



BETWEEN

THE INDIAN ARMY

AND

YASHWANTRAO CHAVAN MAHARASHTRA OPEN UNIVERSITY FOR DESIGNING AND PROVIDING ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES TO THE DEFENCE PERSONNEL

This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as MOU) is signed on at New Delhi.

by &

between

The Indian Army on one hand, and represented by the Adjutant General (AG) of the Integrated Headquarters of Ministry of Defence (Army), New Delhi which expression shall include its successors or administrators on one part



and

Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University, Gyangangotri, Nashik, Maharashtra (hereinafter referred to as YCMOU) and represented by its Vice Chancellor, which expression shall include its successors or administrators or assignees on the other part.

WHEREAS the Indian Army is an organization of the Government of India under the Ministry of Defence, which *inter alia* is also responsible for catering to the educational and training needs of all levels of personnel in the Indian Army. The Indian Army is committed to maintain extremely high standards of training and education among all levels of its personnel.

WHEREAS YCMOU is a leading Open University in the country, established by an Act of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly, is listed as one of the Mega Open Universities in the world and is a recipient of the coveted Award for Institutional Excellence in Distance Education from the Commonwealth of Learning (CoL), Canada. YCMOU is committed to offering high quality, cost-effective need-based distance education to all sections of society, more especially the deprived ones. Besides, YCMOU has a system of recognising institutions / organisational units as Study Centres, which is eminently suitable for the educational requirements of the Army personnel.

Object of this MOU

As a token of our recognition to the services rendered, this Memorandum of Understanding seeks to:

- (i) Offer degree programs in Arts / Commerce to the Army personnel, giving due credit to the knowledge and skills acquired by them while in service
- (ii) Subsequently develop and offer new academic programmes at the Under Graduate level like B.Sc for the wards of the defence personnel, NCC cadets, B. Ed for the War Widows and MBA for the Officers, graduate Junior Commissioned Officers (JCOs) and Other Ranks (OR).

Broad Memorandum of Understanding

The criteria laid down by YCMOU for recognition of Study Centres for the award of the Diploma in Self Empowerment and a Bachelor's degree in Arts or Commerce would form the basis for registration of Regimental Training Centres, established Schools of Instruction and Human Resource Development Centers of the Indian Army as Army-YCMOU Study Centres. The details of the MoU are as defined hereunder:

Definition

- i) Development :- All activities pertaining to the following :
 - Designing a curriculum for the programmes, giving due credit to the in-house training programmes conducted by the Army.

Detailing the content of the programmes and specifying the expected learning outcomes.

Developing study material.

Designing a suitable assessment system.

- ii) **Delivery** :- All activities pertaining to the following:
 - · Registering students.
 - Providing study-material to the students and handling other related administrative matters.
 - Awarding Diplomas / Degrees to the qualifying students.

2. Programme Structure

For the non XII pass personnel

 A Preparatory programme focusing on basic study skills will be offered as a bridge course.

For the XII / Preparatory pass personnel

- The Bachelor's degree programme in Arts / Commerce (BA / B. Com) will be offered.
- The Bachelor's programme will consist of 108 Credit Points (CP) with 1 CP is equal to approximately 30 hours of study, to maintain parity with other Bachelor's pogrammes offered by the University that are in keeping with the norms of the University Grants Commission and such other regulatory authorities.
- The Bachelor's programme will have a minimum duration of 3 years with 36 CP covered in each year. There will be 6 courses offered in each year, each course corresponding to 6 CP. Thus, in all there will be 6x3= 18 courses offered under the graduate degree programme.
- Exemption from studying YCMOU courses in lieu of the in-service training/courses completed will be as under:
 - o First Year: Course exemption for 5 out of 6 courses.
 - Second Year: Course exemption for 4 out of 6 courses.
 - Third Year: Course exemption for 3 out of 6 courses.

Thus, out of a total of 18 courses corresponding to 108 CP₇ course exemption in the form of transfer of credits will be offered for 12 courses corresponding to 72 CP.

At the end of first year of enrolment, on successful completion of the Army training, students will be awarded a **Diploma in Self Empowerment**, jointly certified by YCMOU and the Indian Army. This Diploma will be marily introduced as a motivational measure.

The Bachelor's degree in Arts / Commerce will be awarded at the end of the Third Year to the students completing all the training components of the Army and securing 40% in the courses offered by YCMOU.

[The course details included in each programme are given in the **Appendix**]



3. Standard Operating Procedures

Responsibilities of YCMOU

- Enroll students at YCMOU HQ through the recognized Army-YCMQU Study Centres.
- Develop the syllabus, design and print the study material.
- Recognise over a period of time, the respective units/regiments of the Army as YCMOU Sub-Centres.
- Despatch the study material directly to the students through study centers.
- Provide/ Create examination facilities at defined locations as decided by the Indian Army and YCMOU at the end of the Third Year of the degree programme.
- Assist the enrolled Students in enhancing their knowledge and skills and award the successful students with the relevant Certificate / Degree.

Responsibilities of the Army

- Assist in the student registration process.
- Keep student records and communicate updations / changes, if any to the university, using the Digital University Portal.

Joint Responsibilities of YCMOU and the Army

- Application forms, duly filled in along with the applicable fees shall be forwarded to the YCMOU HQ by the respective Army-YCMOU Study Centres.
- Fee subsidy shall be offered as a special gesture and the fees will include Registration, development and despatch of study material, conduct of examinations and Certification. The applicable fees for each student for all the three years under the graduation programme will be collected in one installment at the time of registration to reduce the administrative burden on the Army.

The study material provided by YCMOU will be self-instructional in nature.

The entire set of study material (For First / Second / Third Year of Degree Program) will be provided to the enrolled students during their period of recruit training at their respective Training Centres.

Marathi (with the possibility of adding other languages subsequently as per speed) for the Preparatory and BA programmes. The study material for the B. Com. program will be in English. The study material for the B. Ed. program will be in Marathi.

 The assessment of students at the Preparatory level will be through an objective type examination to be conducted along with the routine examinations at the respective training centre. Students getting a minimum of 40% in this examination will be eligible for taking admission to the First Year of the degree programme.

- At the First Year and Second Year of the degree programme, no separate examinations will be held.
- For the final year of graduation, YCMOU will conduct On Demand Examinations at predetermined Exam Centers anywhere in the State of Maharashtra.
- The examination will cover the courses offered by YCMOU at First, Second and Third Year. Students will be fully briefed in advance about the nature of the examination and details regarding how to appear for it through the University Portal. Students clearing the examination successfully will be eligible for the graduation degree (Bachelor of Arts/ Bachelor of Commerce) provided the Army Training Component is also successfully completed by the student. The same would be certified by the Army Study Center. Students may appear for the Third Year examination any time after a minimum period of three years from the date of registration.
- The YCMOU shall make available the facility of "On Demand Examination" to the Army personnel. Such personnel may appear for the examination as per their convenience, at the Examination Centers at regular study centers of YCMOU.
- If the UGC, in the mean time approves the "On-line Examination Mode", the YCMOU shall make available the facility of Online Examination to army personnel.
- Existing academic programs such as MBA shall also be available to Army Officers, graduate JCOs, Other Ranks (OR) and NCC Cadets.
- Some seats under B.Ed. program of YCMOU can also be made available to warwidows. The study material for B.Ed. program is available in Marathi language.

4. Governance

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The following Governance Units/ Committees shall be set up / constituted.

- a) Army Liaison Cell in YCMOU premises
- b) Joint Consultative Committee (hereinafter called JCC) comprising members of YCMOU and the Indian Army, which would generally meet once in three months.
- A five member Army-YCMOU Academic Committee (hereinafter called AYAC), under the Chair of Adjutant General or his nominee from the Indian Army with a representative from YCMOU shall be constituted to address and resolve functional issues relating to academic content of courses, number of credits for a subject, examination issues, award of certificates, diplomas or degrees of YCMOU and any other issue(s) brought to its notice/attention.

5. Copyright and Intellectual Property

All copyrights of the course material (Print/ Audio/Video) developed by YCMOU shall rest with YCMOU, the course material developed by the Indian Army shall rest with Indian Army and for courses developed jointly by YCMOU and Indian Army, shall be held jointly with YCMOU and the Indian Army.

6. Validity

This MoU will be effective when signed by both parties and shall remain in effect till termination with mutual consent.

7. Termination

The MoU may be terminated at any time during the currency of its period of validity through mutual consent after six months notice from either side in this regard. However, all registered candidates shall be permitted to pursue and complete the program till the registration period is valid, in furtherance to this MOU.

8. Amendment

The obligation of the Indian Army and YCMOU has been outlined in the MoU. However, during the operation of the MoU, circumstances may arise which may call for alterations or modifications of this agreement. These alterations will be mutually discussed and agreed upon in writing. No Amendment or change hereof or addition hereto shall be effective or binding on either of the parties hereto unless set in writing and executed by the respective duly authorized representatives of each of the parties hereto.

9. Further Acts and Assurances

Each of the parties agrees to execute and deliver all such further instruments and to do and perform all such further acts and things, as shall be necessary and required to carry out the provisions of this agreement and to consummate the transactions contemplated hereby.

10. Matters Not Provided For

If any doubt arises as to the interpretation of the provisions of this Agreement or as to matters not provided therein, the parties to this Agreement shall consult with each other for each instance and resolve such doubts in good faith.

11. Settlement of Dispute and Jurisdiction

If any dispute or difference of any kind whatsoever may arise between the parties in connection with or arising out of this agreement or out of the breach, termination or invalidity of the agreement hereof, the Indian Army and YCMOU shall attempt for a period of 30 days after receipt of notice by the other party of the existence of a dispute to settle such dispute in the first instance by mutual discussions between the parties.

If the dispute cannot be settled by mutual discussions within 30 days as provided herein, only the Courts of New Delhi (NCR) will have the jurisdiction to adjudicate upon the matter.

12. Force Majeure

Neither YCMOU nor the Indian Army shall be liable to each other or to their students for failure or delay in the performance of any of its obligations under this Agreement for the time and to the extent such failure or delay is caused by riots, civil commotion, wars, hostilities between nations, government loss, orders regulations, embargos, action by the government(s) or any agency thereof, act of God, Stores, fires, accidents, strikes, sabotages, explosions, or other similar or different categories beyond the reasonable control of the respective parties to this Agreement.

13. Notices

Any notice, approval, consent and or other notification required or permitted to be given hereunder shall be in writing in English and shall be personally delivered or transmitted by registered post with postage fully paid or transmitted by fax to the address specified below or to such other addresses as may, from time to time be given by each party to the other party in writing and in the manner herein before provided to both parties. The notices shall be addressed to the Chairperson of JCC. Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University and the Indian Army agree to the broad terms outlined in this Memorandum of Understanding and sign this Agreement.

SIGNED

On behalf of

Yashwantrao Chavan

Maharashtra Open University

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On behalf of the Indian Army

(Prof. E. Vayunandan)

Vice Chancellor

YCMOU

Witness

1.

(Dr. Dinesh Bhonde)

Registrar
Yeshwentrae Chavan Maharashtra
YCMO Gen University, Nashik-422 222

Services)

2.

(Dr. Prakash Atkare)

Director

Student Services Division

YCMOU

Director
Student Services Division,
Y.C.M. Open University, Nashik.

(Ashwani Kumar)

Lieutenant General

Adjutant General

Integrated Headquarters of

Ministry of Defence (Army)

Witness

1. (Gopa R)

Lien Condition (Fall)

(Manpower Planning & Personnel New Delhi-110011

Integrated Headquarters of .

Ministry of Defence (Army)

(Sudhakar Jee)

Major General

Additional Director General

Personnel Services

Integrated Headquarters of

Ministry of Defence (Army)

Appendix

A] Preparatory Programme

- Study material: 3 books as follows:
 - (i) Basic Study Skills
 - (ii) Mathematics for All
 - (iii) Basic Language Skills

Note: For the purpose of easy handling, all the three books will be bound together with a single cover.

Fees: Rs. 200/- (including study material, registration and examination)

B] Bachelor of Arts

First Year:

- 1 course titled, 'Foundation Course in Self Study Skills' offered by YCMOU (6 CP) in addition to five Army-related courses considered under Credit Transfer.
- Study material will consist of 3 books, bound together in 1 single cover to facilitate easy distribution.
- The book titles will be as follows:
 - (i) Reading & Writing Skills
 - (ii) Listening & Conversational Skills
 - (iii) Observation Skills, Library & Reference Skills and Self-directed Learning

Second Year: 6 courses @ 6 Credit Points per course = 36 CP

- Exemption for 4 Army-related courses out of 6
- Two courses will be offered by YCMOU as follows:
 - (i) Economics for All
 - (ii) Social Change and Social Movements
- Each course will have 1 book.

Third Year: 6 courses @ 6 Credit Points per course = 36 CP

- Exemption for 3 Army-related courses out of 6.
- Three courses will be offered by YCMOU as follows:
 - (i) I and My Social Behaviour
 - (ii) Our Rights and their Fulfillment
 - (iii) ICT Literacy and Soft Skills

ourses (i) and (ii) above will have 1 book each, while Course (iii) shall have 2 books.

C] Bachelor of Commerce

First Year:

- 1 course titled, 'Foundation Course in Self Study Skills' offered by YCMOU (6 CP) in addition to five Army-related courses considered under Credit Transfer.
- Study material will consist of 3 books, bound together in 1 single cover to facilitate easy distribution.
- The book titles will be as follows:
 - (i) Reading & Writing Skills
 - (ii) Listening & Conversational Skills
 - (iii) Observation Skills, Library & Reference Skills and Self-directed Learning

Second Year: 6 courses @ 6 Credit Points per course = 36 CP

- Exemption for 4 Army-related courses out of 6
- Two courses will be offered by YCMOU as follows:
 - (i) Basics of Accountancy
 - (ii) Fundamentals of Management
- Each course will have 1 book.

Third Year: 6 courses @ 6 Credit Points per course = 36 CP

- Exemption for 3 Army-related courses out of 6.
- Three courses will be offered by YCMOU as follows:
 - (i) HR Management
 - (ii) Banking and Finance
 - (iii) ICT Literacy and Soft Skills
 - Courses (i) and (ii) above will have 1 book each, while Course (iii) shall have 2 books.

Programme Fees (BA/B.Com)*:

First Year

OHI

Rs. 250/-

Second Year :

Rs. 350/-

Third Year

Rs. 700/- (inclusive of Online End examination)

Total: Rs. 1300/-

e applicable fees may undergo periodic revisions based on review the JCC