

# IIT Mandi signs MoU with German varsity

**TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE**

**NEW DELHI, MAY 31**

India today discussed with Germany a possibility of collaboration between universities of the two countries where Indian and German institutions could partner to advance their academic interests.

Two MoUs were even signed today between IIT Mandi and the University of Stuttgart representing TU9 Germany and the University of Hyderabad and Westfalesehe Wilhelmns University of Germany to develop faculty with stress on doctoral and post-doctoral programmes; mutual recognition of qualifications, particularly vocational education and joint research programmes.

The pacts were signed in the presence of Human Resource Development Minister Kapil Sibal who

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held a meeting with German Federal Minister of Education and Research Annette Schavan here.

Sibal said the setting up of such collaborative universities would be a welcome step to further higher education sector in the two countries. The minister also stressed that opportunities in the field of higher education and skill development in both the

countries were enormous and called for mutual recognition of degrees and diplomas awarded by the educational institutions of both the countries.

The HRD minister also emphasised increasing the avenues for vocational education and setting up joint ventures between the two countries under the public private partnership (PPP) model for skill enhancement. He noted that there was a need to publicise the fact that many courses at graduate and postgraduate level in Germany were conducted in English. This, he said, would help more Indian students to avail of the opportunity of studying in Germany.

India, meanwhile, offered to host an Indo-German Higher Education Summit later this year to be co-chaired by both the ministers with the participation of academics.