

## **Memorandum of Understanding**

### **Academic and Research Collaboration**

**between**

**National Institute of Technology Calicut, India**

**and**

**Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai, India**

**National Institute of Technology Calicut (NITC) and Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM)** have agreed to the following protocols, governing their collaboration on academic and research related activities:

#### **Scope**

The scope of collaboration on academic and research activities in this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) includes the following categories:

- Academic and Research collaboration in the areas of mutual interest.
- Exchange of academic information, scholarly information, materials, and publications.
- Exchange of students and faculty.
- Sponsorship of cooperative seminars, workshops, and other academic meetings.

#### **Student Exchange**

Pursuant to the agreement for academic exchange, NITC and IITM will exchange students according to the terms laid out in Annexure 1. It is desired by both parties that there will be a significant flow of students in both directions.

#### **Research Collaboration**

Faculty from both institutions will collaborate in the supervision of exchange students and in joint research in disciplines of mutual interest. All such joint research activities will be governed by the terms laid out in Annexure 2.

#### **Admission of the top 10% of the students of National Institute of Technology Calicut to direct PhD at IIT Madras (subject to availability at IITM)**

NITC and IITM agree to facilitate the top 10% of students (subject to availability at IITM), at the end of 6<sup>th</sup> semester of NITC to seek admission to the direct PhD program of IITM, and enable successful candidates to pursue the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> semesters of their BTech program at IITM, according to the terms laid out in Annexure 3.

## Faculty Exchange:

In accordance with the agreement for exchange of academic and scholarly information between NITC and IITM, faculty members from either institution will visit the other institution for a maximum period of six months at a time with the approval of the head of both institutions. The host institution will arrange for office space and facility and campus accommodation for the visiting faculty members. The provisions for leave salary / sabbatical for the visiting faculty, if any, will be governed by the service conditions of the home institution.

## 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 partner institutions.

If either partner institution wishes to terminate the MoU at the end of the five years period, 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:

Signature: 

**Prof. Prasad Krishna**  
Director

**National Institute of Technology**  
Calicut, India  
प्रो. प्रसाद कृष्ण  
Prof. PRASAD KRISHNA  
निदेशक / DIRECTOR  
राष्ट्रीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान कालिकट  
National Institute of Technology Calicut

Date: ऐन.ई.टी. कांपस (पि.ओ) कालिकट, केरला - 673 601, भारत  
NIT Campus (P.O), Calicut, Kerala-673 601, India

Signed:

Signature: 


**Prof. V. Kamakoti**  
Director

निदेशक / Director  
भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान मद्रास  
Indian Institute of Technology Madras

**Indian Institute of Technology**  
Madras  
Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600036,  
India

Date: 10/08/2023

Witness:

  
Dr Joe Mathew  
Chairman, CIR, NITC

Witness:





## **Annexure 1**

1. The institution where the student is admitted to earn a degree is the home institution and the institution to which the student is sent as an exchange student is the host institution.
2. Students under the student exchange program will be classified as special exchange students. Special exchange students will be permitted to take courses on credit/audit, as well as participate in research activities/project work.
3. In any case, the consent of the teacher/project supervisors/research supervisors at the host institution is required. Such consent will take into account among other things whether the student has successfully completed the pre-requisites for the course/project.
4. The host Institution of students enrolled in this exchange program shall not levy tuition fees. Home Institution may continue to levy fees as applicable.
5. Course credits and grades earned will be determined by the home institution based on the grade report from the host institution.
6. The number of students and time duration will be worked out on a case-by-case basis.
7. Participants may not spend more than one year normally in the exchange program.
8. Participants, when they are in the host institution, will be subject to the rules and regulations of the host institution.

### **Selection and nomination**

The selection and nomination of students is open throughout the academic year. The student nomination should be accompanied by:

- Curriculum vitae, with an official grade card/mark sheet.
- Statement of aptitude from a member of the student's school/faculty.
- A specific outline of the program of study at the host institution and a statement of objectives of the student.

When a nomination is forwarded by the home institution, it is presumed that the home institution considers the student suitable for the proposed program and consents to send the student if selected by the host institution.

The host institution will evaluate the nomination and determine their suitability for selection under the Student Exchange Program.

Where the exchange student is pursuing a research or implementation project as part of the B.Tech, M.Tech, M.A., MBA, M.S., M.Sc., or PhD (or equivalent) degree program, the host institution will provide a suitable faculty member to jointly mentor (along with the supervisor in the home institution) the exchange student in formulating the research project or jointly supervising the exchange student in the event that a research project has already been identified.

The host institution will inform the home institution of any academic or other problems that may arise during the period of the student's residence in the host institution. The host institution will take appropriate action under its established policy and procedures, in consultation with the home institution to deal with such problems.



## **Annexure 2**

1. Proposals for collaborative research work under this memorandum will be submitted with the prior approval of the Head of each institution, or their nominee.
2. Each institution will nominate one of its members as its representative in charge of the cooperative program. Individual programs of work under this memorandum will be jointly planned and conducted by the nominees of both parties.
3. Progress of work of any individual program will be reviewed and approved by designated authorities of both parties.
4. The final approval of any project will depend on the availability of guaranteed support funds.
5. Neither NITC nor IITM will be held responsible for any liability to the other party, and neither party shall be required to purchase any insurance against loss or damage to any property due to activities to which this agreement relates.

Every collaboration will have its own agreement/contract that addresses issues such as IPR, funding pattern, disclosure of information, etc.

### Annexure 3

#### **Admission of the top 10% of BTech students of National Institute of Technology Calicut to Direct PhD program at IITM (subject to availability at IITM)**

#### **Extract of Senate Norms for top 10% of BTech students of NITC seeking admission to PhD program at IITM.**

- a) Top 10% of the B. Tech students from other Institutions (which agree to participate in the program) who are in their 3rd year, with a minimum CGPA of 8.0 and without backlog/failures, will be eligible to apply for the Direct PhD (subject to availability at IITM).
- b) Selected students will move to IITM in their 4th year.
- c) IITM shall not levy tuition fees for the selected students during the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> semesters at IITM. NITC may continue to levy fees as applicable.
- d) Credits earned during the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> semesters at IITM shall have equivalence to the credit needed for the 4th year of the B. Tech program. The credits will be transferred to the student's home institution for the award of the BTech degree.
- e) After successfully completing the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> semesters with CGPA > 8.0 at IITM, and being selected for admission to the direct PhD program, these students are eligible for HTRA for five years from the date of joining the Direct PhD program. Students from CFTIs having a CGPA of 8 and above will be eligible for the award of HTRA without the requirement of GATE. Students admitted from non-CFTIs are required to qualify in GATE for becoming eligible for the award of HTRA.
- f) The direct PhD students must complete the comprehensive viva within 3 semesters after joining the direct PhD program of IITM.
- g) If a student earns a CGPA < 8.0 in the courses in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> semesters at IITM, the student will be transferred back to the home institution along with credits earned.
- h) If a student is not found fit to continue in the PhD program by their doctoral committee, they will be allowed to drop out any time after the 1<sup>st</sup> year of PhD, at which point the B. Tech credits will be transferred to the parent institute.

### **Specific Operational aspects agreed to by NITC and IITM**

1. **NITC** will make an internal announcement to all students who are in the top 10% of their class in their 6<sup>th</sup> semester with a minimum CGPA of 8.0 and without backlogs/failures (based on the CGPA calculated until the 5<sup>th</sup> semester) and encourage such students to apply for admission into a Direct PhD programme at IITM to those Department(s) in which they meet the eligibility norms for regular PhD programme, through online portal between 1<sup>st</sup> March and 30<sup>th</sup> March every year.
2. **NITC** also will disseminate the contact details of eligible students to the Dean (Acad), IITM, to enable to Dean to bring the PhD application schedule to these students
3. IITM will forward the list of students selected for direct PhD admission to **NITC** and also inform the respective students.
4. Selected students of **NITC** will move to IITM at the end of 6<sup>th</sup> Semester and undergo paid summer fellowship at IITM. On successful completion of the summer fellowship and on a favorable recommendation of the Head of Department, they may be permitted to pursue their 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> semesters at IITM.
5. **NITC** will permit these students (selected for direct PhD programme) to pursue their final year of their BTech programme (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> semester) at IITM. The final year B.Tech project of the student will have a main guide in IITM, who normally is the Ph.D guide-designate at IITM for the student. **NITC** will assign a co-guide for the student's final year project work. Detailed planning of the courses to be taken at IITM will be jointly decided by the B. Tech project co-guide of the student at **NITC** and the Ph.D guide-designate at IITM.
6. **NITC** will provide some flexibility in the curriculum for these students to facilitate them to complete the credits to be earned towards the award of the B Tech degree. Detailed planning of the courses to be taken at IITM will be jointly decided by the faculty advisor of the student at **NITC** and the guide-designate at IITM.
7. These students should earn a minimum CGPA of 8.0 at the end of 8<sup>th</sup> semester at IITM, to become eligible to continue in the direct PhD program. Otherwise, the student will be transferred back to **NITC** along with the credits earned.
8. These students are not eligible for campus placement through IITM at the end of their first year, of study at IITM, (ie., at the end of their 8<sup>th</sup> semester). But they will have the freedom to pursue other job prospects on their own. No liability shall be imposed on these students who may discontinue the program to take-up such job offers.
9. The student will pay the tuition fee to **NITC** during their 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> semesters. After joining as a direct PhD student, the student will pay the tuition fee appropriate for PhD scholars as per regulations of IITM, to IIT Madras.

10. With the concurrence of the guide-designate at IITM and the Doctoral Committee, faculty members from **NITC** may serve as co-guides for these students, whenever possible IITM encourages such a practice, but the decision is left to the discretion of the Guide-designate.
11. These students shall come under the purview of the guidelines/regulations for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> semester BTech of **NITC** in their 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> semesters, and under the PhD ordinances and Regulations of IITM once they join the direct PhD.
12. For candidates who fail to complete the Comprehensive viva-voce exam, the option to convert to an MS program as per regulation R.21 in the PhD ordinances and regulations of IITM, will be available.
13. If a student is not found fit to continue in the PhD program by their Doctoral Committee, they will be allowed to drop out any time after the 1<sup>st</sup> year of the direct PhD, at which point the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> semester credits will be transferred to **NITC** for the award of the B.Tech degree.

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