

**Visit of delegations from Bukhara State University (BSU) &
Samarkand State University, Republic of Uzbekistan
at MERI Campus on
Saturday, May 09, 2026, 1000 h-1300 h**

New Delhi, May 09, 2026: A delegation from Bukhara State University and Samarkand State University of Veterinary Medicine, Livestock and Biotechnologies visited the MERI Centre for International Studies in May 09, 2026 from 1000 hrs to 1100 hrs. The visit was organised to strengthen academic cooperation and explore research, innovation, agriculture, and space technology collaboration between India and Uzbekistan.

The programme commenced with welcome remarks by Prof. R. K. Dwivedi, who emphasised the growing significance of India–Central Asia relations in education, research, and cultural exchange. The opening remarks were delivered by Prof. Lalit Aggarwal, Vice President of the MERI Group of Institutions, who highlighted MERI’s commitment to international academic collaboration and innovation.

The distinguished Guests of Honour included Dr. Abror Juraev, Mr. Tolip Taylako, and Dr. Raviprakash Dani. During the programme, the honour of Visiting Professorship was conferred upon Prof. Obidjon Khamidov in recognition of his academic contributions and efforts toward strengthening India–Uzbekistan educational cooperation.

During the interaction, Dr. Abror Juraev informed that Bukhara State University is a classical university offering courses in almost all disciplines except medicine. He noted that the university has six campuses in Bukhara along with additional campuses outside the region, and further expansion is being supported by the Government of Uzbekistan. He also expressed interest in academic collaboration with MERI.

Mr. Tolip Taylako highlighted the importance of veterinary medicine, agriculture, and innovation in Uzbekistan’s economy. He emphasised the relevance of cooperation in agricultural research and the use of space technology in agriculture and livestock development.



On behalf of MERI, General Pannu discussed the growing role of space technology in agriculture and skill development. He highlighted historical and cultural links between India and Central Asia and emphasised the importance of cooperation in technology, research, and capacity-building. He

also informed the delegation about MERI's initiatives related to space technology, pharmaceutical applications, land development studies, and certificate and diploma programmes in space studies.

The discussion further focused on emerging areas such as GIS, Artificial Intelligence (AI), military space studies, and activities related to the India Space Congress and the Space Club of India. Both sides also discussed opportunities for collaboration in farming technologies and agricultural innovation. MERI representatives explained how space technology can help farmers through soil analysis, climate monitoring, and satellite-based agricultural practices.

The programme concluded with a Vote of Thanks delivered by Prof. R. K. Dwivedi, who expressed gratitude to the visiting delegation and reiterated the importance of continued academic and research cooperation between India and Uzbekistan.