Partnership for Sustainable Development Goals

GITAM being a private and a self-financing university, its direct involvement in government policies is limited. However, it contributes indirectly to the sustainable development by way of research, education, protocols, strategies, and SOPs on various developmental activities, which are substantial contributions in shaping government policies down the road.

As a responsible organization, GITAM has always supported central, state, and local governments in their pursuit of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Partnerships with various institutions and organizations have been instrumental in the University's strategy to further SDGs.

Partnering with Government Bodies:

GIMSR (GITAM Institute of Medical Science and Research) established protocols and strategies for the COVID-19 Crisis Management during the early stage itself and received broad appreciation from the Governments. Hence, GIMSR was chosen as the **"Nodal Centre"** by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh, under the National Disaster Management Act 2005, GOI. GIMSR has developed COVID Protocols and SOPs, and strategies to manage the pandemic and played a significant role in controlling the spread of disease in the region.

GITAM entered into MOU with Ministry of **Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, GOI, Training Centre,** Visakhapatnam, and established a Centre of Excellence – Social Incubation & Entrepreneurship. The center's main objective is to provide training and supporting services by handholding the Small and Medium enterprises of this region to improve the livelihood of the low-income people, with a particular focus on social entrepreneurship.

GITAM University has been assisting the Local Government in designing and helping the local developmental projects.

1. Dr. Mukund, faculty of the Department of Civil Engineering, assisted the Visakhapatnam Metro Regional Development Authority (**VMRDA**), Visakhapatnam, in

designing and developing the "60' X 80'X-road Junction" in the area of Rushikonda, Visakhapatnam.

1. Prof. KVGD Balaji (Department of Civil Engineering) and Er. T. Santosh Kumar (School of Architecture) extended their services to the Local Government to design the Village Secretariat and Centre for Farmers' Support in the District of Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh, India.

Partnering with International Organisations / Institutions:

In line with the UN's policies on the role of Universities, GITAM provides professional courses in collaboration with internationally reputed organizations to reduce the gap between education and practice.

GITAM has recently established a new School viz., "**Kautilya School of Public Policy**," comprising eminent public policy professionals formally trained in evidence-based policymaking.

GITAM has an MOU with **Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA), UK**. The MoU's goal is to embed the curriculum of CIMA certification into the new BBA (Hons) program and thus enable students to complete both BBA(Hons) and CIMA qualifications simultaneously.

GITAM has signed an MOU with **The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), UK.** The agreement will enable B.Com (Hons) students to pursue ACCA qualifications alongside their regular B.Com program.

GITAM entered into an MOU with **Elon University**, a mid-sized private university in the USA that is nationally recognized as a premium student-centered environment for experiential learning. The MoU entails faculty exchange programs, research and academic collaborations, especially in the areas of Science, Technology, Medicine, and Pharmacy.

Partnering with National and Local Organisations:

GITAM entered into an MOU with **Bio valley Incubation Council** for Joint Research Collaboration in the areas of nutraceuticals, lab meat development, and anti-aging products. Bio valley Incubation Council is India's largest Life Sciences focused incubator that supports start-ups through its unique ecosystem, providing unlimited access to cutting-edge technologies, as well as market access assistance. Bio valley incubation program ensures bringing the right blend of expert mentorship, access to venture funding, R&D facilitation, testing infrastructure, industry academia collaboration, etc. for its incubates and offers them the right platform to launch their products, thus bettering their chances for product realization and commercial success.

GITAM entered into MOU with **YourDOST**, a platform that allows students to connect with experts to discuss personal, professional, and academic life issues. The professionally trained counselors on the platform help students cope with work stress, relationship issues, enhance self-image, and support students in their quest for self-improvement.

GITAM entered into an MOU with a local NGO to establish a **Rural Health Centre (RHC)** located in Modavalasa Village, Denkada Mandal, Vizianagaram District. As part of the Community Medicine program, this RHC provides healthcare services and creates awareness management, need assessment, good health, and sanitation, nutritional aspects, water management, sexually transmitted diseases, etc.

GITAM is an institutional member of the **"Indian Society for Training and Development" (ISTD)**, which mainly works towards designing the policies for effective Human Resources Development(HRD) training practices, tools. Professor Raja Pappu, a Professor with GITAM, is currently serving as the Vice-Chairman of the Indian Society for Training and Development – Visakhapatnam Chapter and contributing to designing the policies and strategies for Human Resource Development.

University faculty undertakes various research projects in the key areas of Sustainable Development Goals. During the years 2019 & 2020, a significant contribution was made by

way of approximately 200+ activities in the form of research projects, patents, and consultancies.

GITAM strives hard to address the issues of society at large, viz: natural calamities, climate change, food, agriculture, healthcare, renewable & non-renewable energy resources, anthropological, linguistics, human resources, defence etc through multidimensional research in GITAM, as sponsored by various government funding agencies such as **DST, UGC, DBT, CSIR, MoES, MoEFCC, DRDO, DAE, BARC, NABARD, ICMR, WNRF, ICPR, AYUSH etc**, from time to time.

Dr. P Naga Srinivasu, Faculty, Department of Computer Science Engineering, was granted a Patent on 'IOT and Machine Learning – based Power Distribution management System" by the **Australian Government.**