

## **“Collaborative Research Scheme” under TEQIP III for TEQIP faculty (NPIU empanelled)**

As advised by MHRD, AICTE invites the proposal for “Collaborative Research Scheme” from **TEQIP faculty** (NPIU empanelled) presently working in TEQIP-III institutions in focus states.

### **1. Objectives:**

- 1.1 To provide incentive for young TEQIP faculty from different institutes to collaborate on research and build research community.
- 1.2 To support innovation & research across institutes with collaboration among TEQIP Faculty, Regular faculty of Project institutions (focus and non-focus) & Premier institutions of the country.
- 1.3 The scheme targets for 200 proposals in 1 year.

### **2. Implementation Mechanism**

- 2.1 Collaborative Research Grant Program shall be implemented by AICTE. Applications will be received by AICTE using an online portal
- 2.2 The program will be declared by NPIU through email and SMS to TEQIP faculty as well as institutes. The announcement shall also be published on NPIU and AICTE website.
- 2.3 The scheme will be implemented for One year (April 2019 to March 2020) and shall end by the conclusion of TEQIP-III. An extension may be considered, on the recommendation of the expert committee, till September 2020.
- 2.4 Project may be concluded by Sep 2020. If project research is running well, such good projects may be extended further (after TEQIP-III) and inducted in some other MHRD initiative like IMPRINT, Star, etc.

### **3. Eligibility**

- 3.1 The proposal should be submitted by a group of faculties (PI & Co-PIs) from different TEQIP institutions (**atleast 2 institutions**).
- 3.2 The group shall consist of atleast 3 faculty (sr. no. 1,2 &3) of following;
  - (1) One TEQIP-faculty who should essentially be a Principal Investigator (PI).
  - (2) One Regular faculty of same institute to which the PI belongs shall be Co-PI. Such Co-PI may not be working in same research area (though preferred) but should belong to the same Department to that of PI.
  - (3) For institute collaboration, First priority should be given to collaborate with TEQIP mentor institute or NIT/ IIT of the same state or region and that too which is nearer to host institute and the faculty concerned shall be Co-PI.
  - (4) Scheme allows the youngsters to work with faculty partner/ collaborating institution of their choice.
  - (5) Additional Co-PI faculty from any other TEQIP institutes.
  - (6) The group may have as many additional Co-PI as necessary from any institution (TEQIP or Non-TEQIP institute from India or Abroad).
- 3.3 It is an opportunity to activate mentor mechanism, 1.3 institutions are also motivated through this scheme to enrich twinning activity.
- 3.4 The institute of PI shall be termed as **HOST INSTITUTION** (as mentioned in 3.2 (1) above, it is essential to include a Co-PI from the regular faculty of the host institutions).
- 3.5 The institute cannot become host if in-case there is no regular faculty available for Co-PI; the TEQIP faculty of such institute may have to collaborate with some other group to be a part of the program.
- 3.6 Regular faculty (as a Co-PI) from host institute will be responsible for maintaining equipment procured and continuing utilization of facility created even after the TEQIP.
- 3.7 As the affiliation of PI and Co-PIs will be validated through online portal, the group is advised to be particular while selecting PI and Co-PIs.

- 3.8 The interested collaborators are expected to agree for carrying out collaborative research declaring one of the TEQIP faculty as Principal Investigator (PI) and other faculties as Co-PIs: The certificate will be uploaded on the online portal.

#### **4 Format of Proposal**

- 4.1 The collaborative research proposals are expected to be related to issues on social / industrial problems related to Energy; Environment, Climate Change & Sustainable Habitat; Healthcare; ICT; Materials (advanced); Nanotechnology Hardware; Manufacturing; Security & Defence; and Water Resources so as to guide the program to focused research in the thrust areas.
- 4.2 The online application form will include objective, research status national and international level, methodology, component of funding, expected outcome etc.
- 4.3 The components of budget estimate shall be equipment (60%), domestic travel (15%), consumables (10%), contingencies (10%) and miscellaneous (5%).
- 4.4 The proposal may include purchase of relevant equipment, Computer or laptop, software, data logger and other peripheral equipment along with justification for each one of them. Though procurement is limited to 60% of the project cost, it may be increased maximum to 80% on the recommendation of the experts.
- 4.5 The equipment's etc. procured under the scheme shall be entered into stock register of the host institute and shall be made available at the time of audit/ store verification. The assets shall remain the property of the host institution.
- 4.6 As tendering process will take 6 months, equipment will only be purchased through GeM. If the equipment is not available on GeM, it may be accessed through the Co-PI institution (NITs/Mentor institutions).
- 4.7 No international travel is permissible. The maximum admissible expenditure on domestic travel will be 15% of the project cost. It may include travel and accommodation of PI and Co-PIs and any experts invited for the research project.
- 4.8 The special cases of procurement of equipment, which is neither possible through GeM nor available with mentor institute, may be referred to procurement division of NPIU and on approval such procurement shall be monitored by NPIU using TEQIP Purchase guidelines (World Bank guidelines).
- 4.9 The proposal should be endorsed by the head of institution in which the faculty member works. The certificate to that effect will be uploaded on the online portal.
- 4.10 The template for research proposal is made as simple as possible. Also, the process is simplified and made more inclusive.
- 4.11 As the TEQIP faculty is not trained in preparing research proposal, such training on making research proposal shall be provided during pedagogy training scheduled in IITs during May-June 2019. More so they can take help of faculty from their mentor partner or from host institution.
- 4.12 The expertise needed for preparation or implementation of the project shall be provided during the research wherever there are difficulties.
- 4.13 There is no limit on submission of number of proposals per institute.

#### **5 Invitation, Scrutiny & Review**

- 5.1 AICTE will review the proposal received through portal as per the prevailing AICTE procedures through the team of experts and select the proposal along with the funding pattern.
- 5.2 AICTE will also conduct quarterly review on the progress through experts, preferably through same experts, who have approved the proposal, as per AICTE procedure.
- 5.3 AICTE will communicate the acceptance of the proposal along with the approved budget to NPIU for release of funds. Also, the progress on quarterly review and further release of funds shall be provided by AICTE from time to time as per the timelines so as to provide funds in time.

## 6 Release of funds & monitoring

- 6.1 MHRD has earmarked Rs. 50 cr. under TEQIP-III for supporting innovation in teaching & research collaboration among TEQIP faculty working in TEQIP-III participating institutions.
- 6.2 Though maximum limit per project shall be Rs. 25 lacs, approved funding shall be based on the contents of the project. This limit may also be extended on the recommendation of expert committee.
- 6.3 The funding for the research proposals under the scheme shall be over and above of Project Life Allocation (PLA) provided to the TEQIP participating institutes.
- 6.4 AICTE submits list of approved projects along with approved budget. NPIU releases funds to Institutes through PFMS (under head AICTE or NBA) as an advance and would be debited in the account of the institute. The institute spends advance and submits UC (with SoE) based on which expenditure will be booked in PFMS.
- 6.5 Initial release shall be 25% of approved project cost as seed money immediately after approval and complying formalities of fund release (account details and bank mandate).
- 6.6 The funding shall be provided to host institution. The host institution shall submit utilisation (jointly signed by PI & Head of Institution) on quarterly basis and final utilization by March 2020.
- 6.7 Host institute has to open a separate account for the transaction related to research expenditure on the proposal.
- 6.8 Next release shall be based on the outcomes as per the time line and the requirement after submitting utilization certificate (mentioning amount received, spent and balance).

## 7 Expected Outcome

- 7.1 Joint research project between institutions through young TEQIP faculty and develop bilateral relationships (academic & research) among TEQIP institutions.
- 7.2 Promote knowledge transfer from well performing institute.
- 7.3 Produce educational and research contents in the form of jointly authored publication, book chapters, research monographs, patents, demonstrable technologies and action-oriented research outcomes and product and dissemination in teaching in multiple institutions.
- 7.4 The equipment procured under the scheme may be used for consultancy purpose by the host institution.
- 7.5 The facilities created may be used by students for Lab work & Projects of B.Tech. / M.Tech. / PhD students.

## 8 Timeline

S. No.	Activity	Date
1	Release of scheme (NPIU) on TEQIP & AICTE website	20th March 2019
2	Opening of Proposal Submission-through AICTE Web-portal	10th April 2019
3	Closing date of Proposal submission	30th April, 2019
4	Scrutiny of Proposal - AICTE (Expert team finalizes the project)	1st Week of May
5	Announcement of project approval & project starts	Project to start by 15th May, 2019
5	Release of Funds by NPIU (As per the recommendation of AICTE)	June, 2019

## 9 Contact:

For further details or query, please contact NPIU at  
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