Memorandum of Understanding

Between

All India Council for Technical Education, New Delhi

And

Cambridge Assessment English
(part of University of Cambridge, UK)

23rd October 2018
AGREEMENT

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is entered into and executed on 23rd October 2018 at New Delhi.

BY AND BETWEEN

All India Council for Technical Education (hereinafter Called "AICTE"), a Statutory Body of Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India, established under the All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1987 (52 of 1987) represented by its Chairman, having its office at Nelson Mandela Marg, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi 110070 which expression shall, where the context so admits, be deemed to include its successors, executors and administrators of the ONE PART

AND

The Chancellor, Master and Scholars of the University of Cambridge through its departments, the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate and Cambridge Assessment English, of Syndicate Buildings, 1 Hills Road, Cambridge, CB1 2EU, UK, ("Cambridge English")

SECOND PART

AICTE is concerned with the improvement of English language standards of its students and English teaching standards of its teachers. It also intends to help and encourage faculty members and the students of AICTE approved institutions. To this end AICTE has set up a Board of Studies which aims to provide English language training skills.

Cambridge Assessment English is the world's leading authority on English language testing for all learners of English and qualifications for English language teachers. Cambridge Assessment English tests are globally recognised as high quality assessments, which have a positive impact on the learning of English. Cambridge Assessment English works with partners in India to promote the use of standardised international assessments as benchmark levels to improve the learning and teaching of English, and is keen to work with AICTE to give the teachers and students of the technical institutes approved by it, access to international English qualifications.

In consideration of discussions between the parties and mutual promises and conditions in this MoU, the parties agree as follows:

Except as described herein, the terms of this MoU are intended as indications of interest only and are non-binding; although it is the intent of the parties that their collaborative project discussions proceed based on this MoU, the obligations of the parties to agree any project and the terms thereof shall be subject to the negotiation, execution, and delivery of project agreements.

WHEREAS, AICTE, the first party has the ability to reach nearly all technical Institutes approved by AICTE in India and is keen to leverage technical capacity of students and institutions to help in building the architecture of an inclusive India;
WHEREAS, both these collaborating agencies have complementing roles and responsibilities and core competencies. Combined effort of these agencies will help in a holistic and sustainable development of AICTE affiliated institutions, which in turn contributes towards progress of the nation;

AND WHEREAS, both the parties have held discussions and have agreed for collaboration for synergizing their mutual strengths in public interest and to deliver a larger good for the society at large.

Scope of Global Collaboration

The parties agree to discuss in good faith the following projects:

1. The main aims for AICTE are:
   a. to improve the quality of teaching and learning English in AICTE approved institutes
   b. to introduce a standardised international testing system for English across AICTE approved institutes which is aligned to the CEFR
   c. to offer opportunity for students of AICTE approved institutes to gain achievement in English which is internationally recognised
   d. to give teachers in AICTE approved institutes an opportunity for professional development
   e. to motivate the students of AICTE approved Institutions to learn English
   f. to organise Cambridge Assessment English programmes and courses for students and faculty members of AICTE approved Institutions
   g. to recommend any other courses proposed by Cambridge Assessment English for the students and staff of AICTE and AICTE approved Institutions
   h. to organize joint conferences, workshops, seminars and short term training programmes related to English language teaching
   i. to organize a teacher development program focusing on methodology for the teachers nominated by AICTE
   j. to assist Cambridge Assessment English certificated candidates in placements through Cambridge English’s initiative www.campustowork.org

2. Scope of enabling services provided by Cambridge Assessment English to be availed at the discretion of AICTE and AICTE approved institutions as part of this MoU:
   a. Guidance on effectively using the CEF-R, including alignment of curriculum and assessments with CEFR to that of recommended employability levels of the National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF)
   b. Support to map the English syllabus of the Technical Under Graduate Program with that of Cambridge Assessment English Business Certificate curriculum at B1 / B2 for further adaptation by AICTE
   c. Support to map the English syllabus of MBA / PGDM Post Graduate Program with that of Cambridge Assessment English Business Certificate curriculum at B1 / B2 for further adaptation by AICTE
   d. Support to map the English syllabus of Diploma / Polytechnic with that of Cambridge Assessment EnglishA2 Key English level for further adaptation by AICTE
   e. offer online learning assistance to the students of AICTE approved institutions to enhance their Language skills
f. to offer blended learning programs and certifications on language and pedagogy enhancement to the teachers of AICTE approved institutions

g. to organize a teacher development programme for a group of 30 teachers nominated by AICTE as per pre-requisites shared by Cambridge English

h. to assist Cambridge Assessment English certificated candidates in job placements through the www.campustowork.org initiative

3. AICTE will:

   a. adopt the following Cambridge Assessment English examinations for students and teachers as appropriate:

      i. Business English Certificates
      ii. A2 Key English Test
      iii. EMI Skills Learning course (for Teachers)
      iv. Teaching Knowledge Test (TKT)
      v. Cambridge Assessment English Placement Test

   b. include free online learning support offered by Cambridge Assessment English under the SWAYAM Initiative. This will help candidates prepare for Cambridge Assessment English qualifications through self-study mode

   c. recognise Cambridge Assessment English qualifications and encourage candidates to prepare and obtain a certificate from Cambridge English

1. No Confidentiality:

   The parties agree that neither shall disclose to any person, other than their own employees, officers, directors or agents having a reasonable need to know same (and those of their affiliated companies), any Confidential Information that has been disclosed to it by the other party, directly or indirectly, nor use same in any way either during the term of this MoU or at any time thereafter without the express written authority of the other party, and to promptly return all Confidential Information upon termination of this MoU and written request by the other party.

2. For purposes of this Agreement, "Confidential Information" shall mean information that is proprietary as to the Party hereto which discloses same and is not generally known to the public or cannot be obtained other than through the Party disclosing same. This includes, but is not limited to, financial information regarding either Party, strategic business plans, marketing strategies, trade secrets consisting of programs, methods, formulae, processes, patterns, devices and compilations of information, records and specifications which have been developed or are owned by the disclosing Party. Confidential Information that subsequently becomes public information as a result of the actions of the disclosing Party shall thereupon no longer be considered confidential for purposes of this MoU.

3. If any dispute arises between AICTE & Cambridge Assessment English on operation and execution of this MoU, efforts shall be made to resolve the same amicably and if the dispute is not mutually settled, then it shall be referred for resolution between the Chairman AICTE and Executive Director, Cambridge English. If at all any dispute still remains unsettled, in that case, the same shall be adjudicated before the Court of Law at New Delhi.

4. The parties will pay all of their own costs related to the intentions and terms of this MoU, except as otherwise stated in any project agreement between the parties. Nothing in this MoU shall be construed as creating a joint venture, partnership, a contract of employment, the relationship of supplier and purchaser or a relationship of principal
and agent between the parties. Neither party shall disclose the terms of this MoU nor make any announcement relating to this MoU or its subject matter without the prior written approval of the other party. This MoU may be executed in one or more counterparts each of which when executed and delivered electronically or in hardcopy shall be deemed an original, but all of which taken together shall constitute one and the same document.

5. AICTE will not be precluded from entering into any other agency for any such program for the benefit of the teachers and students of technical institutes.

6. Effective Date: This MoU shall be effective from the date it is signed by both the parties and will be valid for a period of two years until determined, suspended or terminated earlier.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto, each acting under due and proper authority, have executed this mutually binding Memorandum of Understanding as on the date first written above.

For AICTE:
Signature: 
Name: Prof. Alok Prakash Mittal
Title: Member Secretary, AICTE
Date: 23rd October 2018

For Cambridge Assessment English:
Signature: 
Name: T.K. Arunachalam
Title: Regional Director – CAE (South Asia)
Date: 23rd October 2018

Witnessed by:
1. Signature: 
   Name: 
   Date: 23rd October 2018

2. Signature: 
   Name: 
   Date: 23rd October 2018

3. Signature: 
   Name: 
   Date: 23rd October 2018