

## *University of Mumbai*

### Circular:-

Following is a letter No. F.No.PS/MS/2012 dated 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2012 received from Indian Council of Social Science Research Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India JNU Institutional Area, Aruna Asaf Ali Marg, New Delhi – 110 067.

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Sir/Madam,

I am sure you are aware that the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) is the apex national nodal agency working under the Ministry of Human Resource Development, for promotion of research in the domain of Social Sciences. Towards discharging its mandate, the ICSSR runs and funds various programmes and schemes for expanding the network of social science research in India and uplifting the quality of research both in terms of rigour and relevance.

Under the 12<sup>th</sup> Plan perspective of Government of India, social science research is slated for priority consideration and thereby a corresponding quantum push in the financial allocations for it. Thus, under this new dispensation the ICSSR has uplifted and restructured most of its schemes both in terms of enhanced financial allocations as well as ensuring quality deliverables. Some of the salient aspects of the changed paradigm of funding by ICSSR need to be brought to your knowledge. These include:

- i) Under all the schemes and programmes of the ICSSR, separate financial allocations of 15% for the Scheduled Castes, 7.5% allocation for the Scheduled Tribe and 10% allocation for the North Eastern Region has been made. However, awareness, motivation and informed guidance is required to ensure that the intended beneficiaries are able to avail these grants. As things stand, almost all the proposals submitted under these earmarked funds are likely to receive the ICSSR grant. Apart from this, the ICSSR has also a pro-active approach of issuing grants to the other weaker sections of the society such as women, minorities, physically challenged and persons belonging to the backward districts of India as notified by the Government of India.
- ii) The Doctoral Fellowships, Post-Doctoral Fellowships and Senior Fellowships, which were earlier at a very low financial scale, have been brought at par with the correspondence fellowships awarded by the UGC such as JRF, PDF etc. As such research scholars of social sciences can now apply for ICSSR fellowships and get same emoluments as given by the UGC.
- iii) For in-service teacher availing these fellowships, the ICSSR has a full salary protection scheme equivalent to the Teachers Research Fellowships (TRF) of UGC.
- iv) The Scale of Financial allocations under the Research Projects grant has also been increased to ensure both viability and quality of these projects. Simultaneously, the structure of grant under each expenditure head has also been revised.
- v) For seminars and conference, the outlay of grant has been greatly enhanced along with more stringent criteria for sanction of these grants for an authentic national seminar of 2- days, a sanction up to Rs. 5 lakhs can be made. Similarly, the grant for an authentic proposal for international seminar and conference is entitled for a grant upward Rs. 5 lakhs.

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- vi) The ICSSR provides grants to both the faculty and research scholars of social science for going aboard to attend an international conference or for data collection with regard to research study. Under this scheme, deserving proposals can be granted full reimbursement as against the previously existing provisions of 50% reimbursement only.
- vii) Towards uplifting the quality of social science research at all levels, the ICSSR has evolved two distinct programmes Research Methodology Courses for Doctoral Students and Research Capacity Building Programme for the social science faculty. Both these programmes are well structured with adequate financial allocations for their smooth conduct.

In light of the above salient aspects of the reoriented and restructured system of ICSSR funding for social science research in India, I earnestly urge upon your good self to kindly circulate this letter to all the social Science Departments of your University for further information and guidance of both the faculty and the students. The ICSSR would be extremely obliged if you could possibly hold a meeting of the faculty and research scholars of social science in your University to apprise and orient them about the new funding initiatives of the ICSSR. If required, the ICSSR would be more than willing to send any senior academic person to represent the ICSSR in such a meeting

Once again I request you to kindly take extra initiative and effort to bring to the notice/attention of faculty and research scholars belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes so that they are able to make use of these enhanced avenues.

With warm personal regards.

Yours truly,  
Sd/-  
(Ramesh Dadhich)

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No. APD/488/30/of 2012

29<sup>th</sup> November, 2012

Copy forwarded to the Principals of the all affiliated Colleges covered under Section 2(f) and 12(B) of UGC Act, 1956 for information and further necessary action in the matter.

Sd/-  
for Registrar