### MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

#### **BETWEEN**

## NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AGARTALA (NITA)

AND

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (CSIR - NIIST)
FOR

RESEARCH, TRAINING PROGRAMMES,
COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS ON EDUCATION,
FACULTY & STUDENTS EXCHANGE

# Memorandum of Understanding between National Institute of Technology Agartala (NITA) and National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science & Technology (CSIR - NIIST), Thiruvananthapuram – 695 019

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is executed on 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October 2025 by and between the National Institute of Technology, Agartala, an Institute of National Importance under Ministry of Education, Govt. of India located at Tripura, 799046 (hereinafter referred to as "NITA" which expression shall, unless repugnant to the subject or context thereof, be deemed to include and mean to its nominees, successors and permitted substitutes or assigns) of the ONE PART

#### With

Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, a Society registered under the Societies Registration Act (XXI of 1860), having its registered office at Anusandhan, Bhavan, 2, Rafi Marg, New Delhi-110 001 acting through its constituent laboratory National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science & Technology at Thiruvananthapuram, PIN - 695 019 (hereinafter called CSIR-NIIST which expression shall where the context so admits include its successors and permitted assigns) of the other part either or both of which may be referred to as a "party" or the "Parties" respectively as the context demands.

#### WHERE AS

- **A.** NITA and CSIR-NIIST desire to collaborate in the field of Science & Technology and basic research, faculty and student exchange program for the mutual benefit by utilizing the expertise and infrastructure existing in both institutions.
- **B.** Based on the strengths of the **NITA** and **CSIR-NIIST**, **NITA** is desirous of collaborating with the Institute, which would provide education/ research program/ faculty, student exchange/academic programs, particularly in the field of chemical engineering and bioprocessing/biotechnology.

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MoU is to establish hereby a formal understanding of cooperation and friendship, which is intended to further the academic objectives of each institution and to promote a better understanding between the faculty and students of **NITA** and the faculty and students of the Institute.

#### ARTICLE I: OBJECTIVE

The Parties, subject to the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding and the laws, rules, regulations, and national policies from time to time in force, agree to strengthen, promote, and develop co-operations in the field of Science and Technology and Inter-Disciplinary Research between the two Institutions.

#### ARTICLE II: AREAS OF COOPERATION

Co-operation shall be carried out, subject to the availability of funds and the approval of the competent authority of NITA and CSIR-NIIST through such activities or programs as:

#### Collaborative Research:

Both institutes will collaborate in research, by joint research projects, joint funding applications, sharing of research facilities and human resources.

#### Utilization of research facilities, Joint Research activities.

- Faculty and students of both parties will be allowed, with prior permission, to utilize the
  research facilities of the parties for a prescribed nominal fee. Both institutions will facilitate
  the students & faculty by providing access to facilities and guidance from concerned Faculty
  and Research staff.
- Both will promote and facilitate inter-institutional, interdisciplinary research and collaborative research projects by faculty and students of the institutions. Short-term research projects, summer research projects etc. will be allowed.

#### Continuation of PG/PhD/MPhil/Fellowship thesis activities

Students of both Institutions will be allowed to have extension of their dissertation/ thesis activities utilizing facilities and expertise in these institutions

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#### Exchange programs:

- Faculty
- PG/PhD Scholars

Faculty and PG/PhD students will be exchanged between both Institutions every year for different programs like Workshops, Guest lectures, short-term training courses, Teaching Specialized Courses, Seminars, short-term research programs and project works etc., as agreed by both institutions from time to time.

#### Online meetings/ Online Guest lectures

Innovative methods, Information Communication & technology will be used to have better interaction among faculty and students of Institutions through Online guest lectures, group interactions through Skype etc.

#### **Knowledge sharing**

Both Institutions will share knowledge through various academic activities, interaction of faculty, students, online discussions etc. They will allow partner Institutions to utilize the databases, educational material, case presentations, practical manuals, dissertations etc.

#### Curriculum development

- Both Institutions will work in this area of Curriculum development by organizing workshops, brainstorming sessions, skill development programs collaboratively, particularly in the area/subjects of Chemical Engineering and bioengineering.
- Participation in seminars and academic developments
- · Planning joint International Conferences and Workshops
- Planning research publications in the journals published by each University
- Implementation of joint educational programs in each University within the identified areas
- Exchange of academic materials and other information.
- The terms of such mutual cooperation and the necessary budget for each specific program
  and activity that is implemented under the terms of this MoU. Each institute will designate
  a Liaison Officer to develop and coordinate specific activities or programs.

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#### ARTICLE III: FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

The financial arrangements to cover expenses for the identified research activities undertaken within the framework of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be mutually agreed upon by both the Parties on a case-to-case basis subject to availability of funds.

#### ARTICLE IV: PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

- (a) The protection of intellectual property rights shall be enforced in conformity with the national laws, rules and regulations.
- (b) Notwithstanding anything in paragraph (a) above, the intellectual property rights in respect of any technological development, and any products and services development, carried out:
  - i. Jointly by the parties or research results obtained through the joint activity effort by the Parties, shall be jointly owned by the Parties in accordance with the terms to be mutually agreed upon; and
  - ii. Solely and separately by the Party or the research results obtained through the sole and separate effort of the Party, shall be solely owned by the Party concerned
  - iii. The terms and conditions in the execution of the research projects shall be decided on case to case basis.

#### ARTICLE V: CONFIDENTIALITY

- **A.** Each Party undertakes to observe the confidentiality and secrecy of documents, information and other data received from, or supplied to, the other Party during the period of the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding or any other agreements made pursuant to this Memorandum of Understanding;
- **B.** Both Parties agree that the provisions of this Article shall continue to be binding between the Parties notwithstanding the termination of this Memorandum of Understanding.

#### ARTICLE VI: PUBLICATION

Exchange of publications between both institutions will be done. The name of the other party is not used if the other party is not involved.

#### ARTICLE VII: FINANCE

Regarding the financial arrangements connected with the implementation of the program herein stated, **NITA** and **CSIR-NIIST** further agree that:

- Both institutions will make use of only the existing employees throughout the implementation process of the Programme as far as possible.
- If additional employees and funds are required for a specific project framed under this
  MoU, the terms and conditions of such expenditures shall be detailed in that specific
  programme and both parties shall share the funds as specified in the said project.

#### ARTICLE VIII: SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

Any difference or dispute between the Parties concerning the interpretation and/or implementation and/or application of any of the provision of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be settled amicably through mutual consultation and/or negotiation between the Parties. In case, the dispute occurred between both the parties and if the same is not resolved through negotiation or by adopting amicable measures, in that case the matter will be settled through Arbitration and the Arbitrator will be appointed with the mutual consent of both the parties

#### ARTICLE IX: ENTRY INTO FORCE, DURATION AND TERMINATION

This understanding shall come into force and take effect from the date first written above and shall be valid for a period of **FIVE YEARS** and may be renewed thereafter by the parties upon mutual consent.

This understanding may be terminated by either party by providing 90 (ninety) days written notice to the other party before the beginning of academic year, and the termination would be effective at the end of the notice period.

The termination of the Understanding shall be on the understanding that students/ faculty who have already enrolled in any of the courses / research programs as at the time of termination shall remain entitled to complete their respective courses/ research programs and be eligible to appear for assessment conducted by **NITA** and **CSIR-NIIST** conducted to obtain an award. The obligation of the parties shall continue to be in force during such period, notwithstanding any termination of the Understanding.

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#### Now this MoU Witnessed as follows the Roles and Responsibilities of Either Party

#### a) Common Responsibilities

- Both institutes have to provide minimal accommodation for students/ faculty of other institute in their institute on nominal costs, subject to availability of such accommodation.
- Students/ faculty have to pay the prescribed fee for the facilities they have used.
- Institutions have to facilitate for easy exchange programs and collaborative work.
   Administrative hurdles to be cleared at higher level by clear transparent methodology.
- Periodic meeting of coordinators should be arranged to have collaboration and cooperation among faculty of two universities.
- · Both parties understand that all financial arrangements.
- · Will have to be negotiated and will depend on the availability of funds.

#### b) Roles & Responsibilities of NITA and CSIR-NIIST

- NITA and CSIR-NIIST will facilitate collaborative activities in teaching, education
  and research. Both will arrange facilities for conducting activities including in-house
  and visiting faculty/scientists from both institutes.
- NITA and CSIR-NHST shall also arrange to appoint a Coordinator who shall be
  available at the centre where the programs are being offered, in order to facilitate proper
  coordination between NITA and CSIR-NHST covering all aspects relating to conduct
  of training, research and all other activities coming within the ambit of conducting such
  programs.
- All students will be governed by the academic regulation of respective parent institutions. i.e. NITA or CSIR-NIIST as specific to the course or program offered, which shall be provided by NITA or CSIR-NIIST to the students at the start of the course/program.
- NITA and CSIR-NIIST shall maintain both in physical as well as in an electronic format (wherever possible or available) the details (including academic records) of all students/ faculty enrolled for the programs, and shall provide the same to NITA and CSIR-NIIST on request.
- CSIR-NHST will allow to utilize its facilities for education, teaching and research
  collaboration, where in NITA will allow the all facilities of the research available at
  NITA. From both NITA and CSIR-NHST faculty will provide guidance from time to
  time.

#### c) Miscellaneous

A coordination committee consisting of the following will monitor the academic and research programs and all related operational activities.

- 1. Director, NITA
- 2. Director, CSIR-NIIST
- 3. Two nominees of NITA & CSIR-NIIST Members

#### d) Coordinators of each center

- At NITA, Chairman, AR&IR will oversee the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding.
- · At the CSIR-NIIST, Head-HRAD will oversee the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding.

Any variation or amendment or addition of / to this Understanding shall be mutually agreed to in writing and executed by or on behalf of each of the parties, NITA and CSIR-NIIST. This Understanding represents the entire understanding as to the subject matter hereof and supersedes any prior understanding between the parties on the subject matter hereof.

In witness whereof, the parties hereto have executed this understanding as of the date first above mentioned.

Sealed & signed for and on behalf of

Dr. Nishy P.

Head, Business Development, CSIR-NIIST

डॉ. पी. निशी

Head, Business Development Division आर-राष्ट्रीय अंतर्विषयी विज्ञान तथा प्रीटामध्य संस

Witnesses

Sealed & signed for and on behalf of

Prof Sarat Kumar Patra

Directon, NITHAHI VIN

Prof. S. K. PATRA

निदेशक / Director

National Institute of Technology AGARTALA.

Witnesses