

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU)

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is entered into on 19 July 2019

### BETWEEN

The Centre for Internet and Society (CIS), is a non-profit organisation, Bengaluru, represented by Mr. Tito Dutta, Designation, Program Manager referred to as first party.

### AND

Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar, Solapur University, Solapur, represented by, Prof. V. B. Ghute, Designation: Registrar, P. A. H. Solapur University hereafter referred to as second party.

**WHEREAS** The Centre for Internet and Society (CIS), is a non-profit organisation having its head office branch in Bengaluru, Karnatka and branch office in New Delhi, that undertakes interdisciplinary research on internet and digital technologies from policy and academic perspectives. The areas of focus include digital accessibility for persons with disabilities, access to knowledge, intellectual property rights, openness (including open data, free and open source software, open standards, open access, open educational resources, and open video), internet governance, telecommunications reform, digital privacy, and cyber-security. The research at CIS seeks to understand the reconfiguration of social processes and structures through the internet and digital media technologies, and vice versa. Through its diverse initiatives, CIS explores, intervenes in, and advances contemporary discourse and regulatory practices around internet, technology, and society in India, and elsewhere.

**WHEREAS** the P. A. H. Solapur University, Solapur (PAHSUS) is a state University, established in 2004 by the Government of Maharashtra vide Gazette No. USG-1004/(9412004)/UNI-1 dated 22 July 2004. The university, over a short span of 14 years, has distinguished itself as one of the best in the state as a hub of teaching, research and creativity. The University has a dynamic and student's friendly academicians who are committed to raise the recognition level to global standards. P. A. H. Solapur University is poised for an ambitious growth. The University has its vision, mission and goals well defined to bring the talent of rural and semi-rural youth for regional and national development. The vision of the University is "To become a dynamic knowledge center that amalgamates high quality teaching and research with a sense of belonging and commitment to the society." And the mission of the University is "To create young persons of impeccable quality through a combination of high quality curricula, innovative pedagogy of higher education and cutting edge research to fearlessly face the challenges of the ever changing world scenario and to contribute towards the creation of a benevolent and compassionate society."

## IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED BY AND BETWEEN THE PARTIES AS UNDER

The MoU is being formulated because CIS and PAHSUS have found common cause in free and open knowledge generation and dissemination. This MoU stipulates the scope of collaboration between these two entities and terms and conditions of conducting the collaborative activities.

### Operational Framework:

- 1) A core team shall be constituted by representatives of this MoU for realization of the objectives of this MoU.
- 2) The core team shall prepare an action plan with specific goals for achieving the objectives of the proposal and the MoU. They shall take into consideration the academic, commercial and legal aspects of this co-operation. The action plan or work plan may be modified or improved during the academic year according to the needs-assessment of the students, and the core team's analysis.
- 3) The proposed action plan shall be reviewed and approved by representatives of both parties.
- 4) The core team shall be supported and authorised by the University Administration to take all necessary actions to implement the action plan in an effective, speedy and dynamic manner.
- 5) Program expense sharing shall be decided on a case to case basis by the core team.

### Some highlights of proposed action plan -

- Each department of P. A. H. Solapur University will facilitate creation of 10 Wikipedia articles related to their course by the students. This activity will be taken up in first semester. The articles will be created on user sandbox or on Google Docs. After review, the articles will be moved to Wikipedia mainspace.
- The projects on museum, library and archives will be taken up in the second semester by the groups of students. The photos and other media will be uploaded on Wikimedia Commons and other sister projects after analysing encyclopedic quality of these content.
- P. A. H. Solapur university will issue a circular for selected affiliated colleges in Maharashtra to participate actively in free knowledge creation and the Wikimedia movement. The technical support will be arranged by both the parties.
- The digitisation of copyright free books in the library will be taken up under 'Eam & Learn Scheme'. The books will be uploaded in free library - Wikisource.

**Terms of Collaboration:**

1. To promote content generation in Indian language, especially Marathi Wikimedia projects (projects such as Wikipedia, Wikisource, Wikimedia Commons, Wikidata etc. <https://www.wikimedia.org/>) among the institutions under University affiliation.
2. To organise awareness programs and training workshops to achieve this. For consistent and dedicated efforts, mechanism of subject experts and coordinators will be developed.
3. To integrate the academic assignments, projects etc. with knowledge building in Wikimedia projects e.g. Wikipedia, Wikisource, Wikidata, Wikimedia Commons.
4. To facilitate content donation in the form of published thesis, University publications to free library - Wikisource. To write well referenced articles based on these research work.
5. To develop platform in University for outreach programs on Digital knowledge, Language & technologies, FOSS, Unicode etc. To involve other stakeholders in knowledge business like publishers, writers, printers, designers in these programs.
6. To take lead in accommodating open knowledge concepts, locally relevant content generation practices while designing the courses.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF both the parties have hereunto set and subscribed to their hands and seal the day and year herein above mentioned.

Signed on behalf of CIS

*Tito Dutta*  
18.7.19

Tito Dutta

Program Manager (CIS-A2K)

Signed on behalf of PAHSUS

*Prof. Dr. V. B. Ghute*  
19.7.19

Prof. Dr. V. B. Ghute

Registrar



Witness 1

*Subodh Kulkarni*  
19/7/19

Subodh Kulkarni (CIS-A2K)

Witness 2

*Dr. Ravindra Chincholkar*

Dr. Ravindra Chincholkar