



Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

BETWEEN

**Department of Higher and Technical Education,
Government of Maharashtra (DHTE),**

AND

Centre for Research in Schemes and Policies (CRISP)

Memorandum of Understanding Between Department of Higher and Technical Education, Government of Maharashtra (DHTE-Maharashtra), and Centre For Research In Schemes and Policies (CRISP)

This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as "MOU") is executed on **11th March, 2024** (hereinafter referred to as "Effective Date") at **Mumbai**

BETWEEN

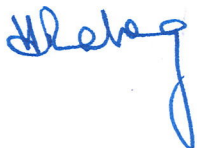
Department of Higher Education, Government of **Maharashtra** (hereinafter referred to as **DHTE, Maharashtra**, which expression hereof includes its successors, administrators, and assigns), through its authorized signatory **Principal Secretary**, Higher and Technical Education, Government of **Maharashtra**, who is duly authorized to sign and execute this Agreement, known as First Party.

AND

Centre for Research in Schemes and Policies (CRISP), a not-for-profit Society registered under the Registration of Societies Act, having its registered office at B- 38 First floor, Panchsheel Enclave, New Delhi-17 (hereinafter called "**CRISP**" which expression hereof includes its successors, administrators, and assigns), through its authorized signatory **Sri R. Subrahmanyam IAS (Rtd.) Secretary**, Centre for Research in Schemes and Policies, who is duly authorized to sign and execute this Agreement, known as Second Party.

Both **Department of Higher and Technical Education, Govt. of Maharashtra** and **CRISP** are hereinafter collectively referred to as "Parties" and individually as "Party".

CRISP, an initiative by a group of conscientious civil servants with extensive experience in policy-making, aims to collaborate with State and Central Governments to design, redesign, and evaluate schemes and programs for public good. CRISP has a successful track record in skill-integrated higher education, working with Sector Skill Councils, Universities, and Colleges to enhance employability, as demonstrated in Uttar Pradesh and Telangana. This initiative, **known as the National Initiative for Skill Integrated Higher Education (NISHE), is proposed to be scaled up.**



CRISP has engaged with the Department of Higher and Technical Education, Government of Maharashtra, with a proposal to collaborate on implementing the Apprenticeship Embedded Degree Programs (AEDPs) to enhance the higher education landscape. The collaboration aims to integrate skill enhancement initiatives as part of the National Education Policy 2020 implementation in Maharashtra.

Both parties share a common goal of expanding public good and strengthening higher education in the state.

NOW THEREFORE BOTH THE PARTIES DO HEREBY AGREE TO HAVE THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) APPLICABLE FROM **11th MARCH, 2024** FOR A PERIOD OF **THREE YEARS** AS PER THE DETAILS BELOW:

1. Project outline:

- 1.1. The National Initiative for Skill Integrated Higher Education (NISHE) aims to professionalize general education by introducing high-order skills in higher education through the design of degree courses in collaboration with Industry and Sector Skill Councils. These courses will be introduced in the Universities and Colleges selected by the State Government.
- 1.2. Apprenticeship of at least one year is embedded in the curriculum, and students enrolled in the courses will be able to earn-while-they-learn.
- 1.3. At the end of the 3 year (or 4-year) degree programme, all the students who enroll in this programme, will be placed or have the option to pursue higher education.

2. SCOPE:

- 2.1. The initial scope of this agreement requires CRISP to prepare a blueprint for improving employability in Maharashtra under the National Initiative for Skill Integrated Higher Education (NISHE).
- 2.2. Skill Embedded Courses will be designed in the following areas as per the potential of the State:

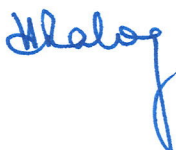


- i. Logistics
- ii. Retail management
- iii. IT & ITES
- iv. Banking Financial Services and Insurance (BFSI)
- v. Healthcare
- vi. Tourism & Hospitality
- vii. Electronics
- viii. Capital Goods
- ix. Life Sciences
- x. Fashion Design & Apparel
- xi. Gaming & Entertainment.

- 2.3. If a new Sector Skill Council is established, additional areas will be incorporated under this MoU
- 2.4. After approval by the State Government, CRISP will work with Sector Skill Councils, Universities, and Colleges to implement the project starting from the Academic Year 2024-25
- 2.5. Both parties will establish a quarterly and annual review mechanism to jointly review the progress made under this MoU

3. ROLES OF STAKEHOLDERS:

- 3.1. **CRISP:** CRISP will advise and assist the State Government in the implementation of this project; specifically, the following:
 - I. Presenting an annual action plan, backed by Industry and Sector Skill Councils, to the Government for approval.
 - II. CRISP will provide technical expertise and support, in designing and implementing skill enhancement programs, specifically, the Apprenticeship Embedded Degree Programs
 - III. Facilitating curriculum development in consultation with SSCs, Universities, and Colleges.
 - IV. Ensuring that the curriculum, as per UGC norms, is prepared and presented to the Universities for approval.
 - V. Organizing teacher training by the SSCs for the existing teachers in the selected colleges.



- VI. Ensuring that the SSCs provide apprenticeship opportunities to the students in the selected colleges.
- VII. Monitoring the courses with SSCs to achieve academic and professional outcomes.
- VIII. Facilitating the signing of MoUs between Selected Universities, Colleges, and Sector Skill Councils to start the mutually agreed Programs or courses.

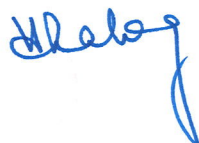
3.2. Department of Higher and Technical Education, Govt. of Maharashtra

will be responsible for facilitating CRISP for implementing the agreed action plans, and in this direction, would:

- I. Approve the action plan prepared by CRISP as per agreed timelines, and issue orders for project implementation.
- II. Select suitable Universities and colleges for project implementation.
- III. The Department will oversee the implementation of the action plan and conduct regular reviews to ensure its effectiveness. It will also monitor the progress of skill enhancement initiatives under this MoU.
- IV. Facilitate logistical arrangements for teacher training, which will be conducted by the SSCs under the overall supervision of CRISP.
- V. Appoint a Nodal Officer from the Department for the overall coordination of this project.
- VI. Provide logistic support for the CRISP team when they visit the State.

3.3. Selected Universities and Colleges for AEDPs:

- I. Signing MoUs with SSCs after the course selection and mutual agreement.
- II. Provide adequate classrooms, equipment, and resources for project implementation.
- III. Facilitating logistical arrangements for teacher training.
- IV. Appointing a Nodal Officer for project coordination and implementation.
- V. Conducting assessment of the curriculum along with the Sector Skill Councils and CRISP team and accord approval for the same
- VI. Share the data and details as needed in the action plan



- VII. Obtain approval of the selected Programs of Apprenticeship Embedded Degree Programs (AEDPs) and courses under this MoU from the academic council and governing bodies after modifications, as necessary.

4. COSTS OF IMPLEMENTATION:

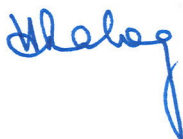
- 4.1. CRISP would undertake this project as a service to the State and the Society. The services of CRISP will come at a 'no cost' basis to the State Government.
- 4.2. Not only will CRISP work on this project at a 'no-cost basis, but it will also try to mobilize funds from outside tapping the donors/philanthropic agencies to cover the costs of training teachers, curriculum development, and monitoring of the project.

5. VALIDITY:

- 5.1. This MoU shall be valid for a period of three (3) years from the Date of signing.
- 5.2. The validity of this MoU may be extended by mutual agreement in writing and signed by both Parties. This MoU may be extended on the same terms and conditions, and/or with modifications on mutual consent.

6. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY:

- 6.1. Any and all intellectual property created in relation to or arising out of all project reports, case studies, and modules produced under this MoU will be jointly owned by the Parties with the contribution of each party towards individual components will be duly acknowledged.
- 6.2. There will be no restrictions on the use of the material jointly developed by either of the Parties for consulting/academic/research/capacity-building purposes. Except for rights expressly granted under this MoU, nothing in this MoU will function to transfer any of either Party's intellectual property rights to the other Party, and each Party will retain exclusive interest in, and

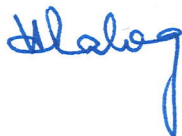


ownership of its intellectual property developed before this MoU or developed outside the scope of this MoU.

- 6.3. Despite anything to the contrary elsewhere contained in this MoU the intellectual property rights in all methodologies, processes, analysis and recommendations (including but not limited to any presentations made in respect thereof and/or related thereto) frameworks, know-how, and techniques.
- 6.4. Either Party may use the other Party's logo/ branding or any other intellectual property only after prior permission from the other Party.

7. MISCELLANEOUS:

- 7.1. **Indemnification:** Neither party shall be liable to the other for any special, indirect, or consequential damages for the acts done in good faith in pursuance of this MoU.
- 7.2. **Limitation of Liability:** In no event shall either of the parties of this MoU be liable to each other for consequential, indirect, special, incidental, or punitive loss, damage, or expense (including without limitation, loss of profits, loss of contracts, loss and corruption of data, loss or damage to reputation and/or goodwill, opportunity costs, etc.).
- 7.3. **Severability:** The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this MoU shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision of this MoU that shall continue in full force and effect except for any such invalid and unenforceable provision.
- 7.4. **Relationship between the Parties:** This MoU shall not constitute the appointment of either Party as the legal representative or agent of the other Party. This MoU is on a principal-to-principal basis between the Parties hereto. Further, nothing herein shall be construed to entitle either party to be a representative, agent, partner or joint venture of the other. No Party to this MoU shall have any right or authority to assume, create or incur any liability or any obligation of any kind, express or implied, against or in the name of or on behalf of the other Party to this MoU except as may be specifically.



7.5. **Provisions for Modifications:** The Parties agree to make suitable amendments, and modifications to this MoU by mutual agreement as per necessity, provided that no modification, amendment, or variation of any provision of this MoU shall be effective unless the same has been approved in writing by each of the Parties. Any reference to this MoU shall be construed as a reference to such MoU, as the same may from time to time be amended, varied, modified, or supplemented.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties agree to be bound by the terms and conditions of this MoU and have signed it through their authorized representative on **11th March, 2024** .

**For Department of Higher and Technical
Education, Government of Maharashtra**



**Vikas Chandra Rastogi,
Principal Secretary**

**For Centre for Research in
Schemes and Policies**




**R. Subrahmanyam IAS (rtd),
Secretary**

In the Presence of:

Witness 1 

**Dr. Vinod Mohitekar
Name & Designation DTE, MS**

Witness 2


**(Asit Baniskar)
Name and Designation
Deputy Secy. HTED.**

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