

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

BETWEEN



**DEEN DAYAL UPADHYAYA GORAKHPUR UNIVERSITY,
GORAKHPUR, UTTAR PRADESH, INDIA**

AND

UNIVERSITY OF RAJSHAHI, RAJSHAHI, BANGLADESH

DATED: THIS 09 DAY OF JULY 2024

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is entered between "Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gorakhpur University, Uttar Pradesh, India" having its campus at Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh , hereinafter called "DDUGU" and the University of Rajshahi, Rajshahi, Bangladesh, hereinafter referred to as "RU". Both DDUGU and RU are independently referred to as "Party" and collectively as "Parties".

WHEREAS

The parties hereto are entering into this Memorandum of Understanding for the purpose of recording their intention to negotiate and finalize the terms of cooperation with the objective of strengthening their mutual cooperation as well as striving for the promotion of mutual exchanges.

A. The Parties confirm their intention to negotiate and settle the terms of an Agreement in respect of each project and programme that will take place.

B. Each Agreement will include provisions dealing with, amongst other things: (i) promote student mobility and visiting scholar programmes; (ii) enhance academic programmes collaborations; (iii) promote joint publication and research activities; (iv) initiate exchange of academic materials and other information pertaining to mutual benefits; (v) promote several scholarly activities such as courses, seminars, trainings, conferences, and symposiums organised by either of the Parties; (vi) Other activities and programmes as may be mutually agreed upon by the Parties; and (vii) adhering to the Intellectual Property Right (IPR) policy of the respective parties.

C. The Parties acknowledge that for any agreement to be binding on them, it must be in writing and signed by a duly authorised representative from each Party.

This MoU shall be treated as a platform on which both Parties agree to work together in future.

12/11/2017

BACKGROUND

Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gorakhpur University, Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh)

Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gorakhpur University, established in 1957 by the Uttar Pradesh State Universities Act), is the first University to be established in Uttar Pradesh after Independence. In its long eventful journey it has constantly striven to live up to its motto, "Let noble thoughts come to me from all directions" by assimilating diverse ideas, people and beliefs into its academic and co-curricular lives. Spread over 190.96 acres, it houses seven Faculties comprising of 40 departments that have been playing a significant role in imparting holistic education predominantly to the people of the Eastern region of Uttar Pradesh, Western Bihar, and the neighbouring country of Nepal since its inception. As a residential-cum-affiliating State University whose academic jurisdiction spreads across three districts of Eastern Uttar Pradesh it can boast of a rich academic legacy, illustrious alumni, experienced, qualified and dedicated faculty members, transparent and effective administrative set up, state-of-the art library, ample career growth opportunities, advanced research facilities and a vibrant and safe campus. DDU Gorakhpur University, recognized with an A++ accreditation from the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), stands as a premier state university. Notably, it has attained the highest score in Uttar Pradesh, securing the 4th position nationwide.

Recently, our university achieved a commendable 190th rank in the SCImago Institution Rankings (SIR), with notable standings in research (201st rank), innovation (128th rank), and the social category (250th rank) on a global scale. In the QS World University Rankings for the academic session 2020-21, DDU Gorakhpur University secured the 96th position among the top 100 universities in India.

With more than 12000 registered students out of which more than 50% are women the University has successfully introduced a plethora of path-breaking schemes and programs for imparting holistic education to its students. The University is acclaimed nation-wide for

Gorakhpur

conducting and promoting quality research, exceptional teaching and learning processes, national and international awardees, sports activities and recognitions, engagement in outreach and extension activities, robust student support system, placements in reputed government and private organizations and transparent and effective governance. The University is equipped with facilities like automated Central Library, ICT enabled class-rooms, state-of the-art laboratories, Incubation centre, Health Centre, separate hostels for men and women, facilities for sports and games, environmentally friendly campus, gender sensitive ambience and ragging- free atmosphere.

University of Rajshahi, Rajshahi, Bangladesh

Founded in 1953, the University of Rajshahi (also known as Rajshahi University), abbreviated as RU, is a coeducational, autonomous public university in Rajshahi, Bangladesh. RU is the second oldest university in Bangladesh which celebrated its 70th anniversary in 2023. The 750-acre green and single campus of RU is situated 4.5 km away from Rajshahi city Centre and 1.5 km from the river Padma.

RU is recognized as one of the leading higher educational institutions for quality education and research in South Asia. The domestic students of RU enjoy almost free education, residence in student halls, and other facilities including gymnasiums, sports facilities, libraries, medical services, transport, and internet. The university also offers 49 scholarships, fellowships, and awards to home students. Recently, the university has also taken various initiatives to attract international students, collaborations and exchanges through establishing a dedicated office. Every year RU takes nearly 4,500 students following a stringent admission criterion. Only 1 in 50 applicants get a chance to get admitted at RU.

Currently, there are over 1,081 faculty members, nearly 17,582 undergraduate and 3,667 master's students, and 986 MPhil/PhD students across 59 departments and six institutes. Among the students, 39 students are from foreign countries. Most of the faculty members (82.15%) have PhD degrees and many of them earned their PhD from world-renowned institutions abroad.

Handwritten signature

The departments of RU are divided into 12 faculties including the Faculty of Arts; Law; Science; Business Studies; Social Science; Agriculture, Engineering; Fine Arts; Biological Sciences; Geosciences; Fisheries, and Veterinary & Animal Sciences. Additionally, there are six institutes including the Institute of Bangladesh Studies; Biological Science; Business Administration; Education and Research; English and Other Languages, and Environmental Science.

RU's departments and institutes offer 66 undergraduate 4-year honours degree programmes and 87 master's programmes of 1-2 years. The MPhil (2 years) and PhD courses (3 years) are offered by all departments and institutes.

Located in Rajshahi, recognized as one of the most beautiful and clean cities in South Asia, the 750-acre green campus of RU houses 14 multistoried academic buildings, two administrative buildings, 17 residential halls equipped with internet, dining, kitchen, prayer halls, indoor sports facilities, gymnasiums, library, etc. Among the 17 halls, 6 are for female students and 11 for male students which can accommodate more than 10,000 students. For international students, there is a separate dormitory with similar facilities that can accommodate about one hundred international students. The university has a total of 43 smart classrooms equipped with high tech facilities including an 86 inches smart board, audio-visual system, video conferencing and distance learning platforms.

The large and beautiful campus of RU also houses a huge central library with 350,000 book collection where 400 students can study at a time, two large auditoriums with a total of 2,600 seat capacity, a large stadium with 15,000 seat capacity, two central gymnasiums- one for male and one for female students, a swimming pool, a medical centre, a mental health centre, an ICT centre, five large football field, many water bodies, two museums including Martyrs Memorial Museum and Varendra Research Museum, the latter is considered as the oldest museum in Bangladesh and attracts thousands of foreign and local tourist each year for its rich collections. The RU is also a famous tourist attraction for its green campus, rich biodiversity, beautiful architecture, and natural beauty.

১০২৫৩৭

More than a hundred thousand RU alumni work in academia, government, research centres, and private sectors in Bangladesh and abroad with high reputations. RU alumni include the current president of Bangladesh, 20 Members of Parliament, world-renowned scientists working in different universities and research institutes at home and abroad, many successful business entrepreneurs, high officials of public and private sectors, popular politicians, writers, poets, actors, and so on. The students of RU regularly attend national and international competitions including inter-university games, Olympiads, debates, business idea competitions, etc. There are more than 100 active student societies and clubs as well as three associations of student journalists of print and electronic media.

The university has been ranked by Times Higher Education World University Rankings (1001-1200th in the world), QS World University Rankings (1201-1400th in the world), Times Higher Education Asia University Rankings (400-500th in Asia), US News Best Global University Ranking (1076 in the world, 342nd in Asia and 2nd in the country), Webometrics (1192nd in the world; 2nd in the country), EduRank(3rd in the country) and Scimago Institutions Rankings. RU is striving to be a centre of excellence by producing skilled graduates to build a smart Bangladesh.

1. OBJECTIVES OF THIS MOU

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to promote international agreement, scholarly collaboration, cultural interaction and friendship by supporting educational, professional and cultural activities among faculty and students of the two institutions. Accordingly, the areas of cooperation will include, subject to mutual consent, any programme offered at their university as felt desirable and feasible on either side and that both sides will contribute to the fostering and development of the cooperative relationship between the two universities.

2. SCOPE OF COLLABORATION

Specific areas of cooperation between the two parties, subject to the availability of funds and the approval, but not limited to the following:

Handwritten signature

- a) Exchange of students
- b) Exchange of faculty members
- c) Joint research activities
- d) Participation in seminars and academic meetings
- e) Exchange of academic materials and other information
- f) Developing and executing special academic programmes
- g) Dual, Joint and Twinning degree programmes
- h) Joint consultancies: and
- i) Organising joint conferences/seminars/workshops

The terms of such mutual assistance and necessary budget for each specific programme and activity that is implemented under the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding or any other written agreement thereafter shall be mutually discussed and agreed upon in writing by both Parties prior to the initiation of the particular programme or activity and the terms of such programme and activity shall be negotiated on an annual basis. Each party will designate a Liaison Officer to develop and coordinate specific activities or programmes.

3. OUTLINES OF THE COLLABORATION

This document is not intended to create legal or binding obligations on either Party. It serves only as a record of the Parties' current intentions. This will be a sustaining programme and will help sourcing funds for collaborate research/academic programmes from external agencies. We also plan to work on a joint online degree programme in different disciplines, which could be an avenue for further cooperation between DDUGU and RU

Under the aegis of this agreement, DDUGU and RU shall jointly explore the possibilities of working in both countries India and Bangladesh. The major focus of this collaboration shall be on:

- Developing joint curricula for mutually identified programmes.
- Guiding students for Post-graduate and Doctoral research with RU as an extended research campus of DDUGU;

Food

- Both universities shall assist in the faculty development and student mentoring of each other.
- Joint research in science, humanities and legal studies
- Faculty/Scientists from each institution will collaborate in developing proposals for external funding as appropriate;
- Any expenses incurred by each institution under this agreement will be the sole responsibility of the institutions concerned;

Academic and Research Collaboration:

In pursuant of the agreement, academic and research collaborations shall be initiated between both Parties. Academic collaboration shall involve, faculty members/scientists visiting their counterpart institutions for short-term (1-3 months) teaching assignments, evaluation and curriculum development. The eligible faculty members/scientists may also be a part of the dissertation/thesis supervision along with the host institution faculty members/scientists.

Research collaboration shall involve, visits of faculty members/scientists to each other's institution, and write, bid and implement collaborative research projects for funding and be a part of in-house research funded projects. Research collaboration shall involve being a part of the publication authorship group, keeping the intellectual property rights intact.

Exchange of academic information, data generation and dissemination, and scholarly publications:

In pursuant of the agreement, exchange of academic information, data regeneration and dissemination and scholarly publications shall be the privilege of both institutions involved. The data generation could be from primary or secondary sources. The samples to be collected from field areas shall be shared as per convenience and the Government protocols. Secondary data source and sharing shall also need to have clearances of the Government procedures. Dissemination of information to print/visual media shall be as per the Government protocols.

10/20/2017

4. PUBLICATION & INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

- (i) If the research is conducted and completed in India with the help of Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gorakhpur University members in the team, the intellectual property will be protected in India with DDUGU as a co applicant, RU will have rights to commercialise technology.
- (ii) If the research is conducted and completed in Bangladesh with the help of DDUGU members in the team, the intellectual property will be protected in Bangladesh with RU as a co-applicant. DDUGU will have rights to commercialise the technology.
- (iii) In case research is carried out solely and separately by the Party or the research results are obtained through the sole and separate effort of the Party, the Party concerned alone will apply for grant of IPR and once granted, the IPR will be solely owned by the Party concerned.
- (iv) In case of research results obtained through joint activities, the grant of intellectual property rights will be sought by both the Parties jointly and once granted these rights will jointly owned by the Parties.
- (v) Any Publication, document and/or paper arising out of joint work conducted by the participants pursuant to this MoU will be jointly owned. The use of the name, logo and/or official emblem of the participants on any publication, document and/or paper will require prior permission of both the participants. It may however be ensured that the official emblem and logo is not misused.
- (vi) Both Parties agree to ensure appropriate protection of intellectual Property Rights generated from such cooperation consistent with their respective laws, rules and regulations and other international agreements to which both Parties are signatories.

Accepted

5. PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

The Parties shall perform their respective roles and responsibilities under this MoU with the

highest standards of professional and ethical competence and integrity.

6. DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION

DDUGU and RU agree that except for a Court Order requiring disclosure, neither shall disclose to any third party without the written consent of the other, any information made available to the Parties, in the performance of work and/or generated by the performance of work, under this Agreement, except information which at the date hereof was;

- (i) In the public domain
- (ii) Known to either prior to the date hereof as evidenced by written documents subsequently.

The provisions in this Article shall survive termination or completion of the Memorandum of Understanding.

7. AMENDMENTS

The Parties of this MoU may, by mutual consent, add, modify, amend, or delete any words, phrases, sentences, or Articles in this MoU.

8. ARBITRATION

Dispute arising out of this MoU, if any, shall be amicably settled jointly by Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gorakhpur University, Uttar Pradesh, India and the University of Rajshahi, Rajshahi, Bangladesh.

9. VALIDITY OF THE MOU

This Memorandum of Understanding will become effective on the date of signing and will have a duration of five (5) years. However, it can be extended by mutual agreement. Any cessation of the MoU by either Party shall be notified in writing to the other Party at least six months in advance.

Approved

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereby execute the MoU in two original copies in English language on the 09 July 2024

For and on behalf of the
Deen Dayal Upadhyaya
Gorakhpur University, Uttar Pradesh, India

For and on behalf of the
University of Rajshahi
Rajshahi, Bangladesh


(Prof Poonam Tandon)


(Prof Dr. Golam Shabbir Sattar)


Vice-Chancellor
Prof. Poonam Tandon
Vice-Chancellor
D.D.U. Gorakhpur, University, Gorakhpur

Vice-Chancellor
Professor Dr. Golam Shabbir Sattar
Vice-Chancellor
University of Rajshahi

Witnesses:

Witnesses:


Dr Ramwant Gupta
Director, International Cell
DDU Gorakhpur University


(Professor Dr. Md. Tariqul Hasan)
Registrar (In-Charge)
University of Rajshahi


Prof Rajarshi Gaur
Head, Department of Biotechnology
DDU Gorakhpur University


(Professor Dr. Md. Ajijur Rahman)
Director, Office of International Affairs
University of Rajshahi