MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU)

This MoU is made on 18th August 2021 between

Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar, located at Palaj, Gandhinagar - 382355, Gujarat (hereinafter called IITGN, which expression shall include its successors and assignees) on the second part.

AND

National Institute of Technology Sikkim, located at Ravangla, Barfund Block, South Sikkim-737139, (hereinafter called NITS, which expression shall include its successors and assignees) on the first part

IITGN and NITS shall individually be known as a Party and Collectively as Parties

Scope:

The scope of collaboration in this Memorandum of Understanding includes initiatives under the following categories:

- I. Exchange of students for summer research internship program (SRIP) at IITGN;
- II. Opportunity to NITS students to study for a semester at IITGN;
- III. Offering Start Early PhD program opportunity of IITGN to NITS students;
- IV. Opportunity to NITS faculty members to spend time at IITGN for research work;
- V. Other academic and research collaboration in the areas of mutual interest.

Now therefore, the Parties, record their understanding and define the steps to be taken to implement this MoU

- 1. Exchange of students for Summer Research Internship Program (SRIP) at IITGN:
 - a. IITGN encourages students of NITS to apply for SRIP offered by IITGN during the summer vacations.
 - b. The program may be conducted in online/ offline mode at the discretion of IITGN.
 - c. IITGN shall provide opportunity to 2 students of NITS to attend the SRIP program, provided the students meet the minimum application criteria.
 - d. IITGN shall provide a stipend during the internship period to the students who successfully complete the full duration of program. However, IITGN shall not provide travel to and from IITGN for attending the program.
 - e. Selected students have to comply with all the rules and regulations prescribed by IITGN during their stay at IITGN.
- 2. Opportunity to NITS students to study a semester at IITGN:
 - Students enrolled in B Tech programs at NITS can spend a semester at IITGN under Non Degree Program.
 - b. The credits earned during the semester shall be transferred to NITS.

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- The student has to complete all the academic requirements as prescribed by IITGN during the semester.
- d. The student is required to pay to IITGN the tuition fee and other charges for hostel, mess etc. during the semester as per the rates applicable to IITGN students.
- Up to 2 students of NITS may be supported under this program per year.
- f. Selected students have to comply with all the rules and regulations prescribed by IITGN during their stay at IITGN.

3. Offering start early PhD program of IITGN to NITS students:

- a. IITGN shall provide an opportunity to the students currently pursuing B Tech at NITS in their 4th year to be considered for admission to the PhD programme at IIT GANDHINAGAR under the Start early PhD Program.
- b. Up to 2 students of NITS may be supported under this program per year.
- c. Once selected, the students will have option to join program early in their 7th/ 8th semester under the non-degree program as mentioned in clause 2 of this MoU
- d. Selected students have to comply with all the rules and regulations prescribed by IITGN during their stay at IITGN.

4. Opportunity to NITS faculty members to spend time at IITGN for research work:

- a. IITGN shall provide opportunity to NITS faculty members to spend time (1 month or more) in a year at IITGN to conduct their research and/or academic work in collaboration with IITGN faculty members.
- A maximum of 2 faculty members shall be supported under this program in a year.
- c. The interested faculty members have to reach out to the relevant faculty members at IITGN at least 6 months in advance to discuss the scope of work and action plan.
- Selection of NITS faculty members to avail this opportunity will be at the discretion of IITGN.
- IITGN shall cover the boarding and lodging of the visiting faculty member from NITS while travel need to be covered by NITS/ selected Faculty member.

5. Other academic and Research collaboration in the areas of mutual interest:

During the course of this MoU, both institute shall mutually decide other opportunities of engagements to support students, faculty and research.

6. Terms, termination and amendments:

a. This MoU will remain valid for three years from the effective date.

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- b. This MoU may be amended, renewed, or terminated by mutual agreement. The termination shall be by a prior notice of not less than three months by either of the parties.
- c. In case of termination, mutual concern/agreement has to be arrived for the protecting and respecting the obligations of either of the parties under ongoing studies of students, PhD program, ongoing joint research program/projects.

7. Force Majeure:

Neither party shall be held responsible for non-fulfilment of their respective obligation under the agreement due to the exigency of one or more of the force majeure events such as but not limited to Acts of God, War, Flood, Earthquakes, Strike(s) Lockouts(s), Epidemics, Riots, Civil commotion etc provided on occurrence and cessation of such events, the part affected by these shall give a notice in writing to the other within one month of such occurrence and cessation. If the major conditions continue beyond six months, the parties shall then mutually decide about the future course of action.

8. Governing Law:

The validity and interpretation of this MoU and the legal relation of the Parties to it shall be governed by the laws of India.

9. Dispute Resolution:

Any dispute or difference arising out of or in connection with this Agreement shall be settled by the Parties hereto by mutual negotiation involving the leadership of both the Institutes.

In witness, thereof the parties have jointly signed/executed this Memorandum of Understanding in two copies on the date, month and year written above.

For and On-behalf of NIT SIKKIM

For and On-behalf of IIT GANDHINAGAR

Prof. Mahesh Chandra

Director

निदेशक/Director राष्ट्रीय प्रोद्योगिकी संस्थान सिविकम National Institute of Technology Sikkim Prof. Surya P Mehrotra

Professor-in-charge External Relations

