



ABSTRACT

Higher Education – Execution of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Educational and Cultural Co-operation, between the British Council and the Government of Tamil Nadu - Orders – Issued.

Higher Education (H2) Department

G.O.(Ms) No. 8

Dated: 04.01.2019

விளம்பி வருடம், மார்ச்சு- 20
திருவள்ளூர் ஆண்டு, 2049

Read:

1. From the Minister, Cultural Affairs, British High Commission, Director India, British Council, New Delhi Letter dated 26.03.2018.
2. From the Director, South India, British Council Division, Chennai – 2, letter dated 19.06.2018.
3. From the RPO & Head of Branch Secretariat, Chennai, file No.MEABS/454/10/2018, dated 24.10.2018.
4. From the British Deputy High Commissioner , Chennai-6, letter dated 14.11.2018.

ORDER:

In the letters read above, the Minister, Cultural Affairs, British High Commission, Director India, British Council, New Delhi and Director, South India, British Council Division, Chennai have expressed their intention to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Government of Tamil Nadu on Educational and Cultural Co-operation to support the State's knowledge and economic ambitions.

2. The Government have examined the matter of signing of MoU on Educational and Cultural Co-operation with British Council and decided to accept the same.

3. The salient feature of the draft MoU among others is as follows :-

English language learning, quality education and internationally benchmarked assessments; skills and qualifications for young people, and the sharing of culture, creativity and ideas

Opportunities for young people; quality education and higher education; skills development of young people; and artists and the cultural community.

Areas for Collaboration:

English Language learning, assessments and teacher education

- Develop innovative programmes to support quality education initiatives in State Government schools, including quality assurance, monitoring and evaluation.

- Build capacity of faculty in teaching, learning and leadership in State Universities, Government and Aided Colleges,
- Explore opportunities to build capacity in Primary / Secondary Schools, Higher Education, Science & Research and in the training institutes of the State Government.

Skills and qualifications for young people

- Build initiatives to improve English and employability skills of young people attending Industrial Training Institutions and engineering and management courses in the State; embed internationally benchmarked assessments to help recruitment and intra and international mobility of youth

Sharing of culture, creativity and ideas

- Develop initiatives to improve cultural co-operation between the State and the UK, promote the cultural assets of the State and develop skills in the cultural sector

Library and library services

- Explore opportunities for partnership with the Government of Tamil Nadu in supporting the Continuing Professional Development of Library professionals in the State system.

4. Accordingly, the Government approve MoU between British Council and the Government of Tamil Nadu on Educational and Cultural Co-operation as in the annexure to this order.

5. The Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu State Council for Higher Education is directed to take necessary action for execution of the above MoU and report the same to the Government.

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

MANGAT RAM SHARMA
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To

The Member Secretary,
Tamil Nadu State Council for Higher Education, Chennai.
The British Deputy High Commissioner, 20, Anderson Road, Chennai 600 006 /
The Director, South India, British Council Division, Chennai-2.
The RPO & Head of Branch Secretariat,
Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India,
No.68, College Road, EVK Sampath Maaligai, 7th Floor, Chennai-6.

Copy to:-

O/o. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Chennai -9.
The PS to Chief Secretary to Government, Chennai -9.
The Special PA to Minister (Higher Education), Chennai-9.
The Special PA to Minister, Tamil Official Language and
Tamil Culture Department, Chennai-9.
The Special PA to Minister, School Education Department, Chennai-9.
The PA to Principal Secretary to Government,
Higher Education Department, Chennai-9.
The PS to Principal Secretary to Government, School Education Department, Chennai-9
The PS to Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Tourism Culture and Religious
Endowments Department, Chennai-9.

Sf/sc

// Forwarded / By Order //

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SECTION OFFICER.

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4/11/19

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

THE GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

and

THE BRITISH COUNCIL

This Memorandum of Understanding made on thisday of2018 between the Governor of Tamil Nadu represented by the Chief Secretary to Government, Government of Tamil Nadu (hereinafter called the 'Government' which expression shall include the successors in office and assigns) of the one part.

AND

THE BRITISH COUNCIL, incorporated by Royal Charter and registered as a charity (under number 209131 in England and Wales and number SCO37733 in Scotland), with its principal office at 10 Spring Gardens, London, SW1A 2BN (the "**British Council**"); represented by its Director (hereinafter called the "British Council" which expression shall include the successors in office and assigns) of the other part;

BACKGROUND:

Chief Secretary, Chief Minister's Office, Government of Tamil Nadu

The Chief Secretary oversees the work of all departments in the Government of Tamil Nadu relevant to this Memorandum of Understanding.

The British Council

The British Council is the United Kingdom's International Organization for Educational opportunities and cultural relations. The British Council is a public corporation incorporated by the Royal Charter and is registered as a charity in England and Scotland. It seeks to create international opportunities for the people of the United Kingdom and other countries and to build trust between them, including by focusing on cultural and educational relationships between the United Kingdom and other countries. It has a number of charitable objectives contained in its charter including developing a wider knowledge of the English language and promoting the advancement of education.

1. Purpose

1.1 Both parties commit to strengthen educational and cultural cooperation to support the knowledge ambitions and economic growth of Tamil Nadu by creating opportunities for young people of the State to succeed in India and across the world by improving access to: English Language learning; quality education and internationally benchmarked assessments; skills and qualifications for young people; and the sharing of culture, creativity and ideas.

1.2 Both parties acknowledge the 70th Anniversary of the British Council in India in 2018 and acknowledge the contribution it has made to the lives of young people across India.

1.3 Both parties acknowledge the ambitions of the Government of Tamil Nadu and its work to improve: opportunities for young people; quality education and higher education; skills development of young people; and artists and the cultural community.

2. AREAS FOR COLLABORATION

English Language learning, assessments and teacher education

2.1 Both parties endeavour to:

- develop innovative programmes to support quality education initiatives in State Government schools, including quality assurance, monitoring and evaluation;
- explore working together to support improve skills and motivation of English language teachers in primary and secondary schools and teacher development institutions; and of trainers and trainees in the training institutes of the State Government;
- improve learner outcomes in English in the State; embed internationally benchmarked assessments; and
- develop other such measures during the period of this agreement.

Education

2.2 Both parties endeavour to:

- build capacity of faculty in teaching, learning and leadership in State universities, Government and aided colleges;
- explore opportunities to build capacity in Primary/Secondary schools, Higher Education, Science and Research, and in the training institutes of the State Government;
- expand the existing collaboration through programmes like Tamil Nadu Study Abroad (TN SAP) and other initiatives which has seen Higher Education institutions in the State receive funding through the Indo-British Fund the UK-India Education Research Initiative (UKIERI) and the Newton programme;
- develop other such measures during the period of this agreement.

Skills and qualifications for young people

2.3 Both parties endeavour to

- build initiatives to improve English and employability skills of young people attending Industrial Training Institutions and Engineering and management courses in the State; embed internationally benchmarked assessments to help recruitment and intra and international mobility of youth; and

- develop other such measures during the period of this agreement.

Sharing of culture, creativity and ideas

2.4 Both parties endeavour to:

- develop initiatives to improve cultural co-operation between the State and the UK, promote the cultural assets of the State and develop skills in the cultural sector;
- develop projects that promote the State to the UK and the world through innovative uses of cultural exchange; and
- develop other such measures during the period of this agreement.

Library and library services

British Council Libraries form the integral part of their cultural relations in India for 70 years. British Council shall aim to connect the physical and the digital to be a hub for creativity through their eight libraries across India. Their library in Chennai is a social space which goes beyond books and offer experiences from best of UK cultural and educational content and programming. British Council shall aspire to generate ideas, discussion and bring people and communities together in a safe cultural setting through their library service in Chennai. The library offers books, DVDs, Magazines and an interactive community space along with access to thousands of e-books, e-journals, popular on-line magazines, and the best of UK and global digital content.

British Council would be happy to explore opportunities for partnership with the Government of Tamil Nadu in supporting the Continuing Professional Development of Library professionals in the State system on the following aspects of Library and Information services:

- Latest trends in the UK Public Libraries / Academic Libraries
- Digital trends in the UK
- Curriculum development of courses on Library and Information Services

3. AMENDMENT

3.1 This agreement may be amended at any time by the mutual written agreement of the Participants.

4. TERMINATION

4.1 This agreement may be terminated by either Participant giving six months written notice. The Participants will consult to determine how any outstanding matters should be dealt with.

4.2 Termination will not affect the validity of any contract made under this Memorandum of Understanding.

5. DISPUTES

- 5.1 Any disputes about the interpretation or application of this Memorandum of Understanding will be resolved by consultations between the Participants, and will not be referred to any national or international tribunal or third party for settlement.
- 5.2 In the event of a dispute, the Participants shall attempt in good faith to negotiate an amicable resolution. If this is unsuccessful, a dispute shall first be escalated to the Director, British Council South India and Chief Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu.

6. TERM AND EFFECTIVE DATE

- 6.1 The Participants agree that the duration of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be for THREE years from the date of signing, which shall also be the Effective Date of the Memorandum of Understanding.
- 6.2 This Memorandum of Understanding may be extended by mutual written agreement of the Participants.

7. MISCELLANEOUS

- 7.1 The Participants wish to emphasise that this Memorandum of Understanding is not intended to be legally binding.
- 7.2 The Participants agree to negotiate to sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement to accompany any future contractual negotiations and exchanges of confidential information.

7.3 Neither Participant shall hold the other Participant accountable for any fees, charges or other costs incurred in relation to this Memorandum of Understanding.

IN WITNESS whereof the Participants hereto have hereunto set their hands and signed this Memorandum of Understanding on the date, set out above.

Signed by the duly authorised representative of the BRITISH COUNCIL

Name:		Signature:	
Position:	DIRECTOR	Date:	

Signed by the duly authorised representative of GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Name:		Signature	
Position:	CHIEF SECRETARY	Date:	

Mangat Ram Sharma
Principal Secretary to Government

// True Copy //

D. S. G. S.
4/11/19
Section Officer.

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4/11/19