

Guidelines for Execution of Prime Minister's Research Fellowship
(Vide F.No.34-4/2017-TS-I dated 8th February 2018 of MHRD) at IIT Bhubaneswar

Government of India, under the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, decided to implement Prime Minister's Research Fellows (PMRF) Scheme beginning from 2018-19 to attract the best talent in Science and Technology for undertaking research in advanced as well as socially relevant areas. It was decided that under PMRF Scheme, a maximum of 3000 meritorious students from IITs, IISc, IIITs, NITs and IISER shall be selected in three batches starting from 2018-19 through a rigorous process and provided direct admission into Ph.D programmes in IITs and IISc to pursue research in frontier areas of Science and Technology, with enhanced monthly fellowship.

1. Admission

Admission of PMRF candidates will be through a National level selection process, which will be co-ordinated by Notional Co-ordinating Institute (IIT Hyderabad for 2018 and 2019) with the help of Nodal Institutions (NI) which are different IITs and IISc.

2. Target and Deliverables

- a) At the time of joining, each Follow shall be given deliverables to be achieved each year. This will be decided by the School which the Fellow is joining.
- b) The deliverables are to be designed keeping in view the topic selected by the Fellow.

3. IPR

The IPR policy shall be as per the Institute's policy on IPRs. The IPRs are owned by the Institution where the Fellow has worked.

4. Monitoring mechanism

There will be an annual review of the performance of the PMRF Fellows by a Standing Committee and Fellowship for the subsequent year shall be renewed only if the deliverables are achieved.

Composition of standing committee

1	Dean (Academics)	-	Chairman
2	Coordinator, PMRF	-	Convener
3	Head of the School	-	Member
4	Supervisor (s)	-	Member
5	An expert in the area of research from the Institute	-	Member

- There will be internal reviews twice a year. The PMRF fellow has to make a presentation in front of the Standing Committee as mentioned before at least once a year.
- **If the standing committee feels that adequate progress has not been achieved, then a PMRF fellow may be allowed to continue his/her work as a regular institutional fellows or may even be terminated.**

In addition, there will be National Convention every year where all PMRFs will showcase their work. This will be an occasion for the Industry to participate in the Convention. Further, there will be a website set up by the NCC showcasing the areas of work of each PMRF which will list all publications.

5. Fellowship and Contingency

5.1 Details about the PMRF fellowship:

5.1.1 Rate and Tenure of PMRF fellowship:

The tenure of PMRF fellowship will be four (4) years for students from integrated courses (Dual degree B. Tech. & M. Tech.) and five (5) years for B. Tech and integrated M.Sc.

Rate of the Fellowship will be as follows:

Year	Amount (Rs) per month
First and Second Years	70,000
Third Year	75,000*
Fourth & Fifth Years	80,000*

* Subject to Satisfactory performance.

5.1.1A An existing institute research student joining PMRF will get PMRF fellowship for a period as mentioned in Clause 5.1.1 excluding the period he/she has already spent as institute fellow. The rate of PMRF fellowship will be applicable as per the date of joining in PMRF.

Ex: If a student with Dual degree (B. Tech & M. Tech) as prequalification, joins PMRF program after working as a regular Ph.D scholar for two years will get PMRF fellowship for another 2 years only (as his/her original entitlement is 4 years).

Existing Ph.D students of the Institute laterally joining the PMRF and have joined PhD program more than two years before may be placed at higher slab of fellowship based on the recommendation of the PMRF standing committee of the Institute, after evaluation of his/her performance at the Institute after joining the regular Ph.D program.

5.1.2 The value of Fellowship of a registered PMRFs may be recommended for enhancement by the DAC after completion of two years of continuous research work based on existing guidelines and on the basis of a written report and a seminar (enhancement seminar) given to an open audience with members of DAC. The enhancement of fellowship will be made from the month in which the scholar gives the enhancement seminar. In the event the seminar is delayed beyond stipulated period, the scholar will continue to get fellowship at old rate for the period (month) for which the enhancement application is delayed. In such situation the DSC should recommend for payment of fellowship in pre-revised rates.

5.1.3 The enhancement of fellowship for existing research students who joined in PMRFs after spending some years will be considered after completion of 2 years from the date of Ph.D enrolment or from the date of joining in PMRF whichever is later subject to completion of registration seminar.

5.1.4 PMRF fellows with no fellowships after completion of 4/5 years may be provided Teaching Assistantship of Rs. 15,000/- (Rupees Fifteen thousand only) per month for 12 (twelve) months or the date of submission of thesis whichever is earlier in six-monthly instalments subject to the recommendation of DAC and Standing Committee after assessing the progress of work. These students should be assigned academic responsibilities up to ten (10) hours per week to tutorial classes, laboratory demonstration work, conduct of Seminar/Symposia, running and maintenance of equipment/computer as decided by the Head of the Department/Centre/School and Invigilation duty, assignments in the central research facility as decided by the respective authorities.

5.2 **Research Grant**

Apart from the fellowship, each Fellow would be eligible for a research grant of Rs. 2 lakhs per year (total Rs. 10 Lakhs). The research grant not spent in a particular year will not be carried forward to the next year. **The Accounts Section of the Institute will maintain a CPDA like mechanism for each PMRF Fellow.** The research grant covers following components subject to maximum limit of Rs. 2 lakhs per annum.

5.2.1 **Maximum on Foreign Travel per year** for presenting research paper (oral/poster) or attending a Workshop useful for the PMRF fellow.

The following are admissible:

- i. Registration (as per actual)
- ii. Admissible Travelling Allowance by AIR India ONLY following rules of the Institute
- iii. Admissible per diem as per Institute rules for Research Scholars
- iv. Visa Fee and Travel Insurance as applicable (at actual)
- v. Local Travels through shortest route (may be domestic or abroad)
- vi. **A clear justification from the supervisor is necessary for obtaining the approval to attend a workshop.**

5.2.2 **Maximum One Domestic Travel** for presenting a research paper in conferences held in India and three travels for attending a Workshop useful for the PMRF fellow or for Field Work/Professional Activities/Data collection relevant to Doctoral work outside the Institute.

The following are admissible

- I. Registration fee (as per actual)
- II. Admissible Travelling Allowance in Train by AC2 Tier following rules of the Institute.
- III. Accommodation and Food charges as per Institute rules
- IV. Local travel as per Institute rules.
- V. A clear justification from the supervisor is necessary for obtaining the approval to attend a workshop or for going for field work/Professional Activities/Data collection etc.

NB: **The PMRF Fellow is not entitled to any other financial support from the Institute for presenting papers in conference either in India or Abroad.**

5.2.3 Membership of International/National Professional Societies (maximum up to two) per year

5.2.4 Purchase of the following items: consumables/Books/Ancillary Equipment/Spare Parts/Soft Ware necessary for carrying out the doctoral work.

- I. All Purchase rules of the Institute to be followed for procurement.
- II. All purchased items should be entered in the stock register which must be maintained with the respective School office.
- III. All invoices must be countersigned by the Supervisor and forwarded to the Accounts Section of the Institute for payment directly to the vendors.

6.0 **Additional Notes**

- A. Industry participation in the PMRF programme would be explored through CSR funding so as to enable industry to sponsor maximum number of fellows.
- B. The institutes will review the performance at the end of the 4th year and would decide on continuation of the fellowship for 5th year.
- C. The students who have taken admission after the post-graduation are expected to complete the Ph.D program in 3 years.

All other rules/norms including leave rules of the Institute regarding Ph.D students will be applicable