

Government of Punjab
Department of Science, Technology and Environment

MoU signed with IIT, Ropar to promote Research & Innovation

1. Government of Punjab has launched Mission Innovate Punjab and Mission Tandrust Punjab under the aegis of Department of Science, Technology & Environment (DSTE).

Mission Innovate

2. Mission Innovate Punjab would focus on developing a robust ecosystem for research & innovation in the State. It will enhance competitiveness, boost growth and create jobs. The mission would be steered by Punjab State Council for Science & Technology. The Key domain areas under this initiative include environment & climate change, public health, industry 4.0, life sciences and clean energy.
3. The Department of Science, Technology and Environment would strive to:
 - Champion Research and Innovation across sectors and departments.
 - Advocate Policies for development of Research and Innovation Ecosystem.
 - Facilitate Universities in adopting the Global Standards of Research.
 - Facilitate Universities in adopting Industry Collaborations.
 - Promote translation of research into knowledge lead enterprises.
 - Draw Up State Grand Challenges for Universities and Research Institutions.
4. A roadmap for achieving the objectives in line with state priorities has been prepared by the department after series of consultations with development departments, academic & research institutions, industry & industrial associations and other stakeholders. To build an enabling research & innovation ecosystem, the Department is partnering with various Research and Academic Institutions in the State.

Mission Tandrust Punjab

5. Mission Tandrust Punjab has been launched by the Government to make Punjab the healthiest State. The Mission would focus on Environment and Public Health to provide conditions for healthy living. The Department of Environment has already chalked out detailed action plans for Clean Air, Clean Water and Waste Management. The other focus areas of the Mission are Clean Soil, Green Punjab, Food Safety, Road Safety, Khedo Punjab, Nutrition and Preventive Health lead by relevant departments.

6. In order to meet the challenges of Environment protection and promote the cause of public health through Mission Tandrust Punjab, the Government is reaching out to various research and academic institutions for their support in providing innovative solutions and technologies. Strong coordination and collaboration with institutions is desirable to make Punjab the healthiest State with healthy environment.
7. In recognition of the strength of IIT Ropar in research & innovation and priorities of State Government in making the state a Research & Innovation Hub, it has been decided to make collaborative efforts in the areas of mutual interest through:
 - (i). Partnership to undertake state specific collaborative programs for new and innovative research for improvement of Environment in general and water quality in particular
 - (ii). Analysis and interpretation of data with respect to water quality in the State
 - (iii). Suggest ways and means as well as innovative technologies to replenish ground water in the exploited blocks
 - (iv). Technological support to manufacturing sector and handholding for industry 4.0 as well as support with respect to recycling and reuse of waste water to ensure Zero Liquid Discharge
 - (v). Promote innovation ecosystem in the State particularly provide mentorship, guidance and support to technology start-ups
 - (vi). Undertake faculty development programmes to teach innovations to other institutions in the neighbourhood/ region
 - (vii). Human resource capacity development for addressing locally relevant concerns
 - (viii). Undertake education and awareness programmes
 - (ix). Take up short-term student projects on issues of mutual interests as per State specific needs & priorities
8. The MoU has been signed by Sh. R.K. Verma, IAS, Principal Secretary, Science, Technology & Environment and Prof. Sarit K. Das, Director, IIT Ropar to carry forward activities and achieve the above goals.
9. MoU was signed at IIT Ropar Campus on 03.09.2019. Dr. Jatinder Kaur Arora, Executive Director, Punjab State Council for Science & Technology and Prof. Harpreet Singh, Dean, IIT Ropar, Prof. Deepak Kashyap, Prof. Javed Agrewala, Dean Research, IIT Ropar were present on the occasion.