



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
Between
The Ministry of Panchayati Raj
and
Institute of Rural Management, Anand



This MoU is made on this day **14th September 2022** at Institute of Rural Management, Anand

BETWEEN

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj, herein after referred to as **MoPR** having its address at 11th Floor, J.P. Building, 25, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, Connaught Place, New Delhi, Delhi - 110001 represented by **Shri. Sunil Kumar, Secretary - MoPR** as the first part.

AND

Institute of Rural Management, Anand hereby referred to as 'IRMA' having registered office at Anand, Gujarat - 388001 represented by **Dr. Umakant Dash, Director - IRMA**.

MoPR and IRMA shall individually be referred to as a '**Party**' and collectively as '**Parties**'.

About MoPR and IRMA:

- I. About MoPR:** The Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR), Government of India, to attain decentralized and participatory local self-government through Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) by empowerment, enablement, and accountability of PRIs to ensure inclusive development with social justice and efficient delivery of services. This Ministry was created on 27th May 2004. With the passage of 73rd Amendment Act of the Constitution, 1993, the division of powers and functions have been trickled down to Local Self-governments (*i.e.*, *Panchayat* at Village level). It has the primary objective of (i) overseeing the implementation of Part IX of the Constitution; (ii) implementation of Panchayats (Extension to the Schedule Areas (PESA) Act, 1996 in the Fifth Schedule areas and (iii) operationalizing District Planning Committees in terms of Article 243 ZD of Part IX-A of the Constitution. Since, most of the actions including the framing of laws rests with the State Governments, the Ministry strives to achieve its goals with regard to improvements in the functioning of Panchayats primarily through policy interventions, advocacy, capacity building, persuasion, and financial support.

The MoPR is the nodal ministry for Localization of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs) through 3-tier Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs). It has advised local self-governments on localizing and integrating SDGs in Panchayat Development Plans commonly known as Gram Panchayat Development Plans

(GPDP), Block Panchayat Development Plans (BPDP) and District Panchayat Development Plans (DPDP) and have prepared guidelines to support this integration.

- II. About IRMA:** Institute of Rural Management, Anand (IRMA) is a pioneering academic institution in rural management, education and research established with the mandate of contributing to the professional management of rural organizations. IRMA is focused on creating management professionals who can bring about sustainable, ecologically friendly, and equitable growth by applying their management acumen at the grassroots level and influencing the public policy narrative at the national and global levels.

Article 1

Objective

The aim of this MoU is primarily to establish a framework under which both the parties to collaborate in the area of Gram Panchayat Development Planning for Localization of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs) through Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs).

Article 2

Areas of Collaboration between MoPR and IRMA

- (a) IRMA will send the students under its Village Fieldwork Segment (VFS), which happens after the first classroom term for eight weeks (October to December) in the Gram Panchayats (GPs) identified by MoPR with the help of concerned State Governments. During VFS, students will get a deeper understanding and sensitivity to the concerns of rural communities as well as helps them in identifying inherent constraints and opportunities in development of GPDPs and its linkages of LSDGs. As a part of the VFS responsibility, IRMA students will help GPs in preparation of Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) integrating thematic approaches of LSDGs.
- (b) IRMA will also engage/attach students with MoPR during its Summer Internship Segment (SIS) that exposes students to the functioning of PRIs and gives them an

DL

DL

opportunity to apply, test, and polish the skills acquired in the classroom. During SIS, students will work under the advice/direction of MoPR.

- (c) The students/interns will submit periodical report from field at fortnightly basis to the nodal officer in the MoPR. A final report will be submitted by students/interns to the Divisional Heads (DH) of Capacity Building (CB) Division of MoPR. A presentation on the final report has to be made by the students/interns before the Divisional Head (DH) of CB Division, MoPR.
- (d) MoPR and IRMA would work together for finding gaps and possible solutions to overcome gaps in preparation of model GPDP linkages with LSDGs.
- (e) MoPR and IRMA will collaborate in bringing the 9 themes of LSDGs at the grassroots by linking with GPDP.
- (f) IRMA will provide inputs to MoPR based on field experience gathered by their students/interns as and when required for the policy interventions in LSDGs and other PRI related matters.

Article 3

Implementation

1. The Parties shall hold periodical consultations as deemed necessary for implementing this MoU.
2. The nodal officer for the collaboration shall be **Smt. Rekha Yadav, Joint Secretary**, and signatory from MoPR shall be **Shri. Sunil Kumar, Secretary**.
3. The nodal officer from IRMA shall be **Prof. Hippu Salk Kristle Nathan** and signatory from IRMA shall be **Dr. Umakant Dash, Director**.

Article 4

Financial Arrangements

No financial transaction will take place between both parties within the scope of this MoU. However, this MoU will not restrict IRMA to be engaged in their paid research services, which



can be utilized by MoPR at reasonable cost under various scheme/components of the Ministry based on the extant rules/guidelines.

Article 5

Intellectual Property Rights

By entering into this Agreement, the Parties undertake:

- (a) To respect each other's intellectual property.
- (b) All the information, data, report etc. collected by the students/interns of IRMA from the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in collaboration with MoPR will be the joint property of MoPR & IRMA. Any inference/analysis/research done on the basis of the data by IRMA will be shared with MoPR at 'No Cost' basis for greater dissemination of information with PRIs for better 3-tier Panchayat Development Planning across States.
- (c) Ensure the confidentiality of such intellectual property of the other within their respective organizations.

The Parties agree that neither of them shall gain by virtue of this Agreement any rights of ownership or any other interest, right or title of copyrights, patents, trade secrets, trademarks, or any other intellectual property rights owned by the other Party. Except as otherwise explicitly agreed to between the Parties in writing, any and all the works developed in the course of performing obligations pursuant to this MoU, will be shared with both parties.

Article 6

Settlement of Differences

Any differences arising out of the interpretation, application and implementation of this MoU shall be settled amicably through consultations and negotiations. In case of difference, the decision of Secretary, MoPR will be final.



Article 7

Amendment

This MoU can be reviewed or amended at any time by mutual written consent by the Parties. Such reviews or amendments shall enter into force on such date as maybe determined by the Parties and shall form an integral part of this MoU.

Article 8

Entry into Force, Duration, and Termination

1. This MoU shall enter into force on the date of its signing.
2. This MoU shall remain into force for a period of 4 (four) years or till the continuation of Revamped Rastriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) (2022-23 to 2025-26).
3. Either Party may terminate this MoU at any time by giving written notification at least three months prior to the intended date of termination.
4. The Termination of this MoU by either party shall not affect the validity and duration of any on-going programmes or activities made prior to the termination of this MoU until the completion of such programmes or activities.

Article 9

A. Nodal Authority:

From MoPR: **Smt. Rekha Yadav, Joint Secretary (JS), CB Division, MoPR.**

From IRMA: **Dr. Umakant Dash, Director - IRMA.**

B. Implementation and Action Plan:

MoPR and IRMA shall endeavour to finalize the details of implementation and action plan of collaborative efforts to execute the parts of this MoU.



C. Tenure of MoU:

The MoU shall be effective from the date of signing and same shall remain in effect for 4 (Four) years or till the continuation of Revamped RGSA scheme, whichever is earlier.

D. Dispute Resolution:

Any dispute aside due to misunderstanding in relation to terms & conditions of MoU to be resolved amicably by the executants of the MoU without resorting to the court of law and/or by Head of both parties. The decision of Secretary, MoPR for settlement of disputes arrived at shall be final and binding on both the parties. At the same time, utmost confidentiality to be maintained by both the parties during the validity of MoU.

E. Force Majeure:

Neither party shall be made responsible for an unexpected or uncontrollable event.

F. Confidentiality:

a) **Definition:** "Confidential Information" means any proprietary information, technical data, trade secrets or know-how, including, but not limited to, research, product plans, products, services, customers, customer lists, sale prospects, markets, software, developments, inventions, processes, formulas, technology, designs, drawings, engineering, hardware configuration information, marketing, finances or other business information disclosed by either of the parties whether in writing, orally or by drawings or inspection of parts or equipment.

(b) **Non-Use and Non-Disclosure:** Both the parties to this Agreement will not, during or subsequent to the term of this Agreement, use the Confidential Information for any purpose whatsoever other than the performance of the activities agreed hereunder or disclose either party's Confidential Information to any third party. It is understood that said Confidential Information shall remain the sole property of the respective parties. Both the parties further agree to take all reasonable precautions to prevent any unauthorized disclosure of such Confidential Information. Confidential Information does not include information which (i) is known to either of the parties at the time of disclosure as evidenced by written records,



(ii) has become publicly known and made generally available through no wrongful act of either of the parties, or (iii) has been rightfully received by either of them from a third party who is authorized to make such disclosure.

(c) **Third Party Confidential Information:** The parties recognize that they may receive from third parties their confidential or proprietary information subject to a duty on either part to maintain the confidentiality of such information and to use it only for certain limited purposes. Both the parties to this Agreement agree that they owe to the other and such third parties, during the term of this Agreement and thereafter, a duty to hold all such confidential or proprietary information in the strictest confidence and not to disclose it to any person, firm or corporation or to use it except as necessary for carrying out the activities consistent with the agreement with such third party.

(d) **Return of Materials:** Upon the termination of this Agreement, or upon earlier request made by either of the parties to this Agreement, the party to whom the request is made will deliver to the other all of the property or Confidential Information that it may have in possession or control, and which belongs to the other and destroy all records thereof, electronic, or otherwise, with it.

G. Miscellaneous:

- a. This MoU is a collaboration equal in merits and nothing in this Agreement should be construed as creating a partnership, agency, franchise, or joint venture, of any kind, between the Parties, and neither Party will have the right, power, or authority to obligate or bind the other in any manner whatsoever, without the other Party's prior written consent.
- b. In no event shall any party be liable for any special, incidental, indirect, consequential, or exemplary damages arising out of this engagement under this Agreement, including, without limitation, any costs, expenses, or liabilities incurred as a result of lost profits or revenues, loss of use of any software or any hardware, loss of any data, the cost of recovery of such data, or the cost of substitute software.




IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned being duly authorized hereto, have signed this MoU.

Signed at IRMA, Anand on in English/ Hindi/ foreign language.

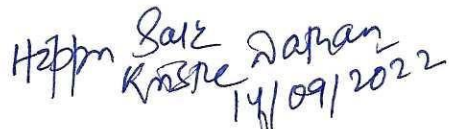
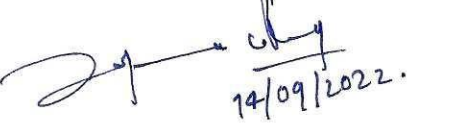
FOR AND ON BEHALF OF IRMA



FOR AND ON BEHALF OF MoPR


(Dr. Umakant Dash, Director)
Institute of Rural Management, Anand


(Shri. Sunil Kumar, Secretary)
The Ministry of Panchayati Raj

WITNESSES:

1. 
Hoppin Sairi Dahan
14/09/2022
2. 
14/09/2022.

1. 
2. 



INSTITUTE OF RURAL MANAGEMENT ANAND



**A PROPOSAL TO
THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

[Handwritten signature]


[Handwritten initials]

INTRODUCTION

The Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA) was founded by Dr. Verghese Kurien – fondly known as the father of the White Revolution in India – in 1979. His professional management and governance were the key contributors for the success of the White Revolution, and IRMA was set up to replicate these skills for the underserved sector. Doing so requires utmost commitment, perseverance and dedication. And IRMA's programmes have been designed in a manner that exemplifies these virtues.

PROGRAMMES

IRMA's journey started with the flagship Post Graduate Diploma in Management (Rural Management) – the **PGDM(RM)** – which is the two-year course that has given more than 3500 changemakers to the world as its alumni. The Fellowship Programme in Management (Rural Management) – the **FPM(RM)** – was introduced to stimulate academic and research work and develop scholars and teachers in the domain of Rural Management. The 15-month Post Graduate Diploma in Management (Rural Management-Executive) – the **PGDM(RM-X)** – was introduced specially for executives with work experience who want to upskill and take their careers to the next level.



The values and culture of IRMA are reflected in the pedagogy of our programmes. The Village Fieldwork component therein is crucial as it introduces the participants to the rural realities but more importantly, it makes them a part of the said realities. This exposure to the grassroots informs the IRMA graduates and they not only stand tall but also stand out from their peers elsewhere.

BROADENING THE HORIZON OF LEARNING

- The **Village Fieldwork Segment (VFS)** and the **Summer Internship Segment (SIS)** are unique and mandatory components of all the courses offered at IRMA
- They are parts of the **rural immersion**, and **corporate exposure** activities , respectively for the students
- Specific attention to rural economy, society and polity with management orientation and sensitizing development
- Students get the opportunity to develop a deeper understanding and sensitivity to the concerns of rural communities and enterprises
- A collaborative effort of faculty members, participating host organizations and students



VILLAGE FIELDWORK SEGMENT

The **Village Fieldwork Segment (VFS)** after the **first classroom term** is an extended period of exposure to the **rural economy, society and polity**. The **eight-week term** develops in the participants a deeper understanding and sensitivity to the concerns of rural communities as well as helps them in identifying inherent constraints and opportunities.

Student groups are attached to local host organisations and are placed in **villages across India**. The students execute small action-oriented tasks entrusted to them related to the host organization's area of work, known as the **Rural Action Component (RAC)**. They also participate in collaborative research work with faculty members from IRMA by way of detailed surveys and thematic research.

IRMA faculty closely interacts with students during this segment to guide and work with them in mapping their classroom learning to the ground realities and in developing their detailed **Village Development Reports (VDR)**. Students' learning is then evaluated on the basis of their presentations and discussions in the seminars and the VDRs submitted at the end of village fieldwork. The participants also receive constructive feedback from the host organizations and their faculty guides.

SUMMER INTERNSHIP SEGMENT

The **Summer Internship Segment (SIS)** exposes participants to the functioning of **organizations** and gives them an opportunity to apply, test, and polish the skills acquired in the classroom. Participants develop practical skills and gain a realistic idea of the **managerial functions** in organizations with a rural footprint. SIS helps participants develop the key abilities that they will need on the job: working effectively with others, thinking and acting positively, learning to manage people, and improving written and oral communication skills. SIS is also likely to help the participants bag pre-placement offers.

SALIENT FEATURES OF VILLAGE FIELD SEGMENT

- We have approximately 250 participants to be placed in VFS in approximately 80-100 groups (each group consisting of 2-4 members)
- The groups get attached with grassroots level organizations and placed in the villages where the organizations have already some footprints, i.e., rapport because of organizations' past work in those villages.
- We place the participants via these development organizations in the interest of safety of the participants in remote locations. So, we require our participants to experience the rural challenges while not compromising a lot on their safety and security.
- **No stipend/travelling cost etc. will be paid from MoPR** to the students/interns for this engagement
- The VFS is planned this calendar year (2022) between Mid-October to first week of December.

SALIENT FEATURES OF SUMMER INTERNSHIP SEGMENT

- We have approximately 250 participants to be placed in SIS. They need to work with organization given assignment (the assignments are given individually.)
- The organizations are typically government, non-government, corporate, and cooperatives.
- **No stipend/travelling cost etc. will be paid from MoPR** to the students/interns for this engagement.
- The SIS is planned this academic year (2021-22) between Mid-June to third week of August.