



PRESS RELEASE

AU\$ 1.1 million scholarships awarded to students at TERI Deakin Nano Biotechnology Centre

New Delhi/Gurgaon, April 11, 2017: Following the inauguration of TERI Deakin Nano Biotechnology Centre (TDNBC) by Honourable Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Honourable Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, Australia, yesterday, Senator Hon Simon Birmingham, Education and Training Minister, Australia, awarded a three-year tuition fee waiver scholarship, worth AU\$ 1.1 million, to 11 Indian students, today. The Senator was leading a high-level delegation visit to the research centre in Gurgaon, which is the most advanced of its kind. The visit marked the celebration of the Indo-Australian academic and research alliance.

The scholarships are awarded to the PhD students engaged in research programmes at TDNBC in Gurgaon. These students are currently enrolled at Deakin University under the Deakin India Research Initiative (DIRI), which was launched in India in 2009. DIRI builds on Deakin University's world-leading expertise in material sciences, nanotechnology and biotechnology.

While addressing the gathering, **Hon Simon Birmingham** said, *"The TERI Deakin Nano Biotechnology Centre facility is not incredible because we are commissioning bricks and mortar, it's incredible because of the brains, the students, the knowledge that is embedded within the facility, and the potential that they (students) are going to realise in so many different ways."*

Under the program, each student is provided with a full tuition fee waiver from Deakin University up to an amount of approx. AU\$ 100, 000 for a period of three years. During the programme, the students travel to Deakin University, Australia, for a period of six to eight months during their PhD to work closely with their Deakin supervisor.

Elaborating on the scholarship programme, **Jane den Hollander, AO, VC Deakin University** said, "The three-year scholarship programme is predominantly designed to equip the best of the talent with advanced research facilities. Under this programme, Deakin University and TERI will provide joint supervision to the students. TDNBC envisions meeting the demand for a global, skilled workforce in nano biotechnology".

Dr. Ajay Mathur, Director General, TERI, further added, "Within five years, the Centre aims to have a number of researchers, including PhD students, enrolled at Deakin. With its cutting edge technology at the disposal of these bright minds, this Centre will help India make a mark on the global map for building new capabilities and bringing new innovations in the field of science and technology".

The research centre also houses the Researcher's Residences, with a capacity for 50 residents, which was inaugurated by the Minister today. **Dr Ashutosh Sharma, Secretary, Department of Science & Technology, Mr Ashok Chawla, Chairman of TERI, and Dr Alok Adholeya, Honorary Professor and Director, TDNBC** were also present on the occasion.



About TERI

The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) is a leading think tank dedicated to conducting research for sustainable development of India and the Global South. TERI was established in 1974 as an information centre on energy issues. Over the decades, it has made a mark as a research institute, whose policy and technology solutions have transformed people's lives and the environment.

About Deakin University

Established in 1974, Deakin was Victoria's fourth university and the first in regional Victoria. In 2014 Deakin celebrated its 40th anniversary. Deakin has a strong presence in India through an office located in New Delhi, since 1994.

Deakin has been strengthened by a series of successful mergers with strong partners, each of whom has contributed significantly to our character and approach.

Today, Deakin operates in a global, connected world with the digital economy influencing every aspect of our activities.

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