



## ACTIVITY REPORT OF MOU



### **Rajiv Gandhi University**

(A Central University)

**Rono Hills, Doimukh**

**Arunachal Pradesh, India**



### **योजना एवं वास्तुकला विद्यालय, भोपाल**

राष्ट्रीय महत्व का संस्थान, शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार

### **School of Planning and Architecture, Bhopal**

An Institute of National Importance, Ministry of Education, Government of India

## 1. Introduction

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU), Doimukh, Arunachal Pradesh and the School of Planning and Architecture, Bhopal on 19 February 2019. The objective of this agreement was to facilitate cooperation in research and education. The mutually agreed areas include the following:

1. To foster genuine and mutually beneficial collaborations.
2. To promote joint research activities and publications.
3. To conduct an exchange programme between the two institutions involving both faculty and students.
4. To participate in seminars and academic meetings.
5. To exchange academic materials and publications.
6. To organize short-term academic programmes or summer/winter/special courses.

## 2. About the Institutions

### 2.1 Rajiv Gandhi University

Rajiv Gandhi University (formerly Arunachal University), the premier institute of higher learning in Arunachal Pradesh, has completed thirty-seven years of its existence. Smt. Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister of India, laid the foundation stone of the University on February 4, 1984. Subsequently, it started postgraduate courses from the Academic session 1988-89 in the sprawling and picturesque Rono Hills. The University was converted into a Central University on April 9, 2007 by a notification of Ministry of Human Resource Development (now Ministry of Education), Government of India. The RGU was ranked as 2<sup>nd</sup> in the country amongst the other central universities of India by the UGC (Ministry of Education), New Delhi based on the performances in 17 parameters. The only affiliating University in the state, has, its jurisdiction encompassing whole of the state. In total, there are 45 colleges affiliated to this university. The University offers academic programmes from certificate to doctoral degree through its

different departments with its motto “*Vidhyaamritshnute*” i.e. “Excellence and Immortality through nectar of Education”. In a span of around four decades, the Rajiv Gandhi University has grown into an institution with proven academic excellence, social commitment and cultural interest with a clear vision for its future growth.

## **2.2 School of Planning and Architecture, Bhopal**

The School of Planning and Architecture had a modest beginning in 1941 as a Department of Architecture of Delhi Polytechnic. It was later affiliated to the University of Delhi and integrated with the School of Town and Country Planning which was established in 1955 by the Government of India to provide facilities for rural, urban and regional planning. On integration, the School was renamed as School of Planning and Architecture in 1959.

Recognizing the specialized nature of the fields in which the School had attained eminence, in 1979, the Government of India, through the then Ministry of Education and Culture, conferred on the School of Planning and Architecture the status of "Deemed to be a University". With this new status, the School had broadened its horizon by introducing new academic and extension programmes and promoting research and consultancy activities. It was recognized as "An Institute of National Importance under an Act of Parliament" in 2015.

The School is a specialized University, only one of its kinds, which exclusively provides training at various levels, in different aspects of human habitat and environment. The School has taken lead in introducing academic programmes in specialized fields both at Bachelor's and Master's level, some of which are even today not available elsewhere in India. The School, in striving for excellence, has always been in the lead in extending education and research to new frontiers of knowledge. Human habitat and environment being the basic concern of the School, the spectrum of academic programmes is being continuously extended by providing programmes in new fields and emerging areas for which facilities are not available, as yet, anywhere else in the country.

The current SPA Delhi campus is located near ITO in Indraprastha Estate in New Delhi. The SPA Residential Campus and Hostel is located at Maharani Bagh, New Friends Colony, New Delhi and a girls hostel at Indraprastha Estate. A site of 20 acres has been acquired south of JNU by the school adjacent to Hotel Grand for developing a new campus.

### 3. Programmes and Activities

The following activities are undertaken as per the mutually agreed provisions of the MoU:

1. Mutual academic and research collaborations were made engaging both faculty and students from both institutions in order to amplify the scope of research.
2. Joint publications were made by the scholars and faculty to enhance research depth engaging expertise from both institutions.
3. Exchange programmes were organized to share the resources of both institutions.
4. Short-term and long-term research commitment was formalized to ensure an effective exchange of ideas.