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## Letter of Understanding (LoU)

Between

SRF FOUNDATION (1<sup>st</sup> Party)

And

SANGHAVI COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, NASHIK, TEL NASHIK, DIS NASHIK

This Letter of Understanding (LOU) is effective from 24 September 2024, it is entered into by and between SRF FOUNDATION having its Registered Office at 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, TOWER C, Unitech Business Zone. Nirvana Country, SouthCity 2, Gurugram, Haryana, 122001, India.

(Hereinafter referred to as 1<sup>st</sup> Party) And

SANGHAVI COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, NASHIK, TEL NASHIK, DIS NASHIK

having its Registered Office at Nashik (Herein after referred to as 2<sup>nd</sup> Party).

Together both may be referred to as “Parties”

### Recitals

- I. Whereas IBM SkillsBuild represented by its country partner for India – SRF FOUNDATION, dedicated to transform education, through Institutes and programs across private and government schools in India, get IBM certificates certified badges. This would be applicable based on assessment by SRF FOUNDATION.
- II. Whereas NAME (2nd Party) represents all the departments and affiliated colleges of the College/University/Institute.
- III. Whereas the 1st Party wants to collaborate with specialized agencies/institutions to achieve industry relevant skills required under the IBM SkillsBuild Project.
- IV. Whereas the 2nd Party has shown interest in providing desired skills required by the 1st Party for implementation of the IBM SkillsBuild Project.
- V. Whereas, at the suggestion of 2nd Party, 1st Party has agreed to collaborate with 2nd Party for availing their expertise for SkillsBuild Project for various activities as listed hereinafter

Henceforth, both parties mutually agree to collaborate on the IBM SkillsBuild Project, as outlined in the following paragraphs of this Letter of Understanding (LoU). It is emphasized that this LoU solely signifies an expression of interest to cooperate for the IBM SkillsBuild Project, and neither party shall assume any rights or obligations beyond the activities specified herein.

The IBM SkillsBuild aims to inculcate the requisite knowledge, experience, and skills amongst the students. As per the UGC Guidelines of December 2022, for Foster Social Responsibility and Community. In the context of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in India, there is a strong emphasis on integrating social responsibility and community engagement into their core mission and operations, as outlined in the Guidelines for Fostering Social Responsibility and Community Engagement in Higher Education Institutions in India 2.0. These guidelines advocate for making community engagement an integral part of graduation requirements, assessments, and performance evaluations. They also recommend various forms of community engagement, such as connecting learning with community service, linking research with local knowledge and knowledge sharing, and promoting knowledge mobilization. Furthermore, the guidelines propose that the performance assessments of teachers and administrators in HEIs should include an evaluation of their involvement in and contributions to community engagement through their teaching and research activities. It is suggested that criteria for community engagement and its significance should be clearly defined and weighted appropriately in assessments for recruitment, regular employment, and promotion of faculty and researchers. One of the major objectives of the SkillsBuild program offered by IBM and implemented by SRF FOUNDATION to facilitate colleges in achieving all of the above-desired goals.

### **Objectives**

1. The objective of this LoU is to mutually complement both above parties' energies, outreach, and efforts to curate opportunities of collaboration, sharing of knowledge resources and jointly work on building capacities of the user through the IBM SkillsBuild Platform.
2. Both parties will enable IBM SkillsBuild for 500+ (mention no. of students) students NAME (name of 2nd party) with prime focus in State of NAME Both Parties will work together to achieve this target.
3. The identified students would be encouraged to take up and complete courses on IBM SkillsBuild by both parties mentioned. 2<sup>nd</sup> Party must ensure a minimum of 80% attendance and a minimum of 12-14hrs dedicated hours on the IBM SkillsBuild Online Portal per month for the onboarded students.

### **Duration**

This LoU is valid from 21st October, 2024 up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

### **Operational Aspects**

Both parties will collaborate closely with their respective teams to utilize their student/learner base and engage key stakeholders in developing industry-relevant skill sets and improving the employability prospects of students/learners through the provision of skills aligned with market demands. The 1st Party will facilitate the enrollment of learners (students) onto the platform in collaboration with and support from the 2nd Party, while encouraging students to utilize the platform to access enhanced learning opportunities.

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Party must ensure a minimum of 80% attendance and a minimum of 12-14 hours dedicated hours on the IBM SkillsBuild Online Portal per month for the onboarded students on the IBM SkillsBuild platform per month per user through participation in innovation camps and other learning activities.



2<sup>nd</sup> party shall provide the required facilitation for access to employability for students as part of the project.

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Party will designate a Single Point of Contact (SPOC) or Volunteer Faculty member to serve as a facilitator between students and the SRF FOUNDATION Digital Success Manager/team. The SPOC will receive a "Letter of Appreciation" from the 1st Party based on their performance throughout the program.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Party must provide the necessary infrastructure (High-Speed Internet Connectivity, projector/ screen, Mic and sound system and classroom/ auditorium) during the in-person orientation session.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Party will supply Student Volunteers to ensure the coordination and effective implementation of the program. These Student Volunteers will receive a "Letter of Appreciation" from the 1st Party based on their performance throughout the program.

To uphold the targeted level of social media engagement, each party commits to adhering to the guidelines for social media amplification provided in the communication package, as per IBM standards approved on a case-by-case basis. Regarding social media outreach, each party will designate suitable individuals to serve as representatives for their respective organizations.

#### **Termination and Extension of LoU**

The period of collaboration covered by this LoU shall terminate on **31<sup>st</sup> March 2025**.

In the event of non-compliance or breach of terms by any one of the parties of the obligations binding upon it, the other party may terminate the LoU with immediate effect by a simple notice in writing without assigning any reason, whatsoever.

This LoU can be extended further as per the mutual consent between the parties in writing.

#### **Financial Aspects and Conflict of Interest**

This LoU has no financial implications for the Parties with respect to each other or to any 3<sup>rd</sup> Party.

Both Parties shall ensure there is no conflict of interest during the delivery of the Project.

In case of any dispute/ differences/ conflict of interest, both parties appoint Program Officer, SRF FOUNDATION as their sole Arbitrator and her decision in the matter shall be final.

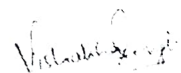
The Jurisdiction of courts shall be at New Delhi.

1<sup>st</sup> Party shall be represented by Ms. Vishakha Singh, Program Officer, on behalf of SRF FOUNDATION, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Party shall be represented by Prof. Puspendu Biswas TPO & Head of Computer Engineering Department, on behalf of Sanghavi College of Engineering (2nd Party). They or their representative will sign communications and take decisions in respect of matters covered under the LoU and it will be binding to their respective organizations.

The terms and provisions in this LoU also apply to any subsequent Addendum to this LoU.


IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this LoU on the day 21<sup>st</sup> of October 2024.

**Program Officer**  
(SRF FOUNDATION)



Vishakha.Singh@srf.com

6<sup>th</sup> Floor, TOWER C,  
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**HOD**  
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