Memorandum of Understanding

Between

Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education

(MGNCRE)

And

All India Council for Technical Education

(AICTE)

Date: 15th March, 2022
This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is executed at AICTE, New Delhi, on this 15th day of March, 2022.

Between

All India Council for Technical Education (hereinafter called “AICTE”), a Statutory Body of Ministry of Education, Government of India, established under the All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1987, (which expression shall, where the context so admits, be deemed to include its executors, administrators and assigns) be the FIRST PARTY

AND

Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education (here in after called “MGNCRE”) is an Autonomous Council of the Department of Higher Education in the Ministry of Education, Government of India offering internship opportunities to management and engineering students for free of cost in Rural Technologies, Rural Entrepreneurship, Rural Management, Institutional Social Responsibility and Rural Community Engagement, (which expression unless it be repugnant to the context or meaning thereof, shall be deemed to mean and include their executors, administrators and assigns) be the SECOND PARTY

AICTE and MGNCRE are referred to individually as a “Party” and collectively as “Parties”

WHEREAS, AICTE has initiated several schemes for students and graduates supported through an online platform (URL: https://internship.aicte-india.org) and manages a portal to provide students with internship opportunities to enhance their employability across different industry domains in India covering the expanse of the country;

WHEREAS, MGNCRE seeks to promote internship opportunities to engineering students, opting to join the Rural Entrepreneurship, Rural Management and Rural Engagement. NOW, THEREFORE in consideration of the foregoing, the parties have agreed to launch the ‘Internship opportunities to engineering students, opting to join Rural Business Management and Entrepreneurship including Social Entrepreneurship, and work together as per the following:

ROLE OF AICTE:

1. The AICTE will extend its existing platform (AICTE Internship Portal: https://internship.aicte-india.org) to Engineering students for providing access to internship opportunities in Institutional Social Responsibility, Rural
Community Engagement, Rural Business Management, Rural Entrepreneurship and Rural Technologies.

2. To ensure ease of access and use for the MGNCRE, the AICTE will suitably customise the internship portal as per the requirements conveyed by MGNCRE (Second Party), which may include among others modifications to processes of document verification, posting of internship opportunities by MGNCRE, matching candidates to appropriate internship requirement, generation of online certification.

3. The certificates issued by AICTE under this initiative will be digitally verifiable, secure, shareable and available in the public domain to enhance industry value.

4. AICTE will create a dashboard on its platform to provide data on as requested by MGNCRE through a customised / exclusive design and made available in the public domain.

5. AICTE will continue to support the platform for the duration of the period of MoU. The technical support by AICTE will cover customization, management, maintenance, upgradation and among other modifications agreed upon from time to time. In addition, AICTE will maintain a helpdesk to address all technical queries related to the platform.

6. AICTE will depute a team headed by Chief Coordinating Officer to address all programmatic technical queries related to the implementation of MGNCRE Internship.

7. AICTE will provide support to MGNCRE to create awareness of these internship opportunities in its affiliated colleges/institutes by organising webinar / social media campaigning at the regional and national levels to encourage the students/learners.

8. AICTE shall coordinate necessary engagements between requisite technical, professional bodies and MGNCRE as per the need.

9. AICTE shall inform from time to time regarding any new courses approved on emerging technologies, data science etc, so consortium can create appropriate roles and attract appropriate talent.

ROLE OF MAHATMA GANDHI NATIONAL COUNCIL OF RURAL EDUCATION:

1. MGNCRE will conduct Master Trainers and Faculty Development Programmes for the Higher Education Institutions for instilling the spirit and
process of Community Engagement, Internship, Apprenticeship and Entrepreneurship available in Rural Sector in India.

2. MGNCRE will motivate Higher Education Institutions to boost the internships in their respective districts through utilising the Internship platform in Rural Entrepreneurship (including Social Entrepreneurship) and Rural Business Management.

3. The departments and roles for which the internships would be needed would be solely decided at the discretion of the MGNCRE.

4. MGNCRE will depute a team headed by Internship Coordinator to address all programmatic non-technical queries related to the implementation of Internship and a help desk will be operating for the same.

5. MGNCRE will undertake capacity building initiatives in partnership with Higher Education Institutions and District Level Rural Enterprises and Businesses to boost the participation of students under this Internship.

CONFIDENTIALITY:

The MGNCRE and the AICTE agree to hold in confidence all information/data designated as confidential, which is obtained/disclosed from the disclosing Party and will not disclose the same to any third party without written consent of the other Party except that provided for under the Right to Information Act, 2005.

STEERING COMMITTEE:

A Steering Committee comprising officials of both parties shall be created to review the progress of the program on a periodical basis. The said Committee will handle only exceptional matters pertaining to the program. The frequency of convening the meeting of the Steering Committee shall be decided mutually by both parties.

The composition of the Steering Committee would be as follows:

1. Member Secretary, AICTE - Chairman
2. Member Secretary, MGNCRE - Member
3. Internship Coordinator from MGNCRE - Member
4. CCO (NEAT), AICTE - Member
5. Deputy Director, SDC, AICTE - Member
6. Assistant Director, NEAT Cell, AICTE - Member Coordinator

The Steering Committee may co-opt any Member, with the permission of Chairman of the Committee, and may also invite any person/representative of an institution to the meeting as Special Invitee to assist the Committee.
COLLABORATION:

The parties acknowledge and agree that areas of collaboration as listed here in are not exhaustive in nature and the parties shall in good faith, negotiate to elaborate upon the areas of collaboration along with the rights, responsibilities and obligations of each party in relation to each of the areas of collaboration. The parties may, from time to time, execute addenda or modifications to this MoU to incorporate such additional scope of collaborations or discussions.

NON-EXCLUSIVE:

The Parties acknowledge and agree that the areas of collaboration under this MoU are being undertaken on a non-exclusive basis and either Party shall be free to enter into or consummate transactions similar to the areas of collaboration with other parties in India or elsewhere maintaining the confidentiality of the parties.

TERM AND TERMINATION:

The term of this MoU shall be for a period of Three Years from the date of execution, unless terminated earlier by a written notice of thirty (30) days by a Party seeking such termination to the other Party, hereto. However, all commitments and obligations till the date of termination will be honoured by both the parties.

CHANGES:

Alterations or modifications to this MoU may arise during the course of the program and any such changes shall be mutually discussed and agreed upon in writing by both parties. No changes or additions hereof to this MoU shall be binding on either party unless set forth in writing and executed by the respective duly authorised representative of both parties.

LIABILITY:

Both parties agree that they are not liable to each other, or any other party not entering into the said MoU, for any damages including any special, incidental, consequential, or indirect damages arising from any claims arising out of this MoU.

COMPLIANCES:

Each Party agrees to perform its activities in compliance with all applicable statutes and regulations that are in force at that time or as revised from time to time.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION:

Any and all disagreements / differences / disputes arising hereunder shall be resolved amicably by the designated senior executives / officers of the good offices of both
Parties. This MoU contains the entire understanding between the Parties hereto and supersedes all prior arrangements, understandings and agreements, written or oral, on the subject hereof. Any part of this MoU which is not enforceable due to any reason whatsoever will be deemed to be inoperative and the rest of the MoU will continue to be valid and binding on the Parties hereto.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this MoU by their duly authorized representatives.

For AICTE

Name: Prof. Rajive Kumar
Title: Member Secretary
Date: 15th March, 2022

For MGNCRE

Name: Dr. W G Prasanna Kumar
Title: Chairman
Date: 15th March, 2022