MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

IIT MANDI

https://www.iitmandi.ac.in/

Indian Institute of Technology Mandi

Kamand, Himachal Pradesh(175005)

&

Jharkhand University of Technology (JUT), Ranchi

https://jutranchi.ac.in

Science & Technology Campus, Sirkha TOLI, Namkum, Ranchi, Jharkhand-834010

Date: 11/01/2026

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is made and executed on January 11, 2026

BY AND BETWEEN

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MANDI ("IIT Mandi"), a research and educational institution of national importance established under the Institute of Technology Act, 1961 enacted by the Parliament of the Republic of India through the Institute of Technology (Amendment) Act, 2012, having its office at Parashar Road, Tehsil Sadar, Near Kataula, Kamand, Himachal Pradesh — 175005, which expression shall unless repugnant to the context be deemed to include its successors and permitted assigns, represented through its authorized signatory Professor Laxmidhar Behera of the FIRST PART;

AND

Jharkhand University of Technology

Jharkhand University of Technology (JUT), Ranchi has been established by the Jharkhand University of Technology, ACT, 2011 (Jharkhand ACT 18, 2015). JUT located at Science and Technology campus, Sirkha Toli, Namkum, Ranchi, Jharkhand- 834010, hereinafter called the "Second Party" (which expression shall, unless repugnant to the context, include its successors and assignees of the Second Party). Jharkhand University of Technology (JUT) and IIT MANDI shall hereinafter be collectively referred to as the "**Parties**" and individually as a "**Party**".

WHEREAS:

A. The Indian Institute of Technology Mandi is one among the eighth newer second generation of IITs. IIT Mandi is a research university now located in Kamand Valley, Mandi city in Mandi district of Himachal Pradesh. The institute became an IIT under The Institutes of Technology (Amendment) Act, 2011, with the intention to expand the reach and to enhance the quality of technical education in the country. The Act was passed in the Lok Sabha on 24 March 2011 and by the Rajya Sabha on 30 April 2012. The vision of IIT Mandi is rooted in the creation and dissemination of knowledge through both individual excellence and collaborative effort for the greater benefit of society. The Institute is committed to imparting high-quality education that produces professionals capable of leading the development of innovative products and processes, with a special focus on the Himalayan region while contributing to the progress of the nation and humanity at large. IIT Mandi strives to inculcate a strong spirit of entrepreneurship and empower learners to design globally recognized solutions to societal and industrial challenges, particularly within the fragile Himalayan ecosystem. It also emphasizes the training of teachers who can inspire and nurture the next generation of engineers, scientists, and researchers. Through close and sustained engagement with industry, the Institute aims to advance education and research that result in cutting-edge, commercially viable technologies. All these efforts are carried out in an environment that upholds the highest respect for ability, merit, and excellence.

B. Jharkhand University of Technology (JUT) is an affiliating technical university having its territorial jurisdiction entire state of Jharkhand. Presently more than 65 colleges are affiliated to JUT and around 65K students are registered under various Diploma, Undergraduate, Postgraduate, and PhD Programs. This university is first university of the state which has successfully implemented NEP-2020 based course curriculum from academic year, 2023-24. Technology Business Incubator (TBI) in the name of JUT EKJUT is working to create an ecosystem of start-up, innovation & research. With a strong focus on experiential learning, global collaborations and modern infrastructure the university has rapidly built a reputation for its academic excellence
It has strong connects with esteemed industrial organizations & centrally funded institutions to exchange information on research and educational program.

C. The Parties have now decided to best utilize their capabilities and thus are desirous of collaborating for the purpose of mentoring and nurturing startup ecosystem, more specifically defined under the head Scope of Work ("**SOW**")/Deliverable, forming part of this MOU.

D. The Parties are desirous to work in consortium to get Anushandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) and RDI fund to promote research and development activities in their university.

E. NOW, in supersession of all understandings, verbal or written, the Parties are signing this MoU with the intent of summarizing the understanding of the Parties with regard to the SOW and the related principal terms.

F. SOW/Deliverables/Roles & Responsibilities of IIT MANDI and Jharkhand University of Technology (JUT)

(I) Jharkhand University of Technology (JUT) deliverables and responsibilities

a) Provide mentoring and advisory services to startups, ideators, and entrepreneurs.

b) Support the transition from concept to productization, and from product to monetization.

c) Offer strategic guidance to startups in various areas of development.

d) Startups selected through Jharkhand University of Technology (JUT) must sign a MoU for incubation with IIT Mandi Catalyst.

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e) Upon signing the MoU for IIT MANDI incubation program, startups will become eligible for participation after completing the general filtration process.

II. Responsibilities and Deliverables of IIT MANDI

a) Promote the benefits of **Jharkhand University of Technology** to startups under incubation.

b) Facilitate connections and forward linkages with other eligible startups within its network.

c) Appoint a Point of Contact (POC) to ensure seamless communication with recommended startups.

d) Actively promote relevant initiatives of **Jharkhand University of Technology** within its network

(iii). Point of Contact: Prof. Laxmidhar Behera, : Director, IIT Mandi Chairperson of Board of Directors of IIT Mandi Catalyst will be one-point contact, for the program on behalf of IIT MANDI and Mr. Snch Kumar, Director (Curriculum Development), JUT, Ranchi, Email- jutcurriculudirector@gmail.com, Mob- 9431383559 will be one-point contact, on behalf of **Jharkhand University of Technology**.

(iv). Usage of Logos & Branding: IIT MANDI and JHARKHAND UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY will host Logo and websites, event collaterals & other marketing material on its site as Partners.

(v). Jharkhand University of Technology shall not, under any circumstances, seek, acquire, or hold any equity interest in any startups originating from IIT MANDI (Without any prior consent from IIT MANDI)

General Terms and Conditions:

1. **Time Frame & Termination:** The MOU shall remain valid for the period of **12 months** from the Execution Date, unless otherwise extended mutually. The MOU can be terminated by either Party by giving **one month's written** notice to the other Party. In the event of such termination, the Parties shall be responsible to perform their respective incomplete obligations/Deliverables agreed under this MOU.

2. **Financial Clause**: Neither Party shall be entitled to any consideration, monetary or otherwise, from the other, unless expressly agreed upon by the Parties by mutual, written understanding to this effect and the same shall form a part of this MOU as Addendum for joint initiatives and program taken by parties.

3. This MOU constitutes the whole agreement between the Parties relating to the subject matter hereof and supersedes any prior agreements or understandings relating to such subject matter.

4. **Confidential Information:**

   a) The term "CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION" shall mean: (i) any and all information which is disclosed by either party ("OWNER") to the other ("RECIPIENT") verbally, electronically, visually, or in a written or other tangible or intangible form which is either identified or should be reasonably understood to be confidential or proprietary; and (ii) the terms, including without limitation, any proposals or other documents that preceded this MOU. Confidential Information may include, but not be limited to, business strategies, trade secrets, Intellectual Property,

computer programs, software, documentation, formulas, data, product, inventions, innovations, techniques, marketing plans, strategies, forecasts, client lists, investors list, entrepreneurs list, employee information, financial information, confidential information Concerning Owner's business or organization or any part thereof.

b) Each party, in relation to the Confidential Information, therefore agrees to:

i. Not disclose such information to any person other than those employees or advisors who need to know and shall ensure that such persons shall observe these provisions and maintain the confidentiality of such information.
ii. Use any such information only for the purpose of implementing the content of this MOU and execution of the session(s).
iii. Preserve such information that is in written form, so that it and any copies made of it, can be returned to the disclosing Party upon demand by that Party, having given notice of 2 (two) days.
iv. All records and papers containing any information shall be and remain the property of the Owner of such information and upon the expiry of term of this MOU shall be destroyed, preserved or returned in accordance to the directions of the owner.
v. Except for any communication given in compliance of any statutory requirement (the notice of which should be provided to the other Party), both Parties shall discuss and agree on the content of communication relating to this MOU.

5. **Publicity, Media and Official Enquiries**: The Parties undertake not to make any press announcement or publicize the MOU or any part thereof in any way, except with their prior discussions and written consent thereof.

6. **Intellectual Property:**

a) "**Intellectual Property**" means all or any of the following: -

i. Trademarks of which either Party or Associated Companies/individuals is/are the registered proprietor or registered user in India or in any other country outside India and which are applied to any aspect of the business of any Party and applications for registration of any such marks. Further the expression "Trade Marks" shall also refer to such of the foregoing trademarks that the Parties had been permitted to access under this MOU.
ii. Patents of which Parties or Associated Companies or individuals or members is/are the patentee or licensee and/or which relate to the business of either Party or otherwise.
iii. Know-how, being technical and other information or experience, business processes or client/investor/members/customer base or trade secrets devised, developed or acquired by Parties or Associated Companies or individuals/investors/members and applied in the business of either Party in terms of this MOU;
iv. Copyrights held by either Party or their Associated Companies or individuals/investors/members in any written material, plans, designs or other work relating to the business of Parties;
v. Designs, whether or not registered or protected by copyright, devised developed or acquired by Parties or their Associated Companies or individuals/investors/members and applied in the business of either Party in terms of this MOU; and
vi. Any other intellectual property rights owned by or vested in either Party or their Associated Companies or individuals/investors/members, whether now or in the future.

b) All Intellectual Property rights in all works, supplies, modules provided under this MOU which are written or produced on a bespoke or customised basis, including, without limitation, all future rights shall be owned by the respective Party and cannot be used by the other Party for

any purpose other than the purposes of this MOU without the prior written consent of the relevant Party. It is expressly agreed and clarified that each Party shall retain all right, title and interest in their respective trademarks, logos, trade names, identifying slogans or similar intellectual property and that nothing contained in this MOU shall imply any transfer of the ownership in and to the intellectual property owned by either Party to the other Party, in any manner whatsoever.

7. **Arbitration and Legal:**
   i. All disputes, differences and/or claims arising out of this MOU shall be resolved by mutual discussions between the Parties and by the decision of the heads of management of each Party. In case the Parties are unable to arrive at a mutually accepted decision, the dispute, difference and/or claim shall be settled by arbitration in accordance with the provisions of Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 or any statutory amendment thereof.
   ii. This MOU shall in all respects be governed and interpreted by, and construed in accordance with the laws of India, and shall be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of UTTAR PRADESH.
   iii. This MOU is being executed between the Parties on a principal-to-principal basis and each Party to this MOU is responsible for its own liabilities.
   iv. Any variation of the terms of this MoU is valid only if it is in writing and signed by both Parties.
8. The parties' obligations under clause 2 [Termination], clause 5 [CONFIDENTIALITY OBLIGATIONS], and 7 [INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS], and the clause(s) of the like nature will survive the termination of this MOU.
9. Any notice required or permitted to be given under this MOU shall be in writing, by hand delivery, commercial overnight courier, or registered or certified mail, to the address stated below, and shall be deemed duly given upon receipt, or if by registered or certified mail, three (3) business days following deposit in the mail. The parties hereto may from time to time designate in writing other addresses expressly for the purpose of receipt of notice hereunder.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this MOU by their duly authorized representatives on the date first set forth above.

For and on behalf of **IIT MANDI** Name: Prof. Laxmidhar Behera Designation: Director, IIT Mandi Chairperson of Board of Directors of IIT Mandi Catalyst	For and on behalf of **JHARKHAND UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY** Name: Prof. Sneh Kumar Designation: Director (Curriculum Development)
Witnesses: 1. _____	Witnesses: 1. _____