Memorandum of Understanding

between

National Institute of Technology Agartala

and

Indian Institute of Technology Delhi

National Institute of Technology Agartala (NITA) and Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD) has agreed to the following protocols governing their collaboration on academic activities.

Scope

The scope of collaboration on academic activities in this Memorandum of Understanding is for providing an opportunity to students currently pursuing Bachelor of Technology (B.Tech.) and Dual Degree (Integrated B.Tech. and M.Tech.), to explore the option of semester-long internship (project) and undertake courses in IITD and be considered for early admission to the PhD programme at IITD. It is expected that this collaboration will in due course lead to collaborative research projects, joint supervision of PhD students, joint workshops and seminars, etc.

Scheme for Early Selection of meritorious NITA students to PhD Programme

This scheme is intended to enable meritorious NITA B.Tech. and dual degree M.Tech. students to carry out part of their studies including project work at IITD and offer an opportunity for direct admission to PhD without the need to qualify GATE or any other national level examination. This will enable "early admission" to PhD for NITA B.Tech. students as early as the end of their 7th semester, and Dual Degree students as early as the end of their 9th semester (after they have completed at least a semester of coursework and project at IITD). It is envisaged that this scheme will also help NITA students to enhance their chances for qualifying for the PMRF fellowship for PhD at IITD.

Scheme Details

1. Under this scheme, NITA students who have a CGPA of 8.00 at the end of their sixth semester (three years), will be eligible to apply for a project in summer and complete their fourth year (7th and 8th semesters, or either), at IITD, and then be considered for an early admission into the PhD program at IITD. Dual Degree students from NITA would be eligible to apply after their 8th semester, for a project in summer, or complete their fifth year (9th and 10th semesters, or either), at IITD, and then be considered for an early admission into the PhD program at IITD.
2. There will be two points at which the student can apply, either before the month of May each year (just after the completion of their 6th semester), and before the month of December each year (just after the completion of their 7th semester). Correspondingly, this would be at the end of 8th and 9th semester, respectively, for students in the Dual Degree program.
3. Students applying before the month of May would be expected to spend the summer plus the 7th (or 9th) semester in IITD (which usually spans from late July to the end of November), while students applying before December would be expected to spend their 8th (or 10th) semester in IITD (which usually spans from late December to early May).
4. All applications will be received through a portal set up for this purpose. They will submit their transcript, and other academic records and achievements, and documentary evidence of any research or internship experience. Upon selection, the students will have a *provisional* offer of admission to the PhD program. This could be after the completion of the 6th or 7th semester of B. Tech. (or after 8th and 9th semester, respectively, for students in the Dual Degree program). This provisional offer will clearly state that the final offer of admission will follow provided they demonstrate sufficient merit in coursework and/or research during their stay in IITD. The final confirmation of this offer will be done through a selection committee set up for the purpose, whose decision will be significantly influenced by (but not limited to), the performance of the student in coursework and project conducted at IITD.

5. Students will actually join the PhD program only after completion of all graduation requirements at NITA, which would be typically in the month of July. All shortlisting criteria and admission criteria must be satisfied by the student at the time of joining as well. Requirement of GATE is waived off, since the student will enter IIT with a minimum CGPA of 8.00.
6. During the stay in IITD, the student will have the status of Visiting Student with a temporary/ provisional enrollment number, and will enjoy all the privileges of a full time student in IITD.
7. During the stay in IITD, the student may take courses to satisfy the credit requirements for their B. Tech. registration (or Dual Degree) in their parent institution (NITA). IITD will certify the completion of the courses and the grades obtained in them, and it will be up to NITA to provide credit waiver or transfer the credits as per their academic requirements. The Minor (single semester) or Major (two semester) project can be considered as B.Tech. or M.Tech. projects (or parts thereof), by NITA (as per their own policy on projects).
8. In all academic/project work undertaken here in IITD, transcript will be provided with relevant credits, however, consideration of these credits will be up to NITA. Students may also undertake additional credits as Pre-Ph.D. courses for their PhD program, during their stay (in a regular semester) at IITD.
9. During their stay in IITD as a Visiting Student, IITD will not be charging any academic fees to the student, except fixed charges as applicable, since these students will be paying their regular academic fees in their parent institution. Being B.Tech./ Dual Degree students, IITD will be providing either on-campus or off-campus hostel accommodation during the one-year period. Hostel fees will be charged at regular rates.
10. Even after getting the confirmed offer of admission, the student (with prior permission of NITA, and on application to IITD) may continue to stay for one more semester doing coursework and/or project at IITD.
11. Students coming under this program will not be entitled for participation in the Training &Placement process in IITD, until they register as full-time PhD students. This will be clearly stated in their provisional offer of admission.

12. As part of this program, students can have the following academic windows at IITD:

    (i) Summer (after 6th semester) plus 7th semester (summer after 8th semester plus 9th semester, for Dual Degree);
    (ii) Only 7th semester (9th semester for Dual Degree);
    (iii) Only 8th semester (10th semester for Dual Degree);
    (iv) Summer (after 6th semester) plus 7th and 8th semesters (summer after 8th semester plus 9th and 10th semesters, for Dual Degree);
    (v) 7th and 8th semesters (9th and 10th semesters, for Dual Degree).

Commencement, renewal, termination and amendment

This MoU will come into force upon affixing of the signatures of the representatives of the partner institutions and will remain in effect for five years. This MoU may be renewed upon its expiry, with the agreement of both the partner institutions. If either partner institution wishes to terminate the MoU at the end of five years, it must notify the other institution not less than six months prior to the expiry of the MoU.

This MoU or its renewal and the actions taken under it may be reviewed at any time. Modifications may be made by mutual agreement and any amendment or extension to the agreement may be formalized by the exchange of letters between the two parties.

Signed by	Signed by
Prof. V. Ramgopal Rao	Prof. H. K. Sharma
Director	Director
Indian Institute of Technology Delhi	National Institute of Technology Agartala
Date: 27th February 2020	Date: 27th February 2020