



UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION
NEW DELHI

Minutes of the 71st meeting of the Empowered Committee on Basic Scientific Research held on September 3, 2015 at 10.30 A.M. in UGC Office, New Delhi.

The 71st meeting of the Empowered Committee on Basic Scientific Research was held on **September 3, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. in UGC office, New Delhi.** List of participants is at **Annexure - I.**

At the outset Dr. Anil D. Sahasrabudhe Chairman, Empowered Committee welcomed all the members of the Empowered Committee. The Committee paid tribute to our former president **Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam.** There after the Agenda was taken up for discussion.

Item No. 1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the 70th meeting of Empowered Committee held on July 8, 2015 in UGC Office, New Delhi.

The minutes were confirmed with the following observation:

Under Item no. 5, the minutes should be read as:

- a. The applicant should have at least 5 research papers (instead of 2) to his/her credit, published in journals of international repute. Other eligibility conditions remain the same.
- b. The quantum of support under the scheme should be enhanced from Rs. 6 lakhs to Rs. 10 Lakhs.
- c. The grant can be utilized for purchasing items like minor equipment, consumables, contingencies (maximum Rs. 50,000/-pa), fieldwork (maximum Rs. 50,000/- pa), travel etc.
- d. The quantum of funds under these heads can be decided by the PI depending on his/her needs except for the items mentioned above at c.
- e. The grant cannot be used for international travel or for appointing project assistant or research fellow.
- f. The grant may be released in 2 instalments. Initially, 80% of the grant will be released. The remaining grant shall be released after the receipt of the UC of first instalment. However, the tenure to utilize whole grant shall be 2 years

from the date of issue of sanction letter of the first instalment.

Item No. 2 : Action taken on the Minutes.

The Committee noted with satisfaction the action taken by the UGC on the minutes of the 70th meeting of the Empowered Committee.

Item No. 3(i): Discussion with Prof. R.P. Gandhi, Coordinator, Faculty Recharge Programme and Prof. Nangia regarding the progress of the scheme.

Prof. Sudesh Nangia, Associate National Coordinator, Faculty Recharge Programme updated the Committee about the status of the scheme. She informed that recommendations for placement of successful candidates of the 3rd cycle, to various universities, were revisited in light of the suggestions made by the Committee. The list was approved by Chairman Empowered Committee in August 2015.

It was also informed that letters have been sent to the Vice-Chancellors of the respective Universities to seek their concurrence for placement of selected candidates (in the III cycle) in their Universities.

The Associate Coordinator also submitted Budget Estimates of the FRP cell for the FY 2015-16. The committee approved the budget of the FRP Cell.

Item No 3(ii): Decision regarding placement of the selectees in Deemed Universities, institutes of national importance.

The Committee deliberated on the matter and resolved that the following universities are eligible to avail the services of UGC-FRP faculty:

- (i) State government funded Universities included under section 12(B) of the UGC act 1956 (excluding medical and agricultural universities).
- (ii) Central Universities funded by UGC (excluding medical and agricultural universities)

(iii) Deemed to be Universities which are receiving Developmental Assistance from UGC.

Item No 4: Discussion with Prof. S.R. Gadre, Coordinator, and Prof. D.S. Joag, Associate Coordinator of Dr. D.S. Kothari Post-Doctoral Fellowship Cell and regarding the progress of the scheme.

Prof. S R Gadre, National Coordinator and Prof. D.S. Joag, Associate Coordinator submitted the 60th list of recommended and 45th list of not recommended candidates of Dr. D S Kothari Post Doctoral Scheme. The committee approved the same.

The committee also approved the 16th referee honorarium list.

Request regarding change of mentor, conversion of fellowship, leave applied were also approved by the Empowered Committee. Follow up actions on them will be taken up by UGC.

Item No. 5: Discussion with Prof. Anunay Samanta, National Coordinator, UGC-Faculty Research Promotion Schemes regarding the review of three schemes i.e. (i) Start up Grant, (ii) One Time Grant and (iii) UGC BSR Faculty Fellowships.

Prof. Anunay Samanta, National Coordinator submitted the lists of recommended/not-recommended candidates for Start up Grant.

Review of the other two schemes i.e. **One Time Grant** and **BSR Faculty fellowship** were deferred for the next meeting. Till then, it was decided by the committee to put the selection under these schemes on hold.

**Item No 6: Review of other BSR Schemes:
Intimation and Approval of candidates selected under the BSR fellowship Scheme, for the year 2013-14 and 2014-15**

Deferred for the next meeting

**Item No 7: Any other item:
i) Status report on Infrastructure grant provided to 614 Colleges accredited with B/B++ (new/old methodology) to upgrade the laboratories in PG Science Departments.**

Deferred for the next meeting

ii) Discussion about the modalities in establishing new Networking Resource Centres.

Deferred for the next meeting

iii) Clarification regarding appointment of Dr. Piyali Basak under FRP

The Committee desires to seek clarifications from the Registrar, Jadavpur University and Dr. Piyali Basak (FRP selectee) on the matter which will be discussed in the next meeting

iv) Infrastructure grant clarification

The empowered Committee clarified that the departments/college that have already received 1st /2nd installment of the infrastructure grant from the BSR section would be eligible for the 2nd /3rd installment, after the submission of required documents in time.

New departments/colleges cannot apply for the scheme as the schemes have been discontinued.

Item No 8: Budget of BSR:

The Committee noted with satisfaction the Expenditure status under the Basic Scientific Research Programme.

To keep the memory of *Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam* alive the Empowered Committee proposed to launch **DR. APJ Abdul Kalam Single Girl Child Fellowship to pursue Ph.D in Science Disciplines** which will be at par with **Swami Vivekananda Single Girl Child fellowship for Research in Social Sciences**.

It was decided to hold the next meeting of the Empowered Committee on November 6, 2015 at UGC Office, New Delhi.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

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Annexure- I

**List of Participants who attended the 71st meeting of the Empowered Committee
(EC)held on September 3, 2015 inUGC, New Delhi**

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| 1. Dr. Anil D. Sahasrabudhe | - | Chairman, EC |
| 2. Prof. S. A. Bari | - | Member, EC |
| 3. Prof. Jawaharlal Kaul | - | Member, EC |
| 4. Prof. Jaspal Singh Sandhu | - | Member, EC |
| 5. Prof. Sudesh Nangia | - | Assoc. Coordinator, FRP |
| 6. Prof. S R Gadre | - | National Coordinator, DSKPDF |
| 7. Prof. D S Joag | - | Assoc. Coordinator, DSKPDF |
| 8. Prof. Anunay Samanta | - | National Coordinator, FRPS |
| 9. Dr. Sunita Siwach | - | DS(BSR) |
| 10. Dr. Shalini | - | EO(BSR) |