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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, GoO

AND

(GANGADHAR MEHER UNIVERSITY)

FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

UNDER

THE ODISHA HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR EXCELLENCE AND EQUITY

(OHEPEE)

Agreement no: 52

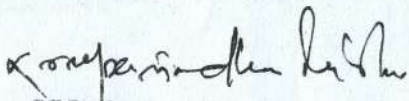
PARTIES

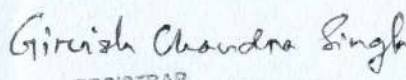
This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as 'MoU') is made and entered into on this 29th May day of 2019 between the Higher Education Department, Government of Odisha represented by SPD-cum-Additional Secretary to Government (hereinafter referred to as the 'DEPARTMENT') and (Gangadhar Meher University) through Registrar (hereinafter referred to as the 'UNIVERSITY').

PURPOSE

The objective of the 'Odisha Higher Education Program for Excellence and Equity' (OHEPEE) is to improve quality of students' education, equitable access to selected Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and improve governance of the higher education system in Odisha.

The UNIVERSITY will play a key role in achieving excellence and equity by:


SPD-Cum-Addl. Secretary
Higher Education Dept


REGISTRAR
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- I. Strengthening linkages and assisting affiliated colleges in improving the competency of students through improved quality of teaching and learning; curriculum reforms; examination systems; and research activities.
- II. Improving its own quality of teaching and learning, examination system, and research activities.
- III. Creating linkages with national and international universities, research labs and industry.
- IV. Supporting affiliated colleges to increase their on-time graduation rate of students in the undergraduate degree disaggregated by women, ST, SC, and total students.
- V. Improving procurement and financial management of the university.
- VI. Satisfactory achieving the annual performance milestones set by the DEPARTMENT.

AND WHEREAS the comprehensive description, implementation and operating conditions for the Program are contained in the document entitled the Operations Manual (OM) for IDG grant and the Program Implementation Manual (PIM).

AND WHEREAS, the UNIVERSITY has been selected to receive financing through an Institutional Development Grant (IDG) of Rs.13 Crores (Rupees Thirteen Crores Only) to pursue the goals set out in its Institutional Development Plan (IDP), annual performance milestones and related activities.

NOW THEREFORE the parties agree as follows.

SECTION I – Responsibilities of the UNIVERSITY

As conditions for receiving an IDG, the UNIVERSITY agrees to:

- a) Follow the Program guidelines and procedures prescribed in the OM, Program Implementation Manual (PIM) and Procurement Manual and Environment, Social and Safety Assessment (ESSA) as may be prescribed from time to time by the DEPARTMENT for implementation of the Program.
- b) Ensure timely progress of the agreed Work Plan annexed as Appendix – I of the MoU. Implement the activities as proposed in the Center of Excellence proposal (if applicable) and seek constant feedback from the experts in the research area.
- c) Submit training plan and calendar for academic and non-academic training for affiliated colleges in prescribed format, procurement plans, budget, Utilization certificate etc., to the DEPARTMENT by the date as intimated by the DEPARTMENT.
- d) Submit timely progress reports in the prescribed format to the DEPARTMENT by entering data into the Program MIS system.
- e) Facilitate the participation of students, faculty and staff in training sessions, seminars and conferences and training programs planned under the Program.
- f) Ensure continued and active functioning of the IQAC cell of the UNIVERSITY for NAAC processes, and handhold affiliated colleges for NAAC application.
- g) Complete the procedure required for National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) accreditation, if the institution does not have a valid NAAC. Apply for reaccreditation and complete the procedure required before the current accreditation lapses, if the institution has already been accredited by NAAC.
- h) Comply with the terms and conditions for the release of first and subsequent grants by the DEPARTMENT as described in Section III.

Krupananda Mishra
29/7/19.

SPD-Cum-Addl. Secretary
Higher Education Dept.
Girish Chandra Singh
REGISTRAR
GANGADHAR MEHER UNIVERSITY
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Page 12

- i) Ensure adherence to the principles of financial propriety and establish / Activate Grievance Redressal Mechanism to resolve grievances of all the stakeholders including complaints relating to fraud and corruption as specified in the PIM.
- j) The UNIVERSITY shall comply with the observations made by the officials of the DEPARTMENT within the timelines as may be specified.
- k) The UNIVERSITY shall facilitate audit process carried out by agencies designated by DEPARTMENT. The observations raised in the audit would be complied within the time line provided.
- l) The UNIVERSITY shall facilitate the execution of civil works through Public Works / Rural Works department which is a Government agency. The UNIVERSITY must demand and retain the approved drawing, design & estimate of the building(s) constructed by the govt. agency for on-site monitoring and for future reference.
- m) The UNIVERSITY shall not divert the program fund towards any other component or activity, without the prior written consent of the DEPARTMENT.
- n) Carry out monitoring and evaluation and data collection activities as set out in the PIM and the Management Information System (MIS) format, and provide documents and data to the DEPARTMENT, as and when requested, in the agreed format within stipulated timeline. Monitor the progress on achievement of the targets set out for the affiliated colleges and supports them in achievement of the same.
- o) Take up compulsory activities related to improving the quality of affiliated colleges which include but not limited to:
 - 1. Revise the curriculum to improve the efficacy of Choice Based Credit System (CBCS)
 - 2. Build capacity of affiliated colleges on academic and non-academic domains through conducting training programs on regular basis as per annual training plan and facilitate faculty training centrally by clustering groups of Institutions based on the geography and the theme
 - 3. Implement online result declaration and online availability of degree certificates and mark sheets.
 - 4. Improvement of the examination system (quality of test including higher order skills, timely examination etc.)
 - 5. Timely issue / renewal of college affiliation
 - 6. Assisting affiliated colleges in improving NAAC accreditation grade
 - 7. Support the affiliated colleges in improving their Research and Development activities
- p) Participate in all activities advised by the DEPARTMENT to facilitate the implementation of the Program, such as the Program Management Information System, Governance benchmarking exercise, students satisfaction surveys, Faculty feedback systems etc.
- q) Assign responsibility for implementation of the IDP to an implementation unit within the UNIVERSITY with functions and structures as set out in the PIM.
- r) Implement all reforms and activities as committed by the UNIVERSITY under the Program and mentioned in the PIM including through any amendments required to the rules, policies and guidelines under the jurisdiction of the UNIVERSITY.
- s) Take all necessary actions to achieve the program milestones / performance indicators as notified by DEPARTMENT

[Signature]
 SPD-Cum-Addl. Secretary
 Higher Education Dep. 29/5/19

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 REGISTRAR
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- t) Closely work with the nodal person of the State PMU (State Program Management Unit) and other officials to achieve the program targets.
- u) The UNIVERSITY agrees to strictly abide by the following safety and environmental safeguards
 - 1. No procurement of equipment dealing with radioactive material or hazardous material without permission of SPD
 - 2. No construction using asbestos containing materials
 - 3. No construction within all protected areas (National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries, Elephant Corridors, Tiger Reserves, Elephant Reserves, Biosphere Reserves) and construction within Eco-Sensitive Zones for which final or draft notifications have been published by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India
 - 4. No construction within 300 meters radius of archaeological monuments identified by the Archaeological Survey of India.
 - 5. The UNIVERSITY agrees to give special attention to SC/ST/PWD/women students for improving their enrolment, retention, On Time Graduation and overall performance through:
 - i. Priority allotment in hostels.
 - ii. Obtaining their feedback on academic and other activities and taking appropriate action on the suggestions.

SECTION II - Responsibilities of the DEPARTMENT

The DEPARTMENT agrees to:

- a) Release grants to the UNIVERSITY as described in Section III.
- b) Provide directions on policies and amendments with respect to reform process in the higher education sector.
- c) Provide technical assistance to the UNIVERSITY for implementation of the IDP activities, budgeting, training planning, use of MIS, Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) activities and other Program related activities from time to time.
- d) Provide guidance on institutional good practices and policies based on the results of studies and assessments of the higher education sector in Odisha.
- e) Strengthen state-wide systems, such as the higher education portal and MIS to facilitate the implementation of the Program.
- f) Facilitate all academic and administrative reforms as committed under the Program and contained in the PIM, OMs and ESSA through appropriate orders, including the greater delegation of academic, administrative and financial powers to the UNIVERSITY as and when required.
- g) Carry out the monitoring and evaluation activities set out in the PIM and provide appropriate feedback to the UNIVERSITY.

SECTION III – Fund disbursement modalities

- a) The DEPARTMENT will provide to the UNIVERSITY an initial allocation of 20 per cent of the IDG to execute the work plan agreed between the DEPARTMENT and UNIVERSITY.

K. Pradyumn Kumar
 SPD-Cum-Addl. Secy
 Higher Education Dept.

Girish Chandra Singh
 REGISTRAR
 GANGADHAR MEHER UNIVERSITY
 SAMBALPUR

b) Subsequent allocations will be made on the following conditions:

The UNIVERSITY's performance is deemed satisfactory by the DEPARTMENT, based on satisfactory performance on items listed below:

- i. Immediate renewal of accreditation (if the NAAC accreditation cycle lapses during program period)
- ii. Seek to improve the NAAC grade from the previous cycle of accreditation and increase on-time graduation rate of students in undergraduate degree disaggregated by women, ST, SC, and total students.
- iii. Minimum 40 percent of the IDGs to be utilized towards strengthening of affiliated colleges (if applicable) through faculty training and capacity building interventions, handholding for improving NAAC accreditation, on-time graduation, curriculum revision, exam reforms, etc. Remaining 60 percent of IDG to be spent on setting up Centre of Excellence, civil infrastructure, etc.
- iv. Submission of Audited financial statement in prescribed format for past financial year by September 30th.
- v. Satisfactorily meet the annual performance milestones set by the DEPARTMENT.

c) At least 60% of the previous allocation has been utilized by the UNIVERSITY.

d) If the milestones and other targets are not satisfactorily achieved by the UNIVERSITY, the DEPARTMENT may truncate the Work Plan accordingly. In case of non-compliance to requisite standards, action planning and fund utilization thereof, report submissions, etc; the DEPARTMENT reserves the right to withdraw the assistance.

e) The UNIVERSITY follows all guidelines, rules and procedures set out in the PIM, OMs and ESSA.

f) All payments under the Program will be made as per the Procurement and Finance Manual approved by the DEPARTMENT. The UNIVERSITY will execute activities as per the work plan and make payments in accordance with the Manual to vendors/consultants/contractors etc.

g) If the amount disbursed remains unutilized with the UNIVERSITY and it is observed that the UNIVERSITY will not be able to spend the money, then the UNIVERSITY may be asked to return the money to the DEPARTMENT.

SECTION IV – Implementation schedule and effectiveness conditions

a) The Program implementation schedule: The Program is effective from 7th December, 2017 and is expected to be completed by 30th November , 2022

b) This MoU will become effective when signed by duly authorized representatives of both the parties, and shall remain in force until the completion of the activities covered by the MoU, or until it is duly terminated. No amendment in the MoU will normally be allowed. Under exceptional circumstances amendments can be made to the MoU on approval of the DEPARTMENT.

c) Notwithstanding the provisions of this MoU, if the program OHEPEE is suspended or terminated, this MoU will become null and void from the date of such suspension or termination.

Kampananda Mishra
SPD-Cum-Addl. Secretary
Higher Education Dept.

Girish Chandna Singh
REGISTRAR
GANGADHAR MEHER UNIVERS.
SAMBALPUR

SECTION V – Miscellaneous

- a) By this MoU both parties affirm their commitment to carry out the activities and achieve the objectives mutually agreed upon.
- b) Any dispute between the parties shall be resolved by written orders of the CCS/ Secretary in charge of Higher Education Department, Government of Odisha.
- c) Amendments to this MOU, if required, shall be carried out in writing duly authenticated and executed by both parties.

d) Force Majeure

For the purpose of this Agreement, "Force Majeure" means an event which is beyond the reasonable control of a Party and which makes a party's performance of its obligations under the MoU impossible or so impractical as to be considered impossible under the circumstances. Force Majeure will be considered while honoring commitments by both parties.

e) No Breach of Understanding

The failure of an INSTITUTION to fulfill any of its obligations under the Understanding shall not be considered to be a breach of, or default under, this MoU in so far as such inability arises from an event of Force Majeure, provided that the UNIVERSITY has - (a) taken all reasonable precautions, due care and reasonable alternative measures in order to carry out the terms and conditions of this Agreement; and (b) has informed the DEPARTMENT as soon as possible about the occurrence of such an event.

Signed at Pustak Bhaban, BBSR on this 29th May day of 2019. Girish Chandra Singh

[Signature]
FOR AND BEHALF OF
THE HIGHER EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT
SPD-CUM-ADDIL. SECRETARY TO
GOVERNMENT,
HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT,
GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

[Signature]
FOR AND BEHALF OF (GANGADHAR
MEHER UNIVERSITY)
REGISTRAR
BAMBALPUR
REGISTRAR OF UNIVERSITY

Witnesses from Dept

[Signature]

1. Senior Consultant (CB), State PMU, Higher Education Deptt, Govt of Odisha
2. Pradeep Gaye
Consultant Finance, State PMU, Higher Education Deptt, Govt of Odisha

Witnesses from UNIVERSITY

1. Toopurari Narayan Pali
2. Mahendra Prasad Behara