



தமிழ்நாடு தமில்நாடு TAMILNADU
20 AUG 2025

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CHENNAI-600 079.



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING



FOR FOSTERING COMPREHENSIVE SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING
INITIATIVES FOR THE INLAND WATER TRANSPORT (IWT) SECTOR

This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as "MoU") is made and entered into
on this 16th October 2025

BY AND BETWEEN

INLAND WATERWAYS AUTHORITY OF INDIA (IWA), an autonomous body under the
Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India, established under the
Inland Waterways Authority of India Act, 1985, having its Head Office at A-13, Sector-1,

A. K. Mishra
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(Ministry of Port, Shipping & Waterways, Govt. of India)
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Noida - 201301, Uttar Pradesh (hereinafter referred to as "IWAI", which expression shall, unless repugnant to the context or meaning thereof, include its successors and assigns);

AND

- II. INDIAN MARITIME UNIVERSITY (IMU), a Central University established by an Act of Parliament (Indian Maritime University Act 2008), under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India, having its Head Office at East Coast Road, Semmencherry, Sholinganallur, Chennai - 600119, Tamil Nadu, with campuses across India, renowned for its expertise in maritime education, training, and research hereinafter referred to as "IMU", which expression shall, unless repugnant to the context or meaning thereof, include its successors and assigns).

(IWAI and IMU are hereinafter collectively referred to as "the Parties" and individually as "Party").

WHEREAS:

- A. IWAI is the statutory body responsible for the development, maintenance, and regulation of inland waterways for shipping and navigation in India, with a mandate to promote and develop the Inland Water Transport (IWT) sector.
- B. The Government of India is committed to developing a robust, modern, and sustainable IWT sector, necessitating a highly skilled, competent, and adaptable workforce.
- C. IMU is a premier institution dedicated to maritime education, research, and training, possessing significant academic expertise, infrastructure, and faculty capable of developing and delivering specialized programs.
- D. Both Parties recognize that the rapid modernization of the IWT sector, driven by new vessel technologies (e.g., hybrid/electric vessels), advanced navigation systems, sophisticated cargo handling, and integrated logistics, demands a comprehensive overhaul of skill sets and a robust capacity-building framework.
- E. The existing training infrastructure and informal pathways are insufficient to meet the evolving and specialized needs for operating advanced vessels, managing complex waterways, and ensuring world-class safety and environmental standards.


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F. The Parties desire to enter into this MoU to establish a collaborative framework to leverage IMU's academic and training capabilities to address the critical skill development and capacity building requirements of the IWT sector, thereby ensuring its sustainable growth and operational excellence.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE PARTIES HEREBY AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

1. **PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES** - The primary purpose of this MoU is to establish a strategic partnership between IWA and IMU to foster comprehensive skill development and capacity building initiatives for the Inland Water Transport (IWT) sector. The key objectives are:
 - a) To bridge the existing and emerging skill gaps in the IWT sector by developing industry-relevant and future-ready curricula and training programs.
 - b) To leverage IMU's academic excellence, specialized faculty, and infrastructure to deliver high-quality education and training.
 - c) To create a highly skilled and competent workforce equipped for modern IWT operations, advanced vessel technologies, efficient cargo handling, and effective waterway management.
 - d) To ensure that the IWT sector operates with enhanced safety, efficiency, environmental sustainability, and adherence to national and international best practices.
 - e) To promote IWT as an attractive career path and contribute to employment generation in the sector.
2. **SCOPE OF THE MoU:** This MoU outlines the framework for collaboration between IWA and IMU on various aspects related to skill development and capacity building for the IWT sector. The scope includes, but is not limited to, the following areas:
 - a) **Curriculum Development:**
 - i. Designing, developing, and updating specialized courses and modules for IWT professionals, covering areas such as navigation, vessel operations (conventional,


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hybrid, electric), cargo handling, vessel maintenance and repair, port and terminal management, logistics, and supply chain management.

- ii. Incorporating emerging technologies like automation, digitalization, smart navigation, and green fuels into the curriculum.

b) Training Programs:

- i. Conducting short-term and long-term training programs, workshops, seminars, and executive education courses for IWA personnel, vessel operators, terminal staff, logistics managers, and other IWT stakeholders.
- ii. Developing practical, hands-on training using simulators, workshops, and onboard training opportunities.

c) Certification and Accreditation:

- i. Developing standardized assessment and certification mechanisms for IWT skill sets, ensuring industry recognition.
- ii. Collaborating on accreditation of IWT-specific courses and training centers.

d) Faculty and Trainer Development:

- i. Providing training and exposure to IMU faculty and trainers on specific IWT operational requirements and new technologies.
- ii. Facilitating exchange programs for faculty and experts between IMU and IWA.

e) Infrastructure Sharing and Development:

- i. Optimizing the use of IMU's existing facilities (labs, simulators, classrooms) for IWT specific training.
- ii. Exploring opportunities for joint development or upgrading of training infrastructure specifically for IWT.
- iii. IWA to facilitate access to its vessels, terminals, and operational areas for practical training and exposure.

f) Research and Studies:

- i. Undertaking joint research studies on human resource requirements, skill gaps, future job roles, and effective training methodologies for the IWT sector.
- ii. Developing best practices for competency-based training.


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g) Awareness and Outreach:

- i. Collaborating on initiatives to promote IWT as a viable career option and attract talent into the sector.
- ii. Organizing career fairs, awareness campaigns, and industry-academia interactions.

3. TERM AND REVIEW

- a) This MoU shall come into effect from the date of its signing and shall remain in force for a period of five (5) years, unless terminated earlier in accordance with the provisions herein.
- b) The MoU may be extended for further periods upon mutual written agreement of both Parties, based on a review of its effectiveness and continued relevance.
- c) The Parties shall review the progress and implementation of this MoU annually through the Joint Working Group.

4. **AMENDMENT:** This MoU may be amended or modified at any time by mutual written agreement of both Parties. Any such amendment or modification shall form an integral part of this MoU.

5. TERMINATION:

- a) This MoU may be terminated by either Party by giving Three (3) months' prior written notice to the other Party, without assigning any reason.
- c) This MoU may be terminated by either Party immediately if the other Party commits a material breach of any of the terms and conditions of this MoU and fails to remedy such breach within ninety (90) days of receiving written notice of such breach.
- d) Notwithstanding termination, any liabilities or obligations incurred prior to the effective date of termination shall remain binding on the respective Parties.


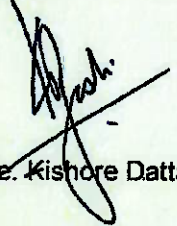



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6. **DISPUTE RESOLUTION:** Any dispute, difference, or question which may arise between the Parties concerning the construction, meaning, or effect of this MoU, or the rights or liabilities of the Parties hereunder, shall be resolved amicably through mutual discussions and negotiations. If no amicable resolution is reached within sixty (60) days, the dispute shall be referred to the Chairman, IWA, and the Vice Chancellor, IMU, for their joint intervention and resolution.
7. **GOVERNING LAW AND JURISDICTION** This MoU shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of India. The Courts in New Delhi shall have exclusive jurisdiction to entertain any suit or proceeding arising out of this MoU.
8. **GENERAL PROVISIONS**
- a) **Non-Binding Nature:** This MoU represents the mutual understanding and intent of the Parties and is not intended to create any legally binding financial obligations beyond the express provisions outlined herein. It serves as a framework for a more detailed agreement or project-specific contracts if required.
 - b) **Confidentiality:** Both Parties agree to maintain confidentiality of any proprietary or sensitive information shared during the course of this collaboration.
 - c) **Severability:** If any provision of this MoU is held to be invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.
 - d) **Force Majeure:** Neither Party shall be held liable for non-fulfillment of their obligations under this MoU if such non-fulfillment is due to a Force Majeure event (acts of God, war, natural calamities, pandemic, etc.), provided prompt notice is given to the other Party.
 - e) This MoU is signed in two copies, each party retain one and has equal legal validity.


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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have executed this Memorandum of Understanding on the date first above written.

<p>For & on behalf of Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI):</p> <p> Name: A.K. Mishra Designation: Chief Engineer (JMVP) Inland Waterways Authority of India (Ministry of Port, Shipping & Waterways, Govt. of India) A-13, Sector-1, Noida-201301 (U.P.)</p>	<p>For & on behalf of Indian Maritime University (IMU)</p> <p> Name: Cmde. Kishore Dattatraya Joshi (IN) (Retd.) Designation: Registrar (LO)</p>
<p><u>Witness:</u></p> <p> Name: KAROR SINGH Designation: DY. DIRECTOR (JMVP)</p>	<p><u>Witness:</u></p> <p> Name: Sini Manchala Designation: Deputy Registrar (CTR) I/c</p>