



**Office of International Relations
Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur
Kharagpur – 721 302**



Ref: 1907/2023/OIR

Date: 23.06.2023

NOTE

Sub: Request for Approval for the MoU with BAPS Swaminarayan Research Institute, Akshardham, New Delhi

IIT Kharagpur and BAPS Swaminarayan Research Institute, New Delhi wish to sign an MoU for furthering national and international scholarship and promoting collaborative learning, interdisciplinary and inter-faith dialogue, and carrying out internationally acclaimed research.

To this end, a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), was placed for the MoU committee's review on June 19, 2023. The committee maintained that due diligence processes must be followed before the MoU may be approved. Prof. Sen was requested to share precise and concrete information on the contribution of BAPS Swaminarayan Research Institute in the field of Science and Technology and the way IITKGP will be benefitted by the proposed collaboration. Prof. Sen was also requested to share information about activities that are envisaged through the MoU.

Following the committee resolution, Prof. Sen furnished the requested information. The committee members commented on the information that was shared by Prof. Sen.

Subsequently, an emergency MoU committee meeting was convened on 22.06.2023, that was Chaired by the Director. Following the meeting, it was decided that the MoU was approved for signatures. It is also requested that Director be the signatory of the MoU.

The email correspondences and supporting documents are enclosed. This is placed for your kind approval.

Associate Dean IR&R

Dean OR&AA

Deputy Director

Director



Office of International Relations

Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur

Proposal for entering into an institutional MoU with a national/international partner university / institution / organization

*Instructions: Please submit the signed hardcopy along with supporting documents to Office of IR
Please email scanned copy of this form along with softcopies of supporting documents to:
koushiki@adm.iitkgp.ac.in*

Name and address of proposed partner	BAPS Swaminarayan Research Institute, Akshardham, New Delhi (A Unit of AARSH Public Charitable Trust, Regn No E-8234, Ahmedabad).		
National / international standing of proposed partner (QS World Ranking)			
Extent of past / ongoing collaborations between IIT Kharagpur and proposed partner	First time.		
Expected activities in the next 3 years if MoU is signed	1 st Year	Furthering national and international scholarship and promoting collaborative learning, inter-disciplinary and inter-faith dialogue, and carrying out internationally acclaimed research.	
	2 nd Year	Joint Conferences and Workshops on Indian Knowledge Systems (Phase I)	
	3 rd Year	Joint Advanced Conferences and Workshops on Indian Knowledge Systems (Phase II) with state-of-the-art worldwide Graphics and digital dissemination and outreach	
How the MoU will benefit IIT Kharagpur	Advance R & D base in inter-disciplinary and inter-faith dialogue, and carrying out internationally acclaimed research on Indian Knowledge systems		
Does the proposed partner have an MoU with any other IIT? If yes, please give details	No		
Has the proposed partner accepted IIT Kharagpur's standard	Yes		

**Why INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY KHARAGPUR (IITKGP),
May collaborate with
BAPS SWAMINARAYAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE, AKSHARDHAM, NEW DELHI ?**

REASON 1

Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur (IITKGP) is a reputed institution of higher learning situated at Kharagpur, India, 721302 emphasizing **on the sciences and technology**.

BAPS Swaminarayan Research Institute, Akshardham, New Delhi, (A Unit of AARSH Public Charitable Trust, Regn No E-8234, Ahmedabad), a reputed Institution for furthering national and international scholarship and promoting collaborative learning, focusing on **inter-disciplinary and inter-faith dialogue, which is also the scientific spirit of carrying out internationally acclaimed research.**

This is mentioned in the MoU draft.

REASON 2

Both institutes shall follow the scientific principles of Non-discrimination

IITKGP and BAPS Swaminarayan Research Institute agree not to discriminate against any person because of age, sex, national origin, race, ancestry, color, religious creed disability or handicap, and sexual orientation. Neither institution shall impose criteria for the exchange of faculty, staff and students that would violate the principles of non-discrimination.

REASON 3

Scientific features of BAPS Swaminarayan Research Institute.

Point 1

The **BAPS Swaminarayan Research Institute is a part of** the Akshardham Complex, New Delhi was founded by His Holiness Pramukh Swami Maharaj in 2010 (more than ten years old). It was his vision to establish an institute that would serve as a role model for collective, comprehensive, reverent scholarship that would consolidate sound academics with appreciative and meaningful reflection.

Founded on this vision, the BAPS Swaminarayan Research Institute encourages in-depth, cross-disciplinary scholarly and scientific research of Indian culture, its religions, philosophies, languages, and rich collection of literature. Committed to the promotion of reverent scholarly research, the Institute nourishes a unique atmosphere allowing for researchers and practitioners to work together to produce informative, appreciative and practical academic research.

<https://www.baps.org/humanitarianservices/Education-and-Research/ResearchCenters/Baps-Swaminarayan-Research-Institute.aspx>

So CoEIKS IIT Kharagpur will benefit from this scientific spirit of research exchanges.

Point 5

Since its inception, the BAPS Research Institute has grown significantly in its capacity to engage with and contribute to both national and international academic scholarship. It continues to achieve this by playing an active role **in promoting collaborative learning, inter-disciplinary and inter-faith dialogue, and the creative expression of its members' research.** The Institute's contributions towards producing and organizing informative lecture series, national and international conferences, and collaborative research projects bears testament to its commitment toward academic scholarship and increasing presence as an acclaimed academic institution.

<https://www.baps.org/humanitarianservices/Education-and-Research/ResearchCenters/Baps-Swaminarayan-Research-Institute.aspx>

CoEIKS IIT Kharagpur will be highly benefited from these sovereign platform of research exchanges.

Point 6

In addition to its recognized commitment toward research, interaction, and expression, the institute ensures its local and regional communities benefit by its presence and research endeavors. By focusing on offering practical and valuable solutions to contemporary concerns and issues affecting local communities, the Institute highlights opportunities for study and research that will deliver tangible social, communal, and cultural benefits. It does this by fostering problem-based approach to interventions; promoting inter-disciplinary and researcher-practitioner collaboration to connect research, expertise, knowledge, and experience; and **engaging with communities at all stages of research.**

<https://www.baps.org/humanitarianservices/Education-and-Research/ResearchCenters/Baps-Swaminarayan-Research-Institute.aspx>

CoEIKS IIT Kharagpur will be highly benefited from these multi-stage scientific research approaches and research exchanges.

Point 7

The key working principle of BAPS RESARCH INSTITUTE is highly scientific as it says:

“BAPS Swaminarayan Research is dedicated to advancing research, learning, and the expression of scholarship and culture. Through our various educational initiatives, we seek to promote the highest level of academic excellence in all branches of study. *We believe that providing opportunities for value-based instruction, innovative research, creative expression, mutual discussion, and social service will inspire quality, original, productive, and responsible scholarship. Committed to fostering intellectual tradition, we strive to advance academic thought and create an appreciation for cultural diversity.*”

<https://research.baps.org/>

Keeping these aforesaid points in view, it is a required imperative that an open approach to scientific pursuit and collaboration between IIT Kharagpur and BAPS Research Institute Akshardham be encouraged.

Zimbra

koushiki@adm.iitkgp.ac.in

Re: MoU Committee Meeting: Monday 19th June; 4-6 pm - CLARIFICATION on Why IIT Kharagpur collaborate with BAPS Swaminarayan Research institute

From : goutam@mech.iitkgp.ac.in

Wed, Jun 21, 2023 05:52 PM

Subject : Re: MoU Committee Meeting: Monday 19th June; 4-6 pm - CLARIFICATION on Why IIT Kharagpur collaborate with BAPS Swaminarayan Research institute

📎 1 attachment

To : Dean BTBS <deanbtbs@iitkgp.ac.in>

Cc : Dean FoS <deanfos@iitkgp.ac.in>, R&D Dean <deanrd@iitkgp.ac.in>, Dean Faculty, IIT Kharagpur <deanf@iitkgp.ac.in>, Jayanta Mukhopadhyay <jay@cse.iitkgp.ac.in>, dydir <dydir@hijli.iitkgp.ac.in>, Dean Outreach <deanor@adm.iitkgp.ac.in>, Dean FoE&A <deanfoea@iitkgp.ac.in>, Associate Dean International Relation <adeanir@adm.iitkgp.ac.in>, Ms. Koushiki Mukherjee <koushiki@adm.iitkgp.ac.in>

Dear all,

I too share the opinion that the Organization's technical expertise is not quite apparent from the document.
But I gathered that some of their members are likely to deliver lectures to our students.
Today I saw one name in the list of experts shared by Registrar. They may require an MoU to be signed for delivering regular lectures. May we consider such case?
With best regards,

Goutam

From: "Dean BTBS" <deanbtbs@iitkgp.ac.in>

To: "goutam" <goutam@mech.iitkgp.ac.in>

Cc: "Dean FoS" <deanfos@iitkgp.ac.in>, "R&D Dean" <deanrd@iitkgp.ac.in>, "Dean Faculty, IIT Kharagpur" <deanf@iitkgp.ac.in>, "Jayanta Mukhopadhyay" <jay@cse.iitkgp.ac.in>, "dydir" <dydir@hijli.iitkgp.ac.in>, "Dean Outreach" <deanor@adm.iitkgp.ac.in>, "Dean FoE&A" <deanfoea@iitkgp.ac.in>, "Associate Dean International Relation" <adeanir@adm.iitkgp.ac.in>, "Ms. Koushiki Mukherjee" <koushiki@adm.iitkgp.ac.in>

Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2023 1:34:00 PM

Subject: Re: MoU Committee Meeting: Monday 19th June; 4-6 pm - CLARIFICATION on Why IIT Kharagpur collaborate with BAPS Swaminarayan Research institute

Dear Prof. Goutam,

I agree with the views, shared by Prof. Ramgopal.

With best regards,

SASWAT CHAKRABARTI

Professor,

GS Sanyal School of Telecommunications,
Dean, Faculty of Biotechnology & Biosciences,
IIT Kharagpur, 721302,
Mob: 9775030765

From: "Jayanta Mukhopadhyay" <jay@cse.iitkgp.ac.in>
To: "goutam" <goutam@mech.iitkgp.ac.in>
Cc: "dydir" <dydir@hijli.iitkgp.ac.in>, "Dean Outreach" <deanor@adm.iitkgp.ac.in>, "Dean BTBS" <deanbtbs@iitkgp.ac.in>, "Dean FoE&A" <deanfoea@iitkgp.ac.in>, "Dean FoS" <deanfos@iitkgp.ac.in>, "R&D Dean" <deanrd@iitkgp.ac.in>, "Asso Dean IR&Ranking" <adeanir@adm.iitkgp.ac.in>, "Ms. Koushiki Mukherjee" <koushiki@adm.iitkgp.ac.in>
Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2023 9:45:53 PM
Subject: Re: MoU Committee Meeting: Monday 19th June; 4-6 pm - CLARIFICATION on Why IIT Kharagpur collaborate with BAPS Swaminarayan Research institute

As an Institution, I do not find any substantial engagement in Science and Technology. If our COE-IKS wants to collaborate with them in Indian Philosophy and Heritage, they are welcome to do. But I do not think we should have any MOU with them. For some other proposals also, we have suggested not to go for an MOU and rather to go for activity based collaboration.

Regards,
 Jayanta

From: "goutam" <goutam@mech.iitkgp.ac.in>
To: "dydir" <dydir@hijli.iitkgp.ac.in>, "Dean Outreach" <deanor@adm.iitkgp.ac.in>, "Dean BTBS" <deanbtbs@iitkgp.ac.in>, "deanfoea" <deanfoea@iitkgp.ac.in>, "Dean FoS" <deanfos@iitkgp.ac.in>, "R&D Dean" <deanrd@iitkgp.ac.in>, "Associate Dean International Relation" <adeanir@adm.iitkgp.ac.in>, "Jayanta Mukhopadhyay" <jay@cse.iitkgp.ac.in>, "Ms. Koushiki Mukherjee" <koushiki@adm.iitkgp.ac.in>
sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2023 8:39:34 PM
subject: Re: MoU Committee Meeting: Monday 19th June; 4-6 pm - CLARIFICATION on Why IIT Kharagpur collaborate with BAPS Swaminarayan Research institute

Dear all,

In continuation of the mail by Ms Mukherjee, I would like to inform that Director wants committee's decision on the proposed MoU by tomorrow (11 AM). You are requested to

From: "Prof. Joy Sen" <joysen@arp.iitkgp.ac.in>
To: "Ms. Koushiki Mukherjee" <koushiki@adm.iitkgp.ac.in>
Cc: "goutam" <goutam@mech.iitkgp.ac.in>, "sectodd" <sectodd@hijli.iitkgp.ac.in>
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2023 12:55:55 PM
Subject: Re: MoU Committee Meeting: Monday 19th June; 4-6 pm

Thanks.

I shall be there by 5.30 PM for the last item.
 regards,

Joy Sen

From: "Ms. Koushiki Mukherjee" <koushiki@adm.iitkgp.ac.in>
To: "dydir" <dydir@hijli.iitkgp.ac.in>, "Dean Outreach" <deanor@adm.iitkgp.ac.in>, "deanfoea" <deanfoea@iitkgp.ac.in>, "deanbtbs" <deanbtbs@iitkgp.ac.in>, "Dean" <deanfos@iitkgp.ac.in>, "deanrd" <deanrd@iitkgp.ac.in>, "Associate Dean International Relation" <adeanir@adm.iitkgp.ac.in>, "Associate Dean, Alumni Affairs" <adeanaa@adm.iitkgp.ac.in>, "kishor" <kishor@hss.iitkgp.ac.in>, "Dr. Dipa Dube" <dipadube@rgsoipl.iitkgp.ac.in>, subramanian@rgsoipl.iitkgp.ac.in, "ksreddy" <ksreddy@civil.iitkgp.ac.in>, "jmaiti" <jmaiti@iem.iitkgp.ac.in>, "Shankha" <spb@arp.iitkgp.ac.in>, "Abraham George" <profageorge@gmail.com>, "Shailendra K. Varshney" <skvarshney@ece.iitkgp.ac.in>, "joysen" <joysen@arp.iitkgp.ac.in>, "Prof. Paresnath Singha Roy" <pareshr@gg.iitkgp.ac.in>, "Paresnath Singha Roy" <pnsmay1@gmail.com>
Cc: "goutam" <goutam@mech.iitkgp.ac.in>, "sectodd" <sectodd@hijli.iitkgp.ac.in>, "Dean Secretary BTBS" <secdnbtbs@adm.iitkgp.ac.in>, "Dean Secretary FoS" <secdnfos@adm.iitkgp.ac.in>, "Shruti Singh" <shruti@adm.iitkgp.ac.in>
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2023 12:22:48 PM
Subject: Re: MoU Committee Meeting: Monday 19th June; 4-6 pm

Dear Professors and Colleagues,
 Gentle Reminder for the meeting today at 4 pm.

Best Wishes,
 Koushiki Mukherjee (*She/Her*)
 International Relations Executive
 IIT Kharagpur.
 Office: +91 3222-281064

From: "Koushiki Mukherjee" <koushiki@adm.iitkgp.ac.in>
To: "dydir" <dydir@hijli.iitkgp.ac.in>, "Dean Outreach" <deanor@adm.iitkgp.ac.in>, "deanfoea" <deanfoea@iitkgp.ac.in>, "deanbtbs" <deanbtbs@iitkgp.ac.in>, "deanfos" <deanfos@iitkgp.ac.in>, "deanrd" <deanrd@iitkgp.ac.in>, "Associate Dean International Relation" <adeanir@adm.iitkgp.ac.in>, "Associate Dean AA" <adeanaa@adm.iitkgp.ac.in>, "kishor" <kishor@hss.iitkgp.ac.in>, "Dr. Dipa Dube" <dipadube@rgsoipl.iitkgp.ac.in>, "Dipa Dube" <dipa.dube@gmail.com>, "ksreddy" <ksreddy@civil.iitkgp.ac.in>, "spb"