



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

**ODISHA STATE OPEN UNIVERSITY (OSOU)
SAMBALPUR, ODISHA**

AND

**VEER SURENDRA SAI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY (VSSUT)
BURLA, SAMBALPUR, ODISHA**

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Manas Ranjan Sanyal
10/06/22
Registrar
Odisha State Open University
Sambalpur

[Signature]
10/6/2022
REGISTRAR
V.S.S. University of Technology
Burla, Sambalpur, Odisha-768018



ଓଡ଼ିଶା ओडिशा ODISHA

M 733628

This memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is made on this, the ^{June} 10th day of 2022

BETWEEN

Odisha State Open University, established by the Government of Odisha in 2015 located at G.M. University Campus, Budharaja, Sambalpur- 768004 through its Registrar, hereinafter referred to as "OSOU" (which term shall so far as the context admits be deemed to mean and include its successors and assignees), as the party of the first part;

AND

Veer Surendra Sai University of Technology, Burla, formerly known as University College of Engineering (UCE), a non-affiliating Unitary University established by the Act of the State Legislature in 2009, located at Burla, Sambalpur, Odisha through its Registrar, hereinafter referred to as "VSSUT" (which term shall so far as the context admits be deemed to mean and include its successors and assignees) as the party of the Second part;

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS both the Universities are established by state legislature having jurisdiction over the respective state boundaries and have the mandate to cater to the education aspiration of the people of respective states.

Registrar
10/06/22
Registrar
Odisha State Open University
Sambalpur

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V.S.S. University of Technology
Burla, Sambalpur, Odisha-768018

AND THEREFORE, both the parties hereto, have decided for academic collaboration in sharing of resources generated for teaching learning activities including e-resources and video tutorials for mutual benefit of the learners as per the following mutually agreed guidelines:

1. Description of both institutions:

OSOU is offering academic programmes through blended learning mode approved by University Grants Commission (UGC), New Delhi. The Act aims at introduction and promotion of Open University and Distance Education Systems in the Educational Pattern of the State of Odisha. Its vision is to play a positive role in the development of the State through education, training and capacity building; give emphasis on skill based vocational add-on courses for promoting employment opportunities; and ensure access and equity in higher education. Its mission is to make positive contribution to increase the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education; create a state-wide network of Skill Development Centers and Study Centers to reach out to all parts of the state and all segments of the society; create University-Industry interface in Skill-based education; and reach the unreached people residing in rural, remote and inaccessible regions of the State.

The Veer Surendra Sai University of Technology (VSSUT) Odisha was formed by Orissa Act 9 of 2009 by converting University College of Engineering (UCE), Burla to a non-affiliating Unitary University and came into force by issue of notification by the Industries Department, Government of Odisha from 1st day of July 2009 (Vide memo No.IV/TTI-33/2009-8553 and 8564 dtd.10th June 2009. VSSUT provides modern educational facilities while retaining traditional values, as well as using its strong industrial contacts to mold young, talented individuals who can compete in the global arena. The aim of VSSUT is to rank among leading universities globally. Consequently, VSSUT's mission is to educate individuals to be competitive not only in India, but all over the world. Within an intensely competitive environment, the University has adopted a dynamic, global, high-quality, creative and communicative approach in education, as well as research and development.

2. Objective:

The ultimate objective of the joint collaboration is to enhance relations between the two Universities and to develop academic and cultural interchange in the areas of education, research and other activities, agree to cooperate and work together towards the growth & development of higher education in the Country.

Manoj Ranjan Pujari
10/06/22
Registrar
Odisha State Open University
Sambalpur

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10/6/2022
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V.S.S. University of Technology
Burla, Sambalpur, Odisha-768018

3. Areas of collaboration:

The purpose of this MoU is to create a framework for collaboration between the two universities VSSUT and OSOU in areas as given below:

- i. To establish close linkage and functional coordination between OSOU and VSSUT and to collaborate in different academic, research and co-curricular activities from time to time.
- ii. OSOU and VSSUT will collaborate in sharing or creation of educational materials and resources.
- iii. OSOU and VSSUT will jointly organize Seminars, Workshops, Conferences, Symposiums & Competitions from time to time.
- iv. OSOU and will jointly undertake Research & Project works in emerging areas with local relevance by the students/ scholars and faculty members of the University.
- v. OSOU and VSSUT shall facilitate the students for Internship programmes/ project works/exposure trips from time to time.
- vi. OSOU and VSSUT will jointly work for Staff professional development.
- vii. Apart from the aforesaid linkage, OSOU and VSSUT shall collaborate to organize extension and outreach activities like socio-economic & welfare initiatives for neighboring & rural communities.
- viii. OSOU and VSSUT will jointly associate for academic collaboration in ICT, Counseling, and Training and Research etc. for teachers, staff and students from time to time.
- ix. OSOU and VSSUT will jointly organize awareness campaigns, rallies, street-plays etc. on relevant and burning issues, celebrate important occasions and appreciate good works by offering felicitation to the performers from time to time.
- x. OSOU and VSSUT will extend support to the people in distress during any natural calamity of the region e.g. flood, earthquake, landslides etc.
- xi. OSOU and VSSUT will also work for peace, brotherhood, national integrity and communal harmony.
- xii. OSOU and VSSUT will share library resources and institutional repository.
- xiii. OSOU and VSSUT will also share best and innovative practices.
- xiv. Promotion of Skill Development Programmes to boost employment opportunities for our learners, particularly the under-privileged groups.
- xv. Joint collaboration for promotion of OER and MOOCs.
- xvi. Joint collaboration for Faculty Development Programme that will include classroom Seminars and site visits which may include trips to Learner Support Centers, Regional Centers, historical places, museums, educational institutions, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), villages, etc.

Ramesh Ranjan Pradhan
Registrar
Odisha State Open University
Sambalpur

[Signature]
01/06/2022
REGISTRAR
VSSUT, University of Technology
Burla, Sambalpur, Odisha-768018

- xvii. Transfer Credits earned by the students as per UGC guidelines and complete the course, whenever required.
- xviii. Exchange students for research.

The above areas of collaboration are not exhaustive and new areas may be proposed by either institution and agreed upon mutually.

4. Administration:

- i. The Authorized signatories of both OSOU and VSSUT shall manage this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and all endeavors that derive from it. They (or their designated representatives) will be responsible for developing and carrying out a joint plan and submissions regular reports on the implementation of this MoU. Any activity proposed that does not fit into the general terms of this MoU will be formally incorporated as an addendum to the implementation plan to this MoU, provided the addendum of implementation plan is agreed to and signed by both parties.
- ii. For the purpose of facilitating the day-to-day implementation of this MoU, OSOU and VSSUT agree to have regular communication and correspondence.
- iii. This MoU shall be effective and shall come into force upon signature of the authorized signatories of both the parties. It shall be subject to revision by written agreement between the two parties.
- iv. All the parties shall keep the respective communities informed of this MoU to draw benefits from it and to contribute towards its implementation in spirit and substance.

5. Co-ordination and Review:

OSOU and VSSUT shall hereby appoint "Coordinators" in their respective Universities who shall be responsible for coordinating all communication and directions for the implementation and execution of the MoU.

6. Effective Date and Duration:

The MoU shall take effect from the date of execution hereof and shall remain valid for Five (05) years. The MoU unless extended by mutual written agreement of the parties shall expire five years after the date specified above. Either party shall have the right to unilaterally terminate this MoU upon 90 (ninety) days with prior written notice to the other party.

Hemant Ranjan Panigrahi
11/06/22
Registrar
Odisha State Open University
Sambalpur

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11/6/2022
REGISTRAR
V.S.S. University of Technology
Burla, Sambalpur, Odisha-768018

7. Financial Provisions:

Sharing of expenditure shall be determined by the parties on a project-by-project basis and will be incorporated by reference as an addendum to this MoU or additional implementation plans.

8. Termination / Amendment / Breakdown of MoU :

- i. Either party may terminate this MoU by written notification signed by the appropriate authority of the institution initiating the notice. However, the other party must receive such notification at least six months prior to the effective date of termination.
- ii. In the event of disagreement on any of the terms and conditions of this MoU, the expenditure incurred by the parties would remain on 'As is Where is condition'. This would be decided on a project-by-project basis.
- iii. In case of termination of agreement it shall be binding on both the parties to protect the interest of the students already enrolled in the programme. The students taking courses as part of an exchange at the partner institution should be allowed to continue till they complete the semester/programme or till the students complete the permissible duration of the programme whichever is earlier.

9. Confidentiality & ownership

The parties shall ensure that no information/ document received from each other are made public without the formal approval of the partner.

10. Force Majeure

Neither of the parties hereto shall be liable for non-performance or delay in performance for causes due to Force Majeure. For the purpose of this MoU, Force Majeure is defined as cause beyond the control of the party affected including natural calamities, acts of terrorism, war and civil commotion etc.

11. Dispute Redressal Mechanism

Any dispute arising out of this agreement shall be resolved through mutual consultation between both parties. In case of failure to resolve the dispute through negotiation third party arbitration shall be adopted on mutually agreed terms and conditions.

Haras Ranjan Pujari
10/16/22
Registrar
Odisha State Open University
Sambalpur

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10/16/2022
REGISTRAR
V.S.S. University of Technology
Burla, Sambalpur, Odisha-768018

12. Undertaking by OSOU and VSSUT:

- i. The parties hereto undertake to work closely and cooperate in the implementation of this MoU and to endeavor to resolve disputes arising between them in relation to this MoU by amicable means. Should this not be possible because of irreconcilable differences, this MoU may be terminated by mutual consent of the two parties.
- ii. The parties to this MoU or their authorized representatives acknowledge having read and understood the MoU and agree to remain bound by its terms and conditions.

13. Intellectual Property Rights:

Intellectual Property developed by the joint efforts would be the joint property of the Parties. Any financial benefits or otherwise arising thereon would be shared proportionately by the parties in consonance with the efforts / inputs given by them.

The undersigned, being duly authorized thereto, have signed this Memorandum of Understanding in two original copies in English at the place and on the date indicated below:

Hanas Rajan Inras
10/06/22

Registrar
Odisha State Open University
Bhubaneswar
Authorized Signatory
Odisha State Open University
(OSOU), Sambalpur

[Signature]
Registrar 10/6/2022

Authorized Signatory
Veer Surendra Sai University
(VSSUT), Burla, Sambalpur
VSSUT University of Technology
Burla, Sambalpur, Odisha-758042

Witness 1:

Malini Rajan Inras, CoT
OSOU, Sambalpur 10/06/2022

Witness 2:

Pratap Keshari Panda,
Section Officer, OSOU.

Witness 1:

Aruna Kumar Banick
Asst. Prof. Chemistry

Witness 2:

Balista Saha
OS. VSSUT