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8 March 2013

From

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Press and Public Relations  
Lok Sabha Secretariat  
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ORLEAD  
OSO  
Secretary  
8/3/13

To

Prof. Lakshman Chaturvedi  
Vice Chancellor  
Guru Ghasidas University (Central University)  
Kini Bilaspur 495 009  
Chattisgarh.

Sub: Lok Sabha Fellowship Scheme.

Sir,

Hon'ble Lok Sabha Speaker Smt. Meira Kumar has constituted the Fellowship Committee of the Lok Sabha to consider proposals for grant of Research Fellowships to interested scholars with a view to better understanding the functioning of the Parliament, to identify the changing nature of role of Parliamentary institutions and to suggest alternatives in the light of the experience of the other democratic countries,

2. In this regard, you are requested to bring the Lok Sabha Fellowship Scheme to the notice of Research scholars/others of your institution.
3. A copy of the rules relating to Award of Lok Sabha Fellowships, is enclosed along with list of themes/topic of research.

With regards,

Sincerely yours,

Malla

(Meena Malla)

Enclosed: As stated above.

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# LOK SABHA FELLOWSHIP

## Rules relating to the Award of Research Fellowships and Fellowships for writing Monographs on Parliamentary Subjects by the Lok Sabha Secretariat.

### 1. Preamble

There is an increasing need for an indepth enquiry and research on subjects of parliamentary interest. This is required with a view to better understanding the functioning of our Parliament, to identify the changing nature and role of our parliamentary institutions and to suggest alternatives in the light of the experiences in other democratic countries. The Lok Sabha Secretariat proposes to encourage and support such original studies by way of granting Research Fellowships to interested scholars. Proposals for research projects may involve writing a book/monograph based on past research experience or analysis and interpretation of primary data/material collected through the survey method or research based on the secondary data.

### 2. The Fellowships for writing Books

The Lok Sabha Secretariat will grant two Research Fellowships, one each in Hindi and English, every year on any particular aspect in one of the following fields:

- (i) Parliamentary Institutions/ Systems (including State Legislatures)- Evolution and Development
- (ii) Parliamentary Rules, Practices and Procedures
- (iii) Committee System
- (iv) Communication between Parliament and the People
- (v) Modern Techniques of Service and Support Systems of Parliament

The grant of Fellowship may be considered for doing the research work in other recognized languages of India, besides Hindi and English.

### 3. Duration

The duration of the Fellowships will be two years. In very exceptional cases, the period may be extended subject to the satisfaction and approval of the Fellowship Committee

### 4. Eligibility

The Fellowships are open to research scholars, academicians, media persons and others having suitable experience and aptitude to undertake the study. The applicants should, at least, be Graduates (preferably in Social Sciences) from a recognised University. The selection will be made after giving due consideration to the applicants' qualifications, their past experience and standing in the profession; published works, if any, to their credit; knowledge of the working of the political system and parliamentary institutions, procedures and practices, etc.

- 5. Selection Procedure for granting Research Fellowships**
- (a) The selection for the grant of Research Fellowships and the Fellowships for writing monographs will be made by a Fellowship Committee nominated by the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha.
  - (b) All major Universities and other reputed Educational Institutions including the University Grants Commission (UGC), the Indian Council for Social Science Research (ICSSR), Indian Council of Historical Research, and Indian Institute of Public Administration; Media Organizations and other reputed institutions granting fellowships, e.g. the Nehru Fellowship Committee, Press Institute of India and Times of India Fellowship will be requested to forward names of suitable candidates to the Lok Sabha Secretariat for consideration by the Fellowship Committee. The notice regarding Award of Fellowships may also be circulated among the media persons covering the proceedings of Parliament.
  - (c) The Committee may also suo motu consider meritorious scholars for the Fellowship.
  - (d) The applicant will be required to send in his/her particulars in the prescribed format (Annexure) duly filled in, along with the synopsis of his proposal.
  - (e) The proposals received may, if necessary, be sent to consultant(s) for their assessment and suggestions. The suggestions of the consultants along with the proposals and details of the scholars shall, thereafter, be placed before the Fellowship Committee. The Committee shall consider and recommend the names to the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha for grant of Lok Sabha fellowships.
  - (f) If the Committee does not find any applicant suitable for the grant of the Fellowship, no Fellowship may be granted during that year. The Committee may, however, award Fellowship for that particular year at a later date.
  - (g) Final Report -- A fellow has to submit quarterly Progress Report of the fellowship project for the consideration and satisfaction of the Committee. The final Report shall be submitted in triplicate for the appraisal and perusal of the Fellowship Committee.
- 6. Fellowships for writing Monographs**
- (a) The Fellowship Committee may consider the grant of a fellowship for writing Monograph (English or Hindi) on a topical subject of parliamentary interest by invitation from dignitaries, scholars of eminence and experts in their respective fields.
  - (b) The Fellowship Committee may also consider the grant of fellowship for writing Monographs to those scholars whose proposals were considered for Research Fellowships, but found suitable and relevant only for conducting a limited study during a short period.

(c) Duration -- The duration of the fellowships for writing Monographs will be six months. In exceptional cases, the period may be extended subject to the satisfaction and approval of the Fellowship Committee.

(d) Final Report -- The final report of the project shall be submitted by the fellow in triplicate. The final report should be comprehensive enough worthy of publication as a monograph.

All the other conditions/facilities etc. as admissible to the fellows who have been awarded Lok Sabha Research Fellowships will be applicable to the scholars who are awarded fellowships for writing monographs.

The Committee may also suo motu consider meritorious scholars for the Fellowship.

The applicant will be required to send in his/her particulars in the prescribed format (Annexure) duly filled in along with the brief proposal.

#### **7. Guidelines for submission of proposals**

(a) While submitting the proposal, the format may broadly be according to the following order of points and guidelines given under:

- (i) Title of the Project
- (ii) Statement of the Problem : In the opening paragraphs of the research proposal, the problem to be investigated should be stated clearly and briefly. The significance of the problem in the theoretical context of the concerned discipline should be specified.
- (iii) Overview of Literature : Summarizing the current status of research in the area including major findings, the project proposal should clearly demonstrate the relevance or otherwise of the findings or approaches for the investigation of the problem at hand.
- (iv) The Conceptual Framework : Given the problem and the theoretical perspective for investigation of the problem the proposal should clearly indicate the concepts to be used and demonstrate their relevance for the study. It should further specify the empirical dimension if any, that needs to be explored for investigating the problem.
- (v) Research Questions or Hypotheses : Given the conceptual framework and dimensions of the problem, specific questions to be answered, hypotheses to be tested, through the proposed study should be explicitly formulated compatible with the research design.
- (vi) Coverage : In the light of the questions raised or the hypotheses proposed to be tested, if the sampling becomes necessary, full information on the following points should be given:
  - (a) Universe of the Study,
  - (b) Sampling Frame, and

## (c) Units of Observation and Sampling size

If the Study requires any control groups, they should be specifically mentioned. An explanation of the determination of size and type of the sample shall also be necessary. Proposals not requiring a sample selection should specify their strategy appropriately and describe the rationale.

(b) Methodology: A suitable description of the methods of research for the study may be given.

(c) Data Collection : The different types of data that are proposed to be gathered should be specifically mentioned. The sources for each type and the tools and techniques that will be used for collecting different types of data should be specified.

(d) Time Budgeting : The project should be broken up in suitable stages and the time required for the completion of each stage of work should be specified.

(e) Cost Estimation : The cost of the project is to be estimated in terms of the total man days and the facilities needed. These may be calculated under the following headings:

1. Stationery and printing,
2. Books, journals, etc.,
3. Contingency expenses including postage,
4. Any other expenses (please specify), and
5. Grand total

(f) Bibliography

## 8. MoU

An applicant selected for the Fellowship will have to sign the Memorandum of Undertaking and Conditions attached thereto separately. He/she will also have to hand over all the data/material collected on the topic of the Fellowship to the Lok Sabha Secretariat.

## 9. Amount of Fellowship/Monograph

a). The total amount of each Fellowship for writing Books will be **maximum Rs. 3,50,000/- (all inclusive)**. The amount sanctioned to a Fellow will be disbursed in seven equal instalments of Rs. 50,000/- each. However, each instalment of the fellowship amount will be released subject to the satisfactory progress of the project and recommendation of the Committee to that effect.

b). The total amount of fellowships for writing monographs will be upto Rs. 2 lakh (all inclusive) depending upon the proposals and the approval of the Fellowship Committee. The amount sanctioned to a fellow will be disbursed in four/five instalments subject to the satisfaction and recommendation of the Committee on the Fellow's monthly progress report.

In case a Fellow after joining the Lok Sabha Fellowship ceases to work on the fellowship for a time either because of ill health or any other reason, he/she shall have to refund whole of the fellowship amount granted to him/her.

#### **10. Library facility**

The Research Fellow may be provided the facility to have access to Parliament Library for consultation of documents available therein and also provided with photocopying facility, if desired.

#### **11. Publication Assistance**

(a) After the final report of the Fellowship is recommended by the Fellowship Committee for publication and subsequently approved by the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha, the applicant shall be required to enter into an agreement with a reputed publisher for the publication of the book and a copy of the agreement may be provided to the Lok Sabha Secretariat.

(b) The following text shall be prominently printed on the back of the inner title page of the book for which publication grant has been provided by the Secretariat.

"The publication of the book has been financially supported by the Lok Sabha Secretariat. The responsibility for the facts stated or opinions expressed is entirely of the author and not of the Lok Sabha Secretariat".

(c) In case the publication assistance is granted by the Lok Sabha Secretariat, the Fellow shall supply 25 copies of the publication on complimentary basis to the Lok Sabha Secretariat. In case the publication assistance is not granted by Lok Sabha Secretariat or the Fellow does not seek any assistance and intends to publish it on his own, the Secretariat may invoke the 'Disclaimer Clause' and grant permission for the same. In that case he will supply 5 copies of the publication to the Lok Sabha Secretariat on complimentary basis.

#### **12. General**

The decision of the Hon'ble Speaker Lok Sabha will be final in all matters concerning the Fellowships.

## LIST OF TOPICS/SUBJECTS

### **Role of Parliament:**

- (i) In Facilitating Economic Stability, especially in the context of Economic Liberalization and Globalization.
- (ii) In Mitigating Conflict- Situations and Facilitating National Integration.
- (iii) In Ensuring Environmental Protection.
- (iv) As Agents of Social Change, Equity and Inclusive Growth.
- (v) In taking Initiatives to address the Scourge of Terrorism.
- (vi) In the Protection and Rehabilitation of Vulnerable Groups.
- (vii) Contemporary challenges to Parliament and its functioning, including frequent disruptions and adjournments.
- (viii) Relationship between Parliament and other Organs of the State, including Judiciary

### **Parliament and People**

- (i) Parliament and the People: Reinforcing Democracy through Accountability.
- (ii) Parliament and Women's Empowerment.
- (iii) Parliament and Human Rights.
- (iv) Parliament and Sustainable Development.
- (v) Parliament and the Media: Facilitating Greater Partnership towards Strengthening Democracy.
- (vi) Parliament and Millennium Development Goals.

## **Parliamentary Committees**

Role of Parliamentary Committees in Strengthening Accountability Mechanisms.

## **Parliamentary Forums**

Functioning of Parliamentary Forums in policy making and knowledge sharing.

## **Parliamentary and International Affairs**

Parliamentary Diplomacy and Global Peace including comparative studies of Parliament of India with other foreign Parliaments.

## **Parliament and its Heritage**

- (i) History of Parliament of India
- (ii) Different Aspects of Heritage Nature of Parliament
- (iii) Comparative studies of Parliament of India with other foreign Parliaments with regard to its Heritage Nature.