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12.01.19

V. பாலசுப்பிரமணியம்  
பிரதான.

D. DINESH KUMAR  
STAMP VENDOR  
Thudiyalur, CBE-34, T.Nadu  
L No. 7571/B1/93.

BU 054355



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN

INSTITUTE OF FOREST GENETICS AND TREE BREEDING (IFGTB), COIMBATORE  
AND  
KONGUNADU ARTS AND SCIENCE COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), COIMBATORE  
FOR THE COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH, EDUCATION & TRAINING

This Memorandum of Understanding signed on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2019 between Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore, represented by Dr. Mohit Gera, Director (IFGTB), Coimbatore and Kongunadu Arts and Science College (Autonomous), Coimbatore represented by Dr. V. Balasubramaniam, Principal is intended to facilitate a collaborative program of research, training, student capacity building, information dissemination, faculty, staff and student exchange programmes, in the fields of Biochemistry, forestry, biodiversity, microbiology, Biotechnology and bioprospecting for technological development between the two institutions.

PRINCIPAL  
Kongunadu Arts & Science College  
Coimbatore - 641 029.

Director  
Institute of Forest Genetics  
& Tree Breeding, Coimbatore-2

Whereas, Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (IFGTB), Coimbatore (herein after known as IFGTB which expression shall where the context so admits include its successors), was established in April 1988 and functions as research institution of Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) an autonomous organization of Ministry of Environment and Forests and Climate Change (MoEF & CC), Government of India. IFGTB caters to the forestry research needs of the mandated states of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Puducherry and Lakshadweep. IFGTB specializes on Tree improvement programmes of major tree species and Forest Genetic Resources Management; besides conducting forestry extension activities and training. The thrust areas of the institute include Genetics & Tree Breeding and Biotechnology, Bioprospecting, Biodiversity & Climate Change, Silviculture and Forest Management, Forestry Extension and Forests Genetics Resource Management.

Whereas, Kongunadu Arts and Science College (Autonomous), Coimbatore (hereinafter known as KASC which expression shall where the context so admits include its successors), started in the year 1973 with only pre-university course, has grown into an multifaceted premier higher educational institution in the field of higher education with 20 UG, 13 PG and 12 research programmes. KASC is conferred with autonomous status by the University Grants Commission (UGC), New Delhi, in 2004 – 2005, which has been extended up to 2021-22. KASC is re-accredited by NAAC with 'A' Grade 3.64 CGPA out of 4.0 (3<sup>rd</sup> Cycle) and the college stands first among Bharathiar University affiliated university and fourth in Tamil Nadu. KASC is a recipient of the most prestigious "COLLEGE OF EXCELLENCE" award, conferred by the University Grants Commission, New Delhi. KASC ranked 12<sup>th</sup> in Research and 67<sup>th</sup> position in overall performance as done by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India in National Institutional Ranking Framework in 2018. KASC is supported by DST for the establishment of FIST (Fund for Improvement of Science and Technology Infrastructure) Program facility for strengthening Teaching and Research facilities in all Science Departments. KASC leads in imparting value based scientific education of global standard for human resource development in scientific and technological spheres of our community in order to produce renowned scientists. The Life Science Departments viz., Biochemistry, Biotechnology, Botany and Zoology are actively involved in Research projects for B.Sc., M.Sc., M.Phil and Ph.D Programmes. Several Research projects funded by UGC, DST, and TN SC&ST have been undertaken by the faculty members.

Whereas, both IFGTB and KASC has come to an agreement to foster collaborative research, education & training between them and to develop advanced research in Life science courses.

Whereas, the educational and research exchanges envisaged herein include but not limited to:

1. Long term and short term exchanges of faculty, students and staff for purposes of teaching, research and capacity building of human resources.
2. Development of mutually beneficial academic programs, PDF programmes in

biochemistry, biotechnology, botany, zoology, chemistry and related science disciplines, certificate courses for the capacity building of students and faculties. Students may be admitted to academic study or internship as the case may be to the partner institutions. Specific Terms of References for student / staff exchange shall incorporate the norms and nominal fees of such study as applicable.

3. IFGTB shall monitor the project work of the final year M.Sc, M. Phil/Ph.D. programmes in biosciences and related disciplines and also monitors the PDF work carried out by the faculties of KASC.
4. Utilization of Laboratory and library facilities of both the Institutions shall be considered on case to case basis as per the norms of the institutions.
5. Research collaboration in the areas of biosciences like molecular biology, environmental, biodiversity, bioprospecting and allied areas of biosciences and composting.
6. Establishment of compost unit and taxonomical identification of plants/trees with the expert guidance of scientists of IFGTB at KASC on consultancy basis.
7. Joint conduct of Summer Training programmes, extension activities for the UG/PG students /M.Phil/Ph.D. scholars/ faculty members of both institutes by exchange of Scientific and academic expertise available with both Institutions.
8. Joint conduct of Seminars, Conferences, Awareness Programmes, Science Exhibitions, Hands-on-Training Programmes, Faculty Development Programmes (FDP's), Short Term Training Courses, Refresher courses, Lecture Workshops, Skill oriented training programmes, related to frontiers areas of biotechnology applied in industries to the UG/PG students / research scholars / academicians / Scientists in Biosciences.

**NOW THEREFORE PARTIES HERETO AGREE AS FOLLOWS:**

**A. Role and responsibilities of KASC**

1. To encourage participation of students for internship/short term training programmes in IFGTB.
2. To encourage promising interns and skilled students to take up research fellowships through official process in the National/regional research projects at IFGTB.
3. To rope in services of IFGTB for refresher courses/training workshops conducted by KASC for the mutual benefit of partner Institutions.
4. To allow the utilization of infrastructure facilities (Auditorium / Conference halls / Science labs / library of KASC to the benefit of IFGTB, Coimbatore.
5. Dr. J. Karthikeyan, Associate Professor and Head, Department of Biochemistry (PG), KASC, G.N. Mills Road, Coimbatore is nominated to be authorized Nodal Officer for implementation of the activities as envisaged in the MoU. Nodal Officer shall secure approvals from their respective Heads/Deans for executing the activities.

## B. Role and responsibilities of IFGTB

1. To offer scientific expertise and guidance in the research projects of KASC as agreed upon on case to case basis by both the parties.
2. To undertake consultancy services, for KASC as per ICFRE guidelines in the area of bioprospecting, characterization and other scientific studies on the request of KASC.
3. To introduce innovative student intern programmes/trainings.
4. Dr. N. Senthilkumar, Scientist-E, Division of Bioprospecting, IFGTB, Forest Campus, Cowley Brown Road, Coimbatore is nominated to be authorized Nodal Officer for implementation of the activities as envisaged in the MoU. Nodal Officer shall secure approvals from their respective Director/Head for executing the activities.

## C. FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENT:

There will not be any financial commitment between the partner institutions and cost, if any, for exchange of faculty and students shall be borne by the individual or borrowing organization as the case may be.

## D. CONFIDENTIALITY:

1. Each party recognizes that pursuant to this MoU, if, given access to information that is confidential and /or proprietary to the other party; and agrees to undertake not to use any such confidential, proprietary or restricted information for the own purpose without the prior written consent of the other party.
2. Both the parties shall take all reasonable steps to keep confidential (and ensure that its employees, students, associates and agents also keep them confidential), any subject matter and information or material classified as confidential, whether technical or commercial, acquired formally or informally by either party from the other or their staff or students or by the Researcher(s) concerned in the work done or to be done under this agreement.
3. Neither party shall assign and/or transfer any nor all of its rights, obligation and/or interests arising or claimed under or by virtue of this MoU to a third party without obtaining the prior written consent of the other party.
4. Both parties agree to subscribe to the principles of equal opportunity and will not discriminate on the basis of gender, age, disability, race, colour, religion, marital status, veteran's status, national or ethnic origin, or sexual orientation.

## E. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS:

1. While KASC recognizes that IFGTB fully owns the intellectual property (e.g. any technique, process or product) related to research prior to the commencement of this project, such intellectual property generated during the collaboration of this MoU shall jointly be owned by IFGTB and KASC.
2. Intellectual property rights pertaining to development of new techniques /

instruments / methodologies in the area of study shall rest with IFGTB. Intellectual Property rights pertaining to the development of any new product, equipment and identification of chemicals, active agents for such use and manufacturing process for the same shall rest with KASC and IFGTB, and shall be decided on case to case basis. KASC and IFGTB shall be jointly entitled to file applications for such patents, designs copyright and other intellectual property rights throughout the world. The cost pertaining to patent registration, filing and processing shall be borne jointly by KASC and IFGTB.

3. KASC and IFGTB shall be entitled to commercially exploit the results and intellectual property rights generated in collaborative research in and outside India.
4. Patents/Publications arising out of the project work, if any, shall be jointly authored by the investigators from IFGTB and KASC in accordance with their contributions to the claims of the patent or content of the publications. However, the results arising out of this investigation can be used for teaching and research purpose only after all relevant patent applications are filed.

#### F. PERIOD OF AGREEMENT & VALIDITY:

This MOU shall stand effective and be agreeable for the initial period of three years from the date of signing to provide sufficient period of activity and to bring noticeable outcomes. The MoU may be subject to renewal on mutual consent of both parties, for the period internally agreed upon.

#### G. AMENDMENTS:

No modification or amendments of the MoU and no waiver of any of the terms or condition thereof shall be valid or binding unless made in writing and duly agreed upon and executed by both the parties.

#### H. TERMINATION

During the validity of this Agreement, each party shall be entitled to terminate the same at any time, without assigning any reason, after giving one month advance notice to the other party. Notwithstanding such termination, each party shall fulfill all obligations accrued under this agreement prior to the time the termination becomes effective.

#### I. NOTICES

All notices and other communications required to be served on KASC under the terms of this agreement, shall be considered to be duly served if the same has been delivered to, left with or posted by registered mail to the party at its last known address of business. Similarly, any notice to be given to the IFGTB shall be considered as duly served if the same has been delivered to, left with or posted by registered mail to the IFGTB at its registered address in Coimbatore.

*Handwritten signature*

Director  
Institute of Forest Genetics  
& Tree Breeding, Coimbatore-2

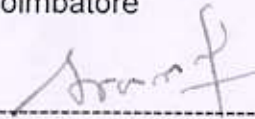
**J. LAW & JURISDICTION**

This MoU is to develop and promote the student/institutional capacity building/research activities and does not have any legal binding. However, for administrative purposes the parties to this MoU agree to legal jurisdiction of Civil Courts of Coimbatore.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF** both the **PARTIES** hereto have signed this MoU on this day, month and year as mentioned herein below;

In representation of  
Kongunadu Arts and Science College  
Coimbatore

Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree  
Breeding, Coimbatore


  
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**Dr. V. Balasubramaniam**  
Principal

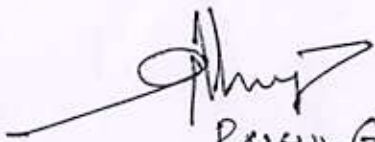
  
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**Dr. Mohit Gera, IFS**  
Director

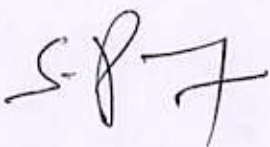
**PRINCIPAL**  
Kongunadu Arts & Science College  
Coimbatore - 641 029.

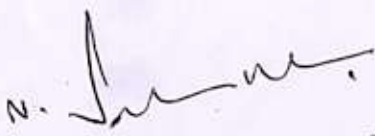
**Director**  
Institute of Forest Genetics  
& Tree Breeding, Coimbatore-2

Witnesses:

1.  1.

  
**RAJESH GOPALAN**  
HEAD EXTENSION.

2.  2.

  
**N. SENTHIL KUMAR**  
SCIENTIST

3. 

Dr. J. KARTHICKYAN, M.Sc., M.Phil., Ph.D.,  
Associate Professor and Head  
Dept. of Biochemistry PG and Research  
Kongunadu Arts and Science College  
G.N. Mill Post, Coimbatore - 641 029  
karthukeyan@kpscj@gmail.com