

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU)

Between



Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur University, Solapur

Kegaon, Solapur–Pune National Highway, Solapur – 413255,
Maharashtra, India

And



Gondwana University, Gadchiroli

MIDC Road, Complex Area, Gadchiroli – 442605, Maharashtra, India

For

**Academic Cooperation, Research Collaboration, and
MERU to MERU Strategic Alliance Framework**

Date: 09th March, 2026

Venue:

Gondwana University, Gadchiroli
MIDC Road, Complex Area, Gadchiroli – 442605, Maharashtra, India

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (hereinafter referred to as "MoU") is executed on this 09th Day of March 2026, at Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur University, Solapur

BETWEEN

PUNYASHLOK AHILYADEVI HOLKAR SOLAPUR UNIVERSITY, SOLAPUR, established in 2004 is a Non-Agricultural State University, having its registered office at Kegaon, Solapur, Pune National Highway, Solapur- 413 255 hereinafter referred to as "PAHSUS" represented through Registrar (which expression shall unless the meaning or context otherwise requires shall mean and include its successors and assigns) of the **First Party**.

AND

GONDWANA UNIVERSITY, GADCHIROLI, located on MIDC Road, Complex Area, Gadchiroli – 442605, Maharashtra, India, was founded in 2011 to fulfill the educational aspirations of the socio-economically backward districts of Gadchiroli and Chandrapur. The university aims to bridge the developmental gap in these regions by promoting higher education, skill development, and job-oriented learning. Through innovative educational approaches, it seeks to empower local youth, encourage entrepreneurship, and contribute to inclusive regional development. - **Second Party**

1. Scope:

First Party & Second Party believe that for providing a better platform for students and stakeholder including students from the university campus school, departments / Center of institution and also the students from the various affiliated colleges / institutions and also the students from the autonomous college / institution etc. within the jurisdiction of this university to give better opportunities in various fields of education and interdisciplinary research etc. the collaboration and co-operation between themselves will promote more effective use of each of their resources, and provide each of them with enhanced opportunities. Also, the second party has issued a letter on 04th March 2026 with intention to establishing a MERU-to-MERU Strategic Alliance Collaborative Framework with this and other universities for various academic and research-based activities. And achieve this goal this MoU is being executed.

2. Objectives of the MoU:

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is to establish a collaborative framework between the parties which entails the implementation and Integration of Skill enhancement courses and to promote and give wider scope of research to student, teacher, research student, and the stake holder of the 2nd Party, developed by the 1st Party as approved by Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur University Solapur and inter-institutional Internship, student exchange, organization of seminar, workshop, exhibition etc.

3. Areas of collaboration:

- a. Areas of collaboration may be proposed by either institution and may include, but are not limited to:
 - i. Short- or long-term student exchange
 - ii. Internship programmes
 - iii. Joint teaching and research activity
 - iv. Joint cultural activity
 - v. Mobility of faculty, scholars, and students between institutions
 - vi. Faculty professional development
 - vii. Sharing or creation of educational materials and resources
 - viii. Exchange of scientific instruments and technology
 - ix. Joint submission of Research Project to established funding agency
 - x. Organization of On-Job-Training (OJT), Joint conferences, Seminar, and Workshop
 - xi. All other research and Academic activities as per the mutual agreement
- b. Any specific activity developed under this MoU shall be detailed in a subsequent agreement, signed by each institution's authorized signatory, which will describe the scope of the proposed activity, intended outcomes, budget, and responsible departments or individuals.
- c. All activities shall be subject to the availability of funds with prior consent of each institution's authorized representatives

4. Proposed modes of collaboration:

The 1st party will provide following offering as part of their academic offering-

- a. Skill Based Courses
- b. Skill Based Experimental Courses
- c. Common facility centers available (Instrumental analysis)
- d. All other research and Academic activities as per the mutual agreement



5. Nature of Activities:

It is expected that activities taking place under this MoU will be initiated primarily by academic units within each university, and in coordination with their respective administrative units concerned with international activities. All activities undertaken must conform to the policies and procedures in place at each institution. For Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur University, Solapur, faculty and student exchanges will follow university guidelines. All the proposed activities must be in accordance with the rules and regulations framed by UGC, NCERT, AICTE, State Government, Other competent authorities and also as defined under Maharashtra public University act 2016, and the amendment therein from time to time. The letter dtd. 04th March 2026 shall form Part and Parcel of this MoU.

6. Terms and Conditions:

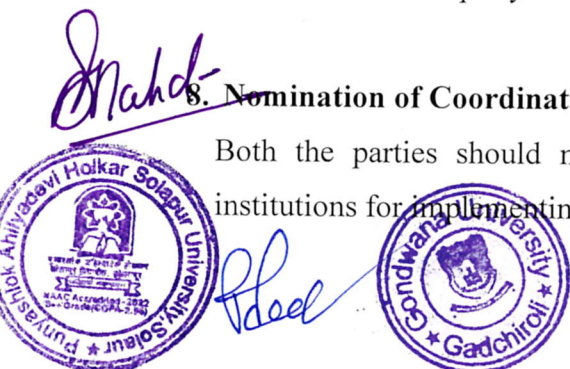
- a. All activities shall be executed only after written consent of both the parties.
- b. If the any of the college/institution etc. as mentioned in Scope wants to participate in the activity pursuant to this MoU, separate MoU is required to be signed by and between the college / institution and the First Party and both the parties shall inform about such activity to the University / Second Party well in advance.
- c. This Memorandum of Understanding reflects the respective institutions' commitments to the terms and conditions mentioned in the MoU.
- d. This MoU shall remain in effect initially for 03 years and thereafter and can be renewed after taking review for another period as agreed by both the universities.
- e. This MoU maybe amended or terminated at any time by either Party provided that written notice of termination or amendment is given by the notifying Party to the other Party before (90) days of the date on which the termination or the amendment is intended to become effective. The commitments, made before the date of termination of MoU, shall continue to be operative.
- f. School may add any other conditions as it deems fit either on their own or after consultation with the MoU cell as the case may be.

7. Financing:

All proposed activities shall commence only after executing a separate MoU, specifying liabilities of Each party.

8. Nomination of Coordinators:

Both the parties should nominate and communicate the names of coordinators of their institutions for implementing and executing various activities pursuant to this MoU.



9. Arrangements for visiting officials:

The host institute shall make the arrangement of accommodation, food providing seminar hall, and providing human resources as per the requirement. Rest of the expenses shall be borne by the sponsoring University/ Institution.

10. Use of Names.

Except in promoting the activities proposed herein above among its faculty, staff, and students, neither Participant may use the name of the other Participant in any form of advertising or publicity without express written permission. seek permission from one another by submitting the proposed use, well in advance of any deadline, also any activity for which the certificate and or memento is to be awarded to the participants it shall carry the name and logo of both the parties to this MoU.

11. Relationship Between the Parties

It is expressly agreed that First Party and Second Party are acting under this MoU as independent contractors, and the relationship established under this MoU shall not be construed as a partnership. Neither Party is authorized to use the other Party's name in any way, to make any representations or create any obligation or liability, expressed or implied, on behalf of the other Party, without the prior written consent of the other Party. Neither Party shall have, nor represent itself as having, any authority under the terms of this MoU to make agreements of any kind in the name of or binding upon the other Party, to pledge the other Party's credit, or to extend credit on behalf of the other Party.

12. Confidentiality.

In the course of the activities under this MoU it may be necessary for the Participants to disclose Confidential Information. Unless otherwise expressly permitted in this agreement, any and all information, correspondence, financial statements, records, data, or information that is competitively sensitive and not generally known to the public, including formulations, analysis, inventions, improvements and activities of the disclosing Participant, disclosed by one Participant to the other Participant of this MoU, and other documents transmitted or communicated by either Participant to the other Participant that is marked as confidential or proprietary for the purposes of this agreement ("Confidential Information") shall be received and treated in confidence, and shall not be used by the receiving Participant or disclosed by the receiving Participant without the prior written consent of the disclosing Participant, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed. These restrictions on use or disclosure of information do not extend to any item of information which

- a) is publicly known at the time of the disclosure,
- b) is lawfully received by the receiving Participant from a third party which does not have a confidential relationship to the disclosing Participant,
- c) the receiving Participant can demonstrate was in its possession or known by it before its receipt from the disclosing Participant, or
- d) the receiving Participant is required by law to disclose to government authorities (including courts). Unless otherwise required under a subsequent binding agreement, each receiving Participant shall, at the expiry or termination of this agreement, return to the disclosing Participant any and all documents provided by the disclosing Participant setting out as confidential Information.

13. Intellectual Property Rights:




All Intellectual Property (including but not limited to trade secret, copyrights and patents, etc. if any of either Party in existence on the effective date shall remain the property of their respective owner/party. Ownership of any and all Intellectual Property developed or created by or for a Party after the effective date as part of the delivery of the services or performance under this MoU shall be decided on case- to-case basis depending on the contribution of the Party to develop the same with a separate written agreement signed between the Parties.

14. Amendment

The present Memorandum of Understanding can be amended by the Parties through mutual consultation. The amendments shall be enclosed with the present Memorandum of Understanding and shall form an integral part of it thereof.

15. Validity & Termination

This MoU shall be valid for **03 years**. The Memorandum of Understanding will enter into force on the date of signing and shall remain in force throughout the period or unless revoked by the consent of the Parties. Either of the Parties may terminate the present Memorandum of Understanding by giving the other party a written notice of ninety days in advance of its decision to terminate this Memorandum of Understanding. Termination will not affect activities covered by a collaborative contract between the executive agencies and already underway at the time of termination.


16. Settlement of Dispute

Any disputes arising out of the implementation or interpretation of the provisions of this Agreement and or dispute relating to any aspect of academic cooperation shall be settled amicably or will try to jointly resolve the dispute if any by direct negotiations between the top officials of the first and second party to this MoU at place mutually agreed between them / at Solapur as the case may be.

17. Non-Binding Nature.

This MoU is not intended to and does not give any person who is not a Participant to it any rights to enforce any of its provisions. Nothing in this MoU will be construed as creating a binding legal relationship between the Participants, with the exception of condition which will survive the expiry or termination of this MoU. This MoU is a broad statement of intent which sets forth the general basis upon which the Participants wish to proceed. No legal liability will arise in respect of any subject matter hereof unless a subsequent binding agreement is negotiated, approved, executed and delivered by the Participants to this MoU.

All the above contents are read over and understood by both the parties to this MoU. Hence the MoU is executed on 09th day of March Month 2026.

First Party	Second Party
<p> (Dr. Atul Tanaji Lakde) I/c. Registrar, Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur University, Solapur, Maharashtra.</p> <p></p>	<p> (Dr. Anil Hirekhan) Registrar, Gondwana University, Gadchiroli, Maharashtra.</p> <p></p>
<p>Witness: 1.  Dr. Shyam Khandare Dean, Humanities</p>	<p>Witness: 1.  Dr. Shyam S. Khandare Dean, Humanities</p>
<p>Witness: 2.  Dr. Nandkisher Meshram C.T.P. Coordinator</p>	<p>Witness: 2.  Prof. Manish Uthaswar Director (I & 2)</p>

Dr. Prashant S. Bokare
Vice-Chancellor



Gondwana University
Gadchiroli
Maharashtra, India

(Established by Government of Maharashtra Notification No. MISC-2007/(322/07) UNI-4 Dated 27th Sept. 2011 & Presently a State University governed by Maharashtra Public Universities Act, 2016 (Maharashtra Act. No. VI of 2017))

GUG/VCO/770/2026

Date: 04.03.2026

To,
Prof. (Dr.) Prakash A. Mahanwar
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor,
PAH Solapur University,
Kegaon, Solapur-413 255

Subject: Invitation to the Consultative Meeting on MERU-to-MERU Strategic Alliance and MoU Signing.

Dear Sir,

In the transformative context of NEP 2020 and PM-USHA, universities are envisioned to evolve into Multidisciplinary Education and Research Universities (MERUs). Gondwana University is presently transitioning into a MERU, and in this regard, I am pleased to invite you to our campus at Gadchiroli on **9th March 2026** for a one-day consultative meeting.

The meeting will deliberate upon the enclosed Concept Note titled "*Establishing a MERU-to-MERU Strategic Alliance Collaborative Framework.*" The proposed alliance among Gondwana University, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University (Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar), SNDT Women's University (Mumbai), Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur University, and Goa University, Goa seeks to establish a "MERU Grid" enabling academic collaboration, seamless student mobility through the Academic Bank of Credits (ABC), and reciprocal access to research infrastructure under a no-exchange-of-funds MoU model.

The agenda includes:

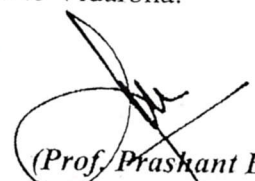
1. Deliberation on credit mapping and privileged access to specialized laboratories.
2. Formalization of MoU for student and faculty exchange.
3. Exchange of best practices and innovative institutional models.
4. Identification of thrust areas for joint DST, DBT, and ICSSR research proposals.

We believe this collaboration will strengthen regional capacities while creating a globally competitive, locally rooted knowledge network.

I look forward to your positive response and to welcoming you to Vidarbha.

Warm regards,

Encl: As above


(Prof. Prashant Bokare)
Vice-Chancellor