Memorandum of Understanding

Academic and Research Collaboration
between
National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli, India
and
Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai, India

National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli and **Indian Institute of Technology Madras** have agreed to the following protocols, governing their collaboration on academic and research related activities:

Scope

The scope of collaboration on academic and research activities in this Memorandum of Understanding includes the following categories:

- Academic and Research collaboration in the areas of mutual interest.
- Exchange of academic information, scholarly information, materials, and publications.
- Exchange of students and faculty.
- Sponsorship of cooperative seminars, workshops, and other academic meetings.

Student Exchange

Pursuant to the agreement for academic exchange, National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli and Indian Institute of Technology Madras will exchange students according to the terms laid out in Annexure 1. It is desired by both parties that there will be a significant flow of students in both directions.

Research Collaboration

Faculty from both institutions will collaborate in the supervision of exchange students and in joint research in disciplines of mutual interest. All such joint research activities will be governed by the terms laid out in Annexure 2.

Admission of the top 10% of the students of National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli to direct PhD / MS by research program at IIT Madras (subjected to availability of seats at IITM)

National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli and IIT Madras agree to facilitate the top 10% of students **(subjected to availability of seats at IITM)**, at the end of 6th semester of National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli to seek admission to the direct PhD / MS by research program of IIT Madras, and enable successful candidates to pursue the 7th and 8th semesters of their BTech program at IIT Madras, according to the terms laid out in Annexure 3 and Annexure 4.

Commencement, renewal, termination, and amendment

This MOU will come into force upon affixing of the signatures of the representatives of the partner institutions and will remain in effect for five years. This MOU may be renewed upon its expiry, with the agreement of both partner institutions.

If either partner institution wishes to terminate the MOU at the end of the five years period, it must notify the other institution not less than six months prior to the expiry of the MOU.

Any dispute shall be resolved amicably through mutual discussions between the authorized representatives of the respective Parties.

This MOU or its renewal and the actions taken under it may be reviewed at any time. Modifications may be made by mutual agreement and any amendment or extension to the agreement may be formalized by the exchange of letters between the two parties.

Signed:

SIGNATURE:

Dr. G. Aghila
Director
**National   Institute   of
Technology   Tiruchirappalli,
India**

DATE: 12|02|2025

Signed:

SIGNATURE:

Prof. V. Kamakoti
Director
**Indian Institute of Technology
Madras
Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600036,
India**

DATE: **12/02/2025**

Annexure 1

1. The institution where the student is admitted to earn a degree is the home institution and the institution to which the student is sent as an exchange student is the host institution.

2. Students under the student exchange program will be classified as special exchange students. Special exchange students will be permitted to take courses on credit/audit, as well as participate in research activities/project work.

3. In any case, the consent of the teacher/project supervisors/research supervisors at the host institution is required. Such consent will take into account among other things whether the student has successfully completed the pre-requisites for the course/project.

4. The Host Institution of students enrolled in this exchange program shall not levy tuition fees. Home Institution may continue to levy fees as applicable.

5. Course credits and grades earned will be determined by the home institution based on the grade report from the host institution.

6. The number of students and time duration will be worked out on a case-by-case basis.

7. Participants may not spend more than one year normally in the exchange program.

8. Participants, when they are in the host institution, will be subject to the rules and regulations of the host institution.

Selection and nomination

The selection and nomination of students is open throughout the academic year. The student nomination should be accompanied by:

- Curriculum vitae, with an official grade card/mark sheet.
- Statement of aptitude from a member of the student's school/faculty.
- A specific outline of the program of study at the host institution and a statement of objectives of the student.

When a nomination is forwarded by the home institution, it is presumed that the sending institution considers the student suitable for the proposed program and consents to send the student if selected by the host institution.

The host institution will evaluate the nomination and determine their suitability for selection under the Student Exchange Program.

Where the exchange student is pursuing a research or implementation project as part of the B.Tech, M.Tech, M.A., MBA, M.S., M.Sc., or PhD (or equivalent) degree program, the host institution will provide a suitable faculty member to jointly mentor (along with the supervisor in the home institution) the exchange student in formulating the research project or jointly supervising the exchange student in the event that a research project has already been identified.

The host institution will inform the home institution of any academic or other problems that may arise during the period of the student's residence in the host institution. The host institution will take appropriate action under its established policy and procedures, in consultation with the home institution to deal with such problems.

Annexure 2

1. Proposals for collaborative research work under this Memorandum will be submitted with the prior approval of the Head of each institution, or their nominee.

2. Each institution will nominate one of its members as its representative in charge of the cooperative program. Individual programs of work under this Memorandum will be jointly planned and conducted by the nominees of both parties.

3. Progress of work of any individual program will be reviewed and approved by designated authorities of both parties.

4. The final approval of any project will depend on the availability of guaranteed support funds.

5. Neither National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli nor Indian Institute of Technology Madras will be held responsible for any liability to the other party, and neither party shall be required to purchase any insurance against loss or damage to any property due to activities to which this agreement relates.

Every collaboration will have its own agreement/contract that addresses issues such as IPR, funding pattern, disclosure of information, etc.

****

Annexure 3

Admission of the top 10% of BTech students of National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli **to Direct PhD program at IITM (subjected to availability at IITM)**

Extract of Senate Norms for top 10% of BTech students of National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli seeking admission to direct PhD program at IITM.

a) Top 10% of the B. Tech students from other Institutions (which agree to participate in the program) who are in their 3rd year, with a minimum CGPA of 8.0 and without backlog/failures, will be eligible to apply for the Direct PhD (subject to availability at IITM).

b) Selected students will move to IIT Madras in their 4th year.

c) Credits earned during the 7th and 8th semesters at IIT Madras shall have equivalence to the credit needed for the 4th year of the B. Tech program. The credits will be transferred to the student's home institution for the award of the BTech degree.

d) After successfully completing the 7th and 8th semesters with CGPA > 8.0 at IIT Madras, and being selected for admission to the direct PhD program, these students are eligible for HTRA for five years from the date of joining the Direct PhD program. Students from CFTIs having a CGPA of 8 and above, will be eligible for the award of HTRA without the requirement of GATE. Students admitted from non-CFTIs are required to qualify in GATE for becoming eligible for the award of HTRA.

e) The direct PhD students must complete the candidacy examination within 3 semesters after joining the direct PhD program of IIT Madras.

f) If a student earns a CGPA < 8.0 in the courses in the 7th and 8th semesters at IIT Madras, the student will be transferred back to the home institution along with credits earned.

g) If a student is not found fit to continue in the PhD program by their doctoral committee, they will be allowed to drop out any time after the 1st year of PhD, at which point the B. Tech credits will be transferred to the parent institute.

Specific Operational aspects agreed to by National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli and IITM

1. **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** will make an internal announcement to all the students who are in the top 10% of their class at the end of their 5th semester, with a minimum CGPA of 8.0 and without backlogs/failures, and encourage such students to apply for admission into a Direct PhD program at IIT Madras to those Department(s) in which they meet the eligibility norms for the regular PhD program **(will be subjected to**

availability at IITM), through the online portal between 1st March and 30th March every year.

2. **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** will encourage and recommend such students to opt for the summer fellowship of IITM at the end of their 6th semester.

3. **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** will forward the list of students who are within the top 10% of their class, with a minimum CGPA of 8.0 and without backlogs/failures, along with their contact details, to the Dean (Academic Research), IIT Madras soon after the 6th-semester results are declared.

4. IIT Madras will forward the list of selected students for summer fellowship to **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** and also inform the respective students.

5. Selected students of **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** will move to IIT Madras at the end of 6th Semester and undergo paid summer fellowship at IIT Madras. On successful completion of the summer fellowship and on a favorable recommendation of the Hosting faculty and approved by the Head of Department, they may be permitted to pursue their 7th and 8th semesters at IIT Madras.

6. **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** will permit these students (selected for direct PhD program based on availability at IITM) to pursue the final year of their B. Tech program (7th and 8th semester) at IIT Madras.

7. **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** will provide some flexibility in the curriculum for these students to facilitate them to complete the credits to be earned towards the award of the B Tech degree. Detailed planning of the courses to be taken at IIT Madras will be jointly decided by the faculty advisor of the student at **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** and the guide-designate at IIT Madras

8. These students should earn a minimum CGPA of 8.0 in 7th and 8th semester at IIT Madras, to become eligible to join in the direct PhD program. Otherwise, the student will be transferred back to **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** along with the credits earned.

9. These students are not eligible for campus placement through IIT Madras at the end of their first year, of study at IIT Madras, which will be the end of their 8th semester.

10. The student will pay the tuition fee to **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** during their 7th and 8th semesters. After joining as a direct PhD student, the student will pay the tuition fee appropriate for PhD scholars as per regulations of IIT Madras, to IIT Madras.

11. With the concurrence of the guide-designate at IITM and the Doctoral Committee, faculty members from **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** may serve as co-guides for these students, whenever possible IITM encourages such a practice, but the decision is left to the discretion of the Guide-designate.

12. These students shall come under the purview of the guidelines/regulations for the 7th and 8th semester BTech of **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** in their 7th and 8th semesters, and under the PhD ordinances and Regulations of IIT Madras once they join the direct PhD.

13. For candidates who fail to complete the candidacy examination, the option to convert to an MS program as per regulation R.21 in the PhD ordinances and regulations of IIT Madras, will be available.

14. If a student is not found fit to continue in the PhD program by their Doctoral Committee, they will be allowed to drop out any time after the 1st year of the direct PhD, at which point the 7th and 8th semester credits will be transferred to **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** for the award of B. Tech degree.

Admission of the top 10% of BTech students of National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli **to MS by research program at IITM (subjected to availability of seats at IITM)**

Extract of Senate Norms for top 10% of BTech students of National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli seeking admission to MS by research program at IITM.

a) Top 10% of the B. Tech students from other Institutions (which agree to participate in the program) who are in their 3rd year, with a minimum CGPA of 8.0 and without backlog/failures, will be eligible to apply for the MS by research (subject to availability at IITM).

b) Selected students will move to IIT Madras in their 4th year.

c) Credits earned during the 7th and 8th semesters at IIT Madras shall have equivalence to the credit needed for the 4th year of the B. Tech program. The credits will be transferred to the student's home institution for the award of the BTech degree.

d) After successfully completing the 7th and 8th semesters with CGPA > 8.0 at IIT Madras, and being selected for admission to the MS by research program, these students are eligible for HTRA for two and a half years from the date of joining the MS by research program. Students from CFTIs having a CGPA of 8 and above, will be eligible for the award of HTRA without the requirement of GATE.

e) If a student earns a CGPA < 8.0 in the courses in the 7th and 8th semesters at IIT Madras, the student will be transferred back to the home institution along with credits earned.

f) If a student is not found fit to continue in the MS by research program by their general test committee, they will be allowed to drop out any time after the 1st year of MS by research, at which point the B. Tech credits will be transferred to the parent institute.

Specific Operational aspects agreed to by National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli and IITM

1. **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** will make an internal announcement to all the students who are in the top 10% of their class at the end of their 5th semester, with a minimum CGPA of 8.0 and without backlogs/failures, and encourage such students to apply for admission into a MS by research program at IIT Madras to those Department(s) in which they meet the eligibility norms for the regular MS by research program**(will be**

subjected to availability at IITM), through the online portal between 1st March and 30th March every year.

2. **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** will encourage and recommend such students to opt for the summer fellowship of IITM at the end of their 6th semester.

3. **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** will forward the list of students who are within the top 10% of their class, with a minimum CGPA of 8.0 and without backlogs/failures, along with their contact details, to the Dean (Academic Research), IIT Madras soon after the 6th-semester results are declared.

4. IIT Madras will forward the list of selected students for summer fellowship to **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** and also inform the respective students.

5. Selected students of **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** will move to IIT Madras at the end of 6th Semester and undergo paid summer fellowship at IIT Madras. On successful completion of the summer fellowship and on a favorable recommendation of the Hosting faculty and approved by the Head of Department, they may be permitted to pursue their 7th and 8th semesters at IIT Madras.

6. **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** will permit these students (selected for MS by research program based on availability at IITM) to pursue the final year of their B. Tech program (7th and 8th semester) at IIT Madras.

7. **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** will provide some flexibility in the curriculum for these students to facilitate them to complete the credits to be earned towards the award of the B Tech degree. Detailed planning of the courses to be taken at IIT Madras will be jointly decided by the faculty advisor of the student at **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** and the guide-designate at IIT Madras

8. These students should earn a minimum CGPA of 8.0 in 7th and 8th semester at IIT Madras, to become eligible to join in the MS by research program. Otherwise, the student will be transferred back to **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** along with the credits earned.

9. These students are not eligible for campus placement through IIT Madras at the end of their first year, of study at IIT Madras, which will be the end of their 8th semester.

10. The student will pay the tuition fee to **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** during their 7th and 8th semesters. After joining as a MS by research student, the student will pay the tuition fee appropriate for MS by research scholars as per regulations of IIT Madras, to IIT Madras.

11. With the concurrence of the guide-designate at IITM and the General Test Committee, faculty members from **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** may serve as co-guides for these students, whenever possible IITM encourages such a practice, but the decision is left to the discretion of the Guide-designate.

12. These students shall come under the purview of the guidelines/regulations for the 7th and 8th semester BTech of **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** in their 7th and 8th semesters, and under the MS ordinances and Regulations of IIT Madras once they join the MS by research program.

13. If a student is not found fit to continue in the MS by research program by their General Test Committee, they will be allowed to drop out any time after the 1st year of the MS by research program, at which point the 7th and 8th semester credits will be transferred to **National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli** for the award of the B.Tech degree.