

# Memorandum of Understanding



**Bhaktivedanta Research Centre (BRC)  
Kolkata, West Bengal – 700108, India**

**&**



**Indian Institute of Technology Mandi  
Mandi 175075, Himachal Pradesh**

# Memorandum of Understanding between Bhaktivedanta Research Centre (BRC) and Indian Institute of Technology Mandi

## This Memorandum of Understanding is made between:

Bhaktivedanta Research Centre (BRC), Kolkata, West Bengal – 700108, India

And

Indian Institute of Technology Mandi (IIT Mandi), Mandi 175075, Himachal Pradesh.

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is made and entered into on February 25, 2025, between the Indian Institute of Technology Mandi (IIT Mandi), a premier educational and research institution under the Ministry of Education, Government of India, hereinafter referred to as 'IIT Mandi,' and the Bhaktivedanta Research Centre (BRC), an institution committed to the preservation, research, and dissemination of India's rich history, philosophy, and cultural heritage, hereinafter referred to as 'BRC'.

## 1. Purpose of the MoU:

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) establishes an academic and research collaboration between Bhaktivedanta Research Centre (BRC) and the Indian Institute of Technology Mandi (IIT Mandi) to advance Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS), including studies in Vedanta, Bhagavad Gita, Puranas, and Dharmic philosophy. This partnership aims to foster teaching, research, manuscript preservation, and curriculum development benefiting scholars, faculty, and students from both institutions.

The Key areas of collaboration include:

- Joint faculty and student exchange programs
- Research and scholarship in IKS
- Development of academic courses
- Digitization and preservation of manuscripts
- Exploring AI-driven research in Sanskrit textual analysis
- Organizing conferences, seminars and workshops along the themes mentioned above

## 2. Objectives of Memorandum of Understanding:

The key objectives of this collaboration include:

1. Joint Research & Scholarship – Conduct collaborative research in Indian philosophy, Vedic knowledge systems, and Dharmic traditions.
2. Bhagavad Gita Studies – Enhance IIT Mandi's Bhagavad Gita and other IKS courses by incorporating traditional commentaries and interdisciplinary insights.
3. Faculty Contributions – Both IIT Mandi and BRC will contribute expert faculty for teaching and research in IKS-related fields.

4. Manuscript Preservation & Digital Initiatives – Work together on archival of rare manuscripts, digitization, and development of tools to make traditional knowledge more accessible.
5. Curriculum Development – Strengthen IKS programs by integrating Sanskrit-based textual analysis, AI applications, and digital resources.
6. Conferences & Public Engagement – Organize national and international conferences, guest lectures, and workshops featuring leading scholars.
7. Faculty and Student Exchange – Promote academic collaboration through faculty, research scholar, and student exchange programs.
8. Development of Online and Short-Term Courses – Create online courses, Faculty Development Programs (FDPs), and corporate training to promote IKS.

To fulfil the above objectives, both parties shall be responsible as below:

IIT Mandi Shall:

- (i) Provide infrastructural, administrative and academic support for research and digital preservation initiatives.
- (ii) Contribute faculty expertise in interdisciplinary research linking IKS, philosophy, AI, and digitization.
- (iii) Facilitate joint research projects and collaborative teaching in IKS subjects.
- (iv) Offer academic recognition for research outputs and collaborative courses.
- (v) Support AI-based Sanskrit textual analysis in partnership with BRC.
- (vi) Develop technical frameworks for online courses, FDPs, and training modules in IKS.

BRC Shall:

- (i) Provide expertise in Indian Knowledge Systems, Sanskrit texts, and traditional commentaries.
- (ii) Contribute to curriculum development and research enhancement for IKS courses at IIT Mandi.
- (iii) Facilitate national and international scholars for guest lectures, workshops, and research collaboration.
- (iv) Lead manuscript digitization efforts, ensuring access to primary sources in IKS research.
- (v) Provide technical and academic resources for joint research projects.
- (vi) Support the development of online courses, FDPs, and short-term programs for professional learners.

### **3. Financial Arrangements:**

This MoU does not create any financial obligations unless separately agreed upon in writing.

### **4. Duration renewal:**

- (i) This MoU shall remain in effect for five (5) years from the date of signing and may be renewed upon mutual agreement.

- (ii) Either party may terminate this MoU with a three (3) month written notice, ensuring completion of ongoing academic programs and research projects.

**5. Advertising and Publicity:**

Both the institute may advertise this MoU for the benefit of students, faculty, staff and the wider academic community.

**6. Modification of MoU:**

Any modifications to this MoU must be mutually agreed upon and documented in writing.

**7. Statutory Compliance:**

Any disputes arising from this MoU shall be resolved through mutual discussions and, if necessary, arbitration in accordance with Indian law.

**8. Confidentiality & Intellectual Property Rights:**

Both IIT Mandi and BRC shall maintain confidentiality regarding research data and unpublished works.


**9. Governance:**

- (i) A Joint Steering Committee (JSC) will to oversee implementation of this MoU.
- (ii) Regular meetings shall be held to evaluate progress and discuss new initiatives.
- (iii) Decisions on funding, resource allocation, and research priorities shall be made collaboratively.

**10. Signature on MoU:**

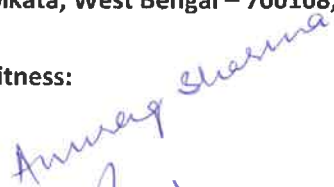
Both the institutions agree to implement the objectives of the MoU in terms outlined in this document.

**This MoU is written in two identical originals, both of equal validity.**

  
**Dr. Sumanta Rudra**  
Director  
Bhaktivedanta Research Centre  
Kolkata, West Bengal – 700108, India


Witness:

1.



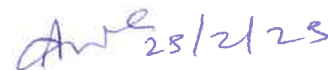
2.



  
**Prof. Laxmidhar Behera**  
Director  
Indian Institute of Technology  
Mandi  
Himachal Pradesh, India

Witness:

1.

 25/2/25

2.

 25/02/25