

IIT Hyderabad and Swinburne University, Australia launched SIMMECT to Drive Breakthrough Research in Manufacturing, Energy, and Communication Technologies

Highlights:

- *Launch of SIMMECT, a joint research institute by IIT Hyderabad (IITH) and Swinburne University of Technology, Australia.*
- *Focus on three core areas: Materials & Manufacturing, Energy Transition, and Next-Gen Communication & Quantum Technologies.*
- *Advancing research in Surface Coatings, Additive and Digital Manufacturing, Decarbonisation, Critical Minerals, E-waste recycling, 6G, Quantum Communication, and Quantum Sensors.*
- *Strengthening the long-standing partnership between IITH and Swinburne, building on the Partnered PhD Program established in 2017.*
- *Driving global impact through knowledge-sharing, joint research funding, and industry collaboration.*

Hyderabad, 26th February 2025: The Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH) and Swinburne University of Technology (Swinburne), Australia are thrilled to announce the launch of SIMMECT—the “Swinburne-IITH Manufacturing, Materials, Energy, and Communication Technologies Joint Research Institute”. This landmark initiative strengthens the long-standing research collaboration between IITH and Swinburne, fostering cutting-edge advancements with significant industry and societal impact.

SIMMECT will serve as an innovative platform to accelerate research and technological development across three key thematic areas:

- **Materials and Manufacturing** – Advancing Surface Coatings, Material Development, Additive manufacturing, and Digital Manufacturing technologies.
- **Energy Transition** – Addressing Decarbonisation in Heavy industry, Critical Minerals processing, and E-waste recycling.
- **Next-Generation Communication and Quantum Technologies** – Pioneering research in 6G, Quantum Communication, Quantum Sensors, and Quantum Theory.

A Strong Foundation for Global Impact:

Building on the success of a Partnered PhD Program (established in 2017) and ongoing joint research, SIMMECT will initially operate through three key pillars - Partnered PhD program, Joint PhD Supervision, Researcher and Research student exchange

By fostering seamless knowledge-sharing, talent development, and collaborative innovation, SIMMECT will act as a catalyst for securing joint research funding, organizing workshops and symposia, and engaging in multi-partner initiatives.

Strengthening India-Australia Research Collaboration:

The launch of SIMMECT is a direct outcome of the collaborative efforts led by Prof. Christopher Berndt, Swinburne University of Technology & Distinguished Professor of IITH and Associate Prof. Andrew Ang, Swinburne University of Technology. Their leadership has played a pivotal role in advancing shared research priorities between IITH and Swinburne.

Prof. Karen Hapgood, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) at Swinburne, emphasized the importance of this collaboration:

“Our partnership with IIT Hyderabad has already delivered remarkable outcomes in joint research and PhD training. The establishment of SIMMECT will further strengthen our ties and enable us to co-create new opportunities for groundbreaking research and innovation on a global scale.”

Prof. B S Murty, Director of IITH, echoed this sentiment:

“This partnership will establish a sustainable framework for long-term cooperation between IITH and Swinburne, enhancing visibility, innovation output, and real-world contributions to industry and society, while ensuring research outcomes have a meaningful impact on addressing global challenges. Prof. Murty mentioned that IITH and Swinburne have been actively pursuing Joint Doctoral Program (JDP) since 2017 and 39 scholars have already completed JDP and 32 students are currently on roll under this program, which demonstrates the strong connection between both the Institutes.”

A Commitment to Transformative Research

SIMMECT is backed by initial seed funding from both Swinburne and IITH, reinforcing their shared commitment to accelerating research innovation with global relevance. As the two institutions deepen their collaboration, SIMMECT is set to drive transformative research that will shape the future of Manufacturing, Energy, and Communication Technologies.

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About IIT Hyderabad:

IITH, established in 2008, as one of the second Generation IITs, has reached a respectable position in both Academics, Research, Technology development and Startups in the short span of 16 years. In the recent Indian National Ranking (NIRF-2024), IITH is placed at 3rd in Innovation and 8th among Engineering institutes in India.

It has 325+ full-time faculty, 5,350+ students (PG+PhD students accounting for about 60%). The institute has a strong research focus with Rs. 1400+ Cr of R&D funding (Rs. 250 Cr funding in 2023-24), 11,500+ Publications, 460+ Patents (210 patents in 2024), and about 260+ Startups (that have generated 1100+ jobs and a revenue of Rs. 1500+ Cr). Follow us on [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [YouTube](#) for the latest updates.

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