



UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION
NEW DELHI

Minutes of the 91st meeting of the Empowered Committee on Basic Scientific Research held on April 10th, 2019 at 12:00 Noon in UGC Office, New Delhi

The 91st meeting of the Empowered Committee on Basic Scientific Research was held on ***April 10th, 2019 at 12:00 Noon in UGC Office, New Delhi.*** The following attended the meeting:

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| 1. | Prof. Anil D. Sahasrabudhe | - | Chairman, EC |
| 2. | Prof. Rajnish Jain | - | Secretary, UGC |
| 3. | Prof. Anunay Samanta | - | National Coordinator, FRPS |
| 4. | Prof. D.S. Joag | - | Associate Coordinator, DSKPDF |
| 5. | Dr. Sunita Siwach | - | Joint Secretary (BSR) |
| 6. | Mrs. Paramjeet | - | Deputy Secretary (BSR) |
| 7. | Mrs. Poonam Arora | - | Section Officer (BSR) |

Prof. Ashok Jhunjunwala and Prof. Vijay Bhatkar, Members, Empowered Committee attended the meeting through SKYPE / Videoconference.

Prof. Rajnish Jain, Secretary, UGC welcomed the Committee members and appreciated the work done so far under the scheme. Prof. Anil Sahasrabudhe, Chairman of the Committee thanked Prof. Rajnish Jain, Secretary for attending the meeting and sharing his views with the members of the Empowered Committee.

Thereafter, the agenda was taken up for discussion.

Item No. 1	:	<p><i>Confirmation of the Minutes of the 90th meeting of Empowered Committee held on February 7th, 2019 in UGC Head office, Delhi.</i></p> <p>The minutes of 90th Meeting were confirmed with the following modification in item No.6(i) : The Committee also resolved that Dr. Mohan Chandra Joshi, UGC-Assistant Professor (Cycle-III) may accept the Research Grant (i.e. Welcome Trust / DBT India Alliance Intermediate Grant (IA Grant) with a maximum of ₹ 25,000/- p.m. alongwith the UGC-FRP Salary under the scheme of UGC-Faculty Recharge Programme.</p>
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Item No. 2	:	<p>Action taken on the Minutes.</p> <p>The Empowered Committee noted with satisfaction the action taken by the UGC on the minutes of the 90th meeting of the Empowered Committee.</p>
Item No 3	:	<p>Discussion with Prof. D.S. Joag, Associate Coordinator of Dr. D.S. Kothari Post-Doctoral Fellowship Cell regarding the progress of the scheme.</p> <p>The Empowered Committee approved the 81st list (subject-wise) of 67 recommended candidates and 66th list of Not recommended Candidates under the scheme of Dr. D.S. Kothari Post Doctoral Fellowship. The Committee has also approved the 24th Referees Honorarium List.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee accepted the resignations of 10 DSKPDF Fellows. • The Committee recommended the requests of Dr. Mohaseen Salim Tamboli, DSKPDF for leave without fellowship and contingency w.e.f. 01.04.2019 to 30.04.2019. • The Committee approved the requests of Dr. Gopa Mandal, Dr. S. Bhuvaneshwari, and Dr. Divya Arora, DSKPDFs for Maternity Leave as per the norms. • The Committee considered the request of Dr. Sachin Tanaji Mane, DSKPDF, for change of work place from University of Mumbai, Mumbai to Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune and recommended that his request may be accepted as the mentor of the candidate is shifted to Department of Chemistry in Savitribai Phule Pune University. • The Committee considered and approved the request of Dr. Suresh Kumar, DSKPDF for change of mentor in the same University i.e. Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, Department of Physics.

- As per the recommendation made by the DSKPDF Cell, the Committee has also approved the request of Dr. Madhulika Singh (she had misspelled her name while making the application) and Dr. Sangeeta Jaiswal, DSKPDFs (Affidavit of the candidate has been received in DSKPDF Cell) and requested to UGC to send letters to the University where the fellows are joined in this regard.
- The Committee recommended the request of Dr. Andleeb Zehra, DSKPDF for extension in joining on the basis of medical background upto 01.08.2019.

The Empowered Committee in its 89th meeting has noted that the present Memorandum of Understanding with Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune on the operation of the UGC-Dr. D.S. Kothari Post Doctoral Fellowship (DSKPDF) cell from its premises is going to expire on 1st June, 2019. The Committee has also recommended that the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) be renewed for a further period of three years with the earlier terms and conditions. Now, Dr. D.S. Joag submitted the copy of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 100□ non-judicial Stamp paper for renewal for the same under the scheme.

The Committee approved that the website of DSKPDF Cell will be closed for one month w.e.f. 01st June, 2019 to 30th June, 2019 for server maintenance, completion of pending applications and system upgradation etc.

The Empowered Committee also approved the Fifth phase budget of DSKPDF Cell for Non-recurring and Recurring items for the next three years w.e.f. 1st June, 2019 to 31st May, 2022 under the scheme of Dr. D.S. Kothari Post Doctoral Fellowship.

		<p>The Empowered Committee in its 86th meeting has decided to entrust selection of PDF Scholars in Humanities and Social Sciences to the DSKPDF Cell. The Committee therefore recommended to engage an additional National Coordinators and Associate Coordinators separately for selection of postdoctoral fellows under Humanities and Social Sciences stream and also approved hiring of additional staff for this purpose.</p> <p>The Empowered Committee also requested to UGC to send the Self Appraisal reports of FRP faculties (Cycle-II FRP) to Dr. D.S. Kothari Post Doctoral Fellowship Cell for evaluation of review of Past performance under the scheme of UGC-Faculty Recharge Programme.</p>
<p>Item No 4</p>	<p>:</p>	<p><i>Discussion with Prof. Anunay Samanta, National Coordinator, FRPS Cell regarding (i) Mid Career Award, (ii) UGC-BSR Faculty Fellowship & (iii) Start up Grant.</i></p> <p>The recommendations for the Start-up Grant, made by the National Coordinator were considered and approved by the Empowered Committee, provided the proposed work place university is eligible to receive grants from UGC.</p> <p>The recommendations for the Mid-career Award and BSR-Faculty Fellowship Schemes made by the National Coordinator were considered and approved by the Empowered Committee.</p> <p>The Committee discussed on the matter for number of PhDs reduced from 15 to 10 out of which 3 should have been awarded during last five years. Apart from change in number of PhDs, rest of the conditions remain same for MID Career Award. The Committee requested Prof. Samanta to provide the proper justification for reducing Ph.D. from 15 to 10 to place before the Commission for approval of the same.</p>

	<p>The Committee discussed with Prof. Samanta regarding applicability of the BSR Faculty Fellowship scheme also for superannuating teachers of Central Universities. The Committee requested to UGC to update the guidelines of BSR Faculty Fellowship accordingly.</p> <p>The Empowered Committee also resolved that for each thesis, supervised jointly with another guide, the applicant will henceforth be given half credit for supervision, while counting the total number of Ph.D. thesis supervised by him/her. The revised norms shall apply for MID Career Award and BSR Faculty Fellowship Scheme from the date of decision.</p> <p>The Empowered Committee approved the budget proposal of FRPS Cell for Non-recurring and Recurring items for the next three years (2019-2021) under the scheme of Faculty Research Promotion Scheme (FRPS).</p> <p>The Empowered Committee further recommended that UGC is required to give the list of experts available in Humanities and Social Sciences to Dr. D.S Joag and Prof. Anunay Samanta. The two new National Coordinators and Associate Coordinators permitted to be appointed from the Humanities and Social Sciences domain should consolidate the list of experts and share the same with BSR Empowered Committee for formal approval and then make it a part of the list of experts later.</p>
<p>Item No.5</p>	<p><i>UGC-Faculty Recharge Programme:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Committee discussed on the matter of Promotion of 17 candidates (Cycle-I FRP), who were evaluated by the Committee in its 88th meeting. The Committee requested to UGC to initiate the matter by the UGC-Pay Fixation Committee on the priority basis. ii. The Committee considered and approved the request of Dr. C. Subbulakshmi, UGC-Assistant Professor (Cycle-II), Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Pondicherry University, Puducherry for extension to utilize

		<p>the Start up Grant for Nine (9) months upto 31st December, 2019.</p> <p>iii. The Committee recommended the request of Dr. Gagandeep Singh, UGC-Assistant Professor (Cycle-III), Department of Mathematics, Panjab University, Chandigarh for extension to utilize the Start up Grant for one year upto 15th June, 2020.</p>
<p>Item No.6.</p>	<p>:</p>	<p>Any Other items:</p> <p>i. The Empowered Committee discussed on the matter of Dr. L.P. Deshmukh, UGC-BSR Faculty Fellow and the matter is under consideration with the Commission.</p> <p>ii. The Empowered Committee considered and recommended the request of Dr. H. Devaraj, UGC-BSR Faculty Fellow, Department of Zoology, University of Madras, Chennai, for 'No-cost extension' of one year under the scheme of UGC-Faculty Recharge Programme.</p> <p>iii. The Committee considered the request of Dr. S. Nagini, BSR-Faculty Fellow, Department of Biochemistry & Biotechnology, Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar, Tamil Nadu for hire a Project Assistant for BSR project within the fund allocated and without any additional cost. The Empowered Committee approved the request of Dr. S. Nagini as per the guidelines of BSR Faculty Fellowship.</p> <p>iv. The Empowered Committee also approved the request of Prof. (Mrs) P. Geraldine, UGC-BSR Faculty Fellow, Department of Animal Science, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli for '<u>No-cost extension</u>' of one year w.e.f. 1st July, 2019 to 30th June, 2020.</p> <p>v. The Committee approved the request of Prof. A.K. Srivastava, UGC-BSR Faculty Fellow, Department of Chemistry, University of Mumbai, Mumbai for '<u>No-cost extension</u>' of one year.</p> <p>vi. The Committee considered and approved the request of Dr. Sunil Kumar Singh and Dr. Akhilesh Bharati, Assistant Professors, Department of Chemistry, Kirori Mal College,</p>

		<p>University of Delhi, Delhi for 'waive off' refund the over expenditure on equipments under Start up Grant. The equipments purchase from the Start up Grant shall be property of the University.</p> <p>vii. The Empowered Committee approved the request of Dr. Mary Chatterjee, Assistant Professor, UIET, Panjab University, Chandigarh for extension to utilize the Start up Grant for six months.</p> <p>viii. The requests of Dr. Najmul Arfin, and Dr.Javid Ali, Assistant Professors, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi considered and recommended by the Empowered Committee for extension to utilize the second installment of Start up Grant for one year upto 31st March, 2020.</p> <p>ix. The Committee approved the request of Dr. Imtiyaz Yousuf, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh for extension to utilize the second installment of Start up grant for three months.</p> <p>x. The Empowered Committee decided to call the proposal / presentation for Second Phase of Networking Resource Centre at School of Physics, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad.</p> <p>The Committee requested to the UGC to avoid hardship to the faculties on the following schemes, the grant should be disbursed through DBT/Online mode:</p> <p>i.UGC-Faculty Recharge Programme ii.Start-up-Grant to newly recruited faculty iii.MID Carer Award (erstwhile One Time Grant)</p>
Item No 7	:	<p>Budget of BSR:</p> <p>The Committee noted with satisfaction the Expenditure status under the Basic Scientific Research Programme.</p>

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