



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU)

BETWEEN



**KRANTIGURU SHYAMJI KRISHNA
VERMA KACHCHH UNIVERSITY**

Mundra Road, Bhuj
Kachchh, Gujarat- 370001

AND



DEENDAYAL PORT AUTHORITY

Sector 8, Gandhidham, Kutch, Gujarat
India – 370201

This **Memorandum of Understanding** (hereinafter referred to as Memorandum of Understanding) is made on this **04th** day of **JUNE, 2026**.

BETWEEN

1. **Krantiguru Shyamji Krishna Verma Kachchh University** (hereinafter referred to as "**KSKVKU**"), a statutory public university established under the Gujarat Private Universities Act, having its registered office at Mundra Road, Bhuj, Kachchh, Gujarat – 370001.
2. **Deendayal Port Authority** (hereinafter referred to as "**DPA**"), an autonomous body under the Major Port Authorities Act, 2021, having its office at Sector 8, Gandhidham, Kachchh, Gujarat – 370201.

(Hereinafter individually referred to as a "Party" and collectively as the "Parties").

WHEREAS both Parties hereby are:

- A. **RECOGNISING** the existing friendly relations between the parties;
- B. **CONVINCED** of the necessity of a lasting and effective co-operation in the interest of Parties;
- C. **DESIRING** to establish a Strategic Alliance through mutual assistance and cooperation from DPA, particularly in industry-academia collaboration across areas such as Research and Development, Academic Development, Establishment of an Earth Science Incubator, Establishment of University Extension Centres in Rural Areas of Kachchh, Encouragement, Development, and Management of Water Bodies, Encouragement of Startups, Innovations, and Promotion of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) among undergraduate, postgraduate, and research scholars in the Kachchh region, and Initiation of Skill-Based and Vocational Courses.
- D. **BELIEVING** that such co-operation would serve their common interests and contribute to the enhancement of the friendship and mutual understanding between the parties.

NOW THE PARTIES DECLARE THEIR INTENTION as follows:

ARTICLE 1

PURPOSE

- 1.1 The Parties subject always to the laws, national policies, rules and regulations of each country hereby agree to recognize and establish each other as its port alliance to enhance the friendship and mutual understanding between both Parties by way of organizing cooperative activities as set out in the terms and conditions herein.
- 1.2 The Parties acknowledge that this Memorandum of Understanding is non-binding and does not create any legal obligations or liabilities and further subject availability of funds under CSR for the purpose. The Parties agree to share their experience and expertise in their respective areas of interest on terms mutually agreed upon.

ARTICLE 2

FORM OF COOPERATION

- 2.1 The Parties, subject to the laws, regulations, procedures, and national policies in force from time to time in their respective countries, agree to establish cooperation in the form of programmes focused on industry-academia collaboration in Research and Development, Academic Development, Encouragement, Development, and Management of Water Bodies, Encouragement of Startups, Innovations, and Promotion of IPR among undergraduate, postgraduate, and research scholars in the Kachchh region.
- 2.2 DPA shall provide necessary assistance to KSKVKU, including financial support for infrastructure and instrumentation facilities. In return, KSKVKU shall offer expertise, student resources, training for DPA staff, administrative and academic support, research collaboration, and degree programs for courses proposed by the Parties.

ARTICLE 3

SCOPE

The Parties shall make all practicable efforts to extend mutual assistance and cooperation with each other for the achievement of the objectives of this Memorandum of Understanding, in particular but not limited to:

- 3.1 Establishment of DPA-Sponsored Earth Science Incubator:** The Kachchh region in western India is renowned globally as a living laboratory for pure and applied geosciences and allied disciplines due to its geological richness, which has significantly contributed to the regional and national economy. Despite its immense potential, earth sciences receive limited research focus locally. There is a critical need for an Earth Science Incubator dedicated to supporting young researchers in basic and applied earth science research, while fostering startups, innovations, and IPR practices. The Incubator will house comprehensive research and laboratory facilities in a single state-of-the-art building, centered around a Geological Museum to raise awareness among future generations. It will operate as a self-sustaining model through research and consultancy services to industry, with university expertise, covering emerging areas such as Rare Earth Elements, Renewable Energy Resources, Economic Minerals and Ore Deposits, Hydrocarbon Prospects, Groundwater Investigation and Management, and Natural Hazard Research, Mitigation, and Management.
- 3.2 Establishment of University Extension Centres in Rural Areas of Kachchh:** As India's largest district by area, Kachchh has limited higher education institutes (HEIs), with many rural areas far from existing facilities, deterring students—especially girls—from pursuing higher education. KSKVKU will establish extension centres where university experts deliver teaching on-site, enabling local study and boosting the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER). KSKVKU has already set up five such centres recently; with DPA sponsorship, more will be established in remote areas to promote higher education.
- 3.3 Initiation of Skill Development, Vocational Courses, Training, and Internships:** Kachchh's diverse industrial network demands varied skills. The Parties will launch skill-based and vocational courses tailored to industry needs, particularly DPA's requirements, to produce skilled manpower and enhance local employment. DPA will offer training, internships, and dissertation opportunities to KSKVKU students and affiliates.
- 3.4 Development and Management of Water Bodies:** To promote groundwater and surface water management on the university campus and in arid landscapes of Kachchh, DPA will provide financial support to KSKVKU for developing and managing water bodies in areas recommended by KSKVKU.

ARTICLE 4
TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Duration of training, and/or assignment programs provided in Article 3.2 above or any other related areas may be subject to further specific agreement between the Parties.

ARTICLE 5
ACTION PLAN PROGRAMME

An Action Plan may be jointly drafted, discussed, and agreed upon between the Parties, and may be renewed, revised, or amended as and when necessary. It may include establishment of the DPA-sponsored Earth Science Incubator and University Extension Centres, joint research and consultancy projects, vocational and skill-based courses, internships/training/dissertations, and organization of conferences, workshops, and seminars.

ARTICLE 6
CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Either Party shall not be precluded from providing advisory/consulting/financing services to other person(s) insofar as such activities do not violate the spirit of professional cooperation and shared endeavor and values reflected in this MoU.

ARTICLE 7
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

- 7.1 The protection of intellectual rights and commercially confidential information will be enforced in conformity with the respective national laws and regulations of the Parties and with international agreements which Parties are a party. Each Party is entitled to intellectual property rights and other proprietary rights vested in the products, documents or any material generated or prepared in the course of carrying out the activities under this Memorandum of Understanding subject to the national laws and regulations of the Parties.
- 7.2 The usage of the name, logo and/ or official emblem of either Party on any publication, document and/ or paper is prohibited without the prior written approval of the other Party, as the circumstances may require.

ARTICLE 8

CONFIDENTIALITY

- 8.1** Each Party shall each undertake to observe the confidentiality and secrecy of all documents, information, commercial agreements and other data received or supplied to the other Party at all times during the period of the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding, unless required by the laws of either country to divulge such information in which prior notice in writing is to be provided to the other Party.
- 8.2** The Parties shall not publish or disclose or suffer or permit to be published or disclosed to any person or persons any information and findings arising from this Memorandum of Understanding whatsoever without the prior permission in writing of the other Party, and such permission not to be unreasonably withheld.
- 8.3** The Parties agree that the foregoing obligations of confidentiality and non-disclosure of this Memorandum of Understanding shall continue to be binding between the Parties and shall survive the expiry or termination of this Memorandum of Understanding.

ARTICLE 9

SUSPENSION

Each Party reserves the right for reasons of national security, national interest, public order or public health to suspend temporarily, either in whole or in part, the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding which suspension will take effect immediately after notification has been given to the other Party. Neither Party will be liable to the other Party for any claim, loss, cost, liability or investment opportunities arising out of directly or indirectly related to the other party's decision to suspend this Memorandum of Understanding.

ARTICLE 10

ENTRY INTO FORCE, DURATION AND TERMINATION

- 10.1** This Memorandum of Understanding will come into force on the date of its signature and will remain in force unless otherwise terminated under this Article.
- 10.2** Either Party may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding by notifying the other Party in writing three (3) months prior to its intention to do so.

- 10.3** The termination of the Memorandum of Understanding will not affect the implementation of ongoing activities/ programmes which have been agreed upon prior to the date of the termination of this Memorandum of Understanding.
- 10.4** Neither party shall be liable to the other party for any claim, loss, cost, liability or investment opportunities arising out of directly or indirectly related to the other party's decision to terminate this Memorandum of Understanding.

ARTICLE 11

REVISION, MODIFICATION AND AMENDMENT

The Parties may revise, amend or modify all or part of the Memorandum of Understanding by way of mutual consent in writing. Such revision, amendment or modification if mutually agreed upon will be reduced in writing and will form part of this Memorandum of Understanding and will come into force on such date as determined by the Parties. Any revision, amendment or modification will be done without prejudice to the rights and obligations arising from or based on this Memorandum of Understanding prior or up to date of such revision, amendment or modification.

ARTICLE 12

CONSULTATION

Any difference or dispute arising out of the interpretation, implementation or application of any of the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding will be settled amicably by consultation or negotiation between the Parties without reference to any third party or international tribunal.

ARTICLE 13

FINANCIAL ESTIMATE AND COST IMPLICATIONS

The Parties acknowledge that the overall cost estimate for the programmes, projects, and activities contemplated under this Memorandum of Understanding is approximately Rs. 40,00,00,000/- (Rupees Forty Crores only). This estimate is indicative in nature and is intended solely for the purposes of planning and cooperation under this MoU, subject to availability of funds under CSR for the purpose. The precise allocation of funds, cost-sharing arrangements, and financial responsibilities of the Parties shall be determined through subsequent agreements, contracts, or project-specific arrangements to be executed separately in writing between the Parties.

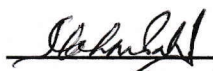
ARTICLE 14

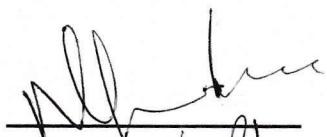
VALIDITY

This MoU remains valid for an initial period of Five (5) years from the date and of its execution. The validity of this MoU may thereafter be extended for such further period(s) as may be mutually agreed upon in writing by the Parties, subject to such terms and conditions as may be specified and agreed at the time of such extension.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have hereunto set their hand and seals the day and year first above written.

For and on behalf of KSKVKU

Signature: 
Name: Dr. Nihar Bahi
Designation: Vice Chancellor

Witness:
Signature: 
Name: Nimish Medhe
Designation: MD, FORJA

For and on behalf of DPA

Signature: 
Name: RUSHIL KUMAR SINGH
Designation: Chairman

Witness:
Signature: 
Name: K. SRINIVASA RAO
Designation: CE (H)