

## UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION

### **Status of the implementation of the recommendations of the Empowered Committee for Basic Scientific Research in Indian Universities for 2008-2009.**

The M/HRD had set up a Task Force for rejuvenation of Basic Scientific Research in Indian Universities under the Chairmanship of Prof. M.M. Sharma, former Director , UICT, Mumbai. An Empowered Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Prof.M.M.Sharma, Former Director, UICT, Mumbai for implementation of recommendations of the Task Force. The Empowered Committee is meeting almost every month for taking action on the recommendations of the Task force. Till date following is the status of the implementation of the recommendations of the Empowered Committee:

- 1        3276 JRF's @ Rs.10,000/- p.m. with a contingency grant of Rs.6000/- p.a have been granted to each Science Departments DRS/CAS/DSA/Non-SAP.
- 2        Rupees Twenty lakhs each have been sanctioned to 328 DRS/DSA/CAS Departments in Science, Bio-Science, Agricultural Sciences and Engineering Sciences for strengthening of infrastructure in terms of power supply, water supply, safety equipment, laboratories working tables and infrastructure required for including the component of research at P.G.Level. Programme. An expenditure of 62.40 Crores has been incurred so far. It has been decided that 22 departments which have been inducted at DRS level may also be released an infrastructure grant of Rs.20 Lakhs each. A sum of Rs.3.80 Crores has been released so far.
- 3        After seeing the performance of the 133 departments and receiving statement of expenditure for the grant released to the departments for infrastructural development and based on the proposals invited from each department, the committee recommended that second installment @Rs.30.00 lakhs may be released to the UGC approved SAP departments of DSA/CAS .Accordingly, 103 departments have been sanctioned Rs.30.90 Crores @ Rs.30.00 Lakhs each.
- 4        All State Education Secretaries have been requested to adopt uniform retirement age for the teachers.
- 5        A six-member committee has been constituted with Chairman, UGC and Director-General, CSIR as Co-Chairperson to work out the modalities for creating formal linkages between Universities and CSIR labs, under the collaborative programme. The first meeting of the committee was held on 5.02.2008.
- 6        Operation Faculty Recharge is being launched, under which 1000 faculty positions are being created and to be filled at national level through global advertisement.

Contd....

...2...

- 7 An amount of Rs.144 Crores has been allocated for implementation of recommendations of Prof. M. M. Sharma committee for 2008-09.
- 8 On the recommendations of the Empowered Committee, proposals have been invited for the UGC Networking Centre/Summer-Winter School from CAS and DSA departments under the UGC approved SAP scheme. The short-listed departments were called for presentation. Five departments viz. Department of Life Sciences, JNU, Department of Chemistry, Hyderabad University, Department of Radio Physics & Electronics, Calcutta University, Department of Biological Science, Madurai Kamraj University and Department of Materials Engineering, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore have been selected for establishment of Networking Resource Centers. Selection for Networking Resource centers in other subjects is being finalized. An amount of Rs.22.50 crores has already been released to these four departments, out of the total allocated amount of Rs.45.00 Crores.
- 9 The support has also been extended to departments other than the SAP departments under various programmes initiated by the Empowered Committee. Letters have been sent to the State , Central and Deemed to be Universities inviting proposals from the Non-SAP departments. The information received was put up before the Empowered Committee, in its meeting held on 04.01.2008 and 05.02.2008.The committee recommended an infrastructure grants and fellowships based on the faculty position, Ph.D. produced during the last five years and publications. A grant of Rs.14.35 crores has been released so far.
- 10 The Committee recommended that all M.Sc. programmes shall be structured in a manner so as to include the component of research.
- 11 The Committee was of the view that regional workshops may be held between CAS departments and the Committee members to apprise these departments of the thinking and expectations of the Empowered Committee from these departments.
- 12 The UGC scheme for, “D.S.Kothari Post-Doctoral Fellowship” has been launched. Under the the scheme. 500 PDFs are to be awarded under this scheme annually. Till date 69 candidates have been awarded.
- 13 An infrastructure strengthening grant of Rs.5 lakhs to each of the 700 science departments of 97 colleges with Potential for Excellence (CPE) has been released. An expenditure of Rs.35 Crores has been incurred so far.
- 14 An infrastructure strengthening grant of Rs.10 lakhs each to 195 Autonomous Colleges has been released An expenditure of Rs.19.50 crores has been incurred so far.