



Memorandum of Understanding

between

ICAR - Indian Institute of Rice Research (IIRR), Hyderabad

and

Kaveri University, Gowraram, Siddipet

for facilitating

Students' Training/Postgraduate Research

This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as MoU) is made on this 14th day of the month of May in the year 2025 by and between the **ICAR-Indian Institute of Rice Research** (hereinafter referred to as **ICAR-IIRR, First Party**) having its Head Office at **Hyderabad** [hereinafter called First party], a constituent Research Institution of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi-110 001 on the ONE PART and the **Kaveri University** (hereinafter referred to as **KU, Second Party**), a **Multidisciplinary Education and Research University** having its headquarters at **Gowraram, Siddipet, Telangana, India** [hereinafter called Second party] on the OTHER PART (who for the purpose of this MoU are hereinafter collectively referred to as the parties).

The parties, having discussed fields of common research interests and allied activities between the two institutions, have decided to enter into long-term collaboration for promotion of students' training and quality postgraduate research in cutting edge areas in accordance with the provisions contained in the Guidelines issued vide Letter No. 2-8/2012- HRD dated 11th December, 2012 or as revised from time to time.

WHEREAS the "ICAR-IIRR" is involved in the studies on Genetics and Plant breeding, Biotechnology, Plant Pathology, Entomology, Plant Physiology, Seed Technology, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Agronomy, Soil Science, Agriculture Engineering, Economics and Extension.

AND WHEREAS the "KU", established vide Telangana State Private Universities (Establishment and Regulation) (Amendment) Act No. 11 of 2018 and Gazette Notification of amended Act No. 11 of 2024 dated 30th July, 2024 by Government of Telangana and recognized by University Grants Commission vide No.F.8-35/2024(CPP-I/PU) dated 23rd December, 2024 and is involved in agricultural education and research with specific emphasis on Crop Improvement, Seed Science & Technology, Biotechnology, Natural Resource Management, Crop Protection, Agriculture Engineering, Food Science & Technology, Emerging Technologies (AI, ML, IoT, Sensors, Robotics, Drones, Blockchain etc) relevant to agrifood systems, Integrated farming systems, Regenerative agriculture and Agriculture Economics etc.

AND WHEREAS it has been considered expedient to agree in writing to participate jointly in the


Signature


Signature

projects requiring expertise and logistics from both the parties.

Article 1. Scope of Collaborative Research and Academic Engagement

- 1.1 The Second Party agrees to recognize the **ICAR-IIRR, Hyderabad** as a collaborating institution for conducting research in fulfilment of thesis requirements for students enrolled in Postgraduate (P.G.) and Doctoral (Ph.D.) programmes.
- 1.2 The Second Party shall recognize eligible scientists of ICAR–Indian Institute of Rice Research (ICAR-IIRR), Hyderabad, as recommended by its Director, as approved research supervisors, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the University for guiding students pursuing the aforementioned degree programmes.
- 1.3 The operational modalities of the research collaboration shall be jointly determined through common research programmes and/or projects, strictly confined to the mandated and approved disciplines/divisions of the participating institutions. In the case of students from the Second Party who are not part of the National Agricultural Research System (NARS), the objectives of the research work shall, to the extent possible, be distinct and non-overlapping with existing internal research agendas.
- 1.4 Both the First Party and Second Party shall provide access to their respective research infrastructure, including instrumentation and library facilities, to faculty members and research scholars from the partnering institution. However, the cost of specific consumables required for research activities shall be borne by the respective institutions.
- 1.5 The parties agree to facilitate the exchange of students for academic, research, and training purposes. Hostel accommodation shall be arranged, subject to availability and as per prevailing rates. The duration and nature of such exchange visits shall be mutually decided by both parties.

Article 2. Governance and Implementation Mechanism

- 2.1 The Director of the First Party and the Vice-Chancellor of the Second Party shall be jointly responsible for formulating and overseeing the operational modalities of cooperation between the two institutions. They shall ensure the effective and timely implementation of the provisions outlined in this MoU through coordinated action and mutual consultation.
- 2.2 An Advisory Committee comprising representatives from both parties shall convene at least once annually, with meetings held alternately at the premises of the First Party and the Second Party. The purpose of the meeting shall be to review collaborative academic and research activities under this MoU. These meetings will include presentations on the progress and outcomes of joint initiatives and shall remain open to participation by students, faculty, and scientists from both institutions to promote transparency, engagement, and shared learning.

Article 3. Information Sharing and Dissemination

- 3.1 For the purposes of this MoU, the term “Information” shall encompass all scientific and technical data, research findings, methodologies, and any other relevant materials or knowledge that are intended to be provided, exchanged, or generated under joint project activities arising from this MoU.
- 3.2 Both parties agree to promote the widest possible dissemination of such information in the interest of advancing scientific knowledge and academic collaboration. Each party shall retain the right to use, disclose, publish, or otherwise disseminate information



Signature



Signature

generated through joint projects, subject to mutual acknowledgment and in accordance with applicable institutional, ethical, and legal guidelines.

Article 4. General Provisions

- 4.1 Both the First Party and the Second Party affirm their commitment to the principle of equal opportunity and non-discrimination. Neither party shall discriminate on the basis of race, gender, age, caste, religion, or any other legally protected category. These principles shall be upheld in all aspects of the administration and implementation of this MoU, including the selection and exchange of scholars or students.
- 4.2 The parties understand that any financial arrangements arising from collaborative activities under this MoU shall be negotiated separately on a case-by-case basis and shall be contingent upon the availability of funds and mutual consent.
- 4.3 The exchange of students between the First Party and the Second Party shall be subject to the availability of financial resources and compliance with the academic, administrative, and policy regulations of both institutions.
- 4.4 Research publications resulting from collaborative activities shall be jointly authored and published in accordance with the relevant provisions—specifically Item 3.2.1C—of the Guidelines governing student research conducted at ICAR institutions as part of their degree programmes.
- 4.5 Upon award of the degree, the Second Party shall ensure that a copy of the thesis/dissertation is submitted to the First Party for their academic records and institutional reference.
- 4.6 Any questions, concerns, or disputes arising from the implementation or interpretation of this MoU shall be resolved through mutual consultation. In the event of unresolved issues at the operational level, the matter shall be escalated to the respective senior officials of both parties. If necessary, a mutually agreed-upon arbitrator may be appointed to facilitate dispute resolution.
- 4.7 Any matters not explicitly addressed in this MoU shall be resolved by mutual agreement between the First Party and the Second Party as they arise.
- 4.8 This MoU shall not restrict or affect any other ongoing or future cooperative initiatives or collaborations between the two parties.

Article 5. Intellectual Property Rights

- 5.1 The Second Party shall be responsible for ensuring the protection of any Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) that are generated or are likely to be generated as a result of the student's research work conducted under this MoU. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), representing the First Party, shall be listed as the first applicant for any such intellectual property, with the Second Party recognized as a joint applicant. The concerned student(s) and participating scientific personnel from both parties shall be appropriately credited as inventor(s), breeder(s), or author(s), as applicable. The management, protection, commercialization, and benefit-sharing arrangements for the intellectual property so generated shall be governed by the ICAR Guidelines for Intellectual Property Management and Technology Transfer/Commercialization, as amended from time to time. Specific terms regarding the exploitation and benefit-sharing of such intellectual property shall be mutually determined on a case-by-case basis.

Article 6. Admission, Registration and Research Governance



Signature



Signature

- 6.1 All candidates seeking admission for training or enrolment in Master's or Doctoral programmes under this MoU must apply to the Second Party as the degree-awarding institution. The allocation of a Major Advisor/Guide shall be finalized prior to registration and shall be governed by the provisions outlined in Items 3.2.1A and 3.2.2A of the "Guidelines for Students to Conduct Research for Their Degree Programmes as Trainees at ICAR Institutions," as per ICAR Letter No. 2-8/2012-HRD dated 25th April 2014, or as per revised guidelines issued from time to time. These guidelines will apply to students both within and outside the National Agricultural Research System (NARS).
- 6.2 Admission of students, conduct of examinations, and the award of degrees shall be the sole responsibility of the Second Party and shall be in accordance with its established academic regulations and procedures.
- 6.3 Allocation of students to the First Party for research work shall be done with the joint approval of the Director of the First Party and the Vice-Chancellor or Head of the Second Party institution.
- 6.4 The First Party shall reserve the right to screen the academic eligibility of students nominated for research work, based on their academic background and research objectives.
- 6.5 The location and extent of research work to be conducted by the student at the First Party shall be jointly determined by the PME (Project Monitoring and Evaluation) Cell of the First Party in consultation with an authorized representative of the Second Party.
- 6.6 The number of students hosted at any given time by the First Party shall be subject to the availability of research infrastructure and the capacity of scientific staff to guide and supervise thesis research.
- 6.7 In the event that a student admitted for training or research at the First Party is found to be in violation of the Institute's rules and regulations, or engages in misconduct that tarnishes the image of the First Party or causes damage to its property, the student's registration shall be summarily terminated. In such cases, the Second Party shall withhold the issuance of certificates or completion formalities until the concerned student compensates the First Party for any damages or losses incurred.
- 6.8 The First Party shall levy fees from students as per the prevailing ICAR "Guidelines for Students to Conduct Research for Their Degree Programmes as Trainees at ICAR Institutions," or as amended from time to time. No fees shall be charged from students registered with Agricultural / Deemed Universities (AU/DU) within NARS. However, students from institutions outside NARS shall be required to pay a fee of ₹30,000 per semester (six months) for training and research. Any future revisions in the ICAR-approved fee structure shall be applicable from the effective date of notification and shall be implemented accordingly by the First Party.

Article 7. Duration, Review, Amendment and Termination

- 7.1 This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) shall become effective from the date of signature by both parties and shall remain valid for an initial period of three (3) years, extendable up to five (5) years by mutual consent. At the end of the initial or extended term, both parties shall jointly review the status of the MoU to assess its impact and consider any modifications or renewal as necessary. This MoU may be amended at any time by mutual written agreement



Signature



Signature

of both parties. It may also be terminated by either party at any time, provided that a written notice is submitted by the competent authority of the party initiating the termination. Such notice must be given at least six (6) months in advance of the proposed termination date.

7.2 Any collaborative activity or project initiated under this MoU but not completed at the time of its expiration or termination may, by mutual agreement, continue until completion under the terms and conditions set forth in this MoU.

7.3 No amendment or modification to this MoU shall be valid unless made in writing, duly signed by both parties or their authorized representatives, and expressly identified as an amendment to this MoU. Any such amendment shall become an integral part of this MoU and shall take effect from the date of execution, unless otherwise agreed upon in writing.

This MoU has been executed in two originals, with each party retaining one duly signed copy for their respective records.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned representatives of the First Party and the Second Party, being duly authorized, have signed this MoU as of the dates indicated below and thereby agree to the terms and conditions contained herein.

(Name and Address of the First Party)

DIRECTOR

ICAR – Indian Institute of Rice Research
Rajendranagar, Hyderabad – 500030

Name of the Director of the First Party

Dr. R.M. Sundaram

Phone No.: 040-24591216/217


Dated: 14th May, 2025

Email: director.iirr@icar.gov.in


Signature With Seal
Dr. Raman Meenakshi Sundaram
निदेशक/Director

भाकृअनुप-भारतीय चावल अनुसंधान संस्थान
ICAR-Indian Institute of Rice Research
राजेन्द्रनगर, हैदराबाद-500030
Signature of the First Party
Rajendranagar Hyderabad-500030 (TS)

Witness


21/5/25

(Name and Address of the First Party)

VICE CHANCELLOR

Kaveri University, Gowraram, Wargal,
Siddipet, Telangana – 502279

Name of the Vice Chancellor of the Second Party

Dr. V. Praveen Rao

Phone No.: 08454 – 211999

Dated: 14th May, 2025

Email: vc@kaveriuniversity.edu.in

Signature With Seal


Signature of the Second Party



Witness




Signature


Signature