more student exchanges and build academic partnerships between the two countries.

The organisations will also work together to build the capacity of Indian higher education institutions to attract US study abroad students to their campuses, and will build awareness of study abroad opportunities currently available in India for US students, according to the memorandum.

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