

**UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

MINUTES OF THE 20TH MEETING OF THE EMPOWERED COMMITTEE ON BASIC SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH HELD ON 11TH AUGUST, 2008 AT 11.30 A.M. IN THE UGC OFFICE

The 20th meeting of the Empowered Committee on Basic Scientific Research was held on 11th August, 2008 at 11.30 a.m. in the UGC Office. The following attended the meeting:

1. Prof. Sukhadeo Thorat
Chirman,UGC.
2. Prof.Mool Chand Sharma
Vice Chairman, UGC
3. Prof. M.M. Sharma
3, Jaswant Baugh (Runwal Park)
Behind Akbar Allya
V.N. Purav Marg, Chembur Naka
Mumbai – 400 071
4. Prof.Goverdhan Mehta
Hon.Prof. & CSIR
Bhatnagar Fellow
Indian Institute of Science
Bangalore - 560 012
5. Prof.P.Rama Rao
Flat No. 301,
Naimisum, Plot No.22,
Tri Nagar Colony,
Hyderabad - 500 073
6. Prof. Kota Harinarayan
Raja Ramana Fellow
Structure Division
National Aerospace Laboratories
Bangalore-560 017.
7. Prof.S.P.Thyagarajan
#, 1st Main Road,
Nehru Nagar, Adyar,
Chennai - 600 020
8. Ms.Parbati Bose
Under Secretary, UGC

After welcoming the committee members, Dr. M.M. Sharma took up the agenda. Items one-by-by.

Item No. 1 :- Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd June, 2008

The minutes of the 19th meeting of the Empowered Committee held on 3rd June 2008 were confirmed.

Item No.2:- Action taken on the minutes.

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

Item No.3:- Discussion with Prof. Shridhar Gadre with regard to next list of candidates for Dr. D.S. Kothari PDF.

The Committee reviewed the 4th list of 25 candidates processed for selection as Dr. D.S Kothari PDFs. The following 23 candidates were approved by the committee for issue of award letters by UGC.

**Selected Candidates [Fourth List]
(August 11, 2008)**

Sr. No.	Application No. Category	Name of Candidates Address	Name of Mentor and Address
1.	BL/08/0029 [OPEN]	Dr. Ghatge Swaroopa Ram C/o Dr. G. B. Dixit, Professor and Head, Department of Botany, Shivaji University, Kolhapur 416004	Prof. P. B. Kavikishor Department of Genetics, Osmania University, Hyderabad 500007
2.	BL/08/0075 [OPEN] Approved in Principle but ask for change of Mentor	Dr. Chandramani Pathak C/o Prof. M. Vinayak, Biochemistry Lab Deptt. of Zoology, B.H.U., Varanasi-221005,	Prof. R. N. K. Bamezai Coordinator, National Centre of Applied Human Genetics, School of Life Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi-110067

3.	BL/08/0079 [SC]	Dr. Samiran Bisai Department of Anthropology Vidyasagar University, P.O: - Midnapore Dist: - Paschim Midnapore Pin: 721101, West Bengal	Dr. R. Khongsdier Department of Anthropology North- Eastern Hill University Permanent Campus, Umshing Shillong -793 022
4.	BL/08/0102 [OPEN] [Bridging Fellowship]	Ms. A. Ezhilarasi New No.4,Old No.11 IInd Seva nagar, Gandhi road, Velachery - 600 042	Dr.N. Thajuddin Department of Microbiology Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli, Tamilnadu- 620024.
5.	BL/08/0103 [OPEN]	Dr. Shalu Jain d/o Mr. Harindra k Jain, Near canara Bank, Budhana Distt. Muzaffarnagar-	Prof. Neera Bhalla Sarin Lab no. 308, School of Life Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi 110067
6.	BL/08/0105 [OPEN]	Dr. Gorla Venkateswara Reddy Inflammation and Cancer Research Group, Department of Animal Sciences, School of Life Sciences, University of Hyderabad Hyderabad- 500 046	Prof. P. Reddanna Eicosanoids, Inflammation and Cancer Research Group, School of Life Sciences, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad- 500 046
7.	BL/08/0109 [SCST] Approved in Principle but ask for change of Mentor	Dr. Vinod Kumar 449, Khushipura, Jhansi (U.P.) 284 001	Dr. J. P. Tripathi Bipin Bihari, P.G. College, Jhansi (U.P.)284001
8.	BL/08/0110 [OPEN]	Dr. Tajdar Husain Khan Cancer Chemoprevention & Nutrition, Toxicology Laboratory, Jamia Hamdard (Hamdard University), Hamdard Nagar, New Delhi- 110062	Dr. Sarwat Sultana Dept. of Toxicology Jamia Hamdard (Hamdard University), Hamdard Nagar, New Delhi-110062

9.	BL/08/0115 [OPEN] Starting Fellowship 22,000/-	Dr. Chanda Kushwaha c/o Dr. Sandeep Kumar L-19, Tulsidas Colony, B.H.U campus, Varanasi-221005	Prof. Ramesh Chand Department of Mycology and Plant pathology, Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi-221005
10.	BL/08/0119 [OPEN]	Dr. Priya Chacko No. 270, 1st Floor, Doyens Township, Serilingampally, Hyderabad - 500 019	Dr. Manjula Sriharan Dept. of Animal Science School of Life Science University of Hyderabad Hyderabad – 500046
11..	BL/08/0128 [OPEN]	Dr. Maya Verma 610, Vivek Vihar, New Sanganer Road, Jaipur 302019	Prof. Baishnab C. Tripathy Room No. 126, School of Life Science, J.N.U., New Delhi 110067
12.	CH/08/0038 [OPEN]	Dr. Neeti Prakash Dubey Technical officer, State Forensic science laboratory, Bihar Baily Road,PATNA-23	Dr. Devashish Bose Deptt. of Criminology and Forensic science, Dr. H.S.Gour University(M.P.)-470003
13.	CH/08/0044 [OPEN] [Bridging Fellowship] Approved in Principle but ask for change of Mentor	Mr. Saikat Dutta CV Raman Avenue, IISc, Bangalore-560012	Dr. Balaji R. Jagirdar CV Raman Avenue, Department of IPC, IISc, Bangalore -560012
14.	CH/08/0048 [OPEN] [Bridging Fellowship]	Mr. Santosh Kumar Dubey C/o Prof.D.S.Pandey,Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi -221 005(U.P.)	Dr. Rajeev Gupta Department of Chemistry University of Delhi Delhi - 110 007

15.	CH/08/0050 [SCST]	Dr. Pallepogu Raghavaiah School of Chemistry University of Hyderabad (Po) Hyderabad, India - 500 046.	Dr. Samar K. Das School of Chemistry University of Hyderabad Hyderabad - 500 046.
16.	PH/08/0016 [OPEN] [Bridging Fellowship] Approved in Principle but ask for change of Mentor	Mr. Pradeep Kumar C/o Chauhan Cement Store, Chau Ki Basti, Near Shiv Murti, Line Par, Moradabad- 244001	Dr. Nagendra Kumar Dept. of Mathematics, K. G. K. (P.G.) College, Moradabad-244001 (UP)
17.	PH/08/0021 [OPEN]	Dr. Balram Tripathi 10, Vigyan Bhawan University of Rajasthan, Jaipur-302004	Dr. A. K. Bhati Department of Physics Punjab University Chandigarh 160014
18.	PH/08/0038 [OPEN] [Bridging Fellowship]	Mr. Dinesh Pratap Singh Research Scholar Nanoscience and Nanotechnology Lab., Solid State Section, Dept. of Physics, Banaras Hindu University Varanasi-221005 (UP)	Prof. O. N. Srivastava Co-Ordinator Nanoscience and Nanotechnology Centre, Banaras Hindu University Varanasi-221005 (UP)
19.	PH/08/0039 [OPEN]	Dr. G. Rajitha 6-4-188, MARUTHI NAGAR ANANTAPUR - 515 004, ANDHRAPRADESH	Dr. K. T. Jacob Department of Materials Engineering, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore - 560 012
20.	PH/08/0048 [OPEN] [Bridging Fellowship]	Mr. Chandra Shekhar Solide State Section, Department of Physics, Banaras Hindu University, Varansi-221005	Prof. O N Srivastava Solide State Section, Department of Physics, Banaras Hindu University, Varansi-221005
21.	PH/08/0053 [OPEN]	Dr. Namita Dutta Gupta 559E, Diamond Harbour Road, Behala, Kolkata-700034	Dr. Abhijit De Department of Physics, Presidency College, 86/1 College Street, Kolkata- 700073

22.	ES/08/0009 [OPEN]	Dr. Rajita Gautam D-3, Gangasagar Society, Sussen-Tarsali Road, Vadodara	Dr. Satish J. Patel Dept. of Geology, M.S. Univ. of Baroda, Vadodara. 390 002
23.	ES/08/0014 [OPEN] Approved in Principle but ask for change of Mentor	Dr. Lizen Mathews Sumnagali, Jos Brothers, Jos Junction, Ernakulam, Kochi 682016	Dr. T. Narayanan Maharaja's College Ernakulam, Kochi 682011

*** Three 'Best' grades are listed.**

Among the selected candidates, Dr.Chanda Kushwaha (BL/08/0115) was recommended a higher fixation of fellowship at Rs.22000 per month in view of all the three referee grades being "A".

Among the unselected, it was recommended that Dr. Vinod Kumar (BL/08/0109) could be awarded the PDF if he changes the place of PDF to an university department instead of the college presently proposed. Similarly the award of bridging fellowship to Dr. Pradip Kumar (PH/08/0016) could be considered if the candidate changes the place of PDF to an university department instead of the college proposed.

The committee also provided the following guidelines for Dr. Sridhar Gadre to follow while handling specific requests by selected candidates:

- i. Joining time for selected candidates can be only to a maximum period of Six months.
- ii. The PDF is to be awarded as full time only.
- iii. The change of workplace among universities can be permitted, provided it is not the same department and same guide as that of the place of PhD.
- iv. The conversion of bridging PDF to regular PDF can be granted on submission of copy PHD award letter.

Item no.4:- Letter from HRD regarding Task Force on Humanities and Social Sciences.

The committee after due deliberation felt that similar to the Task Force methodology for strengthening of Basic Science Research, strategy need to be developed as a working paper for Humanities and Social Sciences by the specified task force. The BSR strengthening programs of Dr.M.M. Sharma committee can be taken up as model based on which programs tailored to humanities and Social Sciences could be evolved.

Item No. 5:- Letter received from Vice-Chancellor, JNU regarding “Operation Faculty Recharge” discussions with Prof. Gandhi and Pro Vice-Chancellor, JNU.

The Committee placed on record its immense thanks to Dr. B.B. Bhattacharya, VC, JNU for readily accepting to be the partner in the “UGC Operation Faculty Recharge Programme” and for (a) providing the services of Prof. Rajendra Prasad, Rector of the University as Associate Coordinator and (b) providing space in the school of Physical Sciences of JNU for operating the programme

After discussions with Dr. Gandhi and Dr. Rajendra Prasad, the following plan of action was recommended by the Committee:

The Coordinators were suggested to prepare a working paper on implementation of the above scheme taking into consideration the followings:

- (i) Premises of the scheme at JNU to be made ready in a time bound manner.
- (ii) Detailed requirements and budgets for operationalising the scheme.
- (iii) Designing the program-specific website for the scheme to be hyperlinked with JNU website and UGC website similar to the efforts adopted for Dr. Kothari PDF Scheme.
- (iv) In view of the National selection process to be adopted for the Faculty Recharge Scheme, including application format and methodology, wide advertisement strategy on a rolling mode throughout the year with six deadline dates per year, nature of Selection Committees, Database of subject experts to be involved in the selection process, premises for interviews, places of stay for the experts attending the selection committees and candidates call for interview, methodology of interviewing candidates applying from foreign universities and laboratories, full proof documentation of the scheme need to be worked out. It was suggested to look into the IISc Model while developing the scheme.
- (v) The MOU between JNU and UGC need to be signed soon similar to the one signed with Pune University for the PDF scheme.

- (vi) The Coordinators need to present the working paper before the Committee in its next meeting scheduled to be held on 15th September, 2008 by parallelly taking action on all the above.
- (vii) The UGC may release the grant for the scheme as already approved by the Committee and facilitate launch of the scheme by 1st September, 2008.
- (viii) Since it is aimed that the scheme need to facilitate making certain number of appointments before the end of the financial year 2008-2009, FastTrack methodology has to be adopted by the coordinator and electronic consultations can be had by the coordinators with the members of the Empowered Committee for taking decisions.

Item No. 6:- Presentatiion for Networking Centre by Physics and Chemistry Departments, University of Delhi and School of Physcs, Madras University.

Networking Centre proposals of Physics and Chemistry Departments of University of Delhi and The School of Physics of Madras University

Since the proposals of Delhi University Departments insisted on buildings for hostels and laboratories, the Committee could not consider them suitable for support since the networking centre scheme does not provide funds for exclusive buildings.

As the Madras University did not develop the proposal as a school based proposal with the participation of the departments of Biophysics, Nuclear Physics and Theoretical Physics, they were advised to develop it as school based proposal and come for presentation in the next meeting on 15th September, 2008.

Item No. 7:- Request from Dr. Susmitha Barker (PDF) for leave for 10 months to go abroad

The request was rejected since such a long break would not be conducive for the spirit of the Dr. Kothari fellowship (PDF).

Item No.8:- Any other items:

8.1 Additional infrastructure grants to SAP and non-SAP Departments

It was recommended that for SAP departments funds upto Rs.30.0 lakhs could be released to each SAP department provided the department has submitted UC and also specific proposal along with the appraisal report on the 1st installment infrastructure grant utilization.

8.2 Sample assessment of infrastructure grant utilization by members of Empowered Committee

It was decided that each member of the Empowered Committee may visit some University Departments and Colleges in their respective region and assess the quality of utilization of the infrastructure Grant released. UGC to send an official letter to that effect to each member along with the list of departments of Universities and Colleges to whom infrastructure grant has been released with copies to the concerned departments about the possible visit.

8.3 It was decided to call for an interaction meeting of selected SAP non-SAP science departments of University and CPE colleges to have the proper understanding of their needs and to assess the level of utilization of the infrastructure grants released already. This could be included as one agenda for the October Meeting of the Empowered Committee.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair. It was decided to hold the next meeting of the Committee on September 15, 2008.

