Research Funding Scheme for Government College Teachers in Arunachal Pradesh

1. Introduction to Research Funding

The research activities lead to innovations; the innovations leads to growth of knowledge and progress, therefore research is recognised as an integral component of higher education system all over the world. Now a days, even the career growth of individual teachers & their professional mobility (vertical & horizontal) in academic circles depends on the basis of his/her research constitutions. Accreditation and grading of higher education institutions have been linked with the contributions made to the "Research and Innovation" in the domain knowledge fields. The collective research contributions of individual teachers/academic departments of an institution are a significant factor in the assessment & accreditation process of an institution to determine the "Grade Points" and "Ranks".

Keeping in view, the importance and emphasis on "Research & Innovative" for higher education system of the state of Arunachal Pradesh, the State Government has decided to introduce an innovative financial support system to promote "Research Funding Scheme for Government College Teachers in Arunachal Pradesh" from the fiscal 2019-20 for the first time by allocating Rs. 10.00 Lakh for the purpose as a "Pilot Project". The scheme intends to provide financial support to conduct research by in-depth analysis on contemporary problems prevalent in local areas by involving teachers and students at micro level. The continuance and further growth of the "Research & Innovative" shall depend on the enthusiasm shown by the government college teachers and institutions in the scheme opportunity on the one hand and the quality of research output produced on the other.

2. Objectives

The main objectives of the "Research Funding Scheme for Government College Teachers" are four folds:

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- (a) To motivate/encourage the government college teachers and institutions to undertake research projects on relevant contemporary issues covering various disciplines, so that better understanding may be created to find the solutions and to provide inputs for policy making.
- (b) To promote documentation of Indigenous Knowledge System (IKS) of different tribes and to bring innovation in IKS by the application of modern science & technology.
- (c) To help the government college teachers in their career growth opportunities by enhancing the Academic Performance Indiex (API) of the teachers and government institutions in securing better grades in educational credit rating system at national and international level through research activities.
- (d) To expose the senior students in the research process like field survey/studies to expose them to various practical problems and to ponder on rational and creative solutions to such problems. Finally to create research skills in students.

3. Target Group/Beneficiaries

The target group of this scheme is the "College Teachers and Students" of the Government Colleges of Arunachal Pradesh.

4. Ceiling of Financial Support and conditions for utilization thereto

The quantum of financial support for a research project will be uniform for all disciplines (Arts, Science, Commerce etc.), subject to a maximum of Rs. 1.5 Lakh (Rupee One Lakh Fifty Thousand) only.

5. Conditions attached to Financial Support and Release Thereof

(a) 10% of total sanctioned amount against the project for procurement of standard reference & text books or Indexed or peer reviewed Journals. After procurement all such books/journals will be recorded in the Accession Register of the College Library, and may be issued to the principal investigator for the entire period of project; on completion of project, all such books shall be returned to library in proper condition by obtaining proper receipt from college library for such surrender of books and journals to library.

- (b) For hiring technical services, if any in special case subject to maximum of 10% of total sanctioned amount against the project in case of science including Geography subjects only.
- (c) For procurement of chemicals and consumables if any in special case subject to maximum of 15% of total sanctioned amount against the project in case of science subjects only.
- (d) Remaining 65% of total sanctioned amount against the project may be used for field work, travelling by ordinary public mode only, data collection, stationery, reprographic expenses, computer consumables, computation & printing, any other special expenses etc.
- (e) 10% of the total sanction amount shall be retained at the Directorate for meeting administrative expenses of the scheme at Directorate level (such as TA/DA of experts, other expenses).
- (f) In no case the request for additional assistance shall be entertained.
- (g) No part of the assistance will be utilized for the procurement of equipments/furniture etc. (i. e. creation of fixed assets except books as referred in point (a) above).
- (h) No honorarium will be paid out of the project assistance to Project/Principal Investigator.
- (i) No deviation/diversion shall be allowed in the sanctioned heads or head of expenditures approved at the time of sanctioning project.
- (j) In case of transfer of the Principal Investigator from one college to another college, the research project responsibility of the Principal Investigator shall automatically stand transferred to the administrative jurisdiction of the College Principal where the Principal Investigator stand transferred.

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- (k) Separate Accounts shall be maintained for each Research Project sanctioned to the College and such record shall be maintained with original vouchers for a period of minimum 5 years at the institution.
- (I) For making compliance of any terms and condition invariable the prescribed format shall be used without any deviation, if submitted on any other format may be treated non compliance.
- (m)There shall be a cooling period (or gap period) of two years between one Research Project completed and applying the next Research Project under the same Principal Investigator, so that equity may be provided in research funding to all eligible teachers by rotation. However, such college teacher (Principal Investigator) may be co-investigator in other research project(s) during the cooling period (or gap period) to remain active in research and innovation by contributing his/her research experience and skill with others to promote the feeling of esprit-de-corps.

6. Tenure, Date of Commence of Research Project and Other Relevant Points thereto

The maximum duration of the project shall be for period of 18 (eighteen) months only including submission of final report at the Directorate of Higher and Technical Education Govt. of A. P. Itanagar without fail.

The project tenure shall commence from the date of release of the first instalment of the sanctioned project.

The sanctioned project amount shall be in three instalments. First instalment of 50% (fifty percent) at the commencement of project, second instalment of 30% (thirty percent) after one year subject to satisfactory progress report and utilization certificate of the first instalment signed by the principal investigator and counter signed by the principal of concerned college along with the statement of head wise expenditure; and third and last and final instalment of 20% (twenty percent) on submission, acceptance of final report and audited accounts by Govt. Auditors or Charted Accountant (CA).

If the tenure compliance would not be adhered to by the principal investigator the entire amount of assistance provided shall be refundable to the Directorate of Higher and Technical Education Govt. of A. P. Itanagar with 10% interest from the

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date of release of 1st and subsequent instalments immediately. Failing which disciplinary proceeding will be initiated to the concerned principal investigator by the government.

The financial assistance against the sanctioned project shall be released through PFMS Mode in the Bank Account of the concerned College Principal by the Directorate of Higher and Technical Education, Govt. of AP. On completing the official formalities the concerned college Principal shall transfer the released amount to the Account of Principal Investigator's Bank Account.

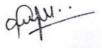
7. Eligibility and Procedure for Applying Research Funding

- (a) All regular College Teachers in active service with minimum two years of teaching experience in the Government College of Arunachal Pradesh.
- (b) A College Teacher, who wish to undertake a research project, may submit their proposal on the prescribed proposal form (Annexure- I) to the Directorate of Higher and Technical Education Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar through the recommendation of concerned college Principal with due recommendation of the "College Research Committee" constituted for the purpose in the college (as suggested by UGC or IQAC) along with the minute copy of the meeting conducted for the purpose. Usually such proposal may be submitted at the beginning of the financial-year although submission of research proposal may remain open through out the year.

8. Procedure for Approval of Research Funding and final Sanction

(a) There shall be a "Research Committee" (to be constituted by an order of the State Government) for the purpose of Proposal Scrutiny, Recommendation, progress evaluation of on-going project and final acceptance of completed projects, at the Directorate of Higher and Technical Education comprising the following five members for the purpose.

	Director Higher and Technical Education	Chairman
1.	Director Higher and Technical Education	Member
2.	Joint/Deputy Director Higher and Technical Education	Member
3.	One Principal from the Govt. College of AP	
	Academic Officer of the DHTE office	Member
4.	Two Subject Experts (depending on the proposals)	Member
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- The "Research Committee" shall meet at least once in a financial year to consider the new proposal submitted by the Govt. College Teachers, however, if required more meetings may be conveyed.
 - (c)The "Research Committee" shall also act as "Progress Evaluation cum Final Report Acceptance Committee" in respect of number on going research projects and research project already completed & final report submitted for acceptance.
 - (d)The proposal recommended by the "Research Committee" will be placed for sanction to the Government in case of new proposal.
 - (e) In case of the work progress report of on-going project (s); if found satisfactory by the "Research Committee" the next instalment shall be released with Govt. approval. Otherwise the Principal Investigator shall be served a notice of show cause or to make necessary improvement in the work progress within a stipulated time; and next instalment of fund release shall remain suspended. If response comes in positive, the next instalment may be released with Govt. approval; otherwise with the Govt. approval the project may be cancelled and the Principal Investigator and the College may be asked to refund the money already released with interest immediately as per the term and conditions of the sanction, if the action does not commensurate as suggested; he/she will be debarred for 2 (two) years.
 - (f) In case of the Final Report on Research Project; if accepted by the "Research Committee" it will be placed before the Government for final acceptance and on approval from Govt. a compilation Certificate will be issued to the Principal Investigator and the Principal as a proof that entire process is settled.

9. Mode of Drawl and Disbursement of Research Funding

- (a) All financial transactions under the scheme shall be through PFMS (Public Finance Management System) mode only.
- (b) Therefore, the budgetary support for financial grant under the scheme shall be drawn from the treasury by the Directorate of Higher and Technical Education, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar during the financial year and shall be credited/deposited/kept in the dedicated Bank Account of the "Arunachal Pradesh State Higher Education Council (APSHEC)" for onward transfer/utilization to the concerned Principal's Bank Account, who forwarded research proposal, as an when a research proposal is sanctioned under the scheme by the Government of AP; so that finally the concerned Principal may

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transfer the released amount to the Bank Account of Principal Investigator (initiator of the research proposal) after due office formality.

10. Applicable Forms under the Scheme

Invariably following forms will be used in submitting information for consideration in respect of this Scheme otherwise compliance will not acceptable.

(a) Research Proposal submission Form	Annexure – I
(b) Acceptance Certificate for Research Project	Annexure – II
(c) Progress Report on the Research Project	Annexure – III
(d) Research Project Funding Utilization Certificate	Annexure – IV
(e) Information to be furnished at the final Submission	Annexure – V
(f) Final Statement of Expenditure on Research Project	Annexure – VI
(g) Details of TA expenditure on Research Project	Annexure – VII

(Likha Sampu)

Under Secretary (Education)
Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh
Itanagar.