7th State Finance Commission

I. Position Information

Post Title : Senior Research Associates (PRIs/ Municipal affairs

(ULBs)/Public Finance)

No. of Post : Three (3 nos.) (One Each)

Organization : 7th State Finance Commission

Supervisor : **Member Secretary**, 7th **State Finance Commission**

Duty Station : Panchkula

Type of Contract: Direct Contract

Remuneration : ₹1,75,000/-per month in addition, ₹25,000/-p.m as

perquisites)

Duration : Period of the Commission or as decided by the Chairman,

whichever is shorter.

II. Context of the Project / Study

In pursuance of the provision of the article 243-I and 243-Y of the Constitution of India and section 213 of the Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 (Act 11 of 1994) and rule 3 of the Haryana Finance Commission Rules, 1994, the State Government has constituted the 7th State Finance Commission (SFC). As per the Amendment, each Commission should be established to give recommendations for five years and then the body of subsequent Commission will be constituted. The objectives of this exercise are: (one), distribution from the states to the panchayats of the net proceeds of taxes, duties, tolls and fees; (two), determination of taxes, duties, tolls and fees to be assigned to the PRIs; (three), grants-in-aid to the PRIs; and (four), review the measures required to mend and improve the fiscal position of the PRIs. The State Finance Commission plays a crucial role in the efficient fiscal decentralisation scheme which aims to diminish the adhocism and arbitrariness in the intergovernmental fiscal transfers system at the state and local levels. In addition, it was envisaged that the recommendations of State Finance Commission followed by their acceptance or non-acceptance would serve as the predominant inputs to the award of Union Finance Commission.

In this context, based on the aforementioned broad objectives, the Commission shall specifically make recommendations relating to the following matters:

I. Improving the fiscal autonomy of all the three tiers (Gram Panchayats at Village level), Panchayat Samitis at Block level, and Zila Parishads at District level) of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and the ULBs

In order to pursue this objective, the specific recommendations will have to be made on:

i. The distribution (formula-based and discretionary) of the net proceeds of State taxes (tax devolution, which is a formula-based untied intergovernmental transfers) from the State to its PRIs & ULBs.

- ii. Determination of the sources and rates of taxes, duties, fee and tolls that could be assigned to, or appropriated by the PRIs & ULBs.
- iii. Grants-in-aid from the Centrally Sponsored Schemes and the Consolidated Fund of the State to the PRIs & ULBs.

II. Take into consideration-

- i. Balancing the receipts and expenditure of the State and need for generating surplus for capital investment.
- ii. Resources of the State Government and demands thereon, particularly in respect of expenditure on civil administration, maintenance and upkeep of capital assets, maintenance expenditure on schemes and other committed expenditure or liabilities of the State; and
- iii. Requirements of the PRIs and ULBs, their potential for raising resources and for reducing expenditure.

III. Roles and Responsibilities

Under the guidance and direct supervision of the Chairman and Member Secretary, 7th Haryana State Finance Commission, the Senior Research Associates will provide research, advocacy and technical support to the SFC. The Senior Research Associates will be responsible for all the technical deliverables of the various studies for the SFC and ensuring quality control, along with the Institutional Coordination (lead support in meetings between State Government Officials, officials of the local bodies, and other stakeholders), and discussion with public representatives and frontline service providers, whenever required.

The Senior Research Associates will have the following specific tasks:

- Help establish process and their time line and Action Plan for road to preparation of Report;
- Develop and administers Evaluation reports of the previous State Finance Commissions and Commissions of other States including Union Finance Commission;
- Establish effective coordination with the institutions (Central Ministries, State Government, and PRIs and ULBs), and various other stakeholders involved in the process;
- Research and preparation of detailed concept notes for plausible activities and policies that would tend to improve the fiscal stance (revenue mobilization from own sources, innovative ways to find out plausible tax and non-tax revenue sources, investment on infrastructure through capital outlay, physical and financial progress of the centrally and state sponsored schemes, revenue and capital spending, and so forth) of the local bodies;
- Collect and collate qualitative and quantitative information on PRIs and ULBs, and prepare report using those information;
- Contribute in designing meetings with the stakeholders at HQ level as well as local level:
- Actively provide substantial inputs to develop work plans, research questions, key informant questions and interim concept notes;
- Undertake review of all knowledge products such as studies, policy briefs and toolkits, developed under the project. Ensure quality and relevance with overall objectives as well as adequate dissemination.

IV. Competencies

Core Values:

- Respect for Diversity
- Integrity
- Professionalism

Core Competencies:

- Awareness and sensitivity regarding sub-national public finances, in particular, public finances of local governments
- Accountability
- Effective Communication
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Inclusive Collaboration

Functional Competencies:

- Scrupulously familiar regarding public economics, of which, Centre-State and State-Local Bodies fiscal relations
- Issues and challenges in key sectoral and developmental aspects in the State
- Strong analytical, implementation, monitoring and evaluation skills
- Ability to synthesize performance data and produce analytical reports to inform management and strategic decision-making
- Strong knowledge of Thematic Area
- Robust knowledge on secondary data sources in the broad domain of public economics
- Proficiency in MS Office package, and any statistical software (STATA / SPSS) for statistical and econometric analysis.

V. Qualification and Experience

Education:

• Ph.D in Economics/Public Finance and Policy, or related fields.

Experience:

- Minimum 25 years of experience with minimum 15 years of research and advocacy experience in Public Finance and Policy.
- More than 10 years of experience of working on fiscal situation of PRIs/ULBs with national/state governments is required.
- Wider sectoral expertise for dealing with tax and non-tax issues of decentralised governance, and experience of government capacity building is desirable.
- Must have worked in the premier Institution of State/Central Government in the capacity of Director or Head of the National Institute.
- Preference will be given to the incumbents who have worked in the State Finance Commissions/Central Finance Commissions.

Publication:

- Within the broad scope of economics (both academic and policy research) in reputed journals are required (minimum 10 publications).
- Minimum 7 publications on national and sub-national public finance and policy are required.
- Published book(s) and/or chapter(s) in edited volumes are desirable.

Language:

• The incumbent should possess working knowledge and fluency in English and Hindi with the ability to read, write and speak these languages effectively.

Mode/Process of Selection:

Particulars	Weightage
Experience	60%
Interview	40%

VI. Application Information

Interested applicants should apply to this announcement through email on memsec-7sfc@hry.gov.in

- All applicants must submit the detailed <u>curriculum vitae with a cover letter in a single PDF document</u>. The cover letter should highlight what makes the applicant a good fit to the position.
- Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted through e-mail and phone.