

APPENDIX 2

**GUIDELINES FOR FUNDING SUPPORT  
TO STATE UNIVERSITIES FOR STUDY AND RESEARCH  
IN INDIGENOUS AND ENDAGERED LANGUAGES OF INDIA**

**Background**

In recent years, the amazing linguistic diversity of India has been facing a serious challenge. Though language endangerment has been a global phenomenon, and to that extent languages in India too seem to face the endangerment and depletion of domains, the level of risk has increased enormously in recent years. Confronted with this scenario, there is an imperative need to arrest this trend both in India as well as globally. It is in this context that the role of the Universities becomes all the more important to serve as effective agents for preserving and promoting the endangered languages. In order to look into the whole gamut of issues concerning endangered issue, the UGC constituted an Expert Committee on preservation and promotion of endangered languages. The Committee inter-alia recommended providing financial support to State Universities for supporting research and study undertaken by various Humanities and Language Departments within these universities directed towards documentation, conservation, promotion and revitalization of endangered and indigenous languages. The Commission has accepted the recommendations of the Committee and decided to launch a scheme namely Financial Assistance for study and research towards preservation and promotion of indigenous and endangered languages during XII plan period.

If a State University has already established such a Centre for Indigenous Languages/ Endangered Languages, it will be eligible for applying under the Scheme for enhancement of the existing Centre. The Support Grant for Indigenous and Endangered

Languages is not to be seen as a grant for establishing a new Department, or an *exclusively* Teaching Department. It is to be seen rather as an effort to augment the existing Linguistics, Anthropology and Literature Departments by providing research and study opportunities in the area of Indigenous Languages. The Support Grant for study and research in Indigenous and Endangered Languages is expected to enable State Universities to pay a greater attention to the marginal languages, non-scheduled languages, languages of tribal and nomadic communities and the languages that deserve a measure of social sympathy and academic attention.

#### Objectives

To undertake inter departmental and inter disciplinary research related to indigenous and endangered languages;

To undertake fieldwork, research, analysis, archiving and documentation of smaller indigenous/endangered languages;

To produce and publish monographs, grammars, grammatical sketches, dictionaries and lexicon, ethno-linguistic and theoretical descriptions, collection of oral and folk literature and scholarly books on endangered languages;

To produce language and dialect atlases with special reference to minority and endangered languages;

To organise workshops and seminars aimed towards promoting advanced research related to endangered languages;

To train teachers and students from other departments in Field Linguistics, Lexicography and techniques for data management and documentation;

To promote and foster various domains of endangered languages so as to ensure minority/endangered language communities in maintaining and preserving language vitality, including the development of orthographical resources like scripts, and primers.

#### Eligibility

All State Universities will be eligible for financial Assistance from the UGC for funding support for preservation and promotion of indigenous and endangered languages. However, preference shall be given to those Universities which have PG departments and post PG and Post doctoral research facilities in the fields of Linguistics, Anthropology, Archaeology and other allied disciplines.

The proposal for Support Grant for Indigenous Languages will clearly mention the following:

- a) Indigenous Languages in close vicinity of the University, which will include languages in the State of the University and the immediately neighbouring States;
- b) Academic and Research Staff available at present in various Departments/Schools of the University that has expressed willingness to contribute to the activities of to be covered under the Support grant. Contribution made by the Faculty and Research staff in the area of Indigenous Languages during the last three years should be listed;
- c) Specific Research Projects, clearly indicating expected outcomes such as books, monographs, publications, periodicals, etc, proposed to be undertaken by under the Support Grant over the period of three years be listed, with titles of the projects and the Faculty/Research staff to be associated with the project;
- d) Funding requirement for the projects listed in 'c' above in terms of Library resource, Travel support, Documentation costs, workshops and meetings costs;



- e) Funding requirement for employing project staff for administrative/ accounts support, DTP work, Video recording or Photography, etc.
- f) The Vice Chancellor of the University will endorse the application giving specific justification the Faculty member/Department applying under the Support Grant for Indigenous Languages, and will forward the proposal to the UGC together with a Vision Statement of the Faculty thus identified. The Vision Statement should provide a rationale for the support Grant and a roadmap showing how the proposed activities will improve the situation of the indigenous languages to be covered under the support Grant.

**Duration of Assistance**

The Commission shall provide financial assistance initially for 5 years subject to the satisfactory performance of the Department/Departments supported under the provision as verified by its output in terms of achieving the objectives as mentioned above.

**Procedure for applying**

The UGC may circulate the guidelines of the scheme among the Vice-Chancellors/Registrars of all eligible Universities. The Universities may forward their proposal to the UGC which shall be placed before a Committee of Experts.

The Universities may submit their proposals as per the guidelines and in the prescribed form given in the guidelines with full information.

The proposals from the eligible Universities should be submitted along with an undertaking that the university will provide facilities for undertaking the proposed study and research in indigenous and endangered Languages.

The proposal should be submitted under the following heads but within the limit of the financial grants specified under each head.

**Financial Assistance**

**Non- Recurring**

- 1. Equipment, Software - Rs. 90,00,000/-

Equipment will include Audio and video recorders, microphones, field computers, speech and language software.

**Recurring (computed at per year basis)**

**A.**

- 1. Workshops, Seminars, special lectures Rs. 6.00, 000/-
- Library books, journals Rs. 5.00, 000/-
- 2. Consumables Rs. 1.50, 000/-
- 3. Travel and field work -- Rs. 8,00,000/-

**B.**

**1. Academic Staff**

- 1. Research Associates: Up to Three
- 2. Language Archivist or Documentation Officer: One
- 3. Short Term Visiting Faculty as necessary, but with due justification
- 4. Native Speakers Groups invited as resource persons:  
Two Groups per semester to be paid @ Ph.D. student JRF.

**2. Administrative Staff**

- 1. Cartographer (Part time): One
- 2. Steno/ PA to the Head: One (on contract)
- 3. Class IV/ Multi task messenger: one (on contract)

**Assessment of Proposals**

The representatives of the university proposing study and research under the provision will be invited to make presentation before the Assessment Committee for the final selection out of the shortlisted proposals.

The Committee will finalize the quantum of financial assistance to

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be given within the financial limit as given in the guidelines and also mention the duration of the proposal.

#### **Assessment of the progress**

There will be a Committee appointed by the UGC to assess the progress of the Universities supported under the scheme. The assessment will be carried out at the end of the first year and at the end of the support period. The Universities will be expected to submit a six monthly progress report and utilisation certificate.

#### **The Release of Grant**

The UGC will sanction admissible grants according to the availability of funds under this Scheme on or before 31<sup>st</sup> March every year.

The concerned University will be required to identify a Senior Faculty as *Coordinator* for heading the proposed Research and Study project. The Commission may approve the name of the person already given in the proposal with the approval of the Vice-Chancellor after consulting the representatives of the University at the time of presentation of the proposal. The UGC expects that for better coordination and accountability for successful implementation of the programme, the Coordinator may continue for the full term of the programme, or up to his/her date of superannuation as the case may be.

#### **Conditions for Receipt of grants**

1. The general terms and conditions as applicable from time to time for UGC assistance are applicable to this programme
2. The University will take action to communicate or handover the following information, documents immediately on receipt of the approval letter from the UGC:



- a) Letter of acceptance of the terms and conditions of grants of the programme by Registrar of the University/Principal of the College and the Coordinator of the programme/ project
  - b) A copy of the approval of the University bodies (Executive Council, Academic Council and a Board of Studies) to start the proposed work as approved by the UGC in the University.
  - c) A separate saving bank account for the grant under the programme is essential to be maintained with intimation to the UGC.
  - d) The name of the bank and account number (for the programme) with detailed address may be initiated to the UGC, if financial support is provided under the programme.
  - e) The name of the statutory auditors with their full address to be noted by the UGC.
3. In the case where university is unable to follow the guidelines and terms and conditions of grant the assistance grant will be withheld and the funds paid may be asked to be refunded or even the programme may be withdrawn by the UGC.

#### **Monitoring /Review Committee**

The Mid term monitoring and review is mandatory to the departments for optimising the efficiency and usefulness of the programme. The Mid-term Monitoring Committee constituted by the Commission will evaluate and review the academic, research achievements and progress of the work done and functioning of the department as decided by the UGC.