



Research Collaboration & Faculty/Students Exchange Agreement Between



Indian Institute of Technology, Mandi
Kamand, Himachal Pradesh (175005)
and



MIT ART, DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY
Vishwarajbaug, Pune, Maharashtra, India - 412201

Research Collaboration & Faculty/Students Exchange Agreement

This Research Collaboration & Faculty/ Student Exchange Agreement is made as of the 8th day of the Month of November 2025 (“Effective Date”).

BY AND BETWEEN

The Indian Institute of Technology Mandi, a statutory body constituted as an Institute of National Importance through an Act of Parliament, Ministry of Education, Government of India, functioning at its premises at on the left bank of the Uhl River at Kamand and Salgi villages in Mandi, Himachal Pradesh, represented by the Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Mandi (hereinafter referred to as ‘IIT Mandi’) which expression shall where the context so admits includes its successors in interest and permitted assigns as First Party.

AND

MIT Art, Design and Technology University, having its registered office at Vishwarajbaug, Loni Kalbhor, Pune, Maharashtra India, PIN 412201 represented by the Vice Chancellor MIT Art, Design and Technology University (hereinafter referred to as “MIT ADT University”) which expression shall where the context so admits includes its successors in interest and permitted assigns as Second Party.

“IIT Mandi” and “MIT ADT University” will individually be referred to as a ‘Party’ and collectively as ‘Parties’.

RECITALS:

WHEREAS:

1. MIT ADT UNIVERSITY is a state private university established under the MIT Art, Design and Technology University Act, 2015 and is recognized by the UGC. The university is accredited with an ‘A’ Grade by NAAC in its very first cycle, affirming its academic excellence and institutional integrity. It has been awarded the QS I-GAUGE Gold Rating (2024–2026) with outstanding scores in Teaching & Learning, Facilities, Entrepreneurship, and Social Responsibility.
2. MIT ADT UNIVERSITY is ranked globally in the 151–200 band for Art & Design (QS World University Rankings 2025) — one of only three Indian institutions to be featured alongside IIT Bombay and NID.
3. MIT ADT UNIVERSITY takes immense pride in its consistent rise as a national leader in innovation and applied research. The university was ranked in the Band of 11–50 in the NIRF Innovation Category 2024, advancing from its previous 51–100 band position in 2023, reaffirming its growing stature. Earlier, it was also recognized in the ‘Excellent’ band under ARIIA 2022, the flagship innovation ranking initiative by the Ministry of Education, Government of India. This steady upward trajectory reflects MIT ADT University’s dedication and commitment to fostering a culture of creativity, research, and entrepreneurship.
4. MIT ADT UNIVERSITY proudly stands as a nationally emerging hub for research, innovation, and entrepreneurship, housing 22 specialized research centers and having



successfully incubated 40+ start-ups, solidifying its reputation as a cradle of innovation driven enterprise.

a. Key pillars driving this ecosystem include:

- i. MIT INSPIRE (MIT Institute for Sponsored Innovative Research) – a premier interdisciplinary platform dedicated to advancing sponsored and translational research across domains.
- ii. AIC-MITADT Incubator Forum – a Section-8 company, proudly recognized by NITI Aayog under the prestigious Atal Innovation Mission, serving as a launchpad for high-impact startups.
- iii. CRiEYA Research Park Foundation – a dynamic Section-8 Company and dedicated student innovation hub, nurturing breakthrough ideas and entrepreneurial ventures from campus to market.

Together, these initiatives reflect MIT ADT UNIVERSITY's visionary leadership in shaping a new generation of creators, researchers, and nation-builders.

5. With a multidisciplinary ecosystem that integrates technology, design, sustainability, innovation, and entrepreneurial thinking, MIT ADT UNIVERSITY is shaping the next generation of global leaders and changemakers.

6. MIT ADT UNIVERSITY is interested in collaborating with IIT Mandi to pursue a Research & Development Project (R&D) in the area of Research and Collaboration.

7. IIT Mandi is a premier academic and research institute established by the Government of India and has the expertise and facilities to carry out R&D studies in the said area.

In consideration of the above recitals and the mutual benefits to derive hereafter, the Parties agreed to enter into an agreement as follows:

1. Scope & Objective for MIT ADT University & IIT Mandi

- a) Partnering and supporting each other through joint research initiatives and participation in nationally and internationally funded projects.
- b) Organization of joint academic and scientific activities, such as lectures, conferences, seminars, workshops, symposia and training programs.
- c) Visits of faculty/staff/students in the area of mutual interest
- d) Exchange of scientific, technical and academic information as per respective norms of both institutions.
- e) Exchange of faculty and students for teaching, learning and research purposes pertaining but not limited to the area of IKS, Humanities, Social Sciences, Engineering, Robotics, Mathematical and Statistical Sciences, Managements among all other disciplines offered by both the signatory institutes.



- f) Exchange of knowledge and resources pertaining to the area of Indian Knowledge Systems
- g) Joint supervision of postgraduate and PhD students.
- h) Any other collaborative efforts the Parties consider being appropriate from time to time.

2. Obligations & Responsibility of the Parties

Both institutions **IIT Mandi** and **MIT ADT University** will support each other's endeavors in academic programmes and research activities as per **Scope and Objective** of this RCA.

3. Ownership of Intellectual Property

3.1. Terms used herein within initial capital letters shall have the respective meanings set forth below. The definitions of terms herein shall apply equally to this RCA and any amendment or Annexures added later on.

- a) **"Intellectual Property"** or **"IP"** shall mean all ideas, inventions (whether patentable or not), trademarks, design, trade secrets, formulas, processes, schematics and other technical reports, specifications, databases, transferable copyright, tangible embodiments thereof, including without limitation inventions, discoveries, designs, specifications, developments, methods, modifications, improvements, processes, know-how, show-how, techniques, algorithms, databases, computer software and code (including software and firmware listings, assemblers, applets, compilers, source code, object code, net lists, design tools, user interfaces, application programming interfaces, protocols, formats, documentation, annotations, comments, data, data structures, databases, data collections, system build software and instructions), mask works, formulae, techniques, composition, supplier and customer lists, trade secrets, graphics or images, text, audio or visual works, designs, design processes, any documentation of research, results, testing, schematics, diagrams, product specifications and works of authorship.
- b) **"Intellectual Property Rights"** shall mean any and all rights in and to the Intellectual Property listed.
- c) **"Background IP"** shall mean any Intellectual Property exclusively owned by each Party and which is created prior to this RCA.
- d) **"Foreground IP"** shall mean any and all Intellectual Property, either completed or developed in part, developed by either Party (alone or jointly with the MIT ADT UNIVERSITY) during the Project and under the terms of this RCA. For the avoidance of doubt, Foreground IP shall not include Intellectual Property that is developed by either Party outside of the Project and is not related either to the Project or this RCA.

3.2. The Parties recognize and acknowledge that the ownership of the background IP belonging to each Party prior to this RCA will exclusively belong to that respective Party. 3.3. Any IP developed solely by a Party under the project ("**Sole Foreground IP**") shall be the sole property of that respective Party.

3.4. Any IP generated as a result of the joint efforts of the Parties under the project ("**Joint**



Foreground IP) will be the joint property of IIT Mandi & MIT ADT UNIVERSITY. If such discovery is patentable, the patents will be jointly filed by the IIT Mandi & MIT ADT UNIVERSITY. The cost of filing IP in India will be equally shared between IIT Mandi and MIT ADT UNIVERSITY. MIT ADT UNIVERSITY will decide in which all countries it wishes to file IP protection. MIT ADT UNIVERSITY will take lead and bear full cost of filing IP in countries outside India. All such IP shall be filed in joint name of IIT Mandi and MIT ADT UNIVERSITY. Parties will enter into revenue sharing agreement for commercialization of such joint IP for "all the countries jointly" or "each country separately" at a later date. In case, MIT ADT UNIVERSITY decides not to proceed for such patent filing outside India or decides to discontinue the maintenance of such filing in foreign jurisdiction then IIT Mandi shall have the right to take over such patent filing and maintenance at its discretion and IIT Mandi shall be free to license such IP to third parties within/outside the domain of MIT ADT UNIVERSITY and share the revenue as mutually agreed with MIT ADT UNIVERSITY.

- 3.5. The costs of filing, renewal, maintenance and prosecution within India of Joint Foreground IP will be borne jointly by IIT Mandi and MIT ADT UNIVERSITY unless the exclusive license is obtained by MIT ADT UNIVERSITY whereupon all the costs will be exclusively borne by MIT ADT UNIVERSITY for the duration of the license. The costs of filing, renewal, maintenance, and prosecution outside India of Joint Foreground IP shall be borne by MIT ADT UNIVERSITY.
- 3.6. If the Joint Foreground IP is not put to use by MIT ADT UNIVERSITY within 2 years of entering into license agreement, IIT Mandi shall have the right to license it to third party and share the royalty/revenue equally with MIT ADT UNIVERSITY.
- 3.7. The Parties shall mutually agree upon filing applications to patent the Joint Foreground IP. If one Party does not agree upon the filing of patents within a period of three (3) months from the date of intimation on the coming into existence of Joint Foreground IP, the MIT ADT UNIVERSITY may proceed with the filing of the Patents in the joint names of the Parties and recover the proportionate costs relating to the Patents filing, renewal and maintenance.

4. Confidentiality Obligation

Each Party shall keep confidential and not use for any purpose not contemplated here under all proprietary information disclosed by the other Party, directly or indirectly. Any discoveries, inventions or know-how resulting from the project shall be kept confidentially for a period of three (3) years from the date of termination of this RCA, except as authorized in writing by other Party or provided herein.

5. Publication

- 5.1. MIT ADT UNIVERSITY recognizes that under its policy, the IIT Mandi shall have the right, at its discretion, to release information or to publish any material resulting from the research, provided that such material does not include any MIT ADT UNIVERSITY's Confidential Information and that such publication would not disclose or otherwise

jeopardize any potential patent rights, in technology developed hereunder.

5.2. IIT Mandi shall furnish MIT ADT UNIVERSITY with a copy of any proposed publication, including any student thesis or dissertation to be made public, that includes information developed under this RCA. Within fifteen (15) days of receipt, MIT ADT UNIVERSITY shall notify the IIT Mandi in writing if such proposed publication includes MIT ADT UNIVERSITY Confidential Information or is related to any potential patent rights. If no communication is received within such time, it shall be deemed as approved for publication. MIT ADT UNIVERSITY may request the IIT Mandi to delay publishing such proposed publication for a maximum of twenty-one (21) from its receipt of the proposed publication in order to protect the potential patentability of any invention described therein.

5.3. MIT ADT UNIVERSITY will be given full credit and acknowledgment for any support provided to the IIT Mandi in any publication resulting from this RCA, unless requested otherwise by NAME OF INSTITUTE/ UNIVERSITY/ INDUSTRY.

6. Duration of RCA and Termination

- 6.1. This RCA shall commence on the Effective Date mentioned on the first page of the RCA and shall run for the project period of **3Years**.
- 6.2. This RCA may be terminated if both Parties agree for premature termination. However, the confidentiality obligations, provisions of IP rights, dispute resolution shall survive the term and termination of this agreement.
- 6.3. MIT ADT UNIVERSITY can terminate all or any part of this RCA at any time and for any reason by giving written notice to IIT Mandi, such termination to be effective thirty (30) days after the date of such notice.
- 6.4. IIT Mandi may terminate all or any part of this RCA at any time and for any reason by giving written notice to MIT ADT UNIVERSITY, such termination to be effective thirty (30) days after the date of such notice.

7. Miscellaneous Provisions:

- 7.1. **Notices:** Notices or other communications required to be given in implementing the RCA shall be in writing and may be delivered personally or sent by registered mail. The dates on which notices shall be deemed to have been effectively given shall be determined as an effective date on the delivery.
- 7.2. **Force Majeure:** Any delay or failure in performance by either Party to this agreement, shall not constitute default hereunder to give rise to any claims for damages against said

Party, if any, to the extent caused by matters beyond the control of said Party including but not limited to acts of God, Fire, Flood, Earth Quake, Pandemics, Epidemics, Government Restrictions, Strikes, Lock outs or other concerted acts of workmen, explosions, blockages, embargoes, riots, war (declared or undeclared), rebellion, sabotage, extraordinary severe



weather, civil commotion and criminal acts of third persons. If the work is delayed by such force majeure, then upon the happening of such delay, either Party within 14 days of the happening of such event, shall give notice in writing to the other Party requesting for extension of time indicating the period for which extension is desired and the Parties may arrive at a reasonable extension of time.

- 7.3. **Name, Logo Trademark:** The parties shall not use the name or trademark of the other party to this Agreement without their prior written consent.
- 7.4. **Assignment:** This Agreement shall not be assignable by either party without the express written consent of the other party.
- 7.5. **Entire Agreement:** Each party accepts the terms and conditions set out in this agreement as above by signing below. This constitutes the entire agreement that supersedes all previous proposals, oral or written, and all other communication or understanding between the parties relating to the subject matter of this Agreement. Any modification or amendment is valid only if it is agreed in writing by both the Parties.
- 7.6. **Governing laws and Dispute Resolution:** This RCA shall be governed by laws of India. Any dispute arising out of RCA shall be resolved amicably between the parties and if the same is/are not resolved within 45 days then either party will be free to approach the appropriate court of civil jurisdiction situated at Mandi (Himachal Pradesh). The parties agree to submit to the laws of India and exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of Mandi, Himachal Pradesh, India.

7.7. **Disclaimer:**

In the case of Consultancy neither MIT ADT UNIVERSITY itself nor its employees shall disclose the same to any third party without the written consent of IIT Mandi. IIT Mandi never claims that its report is the only findings to be relied upon. Decisions taken based on the report should always be construed as decisions of MIT ADT UNIVERSITY and IIT Mandi should not be held responsible or liable in any manner whatsoever.

In case of certification, the scope of IIT Mandi is limited to confirmation of submitted reports and IIT Mandi shall not be held responsible or liable in any manner whatsoever.



7.8. **Indemnity:** Neither Party shall give a derogatory/defamatory statement against the other Party in public. On the occurrence of such an event, the responsible Party will indemnify the other Party against all direct, indirect and consequential losses.

In Witness thereof the **Parties** have executed the RCA on Effective Date as mentioned in first page.

<p>IIT Mandi</p>  <p>Signature:</p> <p>Name: Prof. Dr. Laxmidhar Behera Title: Director</p>	<p>MIT ADT University</p>  <p>Signature:</p> <p>Name: Prof. Dr. Mangesh Karad Title: Executive President</p>
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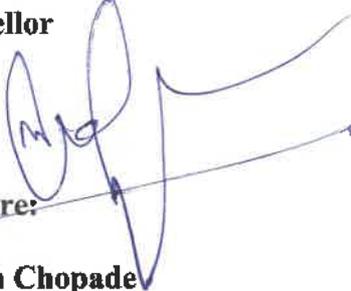
Witness



1. Signature:

Name: Prof. Dr. Rajesh S.

Title: Vice Chancellor



2. Signature:

Name: Prof. Dr. Mahesh Chopade

Title: Registrar