

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

Between



**Maharashtra State
Faculty Development Academy (MSFDA), Pune**

And



**Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar
Solapur University, Solapur**



1. Title & Parties

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is entered into on this 31st day of October, 2025, at Pune, Maharashtra, between:

- a) **Maharashtra State Faculty Development Academy (MSFDA)**, a not-for-profit Section 8 Company established under the Companies Act, 2013, functioning under the Department of Higher and Technical Education, Government of Maharashtra, with its registered office at 412-B, Bhamburda, Bahirat Patil Chowk, Laxmi Society, Model Colony, Shivajinagar, Pune – 411016. Herein after referred as MSFDA.
- b) **Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur University** is young (Established on 01-08-2004) and set up in 2004, Solapur University, a State University, constituted by the Government of Maharashtra vide Gazette No. USG-1004/ (9412004)/UNI-1 dated 22 July 2004. Here after referred as PAHSUS (which expression shall unless it be repugnant to the context or meaning thereof, mean and include its successors in office and assigns). Recently this university got grants of Rs. 100 CR under the PM USHA MERU Scheme for infrastructure and various academic programmes.

Both institutions may hereinafter be referred to individually as a “**Party**” and jointly as the “**Parties**”.

2. Preamble / Background

The Government of India under the **Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (PM-USHA)** has introduced both hard and soft components to strengthen higher education institutions. The soft component emphasizes **capacity building of teachers, administrators, and academic leaders** in alignment with the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**.

MSFDA, as the state-level nodal agency, is entrusted with the mandate of faculty development and academic leadership training across Maharashtra. Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur University, with its tradition of discipline, leadership, and higher education delivery, is collaborating with MSFDA to design and deliver selected **soft component programs** under PM-USHA.

3. Purpose of the MoU

The purpose of this MoU is to establish a **formal collaboration** between MSFDA and Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur University for the **design, delivery, and monitoring** of training and capacity-building programs under the PM-USHA scheme (soft



**Maharashtra State Faculty
Development Academy
Pune**

component). The MoU ensures clarity of roles, compliance with national policies, and accountability under applicable laws including the **Indian Contract Act, 1872**, the **Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023**, and relevant provisions of the **Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS)** relating to breach of trust and public accountability.

4. Objectives

The collaboration shall focus on the following objectives:

- To co-develop and deliver training modules for higher education faculty and administrators as mentioned in DPR of PM USHA.
- To organize workshops, seminars, and thematic programs aligned with NEP 2020 and PM-USHA guidelines.

5. Scope of Collaboration

- Joint design & planning of training content and modules.
- Deployment of resource persons from MSFDA's approved pool.
- Use of Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur University premises, infrastructure, and logistical support for program delivery as and when the program is planned within the campus or at affiliated colleges or at other outdoor location.
- Similarly, Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur University can extend financial support for programs organized at the Maharashtra State Faculty Development Academy (MSFDA) campus.

6. Roles and Responsibilities

MSFDA shall:

- Plan, Approve, Execute and oversee training modules. (as per annexure 1)
- Nominate expert resource persons.
- Ensure quality standards, monitoring, and certification.
- Provide digital tools, templates, and reporting mechanisms.
- Provide training venues, classrooms, and ICT facilities when programs planned at MSFDA.



Signature


**Maharashtra State Faculty
Development Academy
Pune**

Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur University shall:

- Provide training venues, classrooms, and ICT facilities when programs are planned in university premises or at other locations like affiliated colleges.
- Deputing faculties for the program planned by MSFDA.
- Mobilize faculty and participants from affiliated colleges.
- Manage local coordination, hospitality, and event logistics.
- Maintain attendance and documentation records for each program.
- Provide funds sanctioned under PM-USHA for conducting the programs at University as well as at MSFDA.

7. Financial Arrangement

- All financial arrangements shall comply with MSFDA norms and as per the DPR approved by PM USHA.
- This Memorandum of Understanding shall remain valid only for the activities and grants received under the PM-USHA scheme.
- MSFDA will raise a demand for programmatic costs, including honorarium, travel allowance for resource persons, administrative cost, content development, etc. Cost of Food and accommodation will also be paid to MSFDA as per MSFDA's finalised rates when programs are conducted at MSFDA campus.
- Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur University shall provide infrastructure and staff support at no additional cost when programs are planned at the University premises.
- On the completion of the program, MSFDA will raise the demand letter which can be submitted to PM USHA office for the disbursement of grants.

8. Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

- All training content, digital modules, and knowledge resources developed under this MoU shall remain the **exclusive property of MSFDA**.
- Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur University, Solapur shall have **non-commercial rights to use such content** for academic improvement within its institution, with due credit to MSFDA.



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**Maharashtra State Faculty
Development Academy
Pune**

- Unauthorized reproduction, sale, or transfer of such content shall invite legal action under the **Copyright Act, 1957** and provisions of **BNS (Sections 308–312, breach of trust in public service)**.

9. Data Protection & Privacy

- Both Parties shall comply with the **Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023** and **IT Act, 2000**.
- Personal and institutional data of participants shall be encrypted, stored within India, and not shared with third parties without written consent.
- Data breach or misuse shall be treated as a **material breach** and attract penalties under **Sections 336–338 of the BNS**.

10. Service Standards & Performance Monitoring

- All programs shall maintain high standards of quality, with participant feedback recorded for continuous improvement.

11. Dispute Resolution

- Any dispute arising under this MoU shall first be attempted to be resolved through **mutual consultation**.
- If unresolved, the matter shall be referred to **arbitration under the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996**.
- The seat of arbitration shall be **Pune, Maharashtra**, and the decision of the arbitrator shall be binding on both Parties.

12. Indemnity & Liability

Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur University shall indemnify MSFDA against any third-party claims, damages, or losses arising from negligence, misconduct, or breach of this MoU. Liability shall extend to penalties imposed under the **Indian Contract Act** and **BNS Sections 308–312** for misrepresentation or breach of trust.

13. Miscellaneous Provisions

- Confidentiality shall be maintained for all internal communications.
- This MoU may be amended or altered or modified as the case may be only after mutual consent of the parties to this MoU and the same modification shall take effect



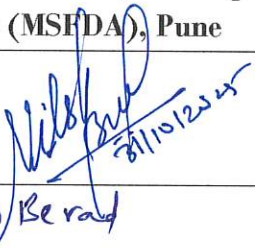
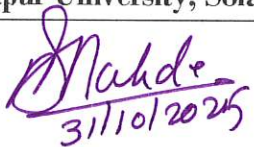
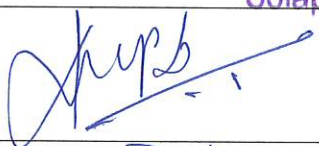
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 Pune**

only after draft to this effect is signed by the concerned authorised signatories of the respective parties.

- The MoU shall remain valid for Two (2) years from the date of signing and may be extended through a written agreement till the PM-USHA grants sanctioned to the university are utilised.

14. This MoU shall come into effect from the date first hereinabove mentioned. The undersigned parties have read the terms and conditions hereby enter into the present MoU and confirm their agreement and acceptance thereof:

For and on behalf of Maharashtra State Faculty Development Academy (MSFDA), Pune	For and on behalf of Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur University, Solapur
	
Name: Dr. Nilesh Beraud	Name: Dr. Lakde A.T.
Designation: Joint Director Date: 31/10/2025	Designation: I/c Registrar. Date: 31/10/2025
Witnesses:	I/c. Registrar Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur University, Solapur.
	
Name: Kabeer Kalshikar	Name: Dr. Pradipkar Kolekar
Designation: Manager (Networking) Date: 31/10/2025	Designation: ASSO. PROFESSOR Date: 31/10/2025
	
Name: Shantanu Pawar	Name: Ravikant Hulekire
Designation: Manager (Admin.) Date: 31/10/25	Designation: Jr. Clerk Date: 31/10/2025

