

Memorandum of Understanding

(MOU)

Between

University Grants Commission

And

National Association of Software & Service
Companies

Place: New Delhi

Date: 16 March 2005

This **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING** is entered into this 16th day of March 2005

BETWEEN

University Grants Commission (UGC), established in November 1956 as a statutory body of the Government of India through an Act of Parliament for the coordination, determination and maintenance of standards of university education in India. UGC has been vested with twin responsibilities of providing funds and monitoring development in the field of collegiate and university education.

UGC serves as a vital link between the Union and State governments and institutions of higher learning and advising the Central and State governments on the measures necessary for improvement of university education. The Head Office of UGC is located at Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg in New Delhi.

AND

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOFTWARE AND SERVICES COMPANIES (NASSCOM) is India's premier trade body and the chamber of commerce of the IT software and services industry in India. NASSCOM is a global trade body with around 850 members, of which nearly 150 are global companies from the US, UK, EU, Japan and China. NASSCOM's member companies currently account for over 95 percent of the revenues of the software industry in India. It is a not-for-profit organization, registered under the Societies Act, 1896. NASSCOM is also a single point reference for any information on the Indian software and services industry.

The primary objective of NASSCOM is to act as a catalyst for the growth of the software driven IT industry in India, facilitate trade and business in software and services, encouragement and advancement of research, propagation of education and employment, enabling the growth of the Indian economy and provide compelling business benefits to global economies by global sourcing. The association's vision is to establish India as the 21st century's software powerhouse. The head-office of NASSCOM is located at International Youth Centre, Teen Murti Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi- 110021

RECITALS

1. AND WHEREAS both UGC and NASSCOM recognise that they share common goals and are desirous to establish, a cooperative arrangement towards – strengthening Indian higher education (through curricula, faculty, infrastructure, pedagogy improvements) in line with the IT industry's requirements of relevant skill-sets in various disciplines at different levels (graduate, post-graduate, doctoral) in different time-frames
2. AND WHEREAS both organisations are desirous to associate in all other related areas as may be agreed upon for of furtherance of knowledge based enterprises, apt technical and management skill for future economic development, exchanging of information concerning Information Technology and work towards effective Industry-Academia partnerships for Human Resource Development and R&D.
3. NOW THE PARTIES HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE AND DECLARE as follows:

The University Grants Commission, Government of India and the National Association of Software & Service Companies, India (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties") agree to **serve as a link between Industry and Education for ensuring relevant and quality learning**, especially through the following:

- 3.1. Identification of colleges and universities for faculty training through various initiatives, including the proposed programme: **'Building the knowledge professionals for 21st century by re-skilling the faculty in IT'**.
- 3.2. Increased student & faculty interface with the IT industry by way of workshops, seminars, projects etc.
- 3.3. Encourage entrepreneurship and knowledge based enterprises by fostering better linkages between academic institutions, IT industry and R&D institutions, particularly by setting up Techno-Business Skills Development Centres and **Entrepreneurship Development Cells within academic premises**.

- 3.4. Curriculum up-gradation and modification/additions to provide education and skills relevant for IT services and ITeS industry, possibly having 3+1 structure with a final year package/specialization in a professional subject.
 - 3.5. Inputs and involvement of industry experts in formulating appropriate curricula for various subjects related to ITs/ITeS.
 - 3.6. Exchange of information and research to enhance the awareness of IT amongst academia.
 - 3.7. Co-operation between industry and academia in defining research projects for academic institutions and topics for research /project and doctoral work by students.
4. This Memorandum shall commence from the date of its signing and shall continue for a period of three (3) year from the date thereof and be automatically renewed for successive periods of three (3) years, unless either Party notifies in writing to the other Party of its intention to terminate this MOU ninety days in advance.
 5. This Memorandum is not a legally binding contract and under no circumstances does this Memorandum subject either of the Parties to liability for breach, whether material or minor, of contract or any other liability under national or international law or any other applicable law.
 6. The Parties hereby agree that they are not bound exclusively by this Memorandum and shall be at liberty to enter into any separate agreements or arrangements with any third party without reference to the other Party.

The Parties may establish a "Joint Working Group" to manage and execute the cooperative activities mentioned in this MOU.

1. The Parties will endeavor to ensure that the Working Group is composed of the representatives of the IT industry and institutes, organizations and academic community related to the field of Information Technology and higher education.

2. Each Party will nominate appropriate personnel to discuss and promote detailed cooperation activities for the implementation of this MOU. When necessary and as mutually agreed, the Parties may hold working meetings. One Party shall notify the other Party of any modification in writing in case of change in the assigned personnel.

Sd/-

Kiran Karnik
President
National Association of Software & Service Companies

Sd/-

Arun Nigavekar
Chairman
University Grants Commission