

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN



**NEATEHUB (AIC- AAU INCUBATOR)
JORHAT, ASSAM, INDIA**

AND



**KAKOJAN COLLEGE,
KAKOJAN, JORHAT, ASSAM, INDIA – 785107**



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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is executed on this 30th day of June 2022 between Assam Agricultural University's Incubator (North East Agriculture Technology Entrepreneurs Hub) hereinafter referred to as "NEATEHUB" or "First Party" through its authorized representative, Chief Executive Officer,

and

Kakojan College hereinafter referred to as "KC", (which term where the context so admits, shall include its successors and assigns) or "Second Party" through its Principal, Kakojan College.

NEATEHUB and KC are hereinafter also referred to individually as Party and collectively as Parties as per the context.

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1. Preamble

The Assam Agricultural University's Incubator (North East Agriculture Technology Entrepreneurs Hub-NEATEHUB) having its office on the 2nd Floor, Old Dean Building, Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat – 785013, is an Agri Technology Business Incubator for startup companies and has been registered as a not-for-profit Section-8 company in September 2018. This incubator is headquartered in Jorhat, with a mandate to nurture agri entrepreneurs across the Northeast Region, who may be at various stages of their entrepreneurial journey. The Incubator focuses on Agri and Allied Agriculture sectors and also promotes entrepreneurs who are working on emerging technologies which impact these sectors. NEATEHUB is also supporting through mentoring and nurturing, the establishment of three incubators – one each in Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Tripura.

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Kakojan College is located in a rural area 16 km away east of Jorhat town and 40 km west of Sibsagar Town Assam. The name 'Kakojan' comes from a small tributary called 'Kakojan', which originates from Naga Hills in the South and mingles with the mighty river Brahmaputra in the north. Since the 1950s, the people of the Kakojan area felt the necessity to establish a college to cater for the need for higher education for the students of economically backward communities. As a result of that random thought, Kakojan College was established on 24th July 1967 with the contribution of the public, educationists, Social Workers etc. It has been imparting higher education in Arts and Science at the undergraduate level with Honours in Assamese, English, History, Education, Political Science, Sociology, Economics, Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Botany, Zoology and non-major in statistics with 8 Add on Certificate Courses. Affiliated to Dibrugarh University, Assam, the College has been registered under U.G.C 2(f) and 12(b). In the last two decades, the College has shown remarkable results in Degree and Higher Secondary Examinations in both Arts and Science streams. The College has been re-accredited by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) with B+ Grade in its second cycle of accreditation. Presently, the college is an ISO 9001:2015 certified Institution.

Currently, the College is running with more than 1500 students, 48 teachers and 20 employees. For the last 50 years, it has been offering yeomen of service to the cause of higher education and especially to a large number of rural students belonging to the poor economic background of this region. The healthy academic atmosphere of the College, good results and personal care

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and guidance offered by the teachers have proved to be an advantage because of which students from remote places have made this College a natural abode of study. The college authority, with cooperation from the faculty members, staff, students, alumni, and guardians, has created an enthusiastic spirit for the overall development of the College. The College has established the Institution's Innovation Council (IIC), Ministry of Education initiative under MHRD's Innovation Cell, Govt. of India.

Scope of MoU

- i. This MoU defines a formal understanding between NEATEHUB and KC for utilization of expertise and services offered by both parties for supporting students to eventually pursue entrepreneurship.
- ii. KC intends to use the incubation facilities of NEATEHUB to facilitate interested students to be curated for their business ideas and support the creation of sustainable business models.
- iii. Both the parties will work on mutually agreed terms and conditions for specific events/activities which will be defined separately from time to time.

2. Purpose and Objectives:

2.1 Both Parties are united by common interest and objectives, and they shall establish channels of communication and co-operation that will promote and advance their respective operation within the organizations. The Parties shall keep each other informed of potential opportunities and shall share all information that may be relevant to secure additional opportunities for one another.

2.2 The co-operation and collaboration between the two parties will facilitate effective utilisation of the intellectual capabilities of the experts of both the parties, First Party providing significant inputs to them in developing suitable training / mentoring systems, keeping in mind the needs of the industry.

2.3 The broad terms of operation shall be governed by this MoU. The Parties shall cooperate with each other and shall, as promptly and as reasonably practical, enter into relevant agreements, deeds and documents (the Definitive Documents) as may be required to give effect to the actions contemplated in terms of this MoU. The term of Definitive Documents shall be mutually decided by between the Parties. Along with

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the Definitive Documents, this MoU shall represent the entire understanding as to the subject matter hereof and shall supersede any prior understanding between the Parties on the subject matter hereof.

The purpose of this MoU is to create a framework for such a platform of collaboration with specific objectives and terms & conditions as given below:

- i. To encourage and support start-up, incubation and development of innovation led business ideas in the field of Agri and Allied Sector.
- ii. To provide facilities and services such as Sample testing (if applicable), hiring equipment, Leasing out space etc. and in turn overall promotion of entrepreneurship in the field of Agri and allied sectors.
- iii. To provide technical mentorship for conducting R & D works leading to entrepreneurial venture in agriculture and allied areas as per mutually agreed terms and conditions.
- iv. KC will identify business proposals on agri & allied sectors and related technologies/businesses, from its students for shortlisting and incubation at NEATEHUB. Both parties will review proposals and, finally, the selected students will be given an opportunity to access incubation support at NEATEHUB as per terms and conditions.
- v. To provide ENTREPRENEUR READY 8 weeks program (if KC is interested) for student entrepreneurs; designed to nurture young minds to curate and shape Ideas to Sustainable Business Model. However, the budget and deliverables for the program may be mutually discussed and agreed upon since it is a paid-programme. NEATEHUB may choose to give a preferred rate to its MoU partners.
- vi. To make joint efforts to support startups from the region with knowledge and access to resources (e.g. incubation facility, technology labs), so that innovative ideas can be transformed into successful business ventures.

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- vii. Students of KC may avail the facilities and may visit the incubator and institution to avail trainings and learnings from the expert, in addition residential workshops can be organized for the students. However, the direct costs, if any, incurred may be decided mutually.
- viii. To jointly explore external funding opportunities through project proposal development, thus enabling both Parties to expand and extend their collaborative activities.
- ix. To conduct hackathons, bootcamps or ideation events to encourage students to come up with ideas.
- x. To organize and conduct seminars, conferences, events, conclaves, annual conference and Business plan contest etc. in joint collaboration.
- xi. To extend support and work collaboratively for creation of direct and indirect employment.
- xii. Charges/fees/rent for the services wherever required by the service provider institute will be paid by the user party as per mutually agreed terms and conditions.
- xiii. Exchange of human resources/facilities/services between both the parties will only be within the scope of the agreed terms and conditions and is for the duration of this MOU and may be extended subject to mutual agreement between the parties.
- xiv. Each party shall bear its own share of expenses and costs of travel, boarding and lodging (if applicable) with regard to all discussions and activities between the parties.
- xv. Both parties shall coordinate to the extent possible, within the constraints of their organization's security provisions, reasonable access to their respective facilities as needed to facilitate any activities.
- xvi. Providing endorsement, support, and dissemination of information on activities, projects, requests for participation, etc.

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3. Understanding between the two Parties

- a) Both parties acknowledge the need to create an ecosystem for promoting innovation and entrepreneurship and are interested in partnering to further this cause.
- b) There is a need to inculcate an entrepreneurial & problem-solving mindset among the students and youth of the region.
- c) Both parties understand and shall strive towards creating a support structure within the organizations so that students can nurture innovative entrepreneurial ideas.

5. Non exclusivity

The relationship of the parties under this MOU shall be non-exclusive and both the parties, including their affiliates, subsidiaries, and divisions, are free to pursue other agreements or collaborations of any kind.

6. Assignment

It is understood by the Parties here in that this MOU is based on the professional competence and expertise of each party, and hence, neither Party shall transfer or assign this Agreement, or rights or obligations arising hereunder, either wholly or in part, to any third party.

7. Amendment & Termination of MoU

This MOU commences from the date of signing and shall be in force for 3 years. The MOU may be terminated at any time by mutual consent or by 6 months' notice by either party. It may be amended, modified, extended, or renewed only by the written consent of both Parties. The Institutions agree to review this MOU six months prior to end of the 3-year term.

8. Display of Logo

This MoU is for an initial period of 3 years and during that period both the parties will display the logo of the partner organization on their respective website.

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9. Confidentiality

- a) The parties to this MoU undertake to treat as CONFIDENTIAL AND PRIVILEGED information of the either party. The terms of confidentiality and mode of disclosure shall be as per mutually acceptable terms.
- b) Except as reasonably required, both the parties covenant that neither the party shall at any time during this MOU or at any time after it is terminated disclose or reveal to any person / organization or otherwise make use of confidential information including any of the trade secrets, confidential operations, processes or dealings or any information concerning the parties and their subsidiaries, business, finances, transactions or affairs of the affiliates / agencies or any of their ventures which may come to the knowledge of either the party during the period.
- c) During the period of the MOU, each party agrees to respect each other's freedom of operation. Neither the parties shall interfere in the affairs / functioning of the other.

This MOU is intended to facilitate discussions regarding general areas of cooperation as stated above and is executed in duplicate with each copy being an official version of the Agreement and having equal legal validity.

BY SIGNING BELOW, the parties, acting by their duly authorized officers, have caused this Memorandum of Understanding to be executed, effective as of the day and year first above written.

NEATEHUB

Signature: _____

Kaljit
30/6/2022

Name: **DR. K. KARTHIKEYEN**

Designation: Chief Executive Officer



KAKOJAN COLLEGE

Signature: _____

R. Bordoloi
30/6/2022

Name: **DR. RUPREKHA BORDOLOI**

Designation: Principal

Principal
Kakojan College
Jorhat, Assam

