

## Chapter II

### FELLOWSHIPS

1. The following categories of Fellowships may be awarded for undertaking research in History within India:

- (a) Junior Research Fellowship (JRF)
- (b) (Post Doctoral Fellowship ( PDF)
- (c) Senior Academic Fellowship (SAF)
- (d) National Fellowship

2. All Fellowships specified in Clause 1 shall be awarded by the Research Projects Committee for research work to be specified in the award.

3. The number of Fellowships in a financial year will be as follows:

Junior Fellowship:	80
Post Doctoral Fellowship:	10
Senior Fellowship:	10
National Fellowship:	03.

At any point of time, the number of total Fellowships should not be more than double of the upper number ceiling of Fellowship indicated above. No new category of Fellowships other than those mentioned above shall be introduced without prior approval of the Government of India.

4. (a) Applications or proposals for Fellowships other than National Fellowships shall be invited through advertisements in some of the National dailies and also on the website of ICHR [www.ichrindia.org](http://www.ichrindia.org). Whereas selection for award of JRFs / PDFs will be made through conducting examinations-cum-interviews to be held at various places in the country to be decided by the Council, selection of Senior Academic Fellows will be made by a Selection Committee through personal interaction.

b) A committee will be constituted by the Council for devising an internal short listing system to scrutinize the applications to ascertain their viability and make its recommendations to the Chairman of the names of the candidates who could be considered for selection through examination-cum-interviews. This will be applicable to all categories of Fellowships other than National Fellowships.

#### 5. **Junior Research Fellowship:**

- a. To be eligible for the award of Junior Research Fellowship candidates must have secured at least 55% (without rounding off) in Master's Degree OR equivalent examination from universities/institutions recognized by the UGC in History/Archaeology/Museology. This will be relaxed to the minimum of 50% marks in the case of SC/ST.
- b. The Fellowship shall carry an amount of Rupees Sixteen thousand (Rs.16000/-)

per month with a contingency grant of Rupees Fifteen thousand (Rs.15000/-) per annum for a period of two years extendable up to one more year under special circumstances but this will be subject to the provision of clause (3) above.

- c. This Fellowship shall be a whole-time engagement for research work and cannot be combined with any other whole-time or part-time work.

Provided that—

- i. a Fellow can continue with his previous employment, if he takes leave during the period of Fellowship; and
  - ii. A part-time honorary or nominally paid teaching or research assignment may be accepted by a Fellow with the permission of the Research Projects Committee.
- d. The Council will constitute a JRF Committee /Peer Group to formulate guidelines for selection of Fellows as well as to monitor research undertaken by the Fellows.
- e. The research undertaken by a Fellow shall be reviewed periodically and the fellowship may be discontinued if research undertaken by any fellow is found unsatisfactory. The amount of fellowship granted to a Fellow shall be recovered if the research undertaken by him is found unsatisfactory.
- f. The last instalment of the Fellowship shall be withheld if the Fellow does not submit his/her monograph/book/thesis within the stipulated time during his term of fellowship.

## **6. Post Doctoral Fellowship:**

- a. **Post Doctoral Fellowships** are awarded to scholars who have shown significant competence in research work, have completed/ have been awarded their Ph.D or have done equivalent research work of merit, and desire to work on approved research themes at institutions of excellence under the guidance of a senior scholar. The applicants for the Fellowship should be affiliated with a University or a research institute of repute
- b. The Fellowship shall carry an amount of Rupees Twenty eight thousand (Rs.28000/-) per month with a contingency grant of Rupees Twenty thousand (Rs 20000/-) per annum for a period of two years extendable up to a maximum of one more year in special circumstances, but this will be subject to the provisions of clause 3 above
- c. This Fellowship shall be a whole-time engagement for research work and cannot be combined with any other whole-time or part-time work.
- Provided that—
- i. a Fellow can continue with his previous employment, if he takes leave during the period of Fellowship; and
  - ii. A part-time honorary or partially paid teaching or research assignment may be accepted by a Fellow with the permission of the Research Projects Committee.

- d. The research undertaken by a Fellow shall be reviewed every six months and the Fellowship may be discontinued if research undertaken by any Fellow is not found satisfactory. The amount of Fellowship granted to a Fellow shall be recovered if the research undertaken by him is not satisfactory.
- e. The last instalment of the Fellowship shall be withheld if the Fellow does not submit the monograph/book/thesis within the stipulated time during his/her term of fellowship.

**7. Senior Academic Fellowship:**

- a. **Senior Fellowships** are awarded to the senior scholars who have done quality work and have publication in the form of books and papers in professional journals to their credit. The applicants for the Fellowship should be affiliated with a University or a research institute of repute.
- b. The Fellowship shall carry an amount of Rupees Forty thousand (₹40000/-) per month with a contingency grant of Rupees Forty thousand (₹40000/-) per annum for a period of two years extendable up to a maximum of one more year in special circumstances, but this will be subject to the provisions of clause 3 above.
- c. This Fellowship shall preferably be a whole time engagement for research work.
- d. The RPC of the Council shall formulate guidelines for selection of Fellows as well as to monitor research undertaken by the fellows.
- e. The research undertaken by a Fellow shall be reviewed every six months and the Fellowship may be discontinued if research undertaken by any Fellow is not satisfactory. The amount of Fellowship granted to a Fellow shall be recovered if the research undertaken by him/her is not satisfactory.
- f. The last instalment of the Fellowship shall be withheld if the Fellow does not submit his/her monographs/books/thesis within the stipulated time during his term of Fellowship.

**8. National Fellowship:**

- (a) **National Fellowships** are offered to eminent scholars in history who have made outstanding contribution to research in their respective fields, to enable them to continue their academic work and research. The Fellow should be affiliated with a University or a recognized research institute .
- (b) The Fellowship shall be awarded by the Council to eminent scholars on the recommendations of the Research Projects Committee for a period of two years. Extension for one more year may be

considered in exceptional cases after evaluating the research work done during the first two years. Direct applications from scholars shall not be entertained.

- (c) The Fellowship shall carry an amount of Rupees Fifty five thousand only (Rs.55,000/-) per month with a contingency grant of Rupees Sixty thousand (Rs.60,000/-) per annum, but this will be subject to the provisions of clause 3 above.
- (d) This Fellowship shall preferably be a whole time engagement for research work.
- (e) It will be expected of a National Fellow to devote his/her full time on research for which the Fellowship is awarded. It will be appreciated if as the National Fellow of the ICHR, the scholar can give a seminar or two either at the ICHR or in the institution of affiliation or in a reputed academic institution in the country. ICHR will also expect that the National Fellow prepares a publishable research report, in the form of either a monograph or a set of research papers which the ICHR shall have the first right to publish in its Journal *Indian Historical Review* or any of its publications with the consent of the scholar.
- (f) The last instalment of the Fellowship shall be withheld if the Fellow does not submit his/her monographs/books/thesis within the stipulated time during his term of Fellowship.

#### **9. Fellowship for Foreign Nationals:**

Provided that foreign nationals may not be barred from being awarded Fellowship of categories (a), (b), (c), and (d) in Clause 1 on the ground only that they are eligible for the award of a Fellowship under this clause.

- 10. Proposal for the selection of National Fellows shall not be sent to an Expert, but shall be directly placed before the Research Projects Committee, to enable it to make its recommendation for the award of the Fellowship to the Council.
- 11. Upon award of a Fellowship under Clause 2, the award shall remain valid for a period of one year from the date on which the minutes of the meeting of the Research Projects Committee or of the Council, in which the award was made, are signed by the Chairman, and shall lapse if the awardee fails to join within that period. The Chairman is authorized to revalidate the Fellowships, research projects, etc., even after a period of one year, but if there is no response from the scholar, the grant shall be considered to have lapsed; but a National Fellowship can only be renewed by the Council upon the recommendation of the Research Projects Committee.
- 12. (a) Every Fellow, other than National Fellow, shall submit a six-monthly progress report in triplicate to the institution of affiliation for being forwarded to the ICHR.

(b) In the case of Junior Research Fellows, the report shall be certified by the Supervisor, and, in case, he is unavailable, by the Head of the Department in which the Fellow is working.

(c) Instalments of Fellowship grant in all cases shall not be released if the progress report for periods for which payment had been made are not furnished, or, if furnished, are not found satisfactory

Provided that, in the case of a Fellowship other than the National Fellowship the Fellow shall submit a report at the end of every six months, which, unless the Chairman otherwise directs, may be sent to an Expert for his assessment and recommendations, and, should these be positive, the subsequent instalment of the Fellowship grant, as due, shall be released; and at the end of the year would submit an annual comprehensive report, which would be evaluated for continuation of the grant further to the second year. In case of Junior Research Fellowship, at the end of its tenure, the institution of affiliation shall certify that the fellow has fulfilled all the requirements of the Fellowship, and the funds provided by the ICHR for this purpose were properly utilized.

13. Statement of expenditure:

(a) Every Fellow other than National Fellow will submit six monthly statement of expenditure of contingency grant along with original vouchers through the Supervisor or the institution of affiliation as the case may be:

(b) The National Fellow will submit such statement of expenditure along with original vouchers direct to the ICHR.

14. In case of all the Fellowships, the amount of Fellowship and of the contingency grant for the last three months will be withheld. This will be released only after the submission to the ICHR a publishable manuscript based on the research done during the fellowship. When the manuscript is published, due acknowledgment should be made to the Fellowship of the ICHR.

15. The institution of affiliation shall be expected to provide the Fellow with facilities such as accommodation for work, including furniture, library and research facilities and messenger services etc. and to maintain accounts of the Fellowship and contingency grants disbursed to the Fellow, in return whereof the ICHR shall pay overhead charges to the said institution.

16. A Fellow who has availed of a Fellowship from the ICHR will not be eligible for another Fellowship from this Council for the next five years from the date of the acceptance of the final report by the Council.

17. The pay of the in-service scholars employed in Universities, Government Departments etc. may be protected by the parent institution and in case of the retired scholars/academics pension will not be deducted from the amount of the Fellowship granted by the Council. **It is clarified that the pay protection to the in-service scholars will not be given by the Council. The concerned college/University/Institution should forward only such application(s) when they consent to protect the salary of the scholar(s) and allow him to avail of the ICHR's Post Doctoral Fellowship/Senior Academic Fellowship.**

18. The amount of the Fellowship shall be electronically credited directly to the account of the Fellows. While accepting the Fellowship from the Council, the Fellows should not accept Fellowship from any other organization.
19.
  - (a) Should a Fellow (including a National Fellow), after joining his Fellowship, cease to work on the Fellowship for a time because of ill-health or his obtaining other gainful employment, or for some other reason, he shall apply for leave to the ICHR, and should such leave be granted by the Chairman, which shall not exceed six months during the entire, tenure of the Fellowship, the period(s) of the said leave shall be counted towards determining the duration of the Fellowship.
  - (b) The period of overstay of leave, in case of a scholar, other than a National Fellow, overstaying the maximum period of six months of the sanctioned leave, such period of overstay of leave, the period of leave not sanctioned by the Chairman or the period of absence without any proper sanction of leave, shall be deemed as unauthorized absence from working as Fellow, and will be viewed adversely by the ICHR and the concerned Fellow shall forfeit the right to apply for any extension of tenure of Fellowship unless it is condoned by the Council in terms of the sub-clause (e) given below.
  - (c) In case of a Fellow's (other than a National Fellow) unauthorized absence whether in continuation of the sanctioned leave or otherwise for a prolonged period, the Chairman, unless the Council condones it, will have the right to presume that the Fellow, has ceased working on the Fellowship and, thus, can terminate his Fellowship without any notice, and the scholar shall be liable to return forthwith the entire Fellowship and the contingency grant received by him from the ICHR.
  - (d) During the period of a Fellow's absence whether on leave sanctioned by the Chairman or otherwise, the Fellow (including a National Fellow) shall not draw the Fellowship and contingency grant for the period of such leave/absence. S/He will not be entitled to claim Fellowship and contingency money for the period with retrospective effect.
  - (e) The Council shall reserve the right to consider condoning the unauthorized absence from working on the Fellowship in terms of sub-clause (b) above in exceptional cases on receipt of a formal representation from the concerned scholar duly recommended by his/her supervisor or the institution where s/he is enrolled or the institution of affiliation as the case may be.
20. Notwithstanding anything contained in the foregoing clauses of this Chapter should a Fellow die during the period of the Fellowship or within six months after the end of the said period without submitting the last periodic or the final report, the balance of the fellowship due for the period till the date of his death or the end of the period of the Fellowship, whichever shall be earlier, shall be paid to the legal heirs of the Fellow, unless the Research Projects Committee shall have reason to believe that the Fellow had ceased working on the Fellowship for a significantly long period before his death, in which case it may decide to withhold the corresponding portion of the Fellowship.

21. If the scholar who has been awarded JRF/PDF and is not employed anywhere but gets employment later on during the currency of the Fellowship has expressed his/her willingness to continue with the research work without claiming Fellowship from the date of the commencement of his/her job, s/he instead of being asked to refund the total amount of Fellowship and contingency amount hitherto paid to him/her will be required to:
- (a) Submit an affidavit on non-judicial paper assuring the Council that s/he will continue with the research work as per the rules of the University/institution till it is completed, and that after its completion will submit a copy of the thesis to the ICHR.
  - (b) Submit a letter of recommendation to this effect from the concerned authority of the University/ institute where the scholar is enrolled or registered for Ph.D.
  - (c) Submit a 'No Objection Certificate' from the employer for pursuing the research work by him.
  - (d) In case of or his/her failure to submit all the above specified documents, within a period of 3 months or as decided by the RPC, he will be asked to refund the full amount of Fellowship along with contingency grant received by him/her as per the Undertaking given by him/her at the time of award of Fellowship.
22. a) An application for the extension of Fellowship, if any, shall be submitted to the Member Secretary before the period of three months in advance of the expiry of the tenure of the Fellowship, otherwise such an application for the extension shall not be entertained.
- b) Applications for the extension of Fellowship should indicate in detail the reasons and grounds for seeking such an extension along with the firm date by which the research work shall be completed.
- c) In case of JRF/PDF, the application for the extension of Fellowship shall be duly recommended by the concerned supervisor and routed through the institution where the scholar has been enrolled.
- d) In case of Senior Academic Fellowship, the application for the extension should be recommended by the institution of affiliation.
- e) The grant of any extension of the Fellowship shall, among other considerations be contingent upon the maintenance of discipline and good conduct of the concerned scholar.
- f) In the case of scholars deemed to have been unauthorizedly absent from working on the Fellowship in terms of sub-clause (b) of clause 18, no such extension shall be granted unless the period of their unauthorized absence has been condoned by the Council in terms of sub-clause (e) of clause 18.
23. The continuance of a Junior Research Fellowship and other Fellowships is contingent upon good conduct and may stand terminated on adverse report about the conduct of a Fellow is received from the University or institution where he is enrolled or from the affiliating institutions, or from any other responsible source. Provided that it shall always be open to the Research Projects Committee to review the matter and conform or revoke the termination of the Fellowship.

23. a) The rates of Fellowship indicated in the relevant clauses and the upper ceiling of Fellowships shall remain unchanged for a span of five years reckoned with effect from first day of June, 2012

b) Future Revision of Rates of Fellowship:

ICHR shall, subject to approval of respective Governing Bodies / Councils, revise the rates of fellowships and contingency automatically by 10% on increase of Dearness Allowance (DA) in respect of Central Government Employees by 50% rather than seeking approval of Government for revising rate of Fellowships. For this purpose, the base year should be taken as the date of effectiveness of the proposed revised rates of fellowships, i.e. 01.06.2012