MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR TEACHER EDUCATION (NCTE)
AND
REHABILITATION COUNCIL OF INDIA (RCI)

This Memorandum of Understanding herein referred to as ‘MOU’ is signed on this
day i.e. 08th April 2015 by the following two parties:-
NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR TEACHER EDUCATION (NCTE), constituted under the National Council for Teacher Education Act 73 of 1993 by the Government of India and presently having its offices at Hans Bhawan, Wing II, 1, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi – 110 002 to be referred as ‘NCTE’ on the first part.

AND

REHABILITATION COUNCIL OF India (RCI), a body created under the Rehabilitation Council of India Act, 1992 having its registered office at B-22, Qutub Institutional Area, New Delhi – 110 016 to be referred as ‘RCI’

Preamble

As per RTE Act, 2009 it is the responsibility of the Government to ensure that each child, irrespective of its caste, creed, sex and location must get elementary education. The same applies to secondary education also. In order to achieve this objective, various schemes and programmes have been launched by the Government of India. Inclusive Education is one of them to bring children with disabilities within the main stream of education. This effort is further supported by provisions of resource rooms, home-based education and special schools where besides teachers, special teachers/educators are also involved and appointed.

The RCI has been charged with the responsibility of standardizing the syllabi, regulating and monitoring the training of special teachers/educators who teach children with special needs arising out of disabilities. In fact, it is mandatory for these professionals and personnel to be registered with RCI. On the other hand, it is the responsibility of the NCTE to regulate and monitor the training of teachers to be appointed in schools and Teacher Educators to be appointed in Teacher Education institutions; and to determine the minimum qualifications of teachers under the RTE Act 2009. To achieve the goal of inclusive education, it is necessary for RCI and NCTE to act in convergent manner within the purview of their statutory provisions.

I Aims and Objectives

Therefore, in accordance with the provisions of the Acts, Rules and Regulations of NCTE and RCI, both hereby sign an MOU which aims at cooperation in the following areas :-

1. Revision of minimum standards for offering teacher education preparation programmes with disability specific specialization in view of NCTE Regulations, 2014 and RCI norms and Regulations as may be applicable.
2. Developing / Revising course curriculum on special education / inclusive education for (i) ensuring inclusion in general teacher education programmes; (ii) preparing special educators to support inclusive education practices and (iii) serve children who may need special schools.

Contd..3
To achieve this, both will have members as representative of NCTE and RCI in curriculum development exercises.

3. Offering Continuing Rehabilitation Education (CRE) and Continuing Professional Development Programmes for special education and general education teachers.

4. Undertaking research studies for the promotion of inclusive education following Universal Design for Learning wherever applicable.

II Terms of Reference of MOU

1. RCI and NCTE shall jointly constitute a National Consultative Committee to evolve and review norms and standards for offering special education teacher preparation programmes with disability specific specialization and other related matters to teachers’ service conditions.

2. The RCI-NCTE National Consultative Committee shall comprise of the following:

   (i) Chairperson, NCTE
   (ii) Chairperson, RCI
   (iii) Vice Chairperson, NCTE
   (iv) Two Experts to be nominated by the Chairperson, RCI
   (v) Two Experts to be nominated by the Chairperson, NCTE
   (vi) Member Secretary, RCI
   (vii) Member Secretary, NCTE
   (viii) Deputy Secretary, NCTE
   (ix) Deputy Director (Prog), RCI

   Chairperson | In rotation
   Chairperson | Member
   Member
   Member
   Member Convener | In rotation
   Member Convener

3. RCI and NCTE will constitute Joint Committees of Experts to work out the mechanisms for quality initiatives for promotion and sustenance of inclusive education among teacher education institutions so that detailed Plans of Action can be prepared and submitted to National Consultative Committee.

III Duration, Termination and Review of the MOU

Arrangement under the MOU will be operative for an initial period of five years commencing from the date of signing of this MOU. Further continuance of this MOU would be subject to joint review by RCI and the NCTE to be undertaken prior to the expiry of the same. However, RCI and NCTE shall have the Right to terminate the agreement at any time, with three month notice from either side.

Contd..4
IV Amendment of the MOU

The obligations of RCI and NCTE have been outlined in this MOU. However, if during the operation of the MOU circumstances arise which, call for any alternation / modification / clarification thereto, the same will be mutually discussed and agreed upon by both the parties.

V Dispute, if any

Wherever any dispute arises between the parties of this MOU in respect of the clauses contained herein, such matter(s) shall be referred to the mutually agreed Arbitrator at New Delhi.

Both the parties hereby agree, to execute the objectives of MOU, within the framework of Terms of Reference of this agreement.

Juglal Singh
Member Secretary
National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE)

S.K. Srivastava
Member Secretary
Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI)