

**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India**

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**New Delhi, 15<sup>th</sup> July 2016**

**HRD Ministry signs ADDENDUM X to MoU with Shastri Indo-Canadian  
Institute (SICI)**

Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India and Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute (SICI) have signed on 15.07.2016 an ADDENDUM X to the Memorandum of Understanding providing for the details of Programme of Co-operation. Sh V.S. Oberoi, Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development and Professor Suchorita Chattopadhyay, President, Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute & Professor, Department of Comparative Literature, Jadavpur University have signed the Addendum on behalf of Government of India and Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute respectively. Earlier, the Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2016 approved MHRD's proposal for further continuation of MoU up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, a bi-national organization, was created by a joint announcement of Governments of India and the Government of Canada in 1968 for promoting understanding between India and Canada through facilitation of academic exchange between the two countries. The membership of SICI has expanded from the original 4(four) founding members to 35(thirty-five) Canadian Universities and 54 (fifty-four) Indian Institutions including some of the Indian Institutes of Management(IIMs), Indian Institute of Technology(IITs), National Law Schools, National Museum Institute, apex bodies& institutions of research and premier Central and State universities. The organization, in the past, had focused in the fields of Humanities, Social Sciences and was offering fellowships and distributing books and journals to the libraries of Canadian and Indian Universities to promote Indian studies in Canada and Canadian studies in India.

Extension of MoU will facilitate SICI to continue with promotion of knowledge and understanding between Canada and India in the areas identified earlier and in the new areas as identified by the Government of India which include Faculty-in-Residence

Programme, Faculty Development Programme for vocational Education, Facilitation cum information services etc. SICI is also expected to promote and identify eminent academicians from Canada for the Global Initiative for Academic Networks (GIAN) programme, a new initiative of the Ministry, aimed at bridging the faculty gaps in frontier areas of knowledge and forging research partnerships between educational institutions in India and Canada.

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