



## **NEWS RELEASE**

U.S. Department of the Interior  
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**NEWS MEDIA CONTACT**  
Nicolette Nye, 703/787-1011

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **MMS and Indian Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas**

#### **Sign Memorandum of Understanding**

*Cooperative Framework Established*

**WASHINGTON-** The U.S. Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service (MMS) and the Indian Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas's Indian Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD) have officially agreed to share common offshore oil and gas regulatory knowledge and experience over the next several years. MMS Director Johnnie Burton and IOSD Executive Director Mr. J.B. Verma, today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that establishes a cooperative framework for the two agencies.

OISD officials visited MMS this week for an overview of US offshore activities, including various safety regulations, licensing and approvals; audit and inspection programs, personnel training practices, and incident and accident investigation techniques. They also met with officials from the U.S. Department of Energy and the American Petroleum Institute this week.

MMS and OISD will work together to develop a plan for cooperative activities to be held under the MOU.

-- MMS --

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