

# KAU ties up with Australian university

16 universities have been selected from India for the tie-up

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The Kerala Agricultural University (KAU) has entered into an MoU with the Western Sydney University (WSU) for collaborative programmes in education and research.

KAU Vice-Chancellor signed the MoU at a function held in Bengaluru on Thursday. The University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Bengaluru; UAS Dharwad; and Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU), Coimbatore; also entered into pact with the WSU along with the KAU.

The WSU, a top Australian university, is promoting a tie-up with universities of repute in major countries. From India, 16 universities have been selected.

## Many such tie-ups

The KAU, which already has academic collaboration with several foreign universities, is among the institutions selected by the WSU, a pioneering university leading in agricultural and horticultural research with more than 3,000 faculty members and 45,000 students, has earmarked USD five million for collaboration with selected Indian universities.

It will facilitate fully funded PhD course for 42 scho-



KAU Vice-Chancellor Chandra Babu exchanging MoU with Barney Glover, Chancellor, Western Sydney University in Bengaluru on Friday.

lars from these universities. The Hawkesbury Institute for the environment, one of the prestigious agricultural research institutions in the world, is a constituent of the WSA. KAU Vice-Chancellor R. Chandra Babu termed the pact with the WSU significant in scale and content. He said it was a vital step in augmenting research and educational activities.

“Such tie-ups help us understand the magnitude and intensity of research in leading institutions and their approach to pertinent issues. This in turn will guide our students and faculty members, thereby improving our own standards. Academic collaborations always provide scope for mutual benefits and I am glad to be part

of this prestigious network of leading universities. The WSU is particularly keen to be linked with KAU's strengths including climate change research. The WSA team will be visiting KAU on December 3 to work out detailed plan for combined activities,” he said.

Dr. Chandra Babu, in his address at the MoU signing ceremony, narrated the diverse ecosystems and biodiversity treasure of Kerala. He also explained how Kerala was planning the rebuilding exercise after unprecedented floods. WSA Chancellor and president Barney Glover, Vice Chancellors of UAS, Bengaluru, UAS, Dharwad and TNAU and coordinator Nisha Rekhesh participated in the function.