

Press Release

Mahindra University Signs MoU with La Trobe University, Australia to Boost Education and Research in Civil Engineering

- *MoU aimed at offering study abroad opportunities and scholarships worth AUD 9500 per annum for students participating in the program while providing a framework for future collaboration and joint research activities*
- *On completion of final two years of study students eligible for a 2-year post-study work permit*

Delhi NCR / Hyderabad: 23 January 2024 – Mahindra University and La Trobe University, Australia have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), marking a significant step forward in their commitment towards elevating educational opportunities for students in civil engineering. This strategic collaboration aims to elevate educational opportunities for students and includes a four-year program, a cohesive student exchange initiative, and faculty exchange programs. It will offer Mahindra University students the unique chance to complete the final two years of their undergraduate program at La Trobe University, immersing them in a world-renowned academic environment and unlocking valuable international experience.

As part of this collaboration, La Trobe University will offer scholarships worth AUD 9500 per annum to Mahindra University students participating in the program. After completing their two-year study in Australia, students are eligible to apply for and receive a Post Study Work Permit of two years, enhancing their global employability. Choosing the Bendigo campus extends the Post-Study Work (PSW) period by an additional two years, making it a great option for students keen on pursuing a career in Australia.

According to **Dr. Yajulu Medury, Vice Chancellor of Mahindra University**, *"This MoU is an important milestone in our efforts towards nurturing future leaders in the field of civil engineering research and innovation. The partnership will provide our students with access to cutting-edge knowledge, industry-relevant skills, and a global perspective that will prepare them for successful careers on an international stage."*

La Trobe University's Bachelor of Civil Engineering (Honours) program is accredited by Engineers Australia, ensuring the highest standards in education for students choosing the program.

Professor Hossam Abuel-Naga, Head of the Department of Engineering at La Trobe University said, *"We welcome Mahindra University students to our vibrant academic community. This partnership opens*

exciting opportunities and foster valuable cross-cultural exchange and strategic partnerships for both our universities.”

The education vertical of Austrade, the Australian Trade and Investment Commission, will also promote this collaboration which will, in turn, help in further strengthening the relationship between India and Australia.

Dr. Monica Kennedy, Senior Trade & Investment Commissioner, shared her thoughts on the collaboration, stating, *"This strategic partnership between Mahindra University and La Trobe University exemplifies the commitment to fostering educational and cultural ties between India and Australia. It opens doors for academic and research collaborations, promoting mutual understanding and growth between the two nations."*

Faculty exchange programs will be a significant aspect of this collaboration, with professors from La Trobe University teaching Mahindra University students, and vice versa. This exchange of expertise ensures a rich academic experience, exposing students to diverse perspectives and teaching methodologies. Throughout their study at La Trobe University, students will have the opportunity to undertake industry internships, further enhancing their practical skills and industry relevance. They will also receive a stipend of up to \$11,000 for a six-month internship, providing financial support during this valuable hands-on experience.

This MoU between Mahindra University and La Trobe University reflects their joint commitment to fostering international collaborations, promoting academic excellence, and preparing students for the future of work. The partnership sets the stage for future academic exchanges, research collaborations, and mutual growth between the two esteemed institutions.

About Mahindra University:

Mahindra University, Hyderabad (India) is a multi-disciplinary university. It works towards “Educating future citizens for and of a better world” and is envisioned to be a private University that will play a significant role in driving quality improvements and innovation in higher education in the coming years. Mahindra University will focus on generating new knowledge through engagement in cutting-edge research, creating a spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship, and undertaking collaborative projects with industry and other academic institutions. In 2021, Mahindra University launched the School of Management, the Indira Mahindra School of Education, and the School of Law. The University is backed by Mahindra Educational Institutions (MEI), a subsidiary of Tech Mahindra Ltd., the flagship IT company of the Mahindra Group, a US \$19.4 billion industrial entity that employs in excess of 2,56,000 employees across 100 countries.

About La Trobe University

La Trobe University in Australia, renowned for academic excellence, stands at the forefront of research innovation and global education. Recognized for surpassing world standards in the Excellence of Research for Australia, La Trobe focuses on Sustainable food and agriculture, Resilient environment and communities, Understanding and Preventing disease, Healthy people, families, and communities, and social change and equity. Situated in Melbourne, ranked 5th best study city by QS, La Trobe University provides a vibrant and conducive learning environment. The university's commitment to fostering international collaborations underscores its dedication to shaping the future of education and research on a global scale.

About Austrade

The Australian Trade and Investment Commission (Austrade) helps grow Australia's prosperity by delivering quality trade and investment services to businesses, accelerates growth in Australia's tourism sector and promotes Australia's education to the world.