



UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION
NEW DELHI

Minutes of the 3rd meeting of the Empowered Committee on Basic Scientific Research held on 6th April, 2015 at 10.30 A.M. in UGC Office, New Delhi.

The 3rd meeting of the Empowered Committee on Basic Scientific Research was held on **6th April, 2015 at 10.30 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. There after the Agenda was taken up for discussion.

Item No. 1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2nd meeting of Empowered Committee held on 17th February, 2015 in UGC Office, New Delhi.

The minutes of the 2nd meeting of the Empowered Committee held on **17th February, 2015** in UGC office, New Delhi were noted and confirmed.

Item No. 2: Action taken on the Minutes.

The Committee noted with satisfaction the action taken by the UGC on the minutes of the 2nd meeting of the Empowered Committee.

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

As discussed in the previous meeting, Prof. R.P. Gandhi, and Prof. Nangia presented a format for receiving feedback from the awardees of the FRP. The Empowered Committee had proposed that in addition to the existing information on the portal the FRP committee should also get the feedback from all awardees in terms of their self assessment every

year: committed plan, achievements, challenges and plan for the next one year. There were suggestions made for improving the format. The Committee also wished to get feedback from the Vice-Chancellors of the concerned Universities regarding implementation of FRP. The committee desired that the format be uploaded on the portal before 20th April, 2015 and compiled information presented in the next meeting.

(ii) To approve minutes of the selection Committee meetings for faculty, under UGC FRP in the discipline of Physics, Biological-Chemical-, Earth and Engineering Sciences relating to third cycle of appointments.

Prof. R.P. Gandhi, and Prof. Nangia presented the recommendations of the FRP committee. The Empowered Committee (EC) approved the same. The Empowered Committee decided that the list of selected candidates in the *III* cycle may be released by **Smt.Smiriti Irani**, Hon'ble Human Resource Minister, Govt. of India.

(iii) To discuss the modalities for inclusion of Social Sciences under the Faculty Recharge Programme as per decision of the Commission in its 501st meeting held on 13.06.2014.

The Committee resolved that it neither has the mandate nor the competence to do selections of the faculty in Social Science. Therefore, Social Science subjects cannot be included in the FRP.

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 and Prof. D. S. Joag presented the lists of selected candidates. The Committee approved the 57th list of successful candidates and 42nd list of unsuccessful candidates. The Committee also approved 14th Referee honorarium list.

Prof. Gadre also informed the Committee about the modification in the website to receive the feedback from the DSK Fellows and proposed meeting of the mentors, fellows and external reviewers for monitoring the

progress of the fellows. The Committee approved the request of Prof. Gadre to pay an amount of Rs. 1000/- as honorarium for the assessment of complete work of one DSK Fellow.

The committee also approved detailed revised specification of server configuration for the DSKPDF Cell.

Prof. S.R. Gadre raised the problems related to obtaining Utilization Certificates of contingency grant from the concerned universities by the Dr. DS Kothari Post-Doctoral Fellows receiving fellowship under direct benefit transfer (DBT). The Empowered Committee reiterated that as per the guidelines the contingency has to be utilized as per university norms, with the prior permission of the mentor and the fellow has to submit the Utilization Certificate duly signed by the mentor and endorsed by the Registrar of the concerned University.

A letter to this effect may be sent by UGC office to all participating universities and institutes, mentors and DSK fellows.

Requests regarding change of mentor, conversion from bridging to normal/higher etc. received from the Dr. D.S.Kothari Fellows were approved by the Empowered Committee. Follow-up steps for the requests will be taken up by the UGC and prompt action will be taken.

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

The Empowered Committee approved the selection of the candidates for “One-Time Grant”, “UGC-BSR Faculty Fellowships” and “Start-up Grant for Newly Recruited Faculty under BSR”.

The Committee requested Prof. Anunay Samanta to expedite the process of getting feedback from the selectees of FRPS so that it can review the scheme in the next meeting.

Item No 6: Budget of BSR

The Committee noted the Expenditure status under the Basic Scientific Research Programme and complemented the hard work done by the Section.

Item No 7: Any other item:

- (a) ***Request of Prof. R. Ramakrishna Reddy, BSR Faculty Fellow for giving extension to utilize his contingency grant for the third year by another six months.***

As per the guidelines of BSR Faculty Fellowship, the contingency has to be utilized within the duration of the fellowship. Therefore, the Empowered Committee rejected the request.

- (b) ***Request of Prof. P K Bhatnagar BSR Faculty Fellow to appoint a project assistant from the contingency.***

The Empowered Committee did not approve the request to appoint a project assistant from the contingency as there is no such provision in the guidelines.

In order to review the progress of Networking Resource Centre, the Empowered Committee desires that all the Networking Resource Centres should give presentation of the research activities performed in their respective centres in the past five years on **May 25, 2015 in UGC office, New Delhi.**

It was decided to hold the next meeting of the Empowered Committee on **May 25-26, 2015 at 10.30 a.m.** in UGC, New Delhi.

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

Annexure- I

List of Participants who attended the 3rd of the Empowered Committee (EC) held on 6th April, 2015 in UGC, New Delhi

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| 1. Dr. Anil D. Sahasrabudhe | - | Chairman, EC |
| 2. Prof. Ashok Jhunjhunwala | - | Member, EC |
| 3. Prof. S.A. Bari | - | Member, EC |
| 4. Prof. Jawahar Lal Kaul | - | Member, EC |
| 5. Prof. R.P. Gandhi | - | National Coordinator, FRP |
| 6. Prof. Sudesh Nangia | - | Assoc. Coordinator, FRP |
| 7. Prof. Shridhar Gadre | - | National Coordinator, DSKPDF |
| 8. Dr. Dilip S. Joag | - | Assoc. Coordinator, DSKPDF |
| 9. Dr. Anunay Samanta | - | Coordinator, FRPS |
| 10. Dr. Sunita Siwach | - | DS(BSR) |
| 11. Mrs. Paramjeet | - | US(BSR) |
| 12. Dr. Shalini | - | EO(BSR) |