

Oz varsity to set up its first Indian campus in Gr Noida

Shailvee.Sharda
@timesofindia.com

Lucknow: Ranked among the top 10 young universities in the world, Western Sydney University (WSU) of Australia will establish its first campus in India in Greater Noida, an official spokesperson said on Friday.

The university signed a memorandum of understanding with the UP govt in this regard. Chief secretary Manoj Kumar Singh and WSU acting vice chancellor Prof Deborah Sweeney exchanged the document. Agriculture production commissioner Monika S Garg, principal secretary for higher education MP Aggarwal, CEO of Greater Noida NG Ravi Kumar and additional CEO Prathamesh Kumar were present on the occasion.

The chief secretary highlighted the significance of this partnership for both WSU and UP. "WSU will be the first foreign university to establish a campus in Greater Noida that will come up in two phases. In the first, its commercial

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building will be developed, while the full-fledged campus across a sprawling seven-acre site will take shape in the second phase," he said.

Adding that the WSU global campus would bring world-class education and innovation to India, strengthening ties between India and Australia, he said: "The proposed campus in Greater Noida will serve as a hub for transformative learning and entrepreneurship, supporting UP's AgTech initiatives and advancing smart agriculture, water management and climate adaptation, positioning the state as a leader in emerging industries."

An Invest UP spokesperson said that WSU's Greater Noida campus

aligns with UP's Higher Education Incentive Policy 2024, which aims to create a flexible, inclusive and robust higher education system.

"This policy provides financial incentives to attract domestic and international institutions, unlocking the potential of the state's youthful population and promoting long-term economic growth," they said.

The MOU signing ceremony held in the state capital was also attended by Pro vice chancellor (Global) at WSU Dr Nicolene Murdoch, WSU's vice-president operations and commercial Bill Parasiris, head of international strategy and partnerships (food and environment) at Hawkesbury Institute for the Environment, WSU Nisha Rakesh, minister-counsellor (education and research) from the Australian govt department of education at the Australian high commission, New Delhi Mathew Johnston and lead for research collaborations and partnerships (South Asia) Dr Kopal Chaube.