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## CSIR-SERC Collaborates with NATRAX, Madhya Pradesh, through MoU for Sustainable Material Design, Infrastructure Development, and Knowledge Exchange

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CSIR-SERC (Structural Engineering Research Centre), a premier national laboratory under CSIR, is engaged in the analysis, design and testing of structures and structural components. CSIR-SERC carries out Research and Development to develop indigenous technologies by utilizing the immense natural wealth of India in the area of Structural Engineering and multidisciplinary sciences. Over the years, the laboratory has generated a large number of inventions, patents, formulations, knowhow/ processes which can be transferred to industries for commercial exploitation and for societal benefits. CSIR-SERC has built up excellent facilities and expertise for the analysis, design and testing of structures and structural components.

NATRAX is a State-of-the-Art Automotive Testing and Certification Centre, operating under the National Automotive Board (NAB), Ministry of Heavy Industries, Government of India. It is one of India's largest and most advanced proving grounds, serving as a one-stop solution for vehicle development, R&D, certification, and homologation for both domestic and global automotive, tyre, and component industries. NATRAX is spread over 2,960 acres. Planned under the Automotive Mission Plan 2006–2016, it is designated as the Centre of Excellence in

Vehicle Dynamics. It has 14 different types of specialized test tracks for comprehensive testing and evaluation of vehicles in varying terrains and stringency along with various laboratory set ups. The centre has built capabilities for electric vehicle and component testing, along with ADAS testing. NATRAX is notified under CMVR Rule 126 as a homologation and certification agency. It is also accredited for testing and certifying safety equipment's like steel crash barriers.

This partnership reflects a shared commitment to advancing environmentally responsible technologies and practices. The MoU outlines a framework for joint initiatives that include research, development, and capacity-building programs, with flexibility to explore additional areas of mutual interest in the future.

“The degree of mutual interest is so great that considerable advantage may be gained from their pursuit on a collaborative basis,” said Dr.N.Anandavalli, Director, CSIR-SERC. “We look forward to leveraging our combined expertise to drive impactful solutions in sustainable infrastructure.” said Dr. Manish Jaiswal, Director, NATRAX.

The MoU was signed between CSIR-SERC and NATRAX on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025 by Dr. N. Anandavalli, Director, CSIR-SERC and Dr. Manish Jaiswal, Director, NATRAX. Dr K. Sathish Kumar, Chief Scientist and Head, BKMD, Mr.Tejpgal Mahajan, HOD-Proving Ground (Civil &Mech) and Ms Tulika Mazumdar, Group Lead, Powertrain & Academic Collaboration, were present during this event.

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