

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU)

Among

INFORMATION AND LIBRARY NETWORK CENTRE, Gandhinagar

&

**DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION (DHE),
GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH (CG)**

&

PANDIT SUNDARLAL SHARMA (OPEN) UNIVERSITY, Bilaspur, CG

For

INFLIBNET SERVICES

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is entered on 9th December 2025 by and among:

- (i) Information and Library Network Centre (herein referred to as “INFLIBNET”), an autonomous Inter University Centre of UGC, Govt of India is located at Gandhinagar, Gujarat- 382007
- (ii) Department of Higher Education, Government of Chhattisgarh (herein referred to as “DHE, CG”)
- (iii) PanditSundarlal Sharma (Open) University(herein referred to as “University”) Chhattisgarh.

DHE, Government of CG, University and INFLIBNET are referred to individually as “Party” and collectively as “Parties”. All parties have reached the following broad areas of cooperation & collaboration intent.

WHEREAS INFLIBNET Centre, an Inter-University Centre of the University Grants Commission of India under Ministry of Education, Govt. of India undertakes activities and services that include automation of academic libraries and information centers, providing access to subscribed and open access e-resources, e-content, ranking of institutions, development of web applications to facilitate scholarly communication and maintenance of bibliographic and non-bibliographic database, hosting of soft copies of PhD Theses, providing anti plagiarism tools (PDS) etc.;

AND WHEREAS DHE, Government of CG body tasked with providing education and setting up related framework and infrastructure across the State.

AND WHEREAS PanditSundarlal Sharma (Open) University Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur is a state university located in Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh, India. It is a state open university offering distance education.

INFLIBNET SERVICES

The MoU is made for the following INFLIBNET Services:

- i) IndCat
- ii) Library Automation (SOUL)
- iii) ONOS
- iv) INFED
- v) ShodhGanga
- vi) ShodhShuddhi (PDS)
- vii) Shodh-Chakra
- viii) ILMS
- ix) IRINS

1. Purpose of MoU

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) defines responsibilities, liabilities and commitments of the Universities, INFLIBNET and DHE (CG) involved to ensure proper implementation of the INFLIBNET services for its stakeholders.

2. Broader Roles and Responsibilities

2.1 INFORMATION AND LIBRARY NETWORK (INFLIBNET) CENTRE

The broader role and responsibility of INFLIBNET are as follows:

- 2.1.1 Shall provide access to its services;
- 2.1.2 Shall integrate new features / resources into web platforms from time to time;
- 2.1.3 Shall provide help manual / video tutorials for its stakeholders;
- 2.1.4 Shall provide one day orientation / training programme for the University's stakeholders (researchers / guides / other concern officials) on mutual consent;
- 2.1.5 Shall provide implementation monitoring system to DHE, Government of CG& University;
- 2.1.6 Shall provide Union catalogue of Chhattisgarh State (CGCat).
- 2.1.7 Shall provide handholding support to Education Department and Universities of CG throughout the Project.
- 2.1.8 Shall resolve all the technical queries and issues within timeframe.

2.2 University

The broader role and responsibility of University are as follows:

- 2.2.1 Shall register into INFLIBNET services;
- 2.2.2 Shall create profile of university including school/department/centre details;
- 2.2.3 Shall verify / approve the teachers / researchers' / guide details;
- 2.2.4 Shall nominate nodal officer for its implementation;
- 2.2.5 Shall encourage and ensure that all stakeholders participate in INFLIBNET services;
- 2.2.6 Shall not hold INFLIBNET Centre responsible for any errors and omissions contained in student, teachers, researchers and supervisors' data;

2.3 Department of Higher Education, Government of Chhattisgarh (DHE, CG)

The broader role and responsibility of DHE, Government of CG are as follows:

- 2.3.1 Shall arrange capacity building programmes for stakeholders;
- 2.3.2 Shall nominate state nodal officer for its implementation;
- 2.3.3 Shall maintain the implementation of monitoring system;
- 2.3.4 Shall sign MoU on behalf of all state public universities;
- 2.3.5 Shall provide copy of undertaking as mentioned in point no-2.
- 2.3.6 Shall encourage and ensure that all Universities participate in INFLIBNET services;

3. Service Based Roles and Responsibilities

i. IndCat

IndCat is an online Union Catalogue of Books, Theses and Serials of major university libraries in India. The IndCat contains bibliographic information, location and holdings of Books, Theses and Serials. It provides the records in standard bibliographic formats i.e. MARC, MARCXML, BibText. It covers all major subjects. A Web-based interface is designed to provide easy access to the merged catalogues. The IndCat is a major source of bibliographic information that can be used for Inter-Library Loan, Collections Development as well as for Copy Cataloguing and Retro-Conversion of bibliographic records.

IndCat: Roles and Responsibilities

INFLIBNET CENTRE

- Shall provide free online Union Catalogue of Books, Theses and Serials of major university/institute libraries in India;
- Shall serve a virtual catalogue of university libraries named CGCat;
- Shall support Inter-Library Loan feature;
- Shall provide orientation/training programme for the University's stakeholders regarding data contribution and the use of OCS on mutual consent;
- Nodal officer dashboard to manage the university profile for each university / institute with various features and functionalities;
- Shall provide help manual/video tutorials for its stakeholders;
- Shall ensure the data security;

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- Shall contribute the data into IndCat platform;
- Shall contribute the bibliographic records with mandatory fields i.e. Title, All Authors, Corporate Body, Meetings, Place, Publisher, Edition, Publication Year, ISBN, Physical Description, Series Statement, Language, Class Scheme Notation, Subject, Accession No. etc.;
- Shall use AACR-II and Library of Congress Subject Heading (LCSH) to make the data quality and uniformity;
- Shall use Authority files of Publisher, Subject and Author fields to avoid typographical errors;
- Shall nominate librarian to contribute the catalogue records;
- Shall access the features of the IndCat platform;
- Shall not hold INFLIBNET Centre responsible for any errors and omissions contained in researchers and supervisors' data;
- Shall register on Online Copy-catalogue System (OCS) platform, provided by INFLIBNET, and provide the data which gives simultaneous effect in local LMS database and IndCat Server.

ii. SOUL Software for University Libraries (SOUL)

Software for University Libraries (SOUL) is a state-of-the-art integrated library management software designed and developed by the INFLIBNET Centre based on requirements of college and university libraries. The software is compliant to international standards for bibliographic formats, networking and circulation protocols. The software is designed to automate all housekeeping operations in library. The software is suitable not only for the academic libraries, but also for all types and sizes of libraries, even school libraries. SOUL 3.0 is compliant to international standards such as MARC 21 bibliographic format, Unicode based Universal Character Sets for multilingual bibliographic records and NCIP 2.0 and SIP 2 based protocols for electronic surveillance and control.

SOUL: Roles and Responsibilities

INFLIBNET

- Shall provide online Demo on the request basis those who want to procure;
- Shall supply and install SOUL software based on the request;
- Shall provide SOUL Premium Membership for first year;
- Shall provide one week SOUL Training for two persons with accommodation and local hospitality at INFLIBNET Centre. TA/DA have to be borne by host's University;
- Shall provide software updates if any, will be provided for valid premium members as well as warranty period;
- Shall provide one onsite visit during first year for new users who have purchased full edition (if required);
- Shall provide data transfer from excel to SOUL up to 10000 records only one time for new users. Data should be in standard formats as suggested by the Centre;
- Shall provide members data transfer from excel to SOUL software for new users and data should be standard format as suggested by the Centre;
- Shall provide online troubleshooting during the warranty as well premium membership period

UNIVERSITY

- Host University / Institute should pay software charges based on the required edition and payment should be made through Demand Draft drawn on any Nationalized Bank, in favour of "INFLIBNET Centre" payable at Gandhinagar or online mode without any deduction of Bank Charges;
- In case of online payment, it is mandatory to intimate the UTR No. through email, for confirmation of the payment and to supply the software;
- Host University / Institute should pay the SOUL Premium Membership annually after one year warranty, if required;
- Expenses of TA on actual basis, accommodation and local hospitality of technical person from Centre, should be borne by the host's University / Institute during his/her onsite visit if required during the premium membership;

- The university would nominate two persons for one week SOUL training at INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar and should submit a brief report on this training to the State Nodal Officer.

iii. **One Nation One Subscription (ONOS) Scheme**

One Nation One Subscription (ONOS) scheme is an initiative of Govt of India to provide country-wide access to international high impact scholarly research articles and journal publications to students, faculty and researchers of all Higher Education Institutions managed by the central government and state governments and Research & Development Institutions of the central government. The scheme provides access to more than 13000 journals from 30 publishers to eligible Government institutions. The first phase of the scheme is approved three years for the subscription year 2025-2027.

ONOS: Roles and Responsibilities

INFLIBNET

- Maintain the ONOS website with search and browse interface for access to the e-journals subscribed under ONOS;
- Communicate with publishers for resolution of access problems;
- Sign license agreement for access to electronic resources subscribed under ONOS on behalf of member institutions;
- Organize awareness programme on access and use of e-resources;
- Measure impact of access to e-resources on research output in beneficiary institutions; and
- Present periodic report to the Ministry of Education/PSA Office on extent of usage of e-resources, and its impact on research output.

UNIVERSITY

- Designate a contact person from institute for coordination with INFLIBNET Centre
- Establish and Maintain required ICT Infrastructure for access to e-resources
- Promote the Use of E-resources Provided to institutions
- Provide support in enrolling eligible affiliated colleges
- Provide Institute Data (Research Output) For Evaluation
- Aware the users about the Terms & Conditions of subscription for individual e-resources and the General Terms and Fair Usage Guidelines will be available on the website.

iv. **INFED**

INDIAN Access Management Federation (INFED), the first Federation in India, has adopted Shibboleth, a standard-based open-source software, for authenticating authorized users from colleges and universities and provide them seamless access to e-resources from anywhere, anytime.

INFED: Roles and Responsibilities

INFLIBNET CENTRE

- Shall provide free technical support for installation of Shibboleth Identity Provider;
- Shall supports IdP and Open LDAP Administration and training;

- Shall help to integrate with existing authentication system;
- Conduct the special training of Single Sign on (SSO) and its benefit to the Nodal Officer and his/her supporting team.

UNIVERSITY

- Shall provide the server space for hosting of the Identity Provider;
- Coordinate with INFLIBNET Centre for setting up of Identity System;
- Create awareness about the INFED to the faculty members and Researchers;
- Generate report from the admin dashboard based on usage statistics.

v. ShodhGanga

Shodhganga is a digital repository in 2010, set up for submission of electronic theses and dissertations by students/research scholars in universities in India, and makes them available in open access to the worldwide academic community in response to the UGC Notification (Minimum Standards; Procedure for Award of M.Phil./PhD Degree, Regulation, 2009/2016) where-in the responsibility of maintaining the digital repository of Electronic Theses is assigned to the INFLIBNET Centre. The objective of the Shodhganga project is to provide seamless and free access to research outputs produced by Indian Universities. The Shodhganga interface provides information to the researchers, research supervisors and university authorities concerning ETDs including their responsibilities, access policies, submission process, metadata structure, a guideline for submission, tutorial, manual, etc.

Roles and Responsibilities (Attached as Appendix-I)

vi. ShodhShuddhi

The Ministry of Education, Govt. of India has initiated a programme "ShodhShuddhi" which provides access to Plagiarism Detection Software (PDS) to all universities/Institutions in India since Sept 1, 2019. 1000+ institutions are identified which includes Central Universities, State Universities, Deemed to be University, Private Universities, Centrally funded Technical Institutions(CFTIs), Inter University Centre (IUCs) of UGC. Under this initiative, a Web Based Plagiarism Detection Software (PDS) is being provided to all users of universities/Intuitions in the country.

ShodhShuddhi: Roles and Responsibilities

INFLIBNET CENTRE

- Provide access to PDS (Plagiarism Detection Software) to this University through 'ShodhShuddhi' programme, an initiative of MoE (under Central Grant), Govt. of India. Under this program, current/active Faculty Members and Research Scholars of the university will be given access to check their research documents for similarity.
- Conduct User Awareness/Training Programme on access/use of Plagiarism Detection Software/PDS under 'ShodhShuddhi' Programme for the benefit of the Research community.
- The document quota shall be allocated annually/periodically to the University based on the number of Research Scholars and Faculty Members submitted by the University in the 'ShodhShuddhi' portal/AISHE survey.

- INFLIBNET Centre does not take responsibility for the archiving or backing-up of loaded content. The University therefore, should also keep a backup of their article, doctoral theses and dissertations.
- INFLIBNET Centre reserves the right to stop the access to Universities, if any misuse or malpractice of the PDS software.

UNIVERSITY

- University shall adopt and implement the policy of the University Grants Commission (i.e. Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2018 or its subsequent circulars.
- University shall submit the current/active data of Faculty and Research scholars to the ShodhShuddhi portal every year.
- University shall use the assigned quota to check the documents like Ph.D. and Post-Doctoral research articles/theses of current/active Faculty Members and Research Scholars. Hence, neither Under-Graduate/Post-Graduate (Bachelor/Master) students are considered under this program nor to check any other documents which are not related to research.
- Nominate one Nodal officer for University Coordinator for the implementation of 'ShodhShuddhi' programme and agree to participate in the training programme conducted by INFLIBNET Centre either offline or online.
- The University will not hold INFLIBNET Centre responsible for any errors and omissions contained in the original research theses/documents checked in PDS by the member Universities/Institutes.
- The university will use the plagiarism software, provided by the INFLIBNET, ONLY for the PhD thesis purpose including research articles & synopsis not for the other documents such as assignment, conference papers, study materials, etc.
- The University will upload all the plagiarism reports of documents (theses) scanned under PDS.

vii. ShodhChakra

Shodh-Chakra is an initiative of Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET) Centre under the guidance of University Grants Commission (UGC) to help the academic community during their research life cycle. Shodh-Chakra provides a unique space to the researcher, guide/supervisor and university to manage the research lifecycle of a research scholar. The portal is integrated with millions of resources (including lakhs of full-text theses) along with the helping tools for the researchers which are required during the research work. It will provide the research trends of the country.

ShodhChakra: Roles and Responsibilities

INFLIBNET CENTRE

- Shall provide access to Shodh-Chakra platform;

- Shall integrate new features / resources into platform from time to time;
- Shall provide help manual / video tutorials for its stakeholders;
- Shall provide one day orientation / training programme for the University's stakeholders (researchers / guides / other concern officials) on mutual consent;
- Shall ensure the data security;
- Shall customise platform for university on mutual consent;
- Shall provide the softcopy of Shodh-Chakra material to be placed at "INFLIBNET Shodh-Chakra corner" of the Library by the University;

UNIVERSITY

- Shall register into Shodh-Chakra platform;
- Shall create profile of university including school/department details;
- Shall verify / approve the researchers' / guide details;
- Shall nominate nodal officer for its implementation;
- Shall access the features of the Shodh-Chakra platform;
- Shall encourage and ensure that every Research Scholar / Research Supervisor participate in said platform;
- Shall not hold INFLIBNET Centre responsible for any errors and omissions contained in researchers and supervisors' data;
- Shall follow UGC respective guidelines (time to time);
- Shall arrange capacity building programmes for stakeholders, if required;
- Shall create "INFLIBNET Shodh-Chakra corner" at library with dedicated terminals for researchers' awareness as well as enrolment for the self-paced course on Shodh-Chakra.

viii. INFLIBNET Learning Management Service (ILMS)

The Learning Management Service is one of the modes of learning which facilitate learners and teachers to execute the learning environment. The INFLIBNET Centre has been working as a facilitator for setting-up INFLIBNET Learning Management Service (ILMS) with pre-populated e-content developed under e-PG Pathshala and other available open access content with an aim to make all the e-content available to the academic and research community.

ILMS: Roles and Responsibilities

INFLIBNET CENTRE

- Shall implement / setting-up the ILMS using open-source software with functions and features that are expected in a modern day LMS on university server.
- Shall customize the ILMS (look & feel, theme, banner and logo);
- Shall integrate, on request basis, course content developed under e-PG Pathshala (700+ PG courses);
- Shall provide help manual / video tutorials for its stakeholders;
- Shall provide one day training on mutual consent;
- Shall provide hosting facility of ILMS on charge basis, if university is unable to provide the server;
- Shall provide self-paced course, in-built with ILMS, to the University.

UNIVERSITY

- Shall provide server, pre-requisite configuration, to set-up ILMS
- Shall obtain sub-domain name with "ILMS. university name"
- Shall create / enrol users and its management
- Shall create course content as per university requirement
- Shall keep regular back-up and hardware related responsibilities.
- Shall provide the locally developed content, on mutual consent, to INFLIBNET Centre to host on open access platform, developed by the INFLIBNET Centre.
- Shall not claim the ownership of the e-content as it developed under e-PG Pathshala and released under CC-BY-SA license that provides flexibility in accessing the content.
- Shall not hold the INFLIBNET Centre responsible for any ambiguity in the e-content made available in the ILMS.
- Shall request to provide hosting facility (charge basis) of ILMS to INFLIBNET in case of non-availability of server at University.

ix. Indian Research Information Network System (IRINS)

It is web-based Research Information Management (RIM) service developed by the INFLIBNET Centre. The portal facilitates the academic, R&D organisations and faculty members, scientists to collect, curate and showcase the scholarly communication activities and provide an opportunity to create the scholarly network. It has integrated with academic identities such as ORCID ID, ScopusID, Research ID, Microsoft Academic ID, and Google Scholar ID to ingest scholarly publications from various sources.

IRINS: Roles and Responsibilities

INFLIBNET

- Collect and curate all the faculty information including personal information, affiliation, educational qualification, honour & awards, academic identities, etc;
- Create a separate instance for all the participating institutes with department and University / Institute profile;
- Hosting IRINS with subdomain and regular update on the application;
- Nodal officer dashboard to manage the faculty profile for each University / Institute with various features and functionalities;
- Conduct user awareness programme to the faculty members and nodal officer to implementation of IRINS;

UNIVERSITY

- Shall provide all the faculty information in the prescribed format
- Coordinate with faculty members and INFLIBNET Centre on data collection and update;
- Responsible for the all the faculty profile information
- Create awareness about the IRINS to the faculty members

- Supports the faculty members to create the profile and update it as and when required
- Generate report from nodal officer dashboard based on publications, citations and social media metrics;
- Responsible for correctness of the faculty information and their scholarly communication activities;
- Shall allow INFLIBNET to provide the basic metadata of experts to regulatory bodies / government entities of the country as required by them.

4. RELATIONSHIP

This MoU between the INFLIBNET Centre and University on principle of Service Provider (INFLIBNET Centre) basis and nothing in this MoU shall constitute or deemed to constitute a partnership between any of the Parties hereto and none of them shall have any authority to bind the others in any way.

5. TERMINATION

Both parties will have rights to terminate this MoU at any time in case of breach of obligations and terms and conditions of the MoU. The MoU signed hereunder may be terminated by either party upon thirty (30) days prior written notice.

6. FORCE MAJEURE EVENT

Any failure or delay of a Party to perform any obligation under this MoU solely by reason of acts of God, government acts / restrictions, riots, wars, strikes, lockouts, fire, flood, power failures, or other causes beyond its control (a "Force Majeure Event") shall not be deemed to be a breach of this MoU provided, however, that the Party so prevented from complying shall continue to take all action within its power to comply as fully as possible with the provisions of this MoU. Performance of this MoU shall resume as soon as practicable after such Force Majeure Event has come to an end or has ceased to exist.

7. CORRESPONDENCE & NOTICES

All correspondence including Notices shall be served to the Nodal Officers appointed by the stakeholders provided in this MoU and such delivery shall deemed to have been served to the Users.

8. RESOLUTION OF THE DISPUTE OR DISAGREEMENT

- 8.1 The provisions of this MoU shall be governed by law of India in so far as it relates to the subject matter of the MoU.
- 8.2 In the event of disagreement or dispute in matters pertaining to the MoU shall be addressed through mutual discussion and agreement in the first instance. Instance of such dispute or disagreement shall be communicated to the other party through a written communication to the physical address/email of the other party.
- 8.3 All disputes arising between the parties as to the interpretation, operation, or effect of any clause in this MoU or any other difference arising between the parties, which cannot be mutually resolved, shall be decided as per the

provisions contained in THE ARBITRATION AND CONCILIATION ACT, 1996. The place of the arbitration shall be in Ahmedabad and shall be carried out in the English language.

- 8.4 In cases of ambiguity by interpretation of provisions of Clauses of MoU or where the MoU is silent regarding University, DHE, Government of CG& INFLIBNET would be final authority to decide on the issue for the University.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the Parties hereto executed this MoU on this date above mentioned.

INFLIBNET Centre



Prof Devika P Madalli

Director

Information and Library Network Centre
Gandhinagar- 382007

 University
09.12.2025
Vice Chancellor/Registrar

PanditSundarlal Sharma (Open) University
Birkona, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh 495009

Department of Higher Education, Government of Chhattisgarh


09.12.2025

Director / Secretary,

Department of Higher Education, Government of Chhattisgarh

Nomination Letter of Nodal Officer

Date: 09.12.2025

To,
The Director,
Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET) Centre,
Gandhinagar-382007,
Gujarat, India

Subject: Nomination of Nodal Officer for the 'INFLIBNET Services' for Pandit Sundarlal Sharma
(open) _____ University/Institute. Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh

Dr. Omprakash Patel "Librarian" has been nominated as Nodal Officer
for

coordinating and facilitating the INFLIBNET activities for University/Institute. The contact details of the officer are as under:


Name : Dr. Omprakash Patel

Designation : Librarian

Postal Address: Swami Vivekananda Library,
Pandit Sundarlal Sharma (open) University Chhattisgarh, Campus.
Koni - Birkona Road Bilaspur. (C.G.) - 495009

Phone No. : 9827993693, 6264568045

Email Id : library@pssou.ac.in


(Chandra Bhusan Mishra)
Name and Signature

Registrar/Vice-Chancellor

Pandit Sundarlal Sharma (Open) University
Birkona, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh 495009