

**UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION  
NEW DELHI**

**MINUTES OF THE 26<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE EMPOWERED COMMITTEE ON  
BASIC SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH HELD ON 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2009 IN UGC, NEW  
DELHI**

The 26<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Empowered Committee on Basic Scientific Research was held on 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2009 in UGC, New Delhi. The following attended the meeting:

1. Prof. M.M. Sharma  
3, Jaswant Baugh (Runwal Park)  
Behind Akbarallys  
V.N. Purav Marg, Chembur Naka  
Mumbai – 400 071
2. Prof.Goverdhan Mehta  
Hon.Prof. & CSIR  
Bhatnagar Fellow  
Indian Institute of Science  
Bangalore - 560 012
3. Prof.P.Rama Rao  
Flat No. 301,  
Naimisum, Plot No.22,  
Tri Nagar Colony,  
Hyderabad - 500 073
4. Prof.S.P.Thyagarajan  
#5, 1st Main Road,  
Nehru Nagar, Adyar,  
Chennai - 600 020
5. Dr. P. Prakash  
Joint Secretary, UGC
6. Ms. Parbati Bose  
Under Secretary, UGC

Prof. R.P. Gandhi and Prof. Sudesh Nangia attended the meeting as a special invitee.

Prof. Kota Harinarayan, Prof. Sukhadeo Thorat, Chairman, UGC and Prof. Ved Prakash, Vice-Chairman, UGC could not attend the meeting due to prior engagements.

Prof. M.M. Sharma welcomed all the Members of the Committee and took up the agenda.

**Item No.1:- Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2009 at UGC office, New Delhi**

The minutes of the 25<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Empowered Committee held on 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2009 were confirmed.

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

The Committee noted with satisfaction the action taken by the UGC.

**Item No.3:- Discussion on “Operation Faculty Recharge”**

The Committee members requested Prof. R.P. Gandhi to give a blue print for operationalisation of the UGC Scheme “Operation Faculty Recharge”. Since it may take couple of months for the identified site to be refurbished, the Committee strongly urged that JNU may be requested for providing two Air-conditioned rooms to Prof. R.P. Gandhi, National Coordinator and Prof. Sudesh Nangia, Associate Coordinator to initiate the work of “OFR”. The Committee suggested that Prof. Sridhar Gadre, National Coordinator, PDF can be consulted with regard to the software to be developed for the above scheme and he may be invited to UGC alongwith Prof. R.P. Gandhi and Prof. Sudesh Nangia in the forthcoming meeting of Empowered Committee to discuss about the software to be developed. The Committee also approved the terms of reference for appointment of Prof. R.P. Gandhi as National Coordinator on an monthly honorarium of Rs.45,000/- and Prof. Sudesh Nangia on an monthly honorarium of Rs.35,000/- (Reference: Annexure-I).

**Item No.4:-- Letter received from Prof. D. Basavaiah, Dean School of Chemistry, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad regarding sanction of post for UGC Networking Resource Centre.**

The Committee noted the manpower requirement under the scheme. It recommended that manpower required will be purely on project mode and co-terminus with the project. It is not admissible to appoint personnel on running scale and the appointment shall be purely on contractual basis on consolidated pay.

**Item No.5:- A status note with regard to grants released to Institute of Science, Mumbai**

The Committee noted.

**Item No.6:- Request of Prof. S.P. Thyagarajan regarding Guidelines for providing by way of appropriate start up grants to teachers and other cadres taking up research in all disciplines including Basic Science Research.**

The Committee noted the guidelines for providing appropriate “**start up**” grants to teachers and other cadres for taking up research in all disciplines including Basic Science Research.

**Item No.7:- Request of Dr. Akhilesh Prasad, PDF, University of Delhi regarding permission for one year leave**

The Committee did not accede to the request of Dr. Akhilesh Prasad, PDF, University of Delhi.

**Item No.8:- Request of Dr. Ranjeet Kumar Brajpuriya, PDF, Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur regarding permission for leave without fellowship from 15.09.2009 to 14.06.2010.**

The Committee acceded to the request of Dr. Ranjeet Kumar Brajpuriya, PDF, Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur regarding permission for leave without fellowship from 15.09.2009 to 14.06.2010.

**Item No.9:- Presentation by HoD, Deptt. of Physics, BHU for Networking Centre/Summer-Winter School**

After detailed deliberations of the presentation of the proposal made by the Department of Physics, BHU, the Empowered Committee considered the proposal and recommended for financial assistance with modifications in its total Budget requirements. The Committee recommended a total sum of Rs.509.90 lakhs with break-up details as follows:

Non-recurring            -            Rs.300.00 lakhs

Recurring                -            Rs.209.90 lakhs

The Committee regretted for inclusion of No.1 & 2 of non-recurring items and have recommended only Rs.20.00 lakhs for furnishing add-on in the buildings.

**Item No.10:- E-mail received from Prof. A.V. Narlikar, Ex-Director Grade Scientist, NPL, New Delhi regarding high temperature superconductivity programme.**

The Committee regretted to accede to Dr. A.V. Narlikar's request as it does not fall under the purview of Empowered Committee.

**Item No.11:- Budget of BSR**

The Committee expressed satisfaction with regard to the budget expenditure incurred during 2009-2010 but however, expressed concern of the total budget allocation for the present financial year. It requested the UGC to restore the original allocation of Rs.200.00 crores for BSR Scheme for the year 2009-2010.

**Item No.12:- Presentation by the Principal, Acharya Narendra Dev College, University of Delhi for setting up a "Centre for promotion of undergraduate research and training (CPURT) at Acharya Narendra Dev College"**

The Committee appreciated the presentation made by the College but regretted to recommend for financial assistance as the College does not fall under any of the models that have already been considered by Empowered Committee like CPE, Autonomous and NAAC Colleges. The Committee felt that the proposal cannot be considered for assistance under the scheme of "Basic Scientific Research in Indian Universities".

**Item No.13:- Any other item**

The Empowered Committee further recommended as under:

1. A letter may be sent to all the Departments at the level of DSA/CAS seeking information for preparation of data of number of scholars alongwith their respective Supervisors and list of publications including papers accepted for the publication in the cited journals. The collected data may enable the Empowered Committee to consider for increasing the number of fellowships over and above existing 10 fellowships.
2. The Committee gone through the list of Ph.D.s produced by the Meerut College, Meerut and recommended that a sum of Rs.50.00 lakhs may be released to the College to further strengthen the Post graduate teaching and research at M.Sc. level. The Committee again emphasized that an UGC official may visit the Meerut College, Meerut for on-the-spot verification of the information given by the Meerut College, Meerut.

3. The Committee considered the letter received from Director, ICT, Mumbai for sanctioning 15 fellowships for 2009-2010.
4. For Non-SAP departments, the Committee recommended for release of second installment of infrastructure grant after receiving the Utilisation Certificate of previous grant. The quantum of grant will be same as of first installment.

It has been decided to hold the next meeting of the Empowered Committee on August 31, 2009 in the UGC, New Delhi.

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

**Terms of reference with regard to the appointment of Prof.R.P. Gandhi, National Coordinator and Prof. Sudesh, Nangia as Associate Co-ordinator**

1. Prof.R.P. Gandhi as the National Co-ordinator for implementing the UGC scheme, "Operation Faculty Recharge" as per the norms & guidelines developed by the M/HRD/UGC Empowered Committee for strengthening of Basic Scientific Research in Indian Universities for a period three years on the terms and conditions laid down in the MoU signed between UGC and JNU on 08.07.2009.
2. Prof. Gandhi as National Coordinator shall carry out the above UGC programme with the assistance of Prof. Sudesh Nangia, the Associate Co-ordinator of the programme with periodic approval of the decisions from the M/HRD/UGC Empowered Committee and follow the UGC notification/guidelines for appointment of Faculty positions in universities.
3. Prof. Gandhi shall submit quarterly progress report and utilization certificate and audited statement of accounts annually to UGC through the Registrar, JNU.
4. Prof. Gandhi along with Prof. Nangia shall carry out the functions as National/Associate Coordinator in a time bound manner, as this programme is evolved as an innovative model providing quality faculty to the university departments.
5. The UGC would provide financial assistance to JNU to create the UGC facility at JNU for the programme and for its maintenance.
6. Prof. Gandhi will be paid an honorarium of Rs.45,000/-p.m. and Prof. Nangia would be paid an honorarium of Rs.35,000/-p.m. for the task.
7. The offer of appointment may be withdrawn at any time if UGC or Empowered

Committee feels that work is not up to its satisfaction.