

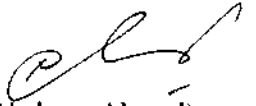
No.11024/1/2017-PA
Government of India
Ministry of Tribal Affairs
(TRI Division)

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated: 11. 12.2017

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Minutes of the meeting of Standing Finance Committee (SFC) held on 04.12.2017 under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

The undersigned is directed to refer to the captioned subject and to forward herewith a copy of minutes of the meeting of the **Standing Finance Committee (SFC)** held on 04.12.2017 under the Chairpersonship of Secretary(TA) at the Conference Room, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi, for continuation of scheme 'Support to Tribal Research Institutes(TRIs) for next three years i.e. upto March 2020 .



(Nadeem Ahmad)

Under Secretary to the Government of India
Tel: 23073708
Email: nadeem.ahmad@nic.in

Encls: As above

To,

1. Joint Secretary (PF-II), Department of Expenditure, North Block, New Delhi
2. Joint Secretary(Budget), Department of Economic Affairs, North Block, New Delhi.
3. Advisor (SJ&E), NITI Aayog, New Delhi- 110 001

Copy for Information to:

4. Secretary, NCST, Lok Nayak Bhawan, Khan Market, New Delhi
5. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, Transport Bhawan, Sansad Marg, New Delhi
6. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development, Annexe Building, Shivaji Stadium, New Delhi
7. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
8. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Human Recourse Development, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
9. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Social justice and Empowerment, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi

Internal circulation:

1. PS to Hon'ble MTA
2. PSs to Hon'ble MOS(TA)
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6. PS to JS&FA
7. PS to EA

Minutes of the meeting of Standing Finance Committee (SFC) held on 4.12.2017 under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

A meeting of the Standing Finance Committee (SFC) for appraisal of the scheme, "Support to Tribal Research Institute (TRIs)" was held on 4.12.2017 at 11.00 A.M. in the Conference Room of Ministry of Tribal Affairs in Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi. The following Officers were present:

Ministry of Tribal Affairs: -

1. Ms. Leena Nair, Secretary..... Chairperson
2. Shri Rajesh Aggarwal, Joint Secretary
3. Ms. Meera Ranjan Tshering, JS & FA
4. Sh. Jaideep Singh Kochher, Economic Advisor
5. Shri Gopal Sadhwani, Director
6. Shri Nadeem Ahmad, Under Secretary

NITI Aayog:

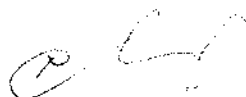
1. Shri. V. B Singh, Director, NITI Aayog
2. Shri R.N. Mundlu, Research Officer, NITI Aayog

At the outset, Committee was briefed on the following aspects of the Scheme relating to 'Support to Tribal Research Institute':-

(i) TRIs are dedicated institutions established in 22 States / UTs. TRIs are envisaged to act as body of knowledge & research, evaluation studies, documentation and preservation of tribal cultural heritage and to provide inputs to States for evidence based planning and appropriate legislations. It is also expected from TRIs to undertake capacity building of tribal people and personnel associated with tribal affairs. Further, TRIs are responsible for dissemination of tribal knowledge and creation of awareness among tribals as also for organisation of tribal festival and organization of workshop, seminar, exchange visits etc.

(ii) The Scheme is an ongoing scheme. Through the scheme TRIs are provided 100% grant for carrying out activities based on the proposal submitted by the them through respective State Governments after obtaining approval of duly constituted APEX Committee under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs. The Committee was further apprised of the major activities undertaken by the TRIs in the field of research, evaluation, training, festivals, baseline survey, publications, documentaries etc.

(iii) While highlighting the infrastructural arrangements and Staff position in TRIs, Committee was apprised that about 50% of the States / UTs where TRIs are functioning have their own building and rest are functioning either on rented building or in the University campuses. Attention of the Committee was drawn to the fact that some of the TRIs are facing acute shortage of staff.

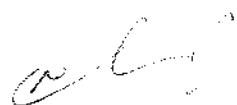


(iv) Presenting the findings of evaluation report (by NIRD, 2012) of the scheme, it was informed to the Committee that major recommendations of the report are (i) Grant to TRIs may be made 100% Central Funding (ii) Release of funds may be made directly to the TRIs (iii) there may be formula based allocation of funds for State TRIs. The Committee was further apprised of the position with regard to recommendations that the scheme has already been included in the Central Sector Scheme with 100% Central funding. Mechanism for releasing funds directly to TRIs is to be worked out in consultation with States depending on the physical arrangements. Also there are dissimilarities in TRIs. Some of the TRIs have their own building, some others are running in rented building. Similarly, some TRIs have libraries, museums etc. on the other hand some others do not have. It is thus not feasible to lay down a strict criterion for allocation of funds to States under the scheme. However, projects submitted by the TRIs are approved after due consideration by the APEX Committee chaired by Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs keeping in view the schematic guidelines and strengths of the TRIs to execute the activities recommended by the States concerned.

(v) The Committee was apprised that receipt of proposals from the State TRIs is a continuous process. Even as on date we have sufficient proposals in hand with regard to functioning of TRIs and construction of Museums / Memorials and it is expected that current year's allocation and projections for next two financial years is likely be utilized.

2. The Committee deliberated upon the SFC proposal and recommended for continuance of the scheme 'Support to TRIs' with financial allocation of Rs. 265.00 Crore for three years i.e. 2017-18 to 2019-20 with the following observations / suggestions:

- (i) TRIs should focus on their core responsibilities as body of knowledge & research more or less as a think tank for tribal development, preservation of tribal cultural heritage and to provide inputs to States for evidence based planning and appropriate legislations rather than spending quality time in the activities like verification of caste certificates etc. The Committee suggested that the matter regarding involvement of TRIs in the activities not directly concerned with the responsibilities of TRIs like issue of Caste Certificates (after examining all aspects of Hon'ble Supreme Court Judgments in this regard) may be brought to the notice of Chief Secretary of States for appropriate action.
- (ii) It was suggested that a National Level Institute under MoTA could probably be set up to coordinate the activities of TRIs across the country, and to undertake National Level Activities.
- (iii) The National Tribal Awards, similarly may be funded under the Ministries scheme of Publicity; (This is already approved by EFC under the Budget Head of "Tribal Festival, Tribal Research, Information and Mass Education")
- (iv) For in-house examination of the quality of the research content developed, MoTA's TRI Division could be strengthened to engage Consultant(s) with anthropological qualifications/curators etc. as may be necessary, for material uploaded on e-repository, indexing/examination, analysis etc. of the research studies awarded to TRIs/Centre of Excellence/under sub-scheme of Research.
- (v) The activities approved by the APEX Committee will be reviewed on quarterly basis and an appropriate mechanism shall be devised.



- (vi) The modalities for routing funds directly to TRIs may be examined in consultation with Integrated Finance Division for its implementation keeping in view the financial prudence/fiscal arrangement.

3. After detailed discussions, it was decided that TRIs may be funded for carrying out the following activities:

(A) Building Infrastructure


- (a) State-of-the-Art building for TRIs/ National TRIs
- (b) Repairs/Augmentation /Upgradation of existing TRI Building excluding routine maintenance like house-keeping, day to day maintenance, utility bills etc.
- (c) Support for setting up of Tribal Museum / Memorials including virtual museums.
- (d) Support for setting up of libraries including Digital Repositories.
- (e) Conference Hall, Training / Resource Centers, training hostels in TRI building.
- (f) Setting up of tribal food cafe, Artisans Corner, Exhibition-cum- Sale outlets of tribal art & artifacts, souvenirs, etc. in TRI/Museum campus, or at other places in the State.

(B) Research & Documentation (including Audio/ Video/ Virtual Reality (VR)/ Augmented Reality (AR)& new technologies):

- (a) Tribal welfare measure
- (b) Success stories.
- (c) Tribal Profile.
- (d) Tribal language, culture, traditions, customs, art & artifacts, traditional medicinal practices, tribal myth & stories, tribal cuisines and other special characteristics and
- (e) Any other aspects relating to tribal art, tradition and culture
- (f) Monitoring and evaluation of various government interventions.

(C) Training and Capacity building:

- (a) Laws/constitutional provisions in respect of Scheduled areas / tribal rights. (including FRA, PESA, Prevention of Atrocity Act, L&RR, Land Acquisition etc.)
- (b) Capacity building of functionaries and tribal representatives on socio-economic programs.
- (c) Capacity building of Artisans- Art & craft, Metal craft, painting, dance/drama, textiles, handicrafts as well as value addition to art, craft and designs etc. This can include kits and tools etc.



(d) Conducting of Seminars, Conferences, Workshops on various tribal related issues.

(e) Think tank related activities.

(D) Many tribal festivals/ yatras etc. are celebrated in States which can be publicized at National Level to attract more tourists, TRIs may propose such festivals/ yatras etc. for supplementary support under the scheme.

(E) Any innovative project/initiative/ activities which can help the tribals or tribal majority area.

The Meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the chair.

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