

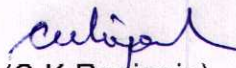
File No. N-9/10/2020-NM
Government of India
Ministry of Law and Justice
(Department of Justice)

Jaisalmer House, 26 Mansingh Road,
New Delhi-110011
Dated: 16.4.2020

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Minutes of Fifteenth Meeting of Project Sanctioning Committee (PSC) to consider Research / Project Proposals under the 'Plan Scheme for Action Research and Studies on Judicial Reforms' – Regarding

Please find enclosed herewith the minutes of Fifteenth meeting of Project Sanctioning Committee (PSC) chaired by Secretary, Department of Justice on 13th of March 2020 to consider Research / Project Proposals under the 'Plan Scheme for Action Research and Studies on Judicial Reforms' for your kind information and record.


(C.K. Reejonia)
Director

Tel. No. 011-23072146
Email: dir-nm-doj@gov.in

Encl: As above

Members of the Project Sanctioning Committee:

1. Special Secretary and Financial Advisor (Law and Justice), Ministry of Law and Justice, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. Secretary General, Supreme Court of India, New Delhi.
3. Joint Secretary and Mission Director, Department of Justice, Jaisalmer House, 26-Mansingh Road, New Delhi.
4. Joint Secretary, Law Commission of India, 2nd Floor, B-Wing, Lok Nayak Bhawan, Khan Market, New Delhi – 110003 (Kind Atten: Shri Rajiv Mani, JS, Department of Legal Affairs, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.)
5. Director, Indian Law Institute, Opposite Supreme Court of India, Bhagwan Das Road, New Delhi.
6. Director, National Judicial Academy, Bhadbhadha Road, Suraj Nagar P.O. Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

Copy to:-

PPS to Secretary (Justice)

Minutes of Fifteenth Meeting of Project Sanctioning Committee (PSC) of the 'Scheme for Action Research and Studies on Judicial Reforms' held on 13th March 2020 in Department of Justice, Jaisalmer House, New Delhi

1. The 15th meeting of Project Sanctioning Committee (PSC) of the 'Scheme for Action Research and Studies on Judicial Reforms' held on 13th March 2020 in Department of Justice, Jaisalmer House, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Justice). A list of members attended is at **Annexure**.
2. The following actionable points emerged in the meeting:
 - All Joint Secretaries and other stakeholders should be consulted regarding necessary topics for action research studies before studies are allotted to institutions.
 - The new specialized institutions should be included in 'Eligible Implementing Authorities' for conducting action research studies.
 - AI / Data analytics agencies will be included for implementation of project outcomes.
 - Every project proposal for action research studies by each organization has to be submitted to the PSC with number of studies already conducted, studies pending, extensions given and total grants released so far. All proposals are to be examined with its focus on deliverables and outcomes of the report and with implementation modalities.
 - All proposals relating to Juvenile Justice may be sent to Ministry of Women & Child Development to ascertain whether such research studies have been already conducted earlier and, if not, then the relevance of such research in contemporary situation. Continuous follow up should be done with the Ministry to obtain their views. Similarly project proposals which are received in future which have interface with another Ministry needs to be shared with the concerned Ministry for their feedback.
 - Only one time extension may be allowed to action research studies which have been approved. If any institute seeks for further extension, they may be informed that the amount of grant may be deducted. This needs to be built into all future contracts.
 - In every project proposal, institutes will submit 'undertaking' in advance, mentioning that it has obtained permission to get information from other bodies/agencies which are relevant for conduct of research. They should not submit any kind of request for 'extension of time' on grounds of delay in accessing of information from another office and should not delay the project on the same ground.
 - Those who submit the projects within a short period may be incentivized. Those agencies who request for extensions several times may be blacklisted.
 - The next meeting will be held in 3rd week of April
 - Before the next meeting all Joint Secretaries will give the topics for projects and suggestions will be taken from other stakeholders also.

3. The following action research study proposals have been considered by the PSC:

Sl. No.	Agencies	Proposals	Decision Taken
1	National Law School of India University Bengaluru	"Study on Victims Experience in the Criminal Justice and Juvenile Justice Systems-Exploring Potential and Possibilities for engagement with Restorative Justice in India"	All proposals relating to Juvenile Justice have to be sent to Ministry of Women & Child Development to review and to see whether such action research studies have already been conducted earlier or not and the relevance of such research in contemporary situation.
2	National University of Study and Research in Law	"Children in Conflicts with Law vis-à-vis State of Jharkhand: Identification of issues and Challenges in effective implementation of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 and Remedies"	
3	Administrative Staff College of India	"Functioning and Effectiveness of Juvenile Justice Boards in Disbursal of Justice to Children in Conflict with Law"	
4	National Law University Delhi	"Impact and Implementation of Plea Bargaining in India"	Rejected and not to consider any new proposals of NLU Delhi as they are overloaded with three earlier projects out of which only one has been submitted till date.
5	Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law Patiala	"Feasibility of Morning/Evening Courts and Holiday Courts in Lower Judiciary and its Impact on Pendency of Cases in India: An Analysis"	To examine again the feasibility of giving a combined proposal to one institution.
6	National Judicial Academy, Bhopal	"Feasibility of Multiple Shifts in the Lower Judiciary to Improve Efficiency in Disposal of Cases: A Pilot Study in Four Metro Cities viz., Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, and Chennai"	
7	Indian Institute of Management, Indore	"Bringing Efficiency and Visibility in the Judicial Processes: A Process, System and Data Driven Study"	Many projects are on same topic and therefore cannot be considered.

8	National Judicial Academy, Bhopal	"Effectiveness of and Compliance to Section(s) 12A & 14 and Order XV-A in Commercial Courts Act, 2015 as Amended, in Reducing Time Taken to Enforce Contracts in State of Madhya Pradesh"	This project preferably to be given to IIMs.
9	West Bengal National University of Juridical Science, Kolkata	"Addressing the Service Related Grievances of Litigants and Judicial Officers against Members of the Bar: A Case of West Bengal"	Rejected.
10	West Bengal National University of Juridical Science, Kolkata	"Role of Audio-Video Recording of Court Proceedings in increasing Transparency and Efficiency of Judicial Systems with special reference to West Bengal"	Supreme Court already considering Live Streaming. Rejected.
Sl. No.	Agencies	Requests For Extension Of Projects	Decision Taken
1	University of Delhi	"Effective of Mediation (ADR) in India: A Special Focus on Online Mediation in Family dispute, Consumer disputes, commercial disputes, intellectual property disputes, disputes in multi-national companies"	Only one time extension will be allowed but if any researcher seeks for further extension their amount of grant will be deducted. Those projects which submit the projects within time i.e. 6 months will be incentivized. The concerned files have to be examined and put up to Secretary (J).
2	Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur	"Court Referred Mediation in the States of West Bengal and Jharkhand"	
3	GGSIIP University, Delhi	"Analysis of Lack of Infrastructure and Vacancies and its Impact on Pendency in Subordinate Courts: A Study of Delhi, Punjab and Haryana"	

**List of the Participants of Fifteenth Meeting of Project Sanctioning Committee
held on 13.03.2020**

1. Secretary, Department of Justice, Chairperson
2. Joint Secretary and Mission Director, Department of Justice, Jaisalmer House, 26-Mansingh Road, New Delhi.
3. Prof. Manoj Kumar Sinha, Director, Indian Law Institute, Opposite Supreme Court of India, Bhagwan Das Road, New Delhi.
4. Ms. Varsha Chandra, Additional Law Secretary, Law Commission of India, 2nd Floor, B-Wing, Lok Nayak Bhawan, Khan Market, New Delhi – 110003
5. K. Suresh Kumar, Deputy Secretary (Law and Justice), Ministry of Law and Justice, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.

1. Annexure-II

2. **EFFECTIVE OF MEDIATION (ADR) IN INDIA: A SPECIAL FOCUS ON ONLINE MEDIATION IN FAMILY DISPUTE, CONSUMER DISPUTES, COMMERCIAL DISPUTES, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DISPUTES, DISPUTES IN MULTI-NATIONAL COMPANIES**

Agency	UNIVERSITY OF DELHI
Proposed Cost	Rs. 12 Lacs
Duration	1 year (Agreement Signed 27th March 2019)
Area of Study	Mediation (ADR)
1st Installment issued (20% of Total Project Cost)	Rs. 2,40,000 (Dated 27/03/2019)
2nd Installment issued (40% of Total Project Cost)	Rs. (Dated)
Reasons for Extension sought	(1) Due to long standing clearances (financial and other approvals) in the administration of the Delhi University the speed of conduct of project has been slower
Broad Objectives	
• To study awareness in the society pertaining to mediation and effectiveness of mediation • To study whether mediation has been as effective tool to provide justice in India • To understand online mediation can be the part of ease of doing business • To study awareness of Pre-Institution mediation under the Legal Services Authority Act, 1987 • To understand the effectiveness of court annexed mediation under Order X Rule 1A of CPC • To fulfill the aspirations of Law Commission of India referred to in its report on amendment of Section 89 of Code of Civil Procedure	

2. COURT REFERRED MEDIATION IN THE STATES OF WEST BENGAL AND JHARKHAND

Agency	Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur
Proposed Cost	Rs. 15,84,000
Duration	One year
Area of Study	ADR (Mediation)
1st Installment issued (20% of Total Project Cost)	Rs. 3,03,600 (Dated 24/10/2018)
2nd Installment issued (40% of Total Project Cost)	Rs. 6,07,200 (Dated 26/2/2020)
Reasons for Extension sought	Due to ensuring long Durga Puja vacation in High Court at Calcutta as well as subordinate judiciary Data collection and interview with various stakeholders will get hindered (as per letter on 25/9/2019)
Broad Objectives	
- To trace and explore the legal framework of court-referred mediation in the States of West Bengal and Jharkhand - To identify the barriers and enablers to court-referred mediation in the States of West Bengal and Jharkhand - To recommend effective and result oriented court-referred mediation	

3. ANALYSIS OF LACK OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND VACANCIES AND ITS IMPACT ON PENDENCY IN SUBORDINATE COURTS: A STUDY OF DELHI, PUNJAB AND HARYANA

Agency	GGSSIP University, Delhi
Proposed Cost	Rs. 25,00,000
Duration	1 year (Agreement Singed on 26 th January 2019)
Area of Study	Judicial Reforms
1st Installment issued (20% of Total Project Cost)	Rs. 5,00,000 (Dated 25.03.2019)
2nd Installment issued (40% of Total Project Cost)	Rs. 10,00,000 (Dated 11.10.2019)
Reasons for Extension sought	(1) Data has not been collected as Permission was not given by Registrar General, High Court, Delhi in spite of various reminders
Broad Objectives	
• To advance the rule of law and upholds social values in the society. • To create awareness about severity of the problem. • To analyze the impact of lack of infrastructure and vacancies in pendency in subordinate courts. • To analyze the steps taken to reduce pendency and its effectiveness so far. • To evolve a methodology, structural or otherwise for expediting disposal of cases in a time bound manner.	

4. GLOBAL PRACTICES IN CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION: EMERGING PLATFORMS FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENTS OF ADVOCATES

Agency	Indian Institute of Management Kashipur
Total Project Cost	13,00,000
Duration	12 Months
Area of Study	Legal Education for Professionals
1st Installment issued (20% of Total Project Cost)	Rs. 2,60,000 (Dated 8/11/2018)
2nd Installment issued (40% of Total Project Cost)	Rs. 5,20,000 (Dated 6/3/2019)
3rd Installment issued (30% of Total Project Cost)	Rs. 3,90,000 (Dated 29/1/2020)

**RE –APPROPRIATION / REVISED BUDGET OF ONGOING ACTION RESEARCH
PROJECT**

Sl. No.	Activities	Original Budget (Rs.)	REVISED Budget (Rs.)
(A)	Research Support Staff		
1.	Research Associate (SRF)	3,36,000	1,36,000
2.	Expert Consultancy	1,50,000	1,50,000
(B)	Workshop		
3.	Professional Development Consultative Meeting and Workshop	1,00,000	2,00,000
4.	Model Drafting Workshop & Validation	1,00,000	1,00,000
5.	Honorarium to Resource Persons/ and Experts	1,00,000	1,00,000
(C)	Administrative Cost		
6.	Travel (Survey / Interview)	1,50,000	2,50,000
7.	Operating Costs	1,80,000	1,80,000
8.	Equipments, Consumables, Stationary etc.	84,000	84,000
9.	Contingency	50,000	50,000
(D)	Publication / WS materials		
10.	Workshop materials and Final Report	50,000	50,000
	Total	13,00,000	13,00,000