



தமிழ்நாடு தமில்நாடு TAMILNADU

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE
(Autonomous)
PALAYAMKOTTAI - 627 002

14 DEC 2023

RS. 100/-

DE 863450
M. பாலசுப்பிரமணியன்
குத்திகரத்தூர் கிறிஸ்தவியர்கள்
பள்ளி, தமில்நாடு
உரிமம் எண் : 19/37

Memorandum of Understanding

This Memorandum of Understanding is executed on this day of 07-08-2024 at Gandhigram.

Between

Regional Coordinating Institute (RCI), Gandhigram Rural Institute (Deemed to be University) represented by its Registrar having its headquarters at Gandhigram - 624 302, Dindigul District, Tamil Nadu, hereinafter shall be referred to as the "RCI-GRI (DTBU)" which expression shall, unless repugnant to the contest or meaning thereof, be deemed to mean and include the successors and permitted assigns of the **FIRST PARTY**.

And

The St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Palayamkottai represented by its Principal having its registered office at Palayamkottai, Tirunelveli District, Tamil Nadu hereinafter shall be referred to as the "St. Xavier's College" which expression shall, unless repugnant to the contest or meaning thereof, be deemed to mean and include the successors and permitted assigns of the **SECOND PARTY**.

Collectively the above parties shall be referred as "The Parties" and individually as "RCI-GRI (DTBU)" & "St. Xavier's College".

About the Parties

Gandhigram Rural Institute (Deemed to be University) (GRI-DTBU), has its foundation in Mahatma Gandhi's revolutionary philosophy of Nai Talim, which effectively bridges the cognitive and practical dimensions and focuses on the holistic development of learners, with an emphasis on skill development through value-based education, rooted in indigenous cultures and traditions. GRI (DTBU) adopted the three dimensional approach of education namely teaching, research and extension for rural development, which earned the Institute the status of Deemed to be University in 1976 by UGC. The Institute is controlled by the Ministry of Education, Government of India and fully funded through UGC, New Delhi. Government of India identified Gandhigram Rural Institute (Deemed to be University) as one of the **Regional Coordinating Institute** to contribute in the implementation of **Unnat Bharat Abhiyan** (*Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Higher Education, GoI*) vide its letter *D.O.No.5-1/2016-UBA / dt.8.2.2019*.

Whereas:

St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Palayamkottai, is a Jesuit college of Arts and Science affiliated to Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tamil Nadu, India. The Jesuit Fathers founded the college in 1923. UGC granted autonomy in the year 1987. It is a grant-in-aid institution recognized by the UGC Act under Sections 2(F) and 12 (B). UGC conferred on our College the status of "College with Potential for Excellence" in 2004, for the second phase in 2010, and for the third phase in 2014. The College was accredited at A⁺⁺ Grade with a CGPA of 3.66 out of 4 in 2019 in the fourth cycle with a valid period of seven years by NAAC.

RCI - GRI (DTBU) and St. Xavier's College are hereinafter referred to individually as "Party" or collectively as "Parties".

RCI - GRI (DTBU) and St. Xavier's College are partner Institutions in Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, the flagship programme of the Ministry of Education, Government of India. Hence, RCI-GRI (DTBU) and St. Xavier's College desire and intend to develop cooperation and collaboration in community outreach, research for rural development, training, and other

agreed activities that further the aims and objectives of these Institutions and Unnat Bharat Abhiyan as follows:

- I. **Objectives and Scope of the Collaboration:** The objective of this MoU is to establish collaboration between both the parties and jointly undertake the following activities:
 - a. Development and execution of joint projects that support rural, tribal and farming communities in the areas that may include:
 1. Rural & Agricultural Development
 2. Rural Energy Systems
 3. Agricultural Value Chains
 4. Agribusiness
 5. Rural Craft and Artisans Development & Rural Industrialization and Entrepreneurship Development
 6. Rural health, Sanitation & Solid Waste Management
 7. Liquid Waste Management
 8. Rural Infrastructure
 9. Water Resource Management
 10. Sustainable Agriculture System
 11. Capacity Building, Strategy for Convergence and Implementation of Various Government Schemes
 12. Skill Development, Entrepreneurship, Start-ups and Digital Knowhow
 13. Curriculum Reforms and Educational Institutions Social Responsibility
 14. School Education
 15. Empowering Women and Youth
 16. Climate Change
 17. Panchayati Raj System
 18. Cooperative Institutions
 19. Sustainable Development Goals
 20. Academic Programme support
 21. Undertaking Research and Research Capacity Building

- b. Organizing Capacity Development Training Programmes / Internships in areas of mutual strength for UBA Coordinators, Students, officials, elected representatives, farmers and entrepreneurs in villages / rural clusters as agreed between both the parties in the theme (s) mentioned above (a)
- c. Involvement of students in the efforts made w.r.t terms and conditions of this MoU is mandatory.
- d. Organizing Seminars and Workshops particularly on contemporary Policy related issues of mutual interest on Unnat Bharat Abhiyan.
- e. Undertake Collaborative Evidence based Policy Research on themes mentioned in (a) above or any other mutually agreed theme (s);
- f. Promoting faculty/researcher exchange, based on mutually agreed norms and related to Unnat Bharat Abhiyan.
- g. Any other new areas that could be mutually agreed upon keeping in view the expertise available with both the organizations.

II. **The Institutional arrangement for implementations of MoU will be as under**

- a) **RCI-GRI (DTBU) and St. Xavier's College** will have Institutional Link Officers consisting of UBA Regional Coordinator from RCI-GRI (DTBU) and UBA Coordinator from St. Xavier's College. They will discuss, propose and facilitate rolling out collaborative projects.
- b) **Work Plan**: A clear work plan would be shared with timelines, division of responsibilities and details specified for each joint project.
- c) **Review Mechanisms**: A clear cut review mechanism would be in place for addressing issues if any and to review progress and grievance redressal for all engagements between the Parties by the Core Committee.
- d) **Accounts and Audit of Expenditures**: For all specific engagements under this MoU, both parties will enter into a formal and binding separate agreement or agreements with each other which will detail the specific form and content of the activities, budget, timelines, and responsibilities and rights of each party. Such agreements will be negotiated in good faith. As per agreed terms of such arrangements and extent norms of RCI-GRI (DTBU) and St. Xavier's College, shall maintain all relevant records including bills and receipts etc., cost of training, research and other collaborative activities.

- III. **Mutual Obligation:** Both parties agree to undertake the following:
- a) Maintain transparency in all its Unnat Bharat Abhiyan related partnerships that may include supporting in reaching out to the field, gathering relevant data, sharing of available data and information and having a proper channel of communication.
 - b) Convene meeting at regular intervals to amicably sort out issues, disputes etc., if any.
 - c) Each party shall designate a key official as a nodal point of contact to ensure that the collaboration activities are implemented as per the MoU.
 - d) The key professional staff of both the parties will be made available for interactions and discussions as and when required in mutual consultation and play an important role in the execution of mutually agreed activities.
- IV. **Confidentiality:** Both the parties within the framework established by the MoU, will keep confidential all material exchanged under its terms to the extent permitted by law. Release to the press, public announcements, relating to this MoU may be made jointly or by either party with the consent of the other party. Neither Party will use the other Party's name or logo in any press release or any other purposes without first obtaining the other Party's written consent.
- V. The **MoU** in no way restricts the parties from participating in similar activities or arrangements with other public and private agencies, organizations, or individuals. Further, the specific terms of this MoU do not preclude the development of future collaborative projects not mentioned in this document.
- VI. **Additional Agreements:** With mutual consent of both parties, separate agreements may be executed as per the requirement of the specific projects, if necessary.
- VII. **Amendments:** This MoU may be amended by mutual written agreement of the parties. Any amendment will be without prejudice to any rights or obligations incurred under the MoU or supplementary agreement there to reached pursuant prior to the effective date such amendment.
- VIII. **Termination:** Either of the parties herein can terminate this MoU by giving one month notice in writing and on such termination, the parties shall settle all agreed activities and accounts payments before the date of termination.
- IX. **Intellectual Property Rights:** Under the provisions of this MoU, the parties may jointly produce documents reports, studies, photographs and maps, as well as product-specific documents tangible and intangible information (collectively "Works" or IP)


unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties in writing, the copyright and other intellectual property rights in any such joint work/IP will belong to both the parties. All rights in Works and IPs generated/developed independent of this MoU and exclusively by the employee/s of either side shall remain with the Institution concerned who would be free to use them, if any, in any manner consistent with the objectives of the Institution concerned.

- X. **Force Majeure:** For the purpose of this MoU, "Force Majeure" means an event which is beyond the reasonable control of a Party, is not foreseeable, is unavoidable and makes a Party's performance of its obligations hereunder impossible or so impractical as reasonably to be considered impossible under the circumstances and subject to these requirements, includes, but is not limited to, war riots, civil disorder, earthquake, fire, explosion, storm, flood or other adverse weather conditions, epidemic, pandemic, strikes, lockouts or other industrial action, confiscation or any other action by Government agencies.
- XI. **Dispute Resolution:** The parties shall use their best efforts to settle amicably all disputes and differences arising out of or in connection with the MoU.
- XII. **Jurisdiction:** This MoU shall be governed by, construed, and enforced in accordance with the prevailing laws of India. It is understood, however, that the provisions of this paragraph shall not constitute nor imply the waiver privileges and immunities of any party, granted under the law.
- XIII. **Whereas this Memorandum of Understanding** is executed in duplicate and one copy will remain with each of the party and both will be treated as original.
- XIV. **Whereas this Memorandum of Understanding** is executed between both the parties for mutual benefit of both the parties without any force, undue influence and coercion.
- XV. **Duration:** The first party has been serving as the Regional Coordinating Institute for UBA since March 6, 2019. The second party has been serving as a Participating Institution of UBA since August 2022 and operates within the UBA Region coordinated by the first party. Since 2022*, the first party has been guiding and coordinating the community engagement programmes of the second party. To further strengthen the community engagement programs in this UBA Region, both parties have signed the present MoU. The duration of this MoU is three years from the date of signing by both parties and will remain valid until either party notifies the other of its wish to terminate the MoU. Furthermore, the continuance of this MoU will be subject to a joint agreement


and review by both institutions, which will be undertaken prior to the expiry of this MoU.

Note:* Both parties have been undertaking UBA activities and working jointly since August 2022.

For and on behalf of the

Signed by: 
REGISTRAR W/c
Gandhigram Rural Institute
(Deemed to be University)
Gandhigram - 624 302.
Dindigul Dist. Tamilnadu.
The Gandhigram Rural Institute
(Deemed to be University),
Gandhigram, Dindigul District,
Tamil Nadu

Witness:

1) 
Director 78124
Research and Development
The Gandhigram Rural Institute
(Deemed to be University)
Gandhigram-624 302.

2) 
Regional Coordinator
Uttat Bharat Abhiyan
Regional Coordinating Institute
The Gandhigram Rural Institute (Deemed to be University)
Gandhigram - 624 302 Dindigul, Tamil Nadu

For and on behalf of the

Signed by:  24/07/2024
(Principal / Head of the Institution)

Name of the UBA Participating Institution



PRINCIPAL
ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE
(Autonomous)
PALAYAMKOTTAI