

**Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the
Republic of India and the Government of the Islamic Republic
of Afghanistan for setting up of the
India-Afghanistan Foundation**

The Government of India and Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

Desiring to promote mutual understanding and cooperation between the peoples of India and Afghanistan by a wider sharing of knowledge and professional talents through academic and technical exchanges and contacts,

Have agreed to conclude this Memorandum of Understanding for the setting up of the India-Afghanistan Foundation (hereinafter called the Foundation).

Article I

There shall be established a Foundation, to be known as the India-Afghanistan Foundation, with the objective of fostering educational, cultural, scientific and technical cooperation between Afghanistan and India. This Foundation shall function under the terms of the present Memorandum and shall implement a programme aimed at achieving the above-mentioned goals.

Article II

The Foundation shall be financed through revenues from a Trust Fund. This Trust Fund shall be set up principally through grants made available by Government of Afghanistan and the Government of India. It may, however, also accept contributions from other agencies, both public and private.

Article III

The revenues from the Trust Fund, within the conditions and limitations hereinafter set forth, shall be used by the Foundation for the purpose of:

- (1) financing higher studies, research and other educational activities and in service training for citizens of Afghanistan at institutions of learning located in India, and vice versa.
- (2) financing visits and exchanges between India and Afghanistan of scholars, poets, writers, journalists, artists, and of teachers, instructors, professors and other professionals both in the general field of education and in the fields of agriculture, public health, science and technology, and such other fields as may be mutually agreed upon by the two Governments.

- (3) financing other related programmes and activities such as seminars, symposia, colloquia, workshops, etc. on subjects of common interest.
- (4) extending financial support to non-Governmental organizations, both in Afghanistan and in India, whose work helps achieve the objectives of the Foundation.
- (5) contributing towards the publication of standard works in the field of Afghanistan's history and culture.
- (6) encouraging the translation of standard works of Afghanistan's literature into Indian languages and vice-versa and arranging for their publication.
- (7) adopting any other measures, which may be considered necessary for the fulfillment of the objectives of the Foundation.

Article IV

The following shall be the thrust areas for the activities to be carried out by the Foundation: i) Education and culture; ii) Agricultural Research; iii) Science and technology; iv) Health; v) Technical training; vi) Developmental Studies; vii) Women's Studies; and viii) Area Studies.

Article V

In furtherance of the aforementioned purposes, the Foundation may, subject to the provisions of the present memorandum, exercise all the powers necessary for carrying out the purposes of the present memorandum including the following:

- A) Receive funds;
- B) Open and operate bank accounts in the name of the Foundation;
- C) Disburse funds and make grants and advances of funds, including payment for transportation, tuition, maintenance and other expenses incidental thereto;
- D) Plan, adapt, carry out programmes in accordance with the purposes of the present Memorandum;
- E) Recommend/nominate to the Universities/Colleges in India, and in institutions run by the government of India, trainees, professors, research scholars, teachers and professionals resident in Afghanistan for various programmes/courses in India, and vice versa;
- F) Provide for periodic audit of the accounts of the foundation by auditors selected by GOA and GOI.

Article VI

All commitments, obligations and expenditure incurred by the Foundation shall be made pursuant to an annual budget to be approved by the GOA and the GOI.

Article VII

The management and direction of the affairs of the Foundation shall be vested in a Board of Directors consisting of 10 Directors (hereinafter designated as “the Board”). The Ambassador of India to Afghanistan and the Ambassador of Afghanistan to India shall be the Co-Chairpersons of the Board. The GOA and the GOI shall each nominate four other members of the Board. Respective Embassy officials designated by the concerned Ambassadors shall act jointly as Secretaries of the Foundation.

Article VIII

The Board shall adopt such by-laws and appoint such Committees, as it shall deem necessary for the conduct of the affairs of the Foundation.

Article IX

A report on the activities of the Foundation shall be prepared annually by the Board and presented to the GOI and the GOA.

Article X

The Co-Chairpersons of the Board shall be responsible for the direction and supervision of the Board’s programmes and activities in accordance with the Board’s resolutions and directives and the provisions of this memorandum.

Article XI

Meetings of the Board shall be held twice a year alternately in Kabul and New Delhi.

Article XII

Wherever, in the present Memorandum, the terms the GOI and the GOA are used, it shall be understood to mean the Foreign Secretary of Ministry of External Affairs of Government of India and the Deputy Foreign Minister (Political Affairs) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Government of Afghanistan.

Article XIII

The present Memorandum may be amended by the exchange of diplomatic notes between the GOI and the GOA.

Article XIV

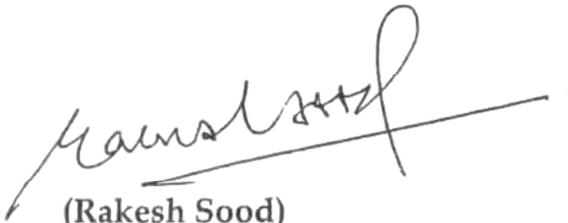
The GOI and the GOA shall make every effort to facilitate the exchange of persons and programmes provided for in this Memorandum and to resolve problems, which may arise in the operation thereof through bilateral discussions.

Article XV

The present Memorandum will come into force upon the date of signature.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto by their respective Governments, have signed the present Memorandum of Understanding.

DONE at New Delhi on 3rd April 2007 in two originals each in Hindi, Dari and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of any divergence in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.



(Rakesh Sood)
Ambassador of India
to Afghanistan

On behalf of the
Government of the
Republic of India



(Dr. Sayed Makhdoom Raheen)
Ambassador of Afghanistan
to India

On behalf of the government
of the Islamic Republic of
Afghanistan