BAOU Education for All | Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University (Established by Government of Gujarat)

TATA IIS
TATA INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SKILLS

Memorandum of Understanding

Between

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University

And

Tata Indian Institute of Skills

This Memorandum of Understanding is entered on 6th May, 2026

Between

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University (BAOU), situated in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, Bharat, was founded in 1994 through a legislative act passed by the Government of Gujarat. Upholding its core vision of "Education for All," the university remains committed to delivering inclusive education.

In 2023, BAOU was officially brought under the framework of the **Gujarat Public Universities Act** following approval by the Hon'ble Governor of Gujarat on 25th September 2023. The university operates from its modern headquarters, the **'Jyotirmay Parisar'**, located in Ahmedabad. Its extensive reach is reflected through **Nine Regional Centres** and over **300+ Learner Support Centres** across Gujarat.

As the sole Open University in the state, BAOU has played a vital role in advancing higher education, enrolling more than **3.5 lakh learners** over the past three years. Its accessible and flexible academic structure removes traditional barriers of age, geography, and time, offering more than **111 academic programmes**, including Ph.D., Postgraduate, Undergraduate, Diploma, and Certificate programmes.

The university has earned **A++ accreditation** from the **National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC)** in its very first cycle, with a remarkable **CGPA of 3.55 on a 4-point scale**. This makes BAOU the **first and only university in Gujarat**, and the **only State Open University in India**, to achieve such a distinction.

Further, BAOU has been recognized as a **Category-I institution** under the **UGC (Categorization of Universities for Grant of Graded Autonomy) Regulations, 2018**. It is authorized by the **University Grants Commission (UGC)** to offer programmes through both **Online** and **Open and Distance Learning (ODL)** modes.

The university has also been granted **12B status** under the **UGC Act, 1956**, highlighting its excellence in academic and research activities.

The university has been recognised as Awarding Body Dual Category (AB-Dual) by NCVET under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India.

BAOU has been awarded with the 'Excellence in Institutional Social Responsibility' Award by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University is a premier open university committed to providing inclusive and equitable access to higher education through innovative teaching-learning processes and technology-enabled delivery modes. It aims to empower marginalized communities and expand opportunities for lifelong learning.

And

TATA Indian Institute of Skills, hereinafter referred to as **TATA IIS** a Section 8 Company incorporated under the Companies Act 2013 (CIN: U93000MH2020NPL338639), having its registered office at Mulla House, 3rd floor, 51 Mahatma Gandhi Road, Fort, Mumbai 400001, Maharashtra represented by (Ms. Nidhi Goyal, COO Tata IIS), on the other hand

BAOU and (Tata IIS), which now in this MoU shall be identified by their short names or "party" - individually and as "parties"- collectively agree to collaborate as per following terms.

1. The objectives of the MoU

The MoU is aimed to benefit students, faculty and staff of BAOU and its affiliated colleges by providing them access to opportunities for skilling in industry relevant courses. The parties agree to the establishment of seamless collaboration and robust communication channels between Tata IIS, BAOU and all BAOU affiliated colleges/institutes for ensuring the following deliverables: -

- Knowledge and resources sharing for enhancing course design and delivery methods for both parties.
- Creating awareness about Tata IIS courses amongst the BAOU students, faculty and other stakeholders.

- Identification of suitable candidates (students, alumni and faculty) who can be trained at Tata IIS and implementation of skilling programs.
- Integrating Tata IIS courses into the curriculum and calendar of BAOU to enable students and faculty to enhance their practical skills
- Collaboration on industry and research projects
- TOT programs for Tata IIS trainers.

2. Scope of the work/ key activities to be conducted.

The Parties shall;

2.1 Collaborate to establish connections with and disseminate information about Tata IIS to BAOU affiliated colleges and outside.

2.2 Co-organize events, workshops, and seminars at BAOU and its affiliated colleges to create awareness about industry trends in India and globally.

2.3 BAOU will emphasize the importance and relevance of Tata IIS courses to its students, faculty and alumni.

2.4 Co-facilitate and organize events and workshops to mobilize students.

2.5 BAOU will nominate their students and also students from their affiliated colleges for Tata IIS courses.

2.6 Jointly organize workshops and seminars aimed at enhancing course design and delivery.

2.7 Collaborate to design customized courses for improvement of hands-on skills in future technologies for students of BAOU and collaborate to integrate these courses into the academic calendar

2.8 Conduct joint Training of Trainers (TOT) and faculty development programs.

2.9 Collaborate on identifying potential centers/COEs for future training programs.

2.10 Independently Develop communication materials regarding courses and share with stakeholders after mutual consent.

2.11 Jointly explore and create awareness about potential scholarships, financial aid and other monetary support options available for pursuing programs offered by Tata IIS.

2.12 Tata IIS to implement a transparent admission process for students from affiliated colleges.

2.13 Both parties agree to display the other Party's logo on relevant platforms through prior mutual consent.

3. Mechanisms to implement MoU

3.1 To implement this MoU the parties shall identify the common areas of interest from (but not restricted to) the above-mentioned scope of the work and develop a plan of joint activities.

3.2 After joint consideration of proposals for each of the above areas of cooperation, the parties shall agree and approve plans for joint activities.

3.3 After signing the MoU, parties shall ensure that the collaboration remains active, and the activities defined in the above clauses shall be implemented soon.

3.4 After execution of each activity, the parties shall share the details of activities conducted in the form of brief report to each other for the record purpose.

4. Commercial

This initial MoU does not imply any financial or legal liabilities of the parties. In the event of, any possible financial implications, a separate agreement shall be signed between the parties as an extension of this MoU with.

5. Representations, Warranties and Undertakings

Each Party represents and warrants to the other Party as follows:

5.1 Such Party has the full corporate right, power and authority to enter into this MoU and to perform the acts required of it hereunder.

5.2 the execution of this MoU by such Party, and the performance by such Party of its obligations and duties hereunder, do not and will not violate any agreement to which such Party is a party or by which it is otherwise bound.

5.3 It shall comply with applicable union, state and local laws, ordinances, regulations and codes etc. in performing its obligations hereunder, including the procurement of licenses, permits and certificates and payment of taxes etc. where required.

5.4 This MoU shall not constitute any employer-employee relationship between the parties;

6. Tenure and validity of the MoU

6.1 The present Agreement will come in effect and enters into legal force on the date of its signing. The Agreement is valid for a period of **three (3) years** after date of signing.

6.2 This agreement can be terminated by parties with a notice period of **2 months** with valid reason.

6.3 In the event of a decision to terminate this Agreement, its provisions shall remain in legal force with respect to the ongoing projects and programs under this agreement until fully completed.

6.4 After the duration of this MoU, the parties may review the outcome of activities defined under this MoU and may renew the MoU on the mutual interest in writing.

7. Confidentiality

It is hereby agreed that neither party shall furnish to third party such confidential information, which include but not limited to the operation, publicity, profits, financial affairs, present or future plans or policies of either party or any other sensitive information without the consent of the other party.

8. Arbitration

In the event of any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this agreement, or a breach thereof, the parties hereto shall first attempt to settle the dispute by conciliation. If settlement is not reached within sixty days after service of a written demand for conciliation, any unresolved controversy or claim shall be settled by arbitration as per the provision of The Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996. The number of arbitrators shall be one as mutually decided by both the parties. The seat and venue of arbitration shall be Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

9. Intellectual Property and Branding

The parties herein acknowledge that all courses, material, models, and any other applicable details provided by either party in aiding the delivery of the collaborative activities are sole property of the providing partner. Any unauthorized use of material in any form or manner whatsoever shall be a breach of trust and in contravention of the Indian Copyright Act 1957 or any other relevant statues or law of Intellectual Property and may result in civil and/or criminal proceedings. This clause shall survive notwithstanding the expiry or termination of this MoU.

Either Party shall take prior requisite permission/approvals for using any logo and/ or name of the other Party prior its usage. Notwithstanding any other provision of the MoU, Branding shall be restricted to the obligations of either parties in relation this MoU. Neither party shall use the Brand name of other parties in activities and announcements outside the scope of this MoU. The parties shall have the right to use the Logos and Brand Name solely in pamphlets, Brochure that will be distributed at joint promotional events.

10. Final provisions

10.1 This Agreement is not exclusive and shall not restrict the Parties to sign similar or any other agreements or contracts with third parties.

10.2 This Agreement is made in two equals in English and in duplicate for each party All agreement copies are of equal legal force and take effect on the day of signing.

10.3 All changes and additions to this Agreement shall be made as an appendix in writing.

10.4 Each party shall indemnify and hold the other party harmless from all liability, loss, damage and cost arising out of any claims, demands, actions or other proceedings by third parties of any nature, to the extent the same arises out of **(i)** the breach of any covenant, agreement or obligation of the party contained in or contemplated by this Agreement, **(ii)** any representation or warranty of the party set forth in this Agreement having been untrue in any material respect when made, except to the extent in either **(i)** or **(ii)** above that such claim arises from the indemnified party's wilful misconduct or negligence.. Parties shall not assign this MoU without the prior written consent of other Party. All obligations of the Parties, which by their very nature survive the termination of this MoU, shall continue to exist and be binding upon the Parties after the expiry or termination of the MoU. Should any provision of this MoU be determined to be void, invalid

or otherwise unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, such determination shall not affect the remaining provisions of this MoU which shall remain in full force and effect. This MoU contains the entire understanding and agreement between the Parties with respect to the subject matter contained herein, and no waiver, alteration, modification or amendment of any of the provisions hereof shall be binding on the parties unless confirmed in writing and signed by the duly authorized representatives of each of the Parties. Failure to enforce any provision of this MoU shall not constitute a waiver of any such provision.

10.5 **Force Majeure:** No Party shall be liable to the other if, and to the extent, that the performance or delay in performance of any of its obligations under this Agreement is prevented, restricted, delayed or interfered with, due to circumstances beyond the reasonable control of such Party, including but not limited to, Government legislations, fires, storms, floods, explosions, epidemics, earthquakes, pandemics, accidents, acts of God, any other natural calamities, wars, riots, strikes, lockouts or other concerted acts of workmen, acts of Government. The Party claiming an event of force majeure shall promptly notify the other Party in writing and provide full particulars of the cause or event and the date of first occurrence thereof, as soon as possible after the event and also keep the other Party informed of any further developments. The Party so affected shall use its best efforts to remove the cause of non-performance and the Parties shall resume performance as soon as such cause is removed.

11. Coordination

Details of Coordinator from DR. BABASAHEB AMBEDKAR OPEN UNIVERSITY:

Name: Prof. Nileshkumar K Modi

Dept: Director, Centre for Internal Quality Assurance

Email: nilesh.modi@baou.edu.in

Phone number: +919978404044

Details of Coordinator from Tata IIS:

Name: Mr. Om Singh

Dept: Academic Collaboration

Email: om.singh@tataiis.org

Phone number: 9587097821

12. Addresses and identification of the Parties

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University Physical Address: Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University 'Jyotirmay' Parisar, S G Highway, Chharodi, Ahmedabad - 382481. Phone: +919978404044 Email: ciqa@baou.edu.in Website: hppts://baou.edu.in	Tata Indian Institute of Skills Physical Address: Indian Institute of Skills, Survey No: 654, Nasmed, Taluka Kalol, District Gandhinagar - 382721 Website: www.tataiis.org
Signatures	
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Dr. Bhavin Trivedi **Registrar (I/c.)** **Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University**	**Ms. Nidhi Goyal** **COO,** **TATA IIS**

I/C. Registrar
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University
Ahmedabad

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University * Ahmedabad *

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