

छत्तीसगढ़ CHHATTISGARH

U 700382

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING [MoU]

BETWEEN



NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION

AND

LIVELIHOOD SOCIETY

DANISH KUNJ, BHOPAL

AND



HEMCHAND YADAV VISHWAVIDYALAYA  
DURG, CHHATTISGARH



19 JAN 2026

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डॉ. एम. ए. शाहू  
 न्यायाधीशता  
 न्यायालय परिषद, वर्धा

79 JAN 2026

**DISTRICT TREASURY**  
**DURG (C.G.)**  
**01 DEC 2025**  
**Treasury Officer**  
**(C.G.)**



## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is entered on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_  
2025 (the Effective Date) at India.

### MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR RESEARCH, TRAINING, EXTENSION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

BETWEEN

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND LIVELIHOOD SOCIETY, DANISH  
KUNJ, BHOPAL

AND

HEMCHAND YADAV VISHWAVIDYALAYA, DURG, CHHATTISGARH

The MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (hereinafter referred to as MoU) is made between:

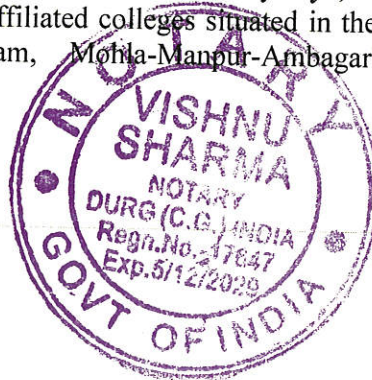
#### FIRST PARTY:

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND LIVELIHOOD SOCIETY** (hereinafter referred to as NRCLS; or the Society;), a registered society under the Madhya Pradesh Societies Registration Act, 1973 (Pramank 44 of 1973), having its registered office at A-302, Sagar Premium Tower Phase 2, Kolar Road, Danish Kunj, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh - 462042, India. The Society is registered vide Registration Number 01/01/03/40613/24 dated 15th March 2024.

**Mission & Vision of NRCLS:** The Society is committed to sustainable natural resource management, conservation of biodiversity, promotion of sustainable livelihoods, community development, environmental protection, and capacity building of rural and tribal communities. The Society works in the areas of natural resource conservation, livelihood enhancement, skill development, women empowerment, rural development, and environmental sustainability for the betterment of society and ecological balance.

#### SECOND PARTY:

**HEMCHAND YADAV VISHWAVIDYALAYA, DURG, CHHATTISGARH** (hereinafter referred to as HYV; or the University established by the Government of Chhattisgarh through Chhattisgarh Act No. 16 of 2015 - The Chhattisgarh Vishwavidyalaya (Sanshodhan) Adhiniyam, 2015, dated 24th April 2015, an Act further amending the Chhattisgarh Vishwavidyalaya Adhiniyam, 1973 (No. 22 of 1973). The University has come into existence after the division/bifurcation of existing Pt. Ravishankar Shukla Vishwavidyalaya, Raipur (C.G.). The jurisdiction of the University comprises 147 affiliated colleges situated in the districts of Durg, Bemetara, Balod, Rajnandgaon, Kabirdham, Mohla-Manpur-Ambagarh Chowki, and Khairagarh-Chhuikhadan-Gandai.



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(The First Party and Second Party are hereinafter individually referred to as Party; and collectively referred to as Parties;)

## OBJECTIVES OF THE AGREEMENT

The objectives of this MoU are to establish a framework for cooperation collaboration between Natural Resources Conservation and Livelihood Society Bhopal and Hemchand Yadav Vishwavidyalaya Durg in connection with Research & Innovation and Training & Capacity Building on the following: on the Overarching Goal and Specifics objectives:

**Overarching Goal:** To promote the sustainable management of natural resources while improving the livelihoods of communities dependent on them, with following Specifics objectives

### 1. Specifics objectives

#### A. Conservation Focused:

- ✓ **Protecting Biodiversity:** Conserve and restore critical habitats for endangered species and promote biodiversity within targeted ecosystems. This could involve establishing protected areas, reforestation projects, or combating invasive species.
- ✓ **Sustainable Resource Management:** Promote sustainable practices in the use of natural resources such as water, forests, and land. This might include implementing water conservation strategies, promoting sustainable agriculture, or supporting community-based forest management.
- ✓ **Combating Climate Change:** Mitigate the impacts of climate change through initiatives like promoting renewable energy, reducing deforestation, and building community resilience to climate-related disasters.
- ✓ **Environmental Education and Awareness:** Raise public awareness about the importance of natural resource conservation and sustainable livelihoods through educational programs, workshops, and community outreach.

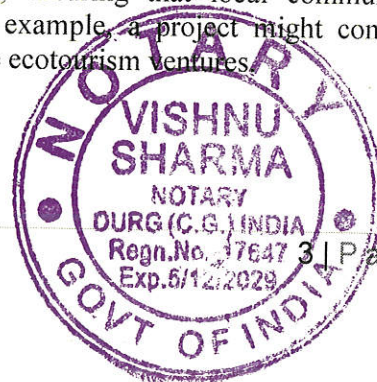
#### B. Livelihood Focused:

- ✓ **Empowering Local Communities:** Strengthen the capacity of local communities to manage their natural resources sustainably and improve their livelihoods. This could involve training programs, providing access to resources, and facilitating community participation in decision-making processes.
- ✓ **Promoting Sustainable Livelihoods:** Develop and promote alternative livelihood opportunities that are environmentally sustainable and economically viable. Examples include ecotourism, sustainable agriculture, and non-timber forest product development.
- ✓ **Improving Access to Resources:** Facilitate access to essential resources such as land, water, and credit for marginalized communities, particularly women and indigenous groups.
- ✓ **Market Development:** Support local communities in accessing markets for their sustainably produced goods and services, ensuring fair prices and promoting sustainable economic development.

#### C. Combined Conservation and Livelihood:

- ✓ **Integrated Conservation and Development:** Implement integrated projects that link conservation efforts with livelihood development, ensuring that local communities benefit directly from conservation activities. For example, a project might combine forest protection with the development of sustainable ecotourism ventures.

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- ✓ **Advocacy and Policy Influence:** Advocate for policies that support natural resource conservation and sustainable livelihoods at local, regional, and national levels. This could involve working with government agencies, policymakers, and other stakeholders.
- ✓ **Research and Knowledge Sharing:** Conduct research on best practices in natural resource management and sustainable livelihoods and share this knowledge with communities, policymakers, and other organizations.

## **2. Extension and Community Outreach**

To undertake extension activities, community development programs, awareness campaigns, and field-based interventions for sustainable development and social transformation.

## **3. Academic and Professional Exchange**

To facilitate exchange of students, faculty, researchers, and professionals; promote joint publications, seminars, workshops, and conferences; and share academic resources and expertise.

# **AREAS OF COOPERATION**

The Parties agree to cooperate in the following specific areas (but not limited to):

## **I. Environmental Sciences and Natural Resource Management**

- Biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services
- Climate change risks and community resilience
- Water resource management and watershed development
- Forest ecology and sustainable forestry practices
- Soil conservation and land resource management
- Environmental impact assessment and monitoring

## **II. Sustainable Livelihoods and Rural Development**

- Livelihood diversification and income generation programs
- Skill development and vocational training
- Microenterprise development and self-help group promotion
- Non-Timber Forest Produce (NTFP) value chain development
- Agro-forestry and sustainable agriculture practices
- Rural entrepreneurship and market linkages

## **III. Community Development and Social Empowerment**

- Women empowerment and gender mainstreaming
- Tribal welfare and indigenous knowledge systems
- Community-based natural resource management
- Participatory rural appraisal and development planning
- Social mobilization and institution building

## **IV. Research and Documentation**

- Joint research projects and field studies



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- Baseline surveys and impact assessment studies
- Documentation of best practices and case studies
- Collaborative publications in research journals
- Knowledge management and dissemination

#### **V. Training and Capacity Building**

- Certificate and diploma programs in relevant fields
- Faculty development programs and workshops
- Student internships and field training
- Skill training for community members and practitioners
- Exposure visits and study tours

#### **VI. Extension and Outreach**

- Awareness campaigns on environmental issues
- Community-based programs and demonstrations
- Technology transfer and innovation dissemination
- Organization of seminars, workshops, and conferences
- Public lectures and expert talks

### **MODALITIES OF COOPERATION**

The Parties shall implement this MoU through the following modalities:

#### **1. Joint Research Projects**

The Parties may collaborate on research projects of mutual interest. Faculty members, researchers, and students from both institutions may participate in joint research activities. The terms of each research project, including funding, intellectual property rights, and publication rights, shall be governed by separate project-specific agreements.

#### **2. Training Programs**

NRCLS and HYV shall jointly design and conduct training programs, workshops, certificate courses, and diploma programs. The University may provide academic inputs, faculty support, and certification, while NRCLS may provide field expertise, logistics, and community interface. The detailed terms shall be worked out for each program separately.

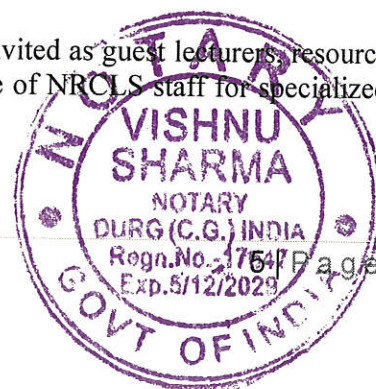
#### **3. Student Internships and Field Work**

HYV students pursuing undergraduate, postgraduate, M.Phil., or Ph.D. programs may undertake internships, project work, dissertations, or field research at NRCLS project sites or partner locations. NRCLS shall facilitate field access, provide necessary guidance, and support student learning. Such arrangements shall be formalized through separate letters or agreements for each batch or project.

#### **4. Faculty Exchange and Resource Sharing**

Faculty members and experts from both organizations may be invited as guest lecturers, resource persons, or visiting faculty. HYV may utilize the field expertise of NRCLS staff for specialized

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courses, while NRCLS may engage HYV faculty for academic inputs in its programs. Such arrangements shall be mutually agreed upon in advance.

#### **5. Seminars, Workshops, and Conferences**

The Parties may jointly organize or co-sponsor seminars, workshops, conferences, and symposia on topics of mutual interest. The responsibilities, costs, and benefits shall be shared as per mutual agreement for each event.

#### **6. Publications and Knowledge Dissemination**

The Parties may collaborate on joint publications including research papers, books, manuals, policy briefs, case studies, and other knowledge products. Co-authorship and acknowledgment shall be based on the actual contribution of each party. All joint publications shall acknowledge both institutions.

#### **7. Grant Proposals and Funding**

The Parties may jointly apply for research grants, project funding, and other financial support from government agencies, international organizations, corporate social responsibility (CSR) programs, and other funding sources. The terms of collaboration for funded projects shall be defined in project-specific agreements.

### **ARTICLE 1: TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

#### **1.1 Duration and Validity**

This MoU shall become effective from the date it is signed by both Parties and shall remain valid for a period of FIVE (5) YEARS from the date of signing. The MoU may be renewed for further periods by mutual written consent before the expiry date. Either Party may review the status and progress of the MoU at any time and propose modifications as deemed necessary.

#### **1.2 Amendment and Modification**

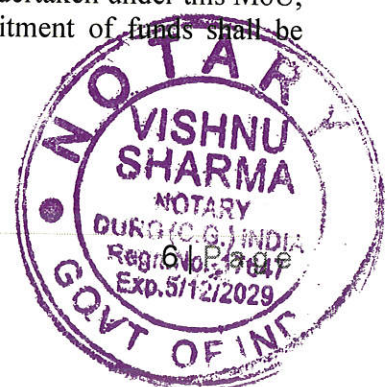
No amendment or modification of this MoU shall be valid unless the same is made in writing, signed by both Parties or their authorized representatives, and specifically stating the same to be an amendment of the MoU. The modifications/changes shall become part of the MoU and shall be effective from the date on which they are executed unless otherwise agreed in writing.

#### **1.3 Termination**

This MoU may be terminated by either Party by giving THREE (3) MONTHS on prior written notice to the other Party. Upon termination, any ongoing collaborative activity may be continued to completion with mutual agreement, or terminated as per the terms decided by both Parties. Termination of this MoU shall not affect the rights and obligations that have accrued prior to the date of termination.

#### **1.4 Financial Obligations**

This MoU does not impose any financial liability on either Party unless mutually agreed in writing in advance. Each Party shall bear its own costs for activities undertaken under this MoU, unless otherwise specified in project-specific agreements. No commitment of funds shall be implied under this agreement.



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### 1.5 Nodal Officers

Each Party shall designate a Nodal Officer for coordination and implementation of activities under this MoU. All official communications, activity proposals, and correspondence shall be routed through the designated Nodal Officers. The Nodal Officers shall:

- Coordinate all activities under this MoU
- Facilitate communication between the Parties
- Prepare annual work plans and reports
- Monitor implementation of collaborative activities
- Resolve operational issues through mutual consultation

The Nodal Officers are:

For NRCLS: Prof. Debashis Debnath  
Designation: President  
Contact: 9425009823

For HYV: Dr. Bhupendra Kuldeep.  
Designation: Registrar  
Contact: 9827153834

### 1.6 Use of Names and Logos

Neither Party shall use the name, logo, or trademark of the other Party for commercial purposes without prior written permission. Both Parties may acknowledge their partnership in academic, research, and extension publications, subject to prior mutual consent on the specific usage.

### 1.7 Non-Exclusivity

This MoU is non-exclusive. Both Parties are free to enter into similar agreements with other organizations. However, the Parties agree to give preferential consideration to each other for collaborative opportunities in areas covered by this MoU.

### 1.8 Academic and Research Purpose

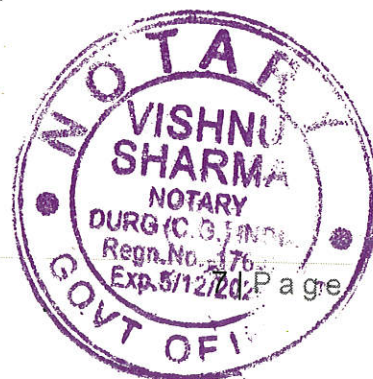
This MoU shall be used strictly for academic, research, training, and extension cooperation and shall not be used for any activity that may affect the reputation, neutrality, or statutory functioning of either Party.

## ARTICLE 2: INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

### 2.1 Joint Intellectual Property

All intellectual property rights arising from jointly conducted research, publications, training materials, or other academic activities under this MoU shall be jointly owned by both Parties unless otherwise agreed in writing. The terms of ownership, use, and commercialization of any intellectual property shall be defined in project-specific agreements.

### 2.2 Individual Contributions



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Intellectual property developed independently by either Party, or utilizing resources exclusively from one Party, shall remain the property of that Party. However, proper acknowledgment of support or collaboration, if any, shall be provided.

### **2.3 Pre-existing Intellectual Property**

All pre-existing intellectual property brought by either Party into collaborative activities shall remain the property of the contributing Party. Use of such pre-existing intellectual property by the other Party shall require prior written permission.

### **2.4 Publication Rights**

Both Parties agree to acknowledge each other's contribution in all joint publications, presentations, and knowledge products. Co-authorship shall be determined based on substantial intellectual contribution. Neither Party shall publish results from joint work without prior consent of the other Party.

## **ARTICLE 3: CONFIDENTIALITY**

### **3.1 Confidential Information**

Both Parties agree to maintain confidentiality of unpublished data, research findings, project proposals, financial information, or other sensitive information acquired during collaborative activities, unless:

- The information is already in the public domain
- The information is required to be disclosed by law
- Both Parties mutually agree to disclosure in writing
- The information is independently developed without use of confidential information

### **3.2 Duration of Confidentiality**

The obligation of confidentiality shall continue for a period of THREE (3) YEARS after the termination or expiry of this MoU, unless otherwise agreed in writing by both Parties.

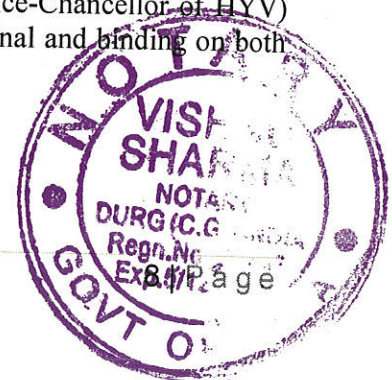
## **ARTICLE 4: DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

### **4.1 Amicable Settlement**

Any issues, disputes, or differences that are not addressed or stipulated in this MoU shall be discussed and resolved through negotiation in good faith between the designated Nodal Officers. Such resolution will be incorporated as written amendments to the MoU by mutual agreement between the two Parties.

### **4.2 Escalation**

If the Nodal Officers are unable to resolve any dispute, the matter shall be referred to the heads of both organizations (Managing Director/Chairman of NRCLS and Vice-Chancellor of HYV) for resolution. The decision arrived at by mutual consultation shall be final and binding on both Parties.



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#### **4.3 Arbitration**

In the event that any dispute remains unresolved through the above mechanisms, it shall be referred to arbitration by a sole arbitrator mutually appointed by both Parties. The arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, and the venue of arbitration shall be Bhopal or Durg, Chhattisgarh, as mutually decided.

#### **4.4 Jurisdiction**

All disputes arising out of or in connection with this MoU shall be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of courts in Durg, Chhattisgarh.

### **ARTICLE 5: GENERAL PROVISIONS**

#### **5.1 Good Faith**

Both Parties agree to implement this MoU in good faith and in the spirit of cooperation, maintaining the highest standards of academic integrity, professional ethics, and mutual respect.

#### **5.2 Compliance with Laws**

Both Parties shall comply with all applicable laws, regulations, and statutory requirements of the Government of India, State Governments, and regulatory bodies in implementing activities under this MoU.

#### **5.3 Annual Review**

The Parties agree to conduct an annual review of activities undertaken under this MoU, progress made, challenges faced, and plans for the next year. A joint annual report shall be prepared by the Nodal Officers and shared with both institutions.

#### **5.4 Force Majeure**

Neither Party shall be liable for failure or delay in performing its obligations under this MoU if such failure or delay is due to circumstances beyond its reasonable control, including but not limited to acts of God, natural disasters, pandemics, war, civil unrest, or government regulations. The affected Party shall promptly notify the other Party and make reasonable efforts to resume performance as soon as possible.

#### **5.5 Entire Agreement**

This MoU constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior negotiations, understandings, and agreements, whether oral or written, between the Parties.

#### **5.6 Severability**

If any provision of this MoU is held to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable, the validity, legality, and enforceability of the remaining provisions shall not be affected or impaired thereby.

#### **5.7 Counterparts**

This MoU may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original and all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

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## IN WITNESS WHEREOF

The Parties have executed this Memorandum of Understanding and represent that they have read, understood, and approve, accept, and agree to the terms contained herein. This MoU has been executed in two originals, one of which has been retained by the First Party and the other by the Second Party.

### FOR AND ON BEHALF OF NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND LIVELIHOOD SOCIETY

Signature: [Signature]

Name: Prof. Debashis Debnath

Designation: President

(Managing Director/Chairman)

Date: 19/01/2026

Place: Durg, Chhattisgarh

Seal: [Seal]

*Executive Signature  
Identify by Witness*

### WITNESSES:

#### WITNESS 1 (For NRCLS)

Signature: [Signature]

Name: Digvijay Kumar

Designation: Asstt. Registrar

Date: 19.01.2026

*Executive Signature  
Identify by Witness*

#### WITNESS 2 (For NRCLS)

Signature: [Signature]

Name: Dr. Satish Kumar Sen

Designation: Assistant Prof.

Date: 19/01/2026

### FOR AND ON BEHALF OF HEMCHAND YADAV VISHWAVIDYALAYA, DURG

Signature: [Signature]

Name: Dr. Bhupendra Kuldeep

Designation: Registrar

Hemchand Yadav Vishwavidyalaya, Durg

Date: 19/01/2026

Place: Durg, Chhattisgarh

Seal: [Seal]

*कुलसचिव  
हेमचंद यादव वि.वि.  
दुर्ग (छ.ग.)*



#### WITNESS 1 (For HYV)

Signature: [Signature]

Name: Dr. Rajmani Patel

Designation: Deputy Registrar, H.Y. Univ. Durg (C.G.)

Date: 19.01.2026

#### WITNESS 2 (For HYV)

Signature: [Signature]

Name: Dr. Rajesh Kumar Awasthy

Designation: PS to VC

Date: 19.01.2026

**ATTESTED**

**VISHNU SHARMA**  
NOTARY  
DURG (C.G.)

**19 JAN 2026**