

GOA STATE RESEARCH FOUNDATION
(Established through Goa Act 8 of 2022)

NOTIFICATION
GSRF/Schemes/DRF/10/2023

GSRF Doctoral Research Fellowship Scheme

The Goa State Research Foundation (GSRF) is pleased to frame the “GSRF Doctoral Research Fellowship Scheme” to provide Research Fellowships to the students of the State of Goa pursuing a full-time Doctoral (PhD) programme to carry out their research work in the chosen discipline.

I. SHORT TITLE & COMMENCEMENT

- (a)** This Scheme shall be called ‘**GSRF Doctoral Research Fellowship Scheme**’.
- (b)** This scheme shall come into force from the date of its notification in the Official Gazette.

II. INTRODUCTION TO THE SCHEME

Over the past decade, the research portfolio in the State of Goa has steadily grown. However, to achieve global recognition for Goa and to become a hub for high-quality research, there is an immediate need for research capacity building and to grow our global research competitiveness by enhancing research quality and encouraging innovation. This ‘GSRF Doctoral Research Fellowship Scheme’ envisages promoting research in all disciplines and providing financial assistance to full-time doctoral students from Goa in Goa University, its affiliated or autonomous colleges and Research Centres, as laid down in this notification, to undertake research activities leading to their PhD degrees.

III. OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE

This scheme aims to promote excellence in research and innovation in Higher Education by supporting young researchers in various disciplines. The following are the key objectives:

- i) To identify motivated young researchers doing research at PhD level in frontier areas of all disciplines.
- ii) To provide financial support to them through fellowship and contingency grants and engage them in research.

The scope of this Scheme is to provide financial assistance to young researchers who do not have any fellowship or scholarship. Assistance will be in the form of fellowship and contingency grant, initially for two years to carry out their Doctoral (PhD) work and extend the same for the third year based on proven performance.

IV. OPERATION OF THE SCHEME

This scheme shall be implemented and operated by the Goa State Research Foundation (GSRF).

V. PATTERN OF ASSISTANCE

- (a) A candidate who joined a full-time PhD as per Goa University process and is selected under this scheme shall be paid Rs. 25,000/- (rupees twenty-five thousand only) monthly. In addition, a contingency grant of Rs 25,000/- (Twenty-five thousand only) per annum will be paid to all the candidates. The fellowship is tenable for 2 years, which is extendable for the 3rd year based on the performance of the doctoral fellow.
- (b) The amount received under the Scheme may be utilised to incur the expenditure on the following items:
 - o Fellowship: The amount allotted under this head may be utilised as a stipend (monthly fellowship) to carry out proposed research work.
 - o Contingency Grant: The admissible contingency grant can be used for purchasing consumables (chemicals, glassware, etc.) and project-related domestic travel, including attending workshops to acquire new skills and/or conferences to present the results of their doctoral work. Grants may also be utilised on spares for apparatus, photocopies and microfilms, typing, stationery, postage, internet, fax, computation, printing, buying books and other project-related items.
- (c) Grants will be released to the Principal of the College/Head of the Institution.
- (d) Instruments/equipment/books/journals/other resources acquired under this scheme will be the institutional property. They must be shared with other researchers and deposited to the Institute after completion of the Fellowship.

VI. ELIGIBILITY

The Doctoral (Ph.D.) Fellowship aims to promote fundamental research and create a research culture in the State of Goa. Through this Doctoral Fellowship, meritorious candidates pursuing a full-time PhD program at Goa University, its affiliated or autonomous colleges, or its recognised research centres such as CSIR-NIO, NCPOR and ICAR-CCARI will be supported. To be eligible, the candidate must have the following:

- (a)** Have 15 years certificate of residence from Goa,
- (b)** The candidate must have qualified in any of the examinations recognised by Goa University for PhD admission,
- (c)** Only full-time PhD students are eligible to apply for this fellowship. Must have a confirmed PhD registration at Goa University within the last one year on the last date of application submission.
- (d)** Those candidates who do not fall under category (c) above can also apply, provided that they

- i. are not completing three years from the initial (provisional) date of registration at Goa University on the last date for submission of application and
 - ii. have at least one published article from their PhD work as a lead or corresponding author in UGC-CARE Group II journal.
- (e)** The maximum support period will be only two years for those candidates falling under category (d). They are not eligible for an extension in the third year.
 - (f)** The upper age limit for the fellowship is 35 years, calculated as of the last date of application submission. Age relaxation of 5 (five) years will be given to candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC/PWD & Women candidates.
 - (g)** The selected fellows under this scheme are not eligible to receive any other fellowship/salary from any Government or Non-Governmental sources during the tenure of the fellowship.
 - (h)** The fellowship is tenable only at Goa University, its affiliated or autonomous colleges, or its recognised Research Centres. The host institution should provide necessary administrative and infrastructural support.
 - (i)** The fellowship is purely a temporary assignment and is tenable for a period of 2 years which may be extended for an additional one year for the students falling under the category (c) above, provided the student has at least one published article as a lead author or corresponding author in UGC-CARE Group II journal, during the previous two years.
 - (j)** If the candidate submits his/her thesis during the fellowship period, the day of submission of the thesis will be considered the last day of the fellowship.

VII. PROCEDURE FOR APPLYING FOR THE SCHEME

Candidates must submit their application online in the prescribed proforma, along with required certificates/documents in response to the call/advertisement issued by the GSRF from time to time.

VIII. PROCEDURE FOR SELECTION OF RESEARCH FELLOWS

- (a) Applications received from applicants will be scrutinised for eligibility by the officials of GSRF or the committee appointed for the purpose.
- (b) The scrutinised proposals shall be reviewed by the experts /expert committee appointed for the purpose and allot scores.
- (c) The Governing Council of GSRF will take the final decision based on the scores and recommendations made by the Committee.
- (d) The Governing Council will decide the number of fellowships based on the availability of funds under the scheme.

IX. PROCEDURE FOR RELEASE OF FELLOWSHIP/GRANTS

The first six months of the fellowship and the contingency grant of Rs 25,000/- (Twenty-five thousand only) for the first year will be released to the Head of the Institution where the candidate works after the selection.

The submission of the following documents as per the timeframe given is mandatory:

- (a) Six monthly progress reports (at the end of the sixth and eighteenth months).
- (b) Satisfactory Performance Report (given by the Research Guide every six months).
- (c) Annual Report of the work carried out (at the end of the first year in the prescribed format; to be reviewed by the committee appointed for the purpose).
- (d) Annual Statement of Expenditure and Utilization Certificate (at the end of the first year).
- (e) Final Technical Report (at the end of the second year in the prescribed format; to be reviewed by the committee appointed for the purpose).
- (f) Consolidated Statement of Expenditure and Utilization Certificate (at the end of the second year).
- (g) The candidates eligible for the extension (third year) shall submit a request in the prescribed format and a soft copy of their publications along with (e) and (f) above.
- (h) The candidates on extension also shall submit a six-monthly report at the end of the thirtieth month and documents as in (e) and (f) at the end of the third year.

The timely release of instalments is contingent upon submitting the documents as above.

X. GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS:

(a) The selected candidates should send their acceptance certificate within two weeks to the GSRF duly forwarded by the Head of the institution to enable GSRF to send the approval/sanction letters.

(b) Fellowship is not transferable to any other person.

(c) If the Research guide/ mentor is transferred from his/her original place of work to another Institution within the Goa University jurisdiction, No Objection Certificate should be furnished for the transfer of the fellowship from both Institutions stating that necessary facilities will be provided by the Institution in which the awardee is transferred for the smooth functioning of the fellowship, followed by approval from GSRF.

(d) The fellows are encouraged to publish research papers based on the research work done during the fellowship in journals of high repute (UGC CARE list Group II journals). The fellows should acknowledge the support from the GSRF.

(e) The fellows shall also inform GSRF about any publications that have resulted because of the award of the fellowship, even if the articles are published after the completion of the fellowship tenure. A soft copy of the published paper should be sent to the GSRF.

(f) The GSRF reserves the right to terminate the Fellowship at any stage if it is convinced that desired progress is not being made or the fellowship grant is not appropriately utilised.

(g) No extension in tenure is permissible under any circumstances.

(h) If found appropriate, instruments/infrastructure developed through this scheme can be moved to a centralised facility/institute during or on completion of the fellowship by the GSRF.

XI. RELAXATION OF CONDITIONS

The Governing Council of GSRF is empowered to relax any or all clauses or conditions of the Scheme in genuine cases.

XII. INTERPRETATION

If any question arises regarding the interpretation of any clause, word or expression of the scheme, the decision about the interpretation shall be with the GSRF, which shall be final and binding on all concerned.

XIII. AMENDMENT

The Governing Council of GSRF reserves the right to amend the terms and conditions of the scheme as and when required for better and more effective implementation.

The Governing Council of Goa State Research Foundation approved the scheme during its first meeting on 21st July 2023.

Malapati K Janarthanam
Chairperson, Goa State Research Foundation

Alto-Porvorim, 27th July 2023