



**Memorandum of Understanding
between
National Institute of Technology Sikkim
and
Indian Institute of Technology Delhi**

National Institute of Technology Sikkim (NITSIKKIM) and Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD) have agreed to the following protocols governing their collaboration on academic activities.

1. Scope

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

- i. Academic and Research collaboration in the areas of mutual interests. It is expected that this collaboration will in due course lead to collaborative research projects, joint supervision of Ph.D. students, joint workshops and seminars, etc.
- ii. Exchange of students, staff and faculty; Exchange of academic information, scholarly information, materials and publications;
- iii. Admission of NITSIKKIM students for direct PhD entry at IITD

2. 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 as given below:

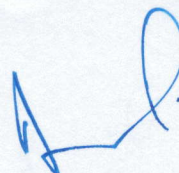
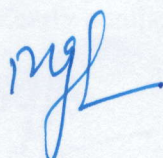
- 2.1 Proposals for collaborative research work under this Memorandum will be submitted with the prior approval of the Head of each Institution, or her/his nominee.
- 2.2 Each Institution will nominate one of its members as its representative in charge of the cooperative programme.
- 2.3 Individual programme of work under this Memorandum will be jointly planned and conducted by the nominees of both parties.
- 2.4 Progress work of any individual programme will be reviewed and approved by designated authorities of both parties.

- 2.5 The final approval of any project will depend on the availability of guaranteed support funds.
- 2.6 Neither National Institute of Technology Sikkim nor Indian Institute of Technology Delhi will be held responsible for any liability to the 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.
- 2.7 Every collaboration will have its own agreement/contract which addresses issues such as IPR, funding pattern, usage policies of research facilities, disclosure of information etc.
- 2.8 A Mentorship programme may be started in which faculty members from IITD will act as mentors for each of the departments of NITSIKKIM. This will facilitate the exchange of faculty/staff at a departmental level which can be done via both online/offline mode. This programme may also be extended to include creation of common virtual/physical laboratory facilities.

3. Students, Staff and Faculty Exchange

Pursuant to the agreement for academic exchange, National Institute of Technology Sikkim and Indian Institute of Technology Delhi will exchange B.Tech., M. Tech., M. Sc. students, research scholars and faculty members according to the terms laid out here. It is desired by both parties that there will be significant flow of students/faculty in both directions.

- 3.1 Students under the students exchange programme will be classified as special exchange students. Special exchange students will be permitted to take course on credit/audit, as well as participate in research activities/internship/ project work.
- 3.2 In any case, the consent of the teacher/project supervisor/ research supervisors is required. Such consent will take into account among other things whether the student has pre-requisites for the course/ project.
- 3.3 Neither Institution will require admission or tuition fees of exchange students under this MoU.
- 3.4 Course credits and grades earned will be determined by the home Institute based on the grade report from the host Institution.
- 3.5 The number of students and duration of stay at the host Institution will be worked out on a case to case basis, however, spending of two months for summer/ winter project and at least one full semester at IIT Delhi is compulsory.
- 3.6 Participants may not normally spend more than one year at the host Institution, in the exchange programme.
- 3.7 Participants will be subjected to the rules and regulations of the host and home Institutions.
- 3.8 The faculty of NITSIKKIM may also apply for suitable postdoc positions/ any other opportunities available at IITD subject to other terms and conditions of NITSIKKIM for relieving the faculty.



Selection and nomination

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

- i. Curriculum vitae
- ii. Statement of aptitude from a member of the student's school/ faculty.
- iii. A specific outline of the programme 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 nominations and determine their suitability for selection under the Student Exchange Programme.

Where the exchange student is pursuing a research or implementation project as part of the B.Tech., M. Tech., M. Sc. or Ph.D. (or equivalent) degree programme, the host Institution will provide a suitable faculty member to jointly assist (along with supervisor in the home Institution) 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 along with the home Institution will deal with such problems.

4. Direct Ph.D. Admission

Providing an opportunity to the students currently pursuing Bachelor of Technology (B. Tech.) to explore the option to undertake courses in IIT Delhi and be considered for early admission to the Ph. D. programme at IIT Delhi.

This scheme is intended to enable meritorious NITSIKKIM B.Tech. students to carry out part of their studies including project work at IITD and offer an opportunity for direct admission to Ph.D. without the need to qualify GATE or any other national level examination. This will enable "early admission" to Ph.D. for NITSIKKIM B.Tech. students as early as the end of their 7th semester, (after they have completed at least a semester of course work and project at IITD). It is envisaged that this scheme will also help NITSIKKIM students to enhance their chances of qualifying for the PMRF fellowship for Ph.D. at IITD.

- i. Under this scheme, NITSIKKIM students who have a CGPA of 8.00 at the end of their 6th semester (three years), will be eligible to apply for a project in summer and complete their fourth year (7th and 8th semesters, or either), at IITD, and then be considered for an early admission into the PhD program at IITD.



- ii. There will be two points at which the students can apply, either before the month of May each year (just after the completion of their 6th semester), or before the month of December each year (just after the completion of their 7th semester).
- iii. Students applying before the month of May would be expected to spend the summer plus the 7th semester in IITD (which usually spans from late July to the end of November), while students applying before December would be expected to spend their 8th semester in IITD (which usually spans from late December to early May).
- iv. All applications will be received through a portal set up for this purpose. They will submit their transcript, and other academic records and achievements, and documentary evidence of any research or internship experience.
- v. Upon selection, the students will have a *provisional* offer of admission to the Ph.D. program. This could be after the completion of the 6th or 7th semester of B.Tech. This provisional offer will clearly state that the final offer of admission will follow provided they demonstrate sufficient merit in coursework and/or research during their stay in IITD. The final confirmation of this offer will be done through a selection committee set up for the purpose, whose decision will be significantly influenced by (but not limited to), the performance of the student in coursework and project conducted at IITD.
- vi. Students will actually join the Ph.D. program only after completion of all graduation requirements at NITSIKKIM, which would be typically in the month of July. All shortlisting criteria and admission criteria must be satisfied by the student at the time of joining as well. Requirement of GATE is waived off, since the student will enter IIT with a minimum CGPA of 8.00.
- vii. During the stay in IITD, the student will have the status of Visiting Student with a temporary/ provisional enrollment number, and will enjoy all the privileges of a full-time student in IITD.
- viii. During the stay in IITD, the student may take courses to satisfy the credit requirements for their B. Tech. registration in their home Institution (NITSIKKIM). IITD will certify the completion of the courses and the grades obtained in them, and it will be up to NITSIKKIM to provide credit waiver or transfer the credits as per their academic requirements.
- ix. In all academic/project work undertaken in IITD, transcript will be provided with relevant credits, however, consideration of these credits will be up to NITSIKKIM. Students may also undertake additional credits as Pre-Ph.D. courses for their Ph.D. program, during their stay (in a regular semester) at IITD.
- x. During their stay in IITD as a Visiting Student, IITD will not be charging any academic fees to the student, except fixed charges as applicable, since these students will be paying their regular academic fees in their home Institution. Being B. Tech. degree students, IITD will be providing either on-campus or off-campus hostel accommodation during the period. Hostel fees will be charged at regular rates.
- xi. Even after getting the confirmed offer of admission, the student (with the prior permission of NITSIKKIM, and on application to IITD) may continue to stay for one more semester doing coursework and/ or project at IITD.

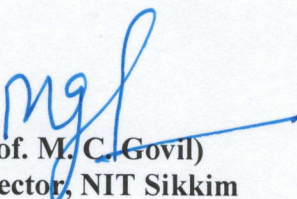


- xii. Students coming under this program will not be entitled to participate in the Training & Placement process in IITD until they register as full-time Ph.D. students. This will be clearly stated in their provisional offer of admission.
- xiii. As part of this program, students can have the following academic windows at IITD:
 - a. Summer (after 6th semester) plus 7th semester;
 - b. Only 7th semester;
 - c. Only 8th semester;
 - d. Summer (after 6th semester) plus 7th and 8th semesters;
 - e. 7th and 8th semesters.

5. Commencement, renewal, termination, and amendment

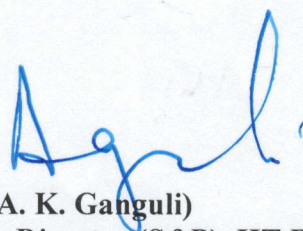
This MoU will come into force upon affixing the signatures of the representatives of the partner Institutions and will remain effective for five (05) years. This MoU may be renewed upon expiry, with the agreement of both the partner Institutions. If either partner Institution wishes to terminate the MoU at the end of five years, it must notify the other Institution not less than six months before 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 formalised by the exchange of letters between the two parties.

Signed by

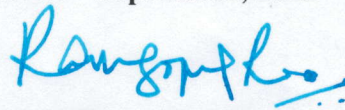

(Prof. M. C. Govil)
Director, NIT Sikkim

Date: 20th September, 2021

Signed by


(Prof. A. K. Ganguli)
Deputy Director (S&P), IIT Delhi

Date: 20th September, 2021


(Prof. V. Ramgopal Rao)
Director, IIT Delhi

Date: 20/9/2021