MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

Consumer Unity & Trust Society (CUTS International)

AND

Global Association of Economic Education (GAEE), SRCC

For Research-Based Live Project Collaboration

Date of Execution: 13/11/2026

1. PREAMBLE

This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as the "MoU") is entered into between Consumer Unity & Trust Society (hereinafter referred to as "CUTS") and the Global Association of Economic Education, Shri Ram College of Commerce (hereinafter referred to as "GAEE SRCC"), collectively referred to as the "Parties".

The purpose of this MoU is to establish a collaborative framework for undertaking research-oriented live projects, providing students with practical exposure to real-world research assignments, policy-related issues, economic developments and institutional research requirements.

Both Parties recognise the value of academic collaboration and knowledge exchange and intend to facilitate meaningful engagement between students and professionals through this association.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE COLLABORATION

The collaboration aims to:

- Facilitate student participation in research-based live projects undertaken in association with CUTS.
- Provide students with practical exposure to applied research, economic analysis, policy research and related disciplines.
- Encourage analytical thinking, evidence-based reasoning and professional research practices.
- Promote knowledge exchange between academic institutions and industry or research organisations.
- Enable students to contribute to research initiatives and institutional assignments under appropriate guidance.

3. NATURE AND SCOPE OF COLLABORATION

The Parties agree to collaborate on research-oriented live projects as mutually identified and agreed upon.

The scope of collaboration may include, but is not limited to:

- Secondary research and literature reviews.
- Primary research, surveys and data collection.
- Data compilation, interpretation and analysis.
- Preparation of research reports and analytical documents.
- Case studies and thematic research.
- Other research-related assignments mutually agreed upon by the Parties.

The specific nature, scope, methodology and expected outcomes of each project shall be communicated separately through an individual project brief or Statement of Work (SoW).

4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1 CUTS International

CUTS shall, subject to mutual agreement and project requirements:

- Identify and communicate relevant research opportunities and project requirements.
- Provide project briefs, research objectives and relevant background information.
- Designate an appropriate representative or mentor for project coordination.
- Provide necessary guidance, feedback and periodic reviews.
- Review submissions and provide feedback wherever feasible.
- Communicate project-specific expectations and timelines.

4.2 GAEE SRCC

GAEE SRCC shall:

- Coordinate the recruitment and selection of suitable student participants.
- Appoint a student coordinator or project lead for each assignment.
- Facilitate communication between CUTS and participating students.
- Coordinate the execution and timely submission of agreed project deliverables.
- Ensure that participating students adhere to professional standards and confidentiality requirements.
- Facilitate coordination meetings and progress updates, wherever necessary.

5. PROJECT EXECUTION AND DELIVERABLES

Each live project shall be undertaken in accordance with a mutually agreed project brief.

The project brief may specify:

- Project objectives and research questions.
- Scope of work and methodology.
- Project duration and milestones.
- Expected deliverables and submission formats.
- Review and evaluation mechanisms.

Depending on the nature of the assignment, deliverables may include research reports, presentations, datasets, analytical documents, policy briefs, literature reviews or other relevant outputs.

The specific deliverables and acceptance criteria shall be determined separately for each project.

6. PROJECT DURATION

The duration of each live project shall be mutually determined by the Parties and communicated before commencement.

Any extension, modification or change in project scope shall be subject to mutual agreement.

7. FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

The Parties acknowledge that the collaboration is undertaken on a pro bono basis.

- No professional fees or remuneration shall be payable by either Party for the collaboration.
- Participating students shall not be entitled to any salary or stipend unless separately agreed in writing.
- Any expenses arising from travel, fieldwork or other project-related activities shall be discussed and approved by both Parties in advance.
- Any future commercial engagement shall require a separate written agreement.

8. CONFIDENTIALITY AND DATA PROTECTION

Both Parties agree to maintain the confidentiality of non-public information, documents, research material and data shared during the collaboration.

Participating students shall not disclose, reproduce, distribute or commercially utilise confidential information without prior written permission from CUTS.

Both Parties shall ensure that relevant information and data are handled responsibly and in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

These confidentiality obligations shall continue beyond the termination or expiry of this MoU.

9. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

Ownership and usage rights concerning research material, reports, datasets, findings and other project outputs shall be determined in accordance with the relevant project brief or separate written understanding.

Unless otherwise agreed:

- CUTS shall be entitled to use the agreed project deliverables for its institutional and research purposes.
- GAEE SRCC and participating students may refer to their involvement in the project for academic and professional purposes, subject to confidentiality requirements and prior approval where required.
- No Party shall publish or commercially distribute confidential project material without the necessary written permissions.

10. STUDENT PARTICIPATION AND RECOGNITION

GAEE SRCC shall facilitate student participation in the projects through an appropriate selection and coordination process.

Subject to mutual agreement and satisfactory completion of project responsibilities, CUTS will provide certificates, acknowledgements (Via email or otherwise) or other forms of recognition to participating students.

The terms and nature of such recognition shall be communicated before or during the commencement of the respective project.

11. NON-EXCLUSIVITY

This MoU shall be non-exclusive in nature. Both Parties shall remain free to enter into similar collaborations or arrangements with other institutions and organisations.

13.. AMENDMENTS

Any modification or amendment to this MoU shall be made through mutual written consent of both Parties and shall form an integral part of this understanding.

16. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Any disputes arising out of this MoU shall initially be resolved through mutual discussions and good-faith negotiations between the designated representatives of both Parties.

If unresolved, the matter shall be addressed in accordance with applicable laws of India and the jurisdiction mutually agreed upon by the Parties.

17. VALIDITY

This MoU shall come into effect from the date of its execution and shall remain valid for a period of one (1) year, unless extended or terminated through mutual agreement or in accordance with the termination provisions.

SIGNATURES

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the authorised representatives of both Parties have executed this Memorandum of Understanding.

FOR CUTS INTERNATIONAL

Name: Mr Bipul Chattopadhyay

Designation: Executive Director

Signature

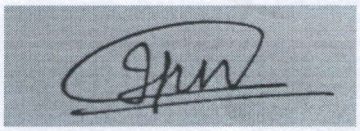
Date: 14/11/2026

CONSUMER UNITY & TRUST SOCIETY
CUTS International
JAIPUR, INDIA

FOR GAEE SRCC

Name: Ishan Prakash Nagpal

Designation: Founding General Secretary, GAEE SRCC



Signature

Date: 13/11/2026