

**GUIDELINES
FOR
MUKHYAMANTRI RESEARCH AND INNOVATION FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM (MRIP)**

ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ ଅନୁସନ୍ଧାନ ଏବଂ ଅଭିନବୀକରଣ ଛାତ୍ରବୃତ୍ତି ଯୋଜନା

1. Background:

In recognition of the importance and potential of translational research and innovation in Science, Technology, Social Science as well as liberal arts for the inclusive development of the state, the Government of Odisha in the Higher Education Department through its Odisha State Higher Education Council (OSHEC) has conceptualized a novel program titled as the “Mukhyamantri Research and Innovation Fellowship Program’ (MRIP)”. The MRIP takes a holistic approach towards the development of a sustainable research and innovation ecosystem in state public universities and colleges in Odisha.

The scheme will be funded by Higher education department, Government of Odisha and implemented by the Odisha State Higher Education Council (henceforth, called as ‘Council’). The approach is to facilitate research and innovation culture in faculty and students while focusing on areas of study that are important to state’s development needs. It will also make the youth more employable and innovative.

2. Aim of the Scheme:

To prepare a strong research pool of dedicated researchers that would contribute significantly to existing knowledge in applications of science & technology, social sciences and humanities towards enriching the socio economic development space of the state of Odisha.

3. Operational Elements of the MRIP:-

- i. Award of 300 nos. of “Mukhyamantri Research Fellowships” (MRF) per year, selected through a common fellowship entrance test called “Mukhyamantri Research Fellowship Test” (MRFT) conducted for all subjects in doctoral program being conducted in State Public Universities, under administrative control of the Higher Education Department, Govt. of Odisha. The fellowship will be available for carrying out research leading to Ph. D. under any of the designated state public universities

- under Higher Education Department.
- ii. Sixty (60) nos. of faculty members (having Ph. D. Degree) below the age of 50 years will be provided “ Mukhyamantri Research Innovation”(MRI) extramural funding for a period of 2 years to carry out quality research in basic as well as applied areas of significance to the state.
 - iii. Research Centers of Excellence (RCOE), operating in State Public Universities will be provided sustainability grants.
 - iv. Financial Support to hold annual research conclave in the name of “Odisha Research Conclave(ORC)” aiming at facilitating showcasing of research under MRFP along with interaction of all scholars and Faculty amongst themselves, with reviewers and eminent research personalities
 - v. Financial Support for patents and high quality publications will be provided under this Plan.

4. MUKHYAMANTRI RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP (MRF):

4.1 Eligibility:

- 4.1.1 The applicants must have completed their Post-Graduate and undergraduate degrees securing 1st Division or equivalent grade in both.
- 4.1.2 The candidate must be below 35 years of age as on 1st January of the year in which examination is conducted.
- 4.1.3 Candidates must have cleared the Mukhyamantri Research Fellowship Test (MRFT) conducted by HED, Government of Odisha. The Scores secured in MRFT will be the main criteria for being selected as MRF. The Score will remain valid for 02 years from the date of publication of merit list.
- 4.1.4 The candidate must have registered under an approved research guide at any of the state public universities. Also he/she must have successfully completed the required pre Ph. D. course work at any of the State Universities of Odisha(*This clause is not mandatory to appear the MRFT, but after qualifying the test, this is mandatory to get the fellowship.*).

4.1.5 The candidates must be a permanent resident of Odisha.

4.2 Tenure of the Fellowship:

4.2.1 The period of fellowship for all candidates will be limited to 04 years. But if s/he wishes to extend it for another one year, then S/he must seek the approval from the OSHEC, but this extended one year will be without fellowship. The tenure of four years will be counted from the date of Ph.D. Registration.

4.2.2 The scholarship continuance from year to year will be based on the basis of satisfactory progress report submitted by the respective supervisors and/or the report submitted by the domain experts at the Odisha Research Conclave.

4.3 Fellowship Amount: The candidate would be eligible for receiving the following amount towards his/her fellowship.

Fellowship Amount per month: Rs 30,000.00 (Rupees Thirty thousand) only per month with Contingency **Amount per year: Rs 50,000/-**(Rupees fifty thousand) for Practical subjects (Science/Science related) and Rs 30,000/- (Rupees Thirty thousand) only per year for non-practical subjects (Humanities and literature based)

4.4 Number of fellowship: 300

4.4.1 There is no fixed upper limit for number of scholarships for any particular subject.

4.5 The subject-wise merit list may be prepared on the basis of entrance marks, secured by the applicants in MRFT. Based on the Merit list, 5 numbers of fellowships will be awarded to the top 5 rankers in each subject of MRFT. The remaining fellowships including the ones remaining unallocated if there are less than five numbers of applicants in any given subject will form part of a common pool. A common inter se merit list across subjects will then be prepared by calculating the percentile secured by each candidate in the subject in which MRFT has been conducted. The allocation of the common pool will then be done through the inter se merit list prepared through percentile-based normalization.

- 4.5.1 The Percentile mark will be calculated using the following formula :
$$P = \{1 - (R/N)\} \times 100$$
 Where P is the percentile of the candidate, R is the rank in the merit list for the subject appeared in MRFT and N is the total number of candidates appearing MRFT in the specific subject.
- 4.5.2 While preparing the merit lists, if there is more than one candidate securing a particular mark, then their P.G. marks will be taken into consideration to prepare the merit list. If, it still tallies, then U.G. marks will be taken into consideration.
- 4.5.3 40% of the total numbers of seats finally allocated in any particular subject shall be reserved for girl students. In case of unavailability of girl students, the seat becomes open to be allocated on the basis of general merit.
- 4.5.4 If, during a year the number fellowships awarded fall below the maximum allowed limit of 300, the un-awarded fellowships for that year can be rolled over and get added to the next year's quota. However, the roll over will be valid for one year only.

4.5 Subjects for MRFT: MRFT will be conducted in the subjects as mentioned in **Annexure-A.**

4.6 Other Terms and Conditions:

- 4.6.1 The MRFT will be conducted every year by SSB in collaboration with the Odisha State Higher Education Council (OSHEC) and Higher Education Department, Government of Odisha. The detailed process of the entrance test and guidelines are being issued separately.
- 4.6.2 OSHEC along with HED shall be responsible for administering as well as regularly monitoring the entire program and procedure for fellowship.
- 4.6.3 The fellowship shall be available only for candidates pursuing full time Ph.D. program in HEIs under Higher Education Department, Government of Odisha.
- 4.6.4 The candidate must have registered under an approved research guide in

the State public universities after completing the required course work at any of the State Universities of Odisha .This is an essential requirement before being considered to get the fellowship.

- 4.6.5 The scholar should not be getting any other financial support from any other sources.
- 4.6.6 Selected candidates will be required to teach 05 hours per week to UG/PG students as required by the HEI. Head of the Department (in case of the University) or the Principal (in case of College) must furnish a certificate/ upload the data to the MRF portal every month in support of the number of classes taken by the scholar. In case of vacations or any other circumstances beyond one's control due to which, the MRF is not able to fulfill 5 classes per week requirement in any month, the shortfall must be made up during the subsequent months. Failure to do so will result in the fellowship amount not being released during the succeeding month.
- 4.6.7 The MRF fellow shall upload the continuing certificate from his/her supervisor within the 1st week of the month, so that the fellowship amount of the previous month can be released by 15th of succeeding month (*for example, if one research fellow claims the fellowship for the month of January, then s/he should upload the continuing certificate from his/her supervisor by 7th February, so that fellowship amount can be released by 15th February*). It must be accompanied by a certificate from the Head of the Institution that the scholar has taken 05 hours of teaching per week to teach UG/PG students.
- 4.6.8 All Scholars are required to publish at least two papers prior to submission of their Ph. D. thesis with one paper in reputed journals that are internationally indexed in Scopus/Web of Science/Web of Social Science/ PubMed. For subjects where such data bases do not exist/ (Literature, Performing arts etc.) the two publications must be in UGC care journals. This will be a requirement to be complied before their thesis submission.
- 4.6.9 In case the MRF fellow is able to develop patentable process or product

(National or international), the accepted patent will be treated equivalent to an indexed publication.

- 4.6.10 MRF Fellows in receipt of the fellowship will have to execute an undertaking/indemnity bond to complete the research work as a full time scholar and submit Ph.D. thesis within the stipulated period of 4 years. If it has to be extended to 5th year, it has to be on prior approval of OSHEC, but the extended year will be without fellowship (**Annexure-B**).
- 4.6.11 If any scholar discontinues the fellowship in between before completing the Ph. D. program, then S/he will immediately inform to the OSHEC as well as to the Registrar or/and Principal of the HEI. S/he will submit a detailed report through the Supervisor-Heads of the Dept.-Registrar /Principal on the findings and the Utilization Certificate against the amount, which s/he has received from the OSHEC. S/he will ensure that the unspent contingency amount is returned to the Council without further delay. Also, as a part of the indemnity bond/Undertaking, he/she will be liable to refund the entire fellowship and unspent contingency to the Government of Odisha.
- 4.6.12 However, in cases where the candidate undertakes to continue and complete the research work and submit the Ph.D. thesis within a stipulated period of time without availing fellowship, Government of Odisha may consider the exigent circumstances and take a decision on case to case basis.
- 4.6.13 The selected candidate will be registered with and shall remain under the administrative control of the Supervisor. The supervisor must be a regular faculty of the University/College (Government and Aided) coming under HED and must be a recognized guide under the corresponding State Public university, coming under HED.
- 4.6.14 The OSHEC in the Higher Education Department, Government of Odisha must be acknowledged in all research publications/ patents/ products made out of MRFP fund. By 31st December of each year, all the relevant information on publications/patents etc. must reach the OSHEC.

4.6.15 All correspondences of the Research Scholar relating to research should be routed through the supervisor, then Head of the Department and finally Head of the Institution with an advance copy to the OSHEC through e-mail.

4.7 Release of fellowship and contingency:

4.7.1 The sanction letter with respect to fellowship shall be made available to the candidate and Head of the host institution by OSHEC/HED.

4.7.2 The fellowship shall be directly credited to the bank account of the scholar on monthly basis through DBT/Aadhaar based payment by the Government.

4.7.3 The contingent grant shall also be credited to the bank account of the scholar once in a year through DBT/Aadhaar based payment.

4.7.4 The MRF fellows will submit the financial year wise audited statement of Expenditure and Utilization Certificate in duplicate countersigned by the competitive authority of the University for each Fellowship.

4.7.5 The MRF fellows shall be required to submit the physical progress report annually through proper channel.

4.8 Cancellation/Withholding of fellowship:

4.8.1 The fellowship shall be discontinued if it is found that the candidate has furnished incorrect or suppressed information regarding the receipt of any other fellowship from any other Government and/or Private institutions in the application, while applying for the fellowship. In such cases, disciplinary action will be initiated against the candidate through university authorities and the total amount released towards fellowship will be recovered.

4.8.2 The fellowship shall also be discontinued by the Council while pursuing Ph.D. degree if the conduct of the scholar is found unsatisfactory, as per the report by the Committee of three members comprising of Head of the Department,

Supervisor and one outside subject expert (to be constituted by the concerned Department of the University/Institution/College).

4.8.3 The fellowship shall also be cancelled as per clause no. 4.6.11.

4.8.4 The fellowship will be automatically cancelled if a candidate changes the topic of the research project for which s/he is in receipt of the fellowship under this scheme or the progress is found unsatisfactory either by the supervisor or through periodic review conducted by OSHEC.

4.9 Completion of the Research Project:

4.9.1 The candidate should submit the thesis at the University within 06 months from the last date of last month of 4th year and submit a certificate in support of submission from the competent authority of the University at the OSHEC, failing which the disciplinary action will be initiated against the candidate as deemed fit as per clause 4.9.3.

4.9.2 In the cases, where OSHEC has given approval to extend the work for 5th Year (without fellowship), it is expected that the thesis should be submitted within 04 months from the last date of last month of 5th year a certificate in support of submission from the competent authority of the University will be submitted to OSHEC, failing which the disciplinary action will be initiated against the candidate as deemed fit as per clause 4.9.3.

4.9.3 The committee formed under the chairpersonship of Vice-Chairperson, shall examine the cases of Clause 4.9.1 and 4.9.2 and take a decision on the recovery of fellowship amount. In the committee, Finance Officer, OSHEC shall be the Member Convenor and Executive Members and Academic Consultants of the Council shall be the members.

4.10 Transfer of Fellowship:

4.10.1 The Research Fellow once accepts the offer of fellowship at a particular University/College/Institute shall not be allowed to transfer the fellowship another University/College/Institute during the tenure of the fellowship.

4.10.2 However, In case of transfer of the supervisor or for any unforeseen reason beyond the control of the MMR fellow, a co-supervisor from the same institute may be put in charge of that candidate and the candidate is expected to submit the thesis where s/he has registered for Ph.D. work. In case there is no supervisor available to guide the MMR fellow, the matter may be referred to OSHEC who in consultation with the concerned university will try to find a solution.

4.11 Monitoring of Fellowship:

4.11.1 The scheme would be monitored through a “Management Information System (MIS)” specially developed for the purpose.

4.11.2 While the concerned supervisor will organize semi-annual reviews of the work and upload it to the MIS, an independent peer review of work would be done annually through a poster presentation at Odisha Research Conclave.

5. MUKHYAMANTRI RESEARCH INNOVATION (MRI) (for Extra Mural Research funding for faculty working in State Public Universities and Colleges, coming under jurisdiction of Higher Education Department):

5.1 Eligibility:

5.1.1 All regular Faculty below age of 50 years (as on January 1 of the year of advertisement) working in State Public Universities and Colleges (Government and Aided) under jurisdiction of Higher Education Department, Government of Odisha and having a Ph. D. Degree can apply for MRI extramural research funding.

5.1.2 The applicant must have secured 1st Division or equivalent grade at Under-Graduate as well as Post-Graduate level. Further, the applicant must have published at

least one paper in a peer reviewed Scopus indexed journal. For candidates having Ph. D. in literature, language and humanities must have published at least one paper in a UGC care journal.

5.1.3 Those who have availed seed funding grants of HED earlier than 2023 and have completed their projects and settled the financial matter with Odisha State Higher Education Council (OSHEC) can also apply for this project, provided they satisfy clause no. 5.1.1 and 5.1.2. They will have to submit the “No Due Certificate” from the OSHEC in favour of their first project.

5.1.4 While applying for MRI, each application form must be accompanied by a research proposal.

5.1.5 During one’s career, a faculty can avail MRI funding twice at the most.

5.2 Tenure of the Funding: 02 years from the date of sanction of funds.

5.3 Number of MRI Extramural Research Funding Projects to be funded per year:

The State will award annually maximum 60 (sixty) such **extramural research Funding Projects** on competitive basis after due evaluation of the proposals by domain experts followed by presentation before an expert committee constituted by HED in consultation with OSHEC.

5.4 Funding Amount:

5.4.1 For Science and other laboratory related Projects: Maximum amount of grant is limited to **Rs 10.00 lakh** per faculty over a period of 02 years.

5.4.2 For Social Science and other non-laboratory related projects: Maximum amount of grant is limited to **Rs 7.00 lakh** per faculty over a period of 02 years.

5.4.3 However, the amount to be actually approved for the project under various heads will be decided by the Committee of Domain Experts constituted for evaluation based on the merit of the project and the deliverables.

5.5 How to Apply?

5.5.1 The applications for extramural research funding will be invited by the OSHEC preferably once a year during May/June or at such time as desired by the Government. The advertisement along with the format will be uploaded to OSHEC/HED website.

5.5.2 The applicants must attach a “*No Objection Certificate*” from the Head of the Institution (Heads of the Department in case of Universities and Principals in case of colleges) along with the application format and research proposal.

5.6 Monitoring and evaluation of the Project:

5.6.1 The scheme would be monitored through a “Management Information System (MIS)”.

5.6.2 It is expected that the concerned faculty should publish 02 research publications (at least 01 in Scopus Indexed Journals) per year during the period of the funding.

5.6.3 It is expected that the MRI funded faculty will try to formulate fresh research proposals towards securing major research funding from National and International agencies towards the end of the two year period of the plan. This is necessary to maintain the growth trajectory of the concerned faculty. .

5.6.4 Annual review and grading of work would be done through a poster presentation at Odisha Research Conclave where experts will be invited to discuss the progress with the faculty and suggest mid-course corrections if any. The grades obtained in this review will be considered for continuation/future projects.

5.7 Terms and Conditions for the financial transaction of MRI:

5.7.1 General:

- 5.7.1.1** Funds will be released in favour of the Account Number, authorized by the Registrar of the University for University Faculty members and the Account Number, authorized by the Principal in case of the College faculty members. All the funds released shall be spent for the purpose of carrying out the sanctioned project as per the sanction order and shall not be utilized or diverted for any other purpose, project or activity.
- 5.7.1.2** No part of this grant should be diverted to any other institution or utilized for purpose other than those for which the grant is sanctioned.
- 5.7.1.3** A separate account should be maintained in respect of this grant by the college/university. The portion of the unutilized amount of the grant during the financial year shall be intimated to the OSHEC immediately thereafter for adjustment in the grant for the next year.
- 5.7.1.4** The expenditure shall be restricted to the amount specified under each head of account.
- 5.7.1.5** The institution /Project investigator (PI) shall refund the unutilized amount under the sanctioned heads and shall not utilize such amount to meet the expenditure in any other head. Funds shall not be re-appropriated across various heads without the Council/ HED's knowledge and prior permission.
- 5.7.1.6** The bank interest earned shall be considered as a part of the MMRI grant sanctioned and should be shown in the statement of accounts. The interest can be utilized for contingent expenditure.
- 5.7.1.7** The PI shall submit the statement of Accounts and Utilization Certificate for the Financial year (i.e., from 1st April of the year to 31st March of the subsequent year) duly countersigned by the Head of the Institution/Registrar irrespective of the date of sanction by 30th May of subsequent year.

5.7.1.8 While carrying out expenditure under various heads, the relevant OGFR rules as applicable at the time of expenditure will apply. In case, the expenditure is not covered under OGFR, the applicable financial rules of the HEI hosting the project will apply.

5.7.2 Release of Grants:

Release of Grants: During 1st Year i.e. at the time of sanction of the project, 100% of non-recurring grant and 50% of the recurring grant will be released. In the 2nd Year, on the basis of UC submitted, remaining recurring amount minus 5% of the total project amount will be released. This 5% amount will be released only after the submission of final project report and the Utilization certificate.

5.7.3 Opening of Account:

5.7.3.1 The PI will open one SB account in nationalized bank in the name of **“Principal Investigator (MRI)”** where the specific extra mural funding transactions will be made. ***Savings Account cannot be opened in personal name.***

5.7.3.2 Each MRI Fund awardee must provide the Bank details like account number, Bank name and branch, IFSC/RTGS code of the affiliated institution (University/College) to the Council for transfer of fund.

5.7.3.3 PI should make a seal in the following format and use it in all the correspondences with the Council.

“Principal Investigator (MRI)” Institution Name, Place
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5.7.4 Staff:

5.7.4.1 The member of the staff appointed on the research project shall, for all practical purposes, be under the administrative control of the College /University/ any institution where the project is being carried out.

5.7.4.2 The staff appointed will have a designation of Project Assistant (P.A.) with

tenure as indicated in the sanction letter. S/he should have minimum Master degree in the relevant subject. The PI should facilitate that the P.A. qualifies NET in subsequent years.

5.7.4.3 The minimum eligibility criteria for P.A. in Engineering Discipline can be Master in Science or Bachelor in relevant Engineering subjects.

5.7.4.4 The remuneration of Project Assistant is Rs12, 000/- per month.

5.7.4.5 Staff appointed for the research project may be allowed to utilize the travel grant to meet travel expenses in connection with the work of project at the rates as admissible for Class III Government servants subject to the following conditions

5.7.4.5.1 The journey should have the approval of PI.

5.7.4.5.2 The grant for travel could be utilized only for payment of TA/DA to the staff employed on the research project as admissible.

5.7.4.5.3 The expenditure involved will not result in any excess over the amount provided under sub-head "Travel" and no additional funds will be provided on this account.

5.7.4.5.4 Travel Allowance/DA etc will be as per OGFR (the Finance Department notification, issued from time to time). Wherever OGFR provision does not exist, financial rule as applicable to the HEI, where they are working will apply.

5.7.5 Equipment Grant:

5.7.5.1 All the major equipment, indicated in the proposal must be submitted with justifications so far project is concerned. Grant for equipment will be strictly limited to the amount mentioned in the sanction letter.

5.7.5.2 The institution shall not purchase items like air-conditioner, refrigerators, exhaust fans, furniture and other office automation equipment out of the sanctioned amount of the project except computer (Desktop and printer) needed to carry out the project work and mentioned in the sanction letter.

But, if the project demands, the other above mentioned items can be purchased with the prior approval of the Council.

5.7.5.3 All the Project related activities, such as purchase of equipment/consumables, hiring of Project Assistant, floating tender in the newspapers etc. shall be done by the PI himself/herself, following the Govt. of Odisha Guidelines/Guidelines practised by the Institution itself.

5.7.5.4 Procurement of equipment and hiring of Project Assistant must be done immediately after the project is sanctioned. The advertisement cost for hiring Project Assistant or floating tender for Equipment/Chemicals etc., shall be born out of contingency grant of the Project.

5.7.5.5 The PI must maintain proper and separate stock register of all items of equipment including both capital and consumables, purchased out of the extramural funds.

5.7.5.6 The equipment purchased should be marked either with a metal disc or painted boldly with the letters "MRI FUND:20XX ". All equipment should be serially numbered. An inventory of equipment purchased out of this grant should be sent to the OSHEC immediately after the close of the financial year. This will be part of asset inventory of the HEI.

5.7.5.7 After completion of the project, all equipment and non-consumable items, if any, purchased by the institution/ University from the project grant shall remain the property of the institution/ University where project execution is undertaken.

5.7.5.8 In case, the PI is transferred by the Government before the completion of the project to another college/institution, he / she will apply to the Council for transferring the project to the new institution in a plain paper, mentioning the reason of transfer (whether joining in a University or transfer by the Govt.) with evidences, progress made in the previous station, list of the equipment/non-consumable items purchased, utilization certificate of the amounts what PI has utilised as on date of transfer from

the Chartered Accountant/Govt. Auditor, No Objection Certificate from the Institution to which the PI is transferred or joined afresh(In case of College, NOC from the Principal and in Universities, NOC from the Head of the Department as well as the Registrar).

5.7.6 Contingency Grant: This Grant can be used: -

- 5.7.6.1 To buy any urgently required laboratory items for the project
- 5.7.6.2 Towards the expenditure on work related to the project like advertisement, auditing, incidental expenditure etc. not covered otherwise
- 5.7.6.3 Towards payment of honorarium or any other expenditure related to visiting scientists with direct bearing on project.
- 5.7.6.4 Towards payment of expenditure incurred in outsourcing activities related to project like minor fabrication, sample characterization/data collection etc.
- 5.7.6.5 The PI can utilise the sanctioned contingency grant per annum for any purpose indicated in the proposal (without getting the prior approval of the Council) subject to the condition that a consolidated account is submitted at the end of the financial year.

5.7.7 Consumable Grant:

The consumable grant has been provided for incurring expenditure towards chemicals, reagents, Printer cartridges, paper etc. and other substances needed towards smooth execution of project.

5.7.8 Grants towards organization of focused theme/review meetings:

- 5.7.8.1 In case of Language or Social Science based research projects where a book or a critical edition is part of the targeted deliverable, this grant would strictly be used to organise a review meeting of the work by inviting 3 to 4 domain experts to review the work during the last quarter of the project. The review would be focused on the draft manuscript that PI would present. The meeting reports would be used to further fine tune the work. The grant would be used on TA for experts, announcements, hospitality and other contingent expenditure.

5.7.8.2 In Science research projects, the grant would be used to organize a theme meeting on the specific work area (if specifically mentioned in the sanction letter) and proceedings of the meeting must be provided to OSHEC.

5.7.8.3 In addition, the investigator/host institute must also acknowledge the support provided to them in all publications, patents and any other output emanating out of the project /program funded by the OSHEC, Department of Higher Education, Government of Odisha.

5.7.9 Submission of Utilization Certificate:

5.7.9.1 The PI can submit the Statement of Accounts and utilization certificate at the end of 1st year of the release of grants and finally at the end of 2nd year, audited by any CAG empanelled Chartered Accountant of the PI's choice or Govt. Auditors.

5.7.9.2 Financial Assistance will be provided to carry out the research activities for the second year after submission of 1st year Utilization Certificate along with the deliverables of the 1st year work.

5.7.9.3 Wherever not clearly indicated in these guidelines or there is no provision in OGFR, the host institution financial practices will apply.

6. SUSTAINABILITY GRANT TO RESEARCH CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE(RCOE) (funded by HED in State Public Universities)

State Government, through HED has established a number of Research Centres of Excellence (RCOE) in existing State Public Universities and depending on research potential may establish new ones. The existing RCOEs are being assessed through their research publications in Scopus Indexed Journals and the patents as well as commercial or socially beneficial products. For sustaining Odisha centric applied research in RCOES, Government of Odisha in the Higher Education Department through Odisha State Higher Education Council has made provision for an annual grant each RCOE, limited @ Rs 35.00 lakh to science related RCOE and RS 25.00 lakh to Language, Literature and Social Science related RCOE for their smooth running,

establishing internship program, Visitor program, Research Associate engagement, maintenance of equipment, publication of critical texts, conducting theme meetings, outsourcing of work, contingent expenditure etc. The exact amount of grant will depend the progress and output quality of the RCOE. This will be based on an evaluative review through a panel of experts after the RCOEs submit their requirements.

7. SUPPORT FOR PUBLICATION OF RESEARCH PAPERS:

Some of the top journals in the world ask for publication expenses as page charges, color printing etc. from the authors. Since the payment is in rupee equivalent foreign exchange, it forces the author to try for another journal, perhaps of a little less repute, where the print charges are not levied. In an attempt to facilitate our researchers to send publications to the best journal in their field, MRFP will support faculty in State Public University/College (Government/Aided) under Higher Education Department who publish in Top 25/Quartile 1 journals of the world as first or communicating author, by reimbursing the exact amount for publication or Rs 50,000/-, whichever is less. Publication cost of maximum 15 research papers per annum, selected through a committee can be paid out of this scheme. The expert committee will be formed by the OSHEC. However, in exceptional cases, where publication is approved in a globally renowned journal, like Nature etc, where required expenditures come to much more than Rs. 50000.00, the matter will be taken up separately on a case by case basis.

8. SUPPORT FOR PATENT:

8.1 If a faculty in State Public University/College (Government/Aided) under Higher Education Department files a patent and it is accepted, then there is a provision of financial support of exact amount or Rs 50,000/-, whichever is less. Maximum 15 patents per year will be supported. The selection will be done by a committee of experts, formed by the OSHEC.

8.2 While the IPR of patent or any other commercial product arising out of the work of the MRFP can be claimed by the MRF fellows/faculty getting Mukhyamantri Research Incentive (MRI) extra-mural fund and their contributing coworkers, if any, the royalty/commercial earning out of the patent/product will be shared in ratio of 70 % to

the investigators and 30% to the funding agency HED. The MRF fellow or the research guide must take permission of the HED (OSHEC) before permitting commercial use of the discovery/invention.

9. ODISHA RESEARCH CONCLAVE:

There will be a single research conclave titled “**Odisha Research Conclave (ORC)**” for the research scholars and the faculty members those have availed MMRI, where they can showcase their work. Simultaneously their works can also be reviewed and mentored by the domain experts. The best posters are awarded under different categories. An amount of **Rs 30.00 lakh** is nominally earmarked annually for conducting Annual ORC. This amount is used in TA, Stay, hospitality and other contingent expenditure for the event. This conclave will provide the much needed platform for review and monitoring. ORC will be held on 14th of November of each year or as decided by the Government.

10. Executing Agency:

- a. The entire scheme shall be operated and executed by the Odisha State Higher Education Council with funds sanctioned from the Higher Education Department, Government of Odisha. The Vice-Chairperson of the OSHEC will prepare the list of domain experts for the purpose.
- b. The total administrative expenses shall be 2% of the total allocated budget for the scheme MRFP.

All the decisions of Odisha State Higher Education Council, HED, and Government of Odisha shall be binding and final.

SUBJECTS FOR MRFT

Sl. No.	Subject		Sl.No.	Subject
1	Anthropology		25	Microbiology
2	Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology (AIHCA)		26	Oceanography
3	Botany		27	Marine Biology
4	Biotechnology		28	Material Science
5	Business Management		29	Odia
6	Chemistry		30	Pharmacy
7	Commerce		31	Philosophy
8	Computer Science		32	Physics
9	Economics		33	Political Science
10	Education		34	Population Studies
11	English		35	Psychology
12	Environmental Science		36	Public Administration
13	Electronics/ Electronic Science		37	Statistics
14	Geography		38	Sociology
15	Geology/Earth Science		39	Social Work
16	History		40	Sanskrit
17	Home Science		41	Santali
18	Hindi		42	Tourism & Travel Studies
19	IRPM/PMIR		43	Urdu
20	Journalism & Mass Communication		44	Women Studies/Gender Studies
21	Law		45	Wildlife & Biodiversity Conservation
22	Library & Information Sc.		46	Yoga and Naturopathy
23	Linguistics		47	Zoology
24	Mathematics			

INDMNITY BOND/UNDERTAKING

I, Sri/Ms/Mrs _____, Son/daughter/wife of _____ do hereby undertake/ execute this bond to complete my research work “ _____(Title of the Ph.D. work)” under the supervision of _____(Name of the Supervisor with his/her designation and name of the University) and registered under the _____University(Name of the University) with Ph.D. registration No. _____ as a full time scholar and submit Ph.D. thesis within the stipulated period of 4 years. If it has to be extended to 5th year, I shall take the prior approval of the Odisha Higher Education Council (OSHEC) in Higher Education Department, Government of Odisha to complete the work and submit the Ph.D. thesis without fellowship. If I leave the fellowship in between, then I will be abiding by the clause no. 4.6.11 of MRFP Guidelines.

Date:

(Signature of the scholar)