



# University of Southampton Opens India Campus in Gurugram

## Why in News?

The **Union Minister of Education**, along with the **Chief Minister of Haryana**, inaugurated the India campus of the University of Southampton in **Gurugram, Haryana**.

## Key Points

### About Campus of University of Southampton

- **Significant Milestone in India's Education Sector:** The University of Southampton—a [QS Top 100 global institution](#) and founding member of the UK's Russell Group becomes the **first foreign university** to operationalize a campus in India under the [University Grants Commission's \(Setting up and Operation of Campuses of Foreign Higher Educational Institutions in India\) Regulations, 2023](#).
  - The inauguration of the University's campus in Gurugram marks a key moment in India's higher education sector, celebrating **five years of the [National Education Policy \(NEP\) 2020](#)**.
- **Internationalization of Education under NEP 2020:** The Union Minister highlighted that this event strengthens the **education pillar of [India-UK cooperation](#)**, aligning with the **India-UK Roadmap 2030**.
- **Campus Offerings and Programmes:** The Gurugram campus will **offer globally recognized undergraduate** and postgraduate programs, allowing students the opportunity to spend up to one year at the University's campuses in the **UK or Malaysia**.

### Note:

- India is also expanding its global presence, with **IIT Madras** opening a campus in **Zanzibar** and **IIT Delhi** establishing one in **Abu Dhabi**.

### About UGC (FHEI) Regulations, 2023

- The [UGC \(FHEI\) Regulations, 2023](#), paved the way for foreign universities, ranked among the world's top 500, to **establish branch campuses in India**.
  - The move aligns with the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020, envisioning a **legislative framework** for top global universities in India.
  - The NEP 2020 provided that selected universities, e.g., those from among the **top 100 universities in the world**, will be facilitated to operate in India.
- **University Grants Commission (UGC):**
  - UGC is a **statutory body** in India established in 1953 to coordinate, determine, and maintain standards of higher education.
  - It was created by the Indian government through the **UGC Act of 1956**. The UGC's main functions include providing **recognition to universities**, disbursing funds, and advising the government on matters related to higher education.

- The UGC headquarters is located in **New Delhi**.

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