

Minutes of the Fifth meeting of the Governing Body of the National Fund for Persons with Disabilities, held on 14th July, 2021 at 11:00 AM through the Video Conference

List of participants is at **Annexure I**.

Ms. Anjali Bhawra, Chairperson of the Governing Body and Secretary, DEPwD, welcomed the participants and requested Shri K.V.S. Rao, Director to briefly explain the agenda points for consideration of the Governing Body.

2. A presentation on the agenda items made by Shri Rao before the Governing Body is at **Annexure II**. Agenda-wise decisions taken by the Governing Body is summarised below: -

Agenda Item	Decisions / Observation of Governing Body
<p>Agenda Point No.1: Action Taken Report on the decisions taken in the 4th meeting of the Governing Body held on 23rd March, 2021.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Governing Body confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on 23.03.2021. • The Governing Body noted the progress made on each of the decisions and observed as follows: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ As regards holding of exhibition by Relief Centre, Manipur, the matter may be followed up with the organisation for confirmation of early date of exhibition once COVID situation improves. ▪ As regards M/s Centre for Market Research, a last reminder may be sent to the organisation for submission of the revised report. They may be clearly informed that if nothing is received within the stipulated time, the matter may be closed. ▪ The GB noted that letter has been issued to bank for release of Rs 2,91,040/- to 92 students with disabilities and 57 escorts in connection with their participation in National IT Challenge, 2019 held at NIT Kurukshetra. ▪ GB approved the proposal for release of Rs 10 lakh to Pingalakshi Odisha for holding the exhibition in 2020 considering it a State level exhibition. The GB also

desired that Nagda Zenith, MP and Integrated, Varanasi may be requested to reschedule their programme at the earliest, keeping in view the COVID situation.

- As regards, financial assistance of Rs 1.5 lakh to Shri Navdeep, the matter may be followed up immediately with Sports Authority of India for obtaining requisite NOC and release of the fund should be made at the earliest.
- The GB observed that the Committees constituted to suggest new areas of support under National Fund and to develop accounting procedure may meet immediately and finalize their reports for consideration of the Governing Body in its next meeting to be held in September, 2021.
- As regards consideration of new proposals for financial assistance, the Screening Committee needs to meet regularly. Wherever additional document is required from the organisation, the matter may be followed up continuously with the concerned organisation/ individual for obtaining the requisite information.
- As regards extending the engagement of CA firm in respect of pursuing old cases at the cost of Rs 13,45,200/-. JS&FA pointed out that the cost appears to be on the higher side when compared to rates in NHFDC. Details of the breakup of the cost may be looked into before release.
- The GB noted the status of transfer of funds of Rs. 75 crore to the new National Fund FD/Savings bank account. As regards investment of Rs 92 crore, which will be maturing by July, 2021, it was decided to obtain quotations from nationalized banks as well as explore the possibility of investing in RBI Bonds.

- As regards recruitment of staff under National Fund, it was decided that as per the decision taken by the Governing Body in its meeting held on 23.03.2021, the Committee so constituted may suggest eligibility conditions for various posts and the procedure for conducting recruitment in a transparent manner by giving wide publicity through print/electronic and social media. Further, since it is a Government fund, the procedure of recruitment should be similar to recruitment to a Government department. The Committee may also suggest whether the staff will be contractual or could be recruited on permanent basis. The report of the Committee should be placed for consideration of Governing Body in its next meeting.
- The GB noted the progress made in implementation of the activities earmarked for the year 2021-22 as decided by the Governing Body in its last meeting held on 23.03.2021. The proposals of NHFDC and National Trust may be pursued on priority. The National Institutes may be requested at the higher level for appropriate action at their end. The GB further decided that advertisement on the schemes of National Fund should be issued quarterly in Newspapers besides continuous periodic publicity in social media.
- The GB noted the present status of fund position.
- The proposal of NHFDC regarding setting up of six exhibition outlets and setting up of Skill Development unit along these centres may be looked into by the Screening Committee after obtaining clarifications from NHFDC with respect to discrepancies, if any.

Agenda Point No2:

Consideration of New Proposals for financial assistance to conduct Community Based Inclusive Development (CBID) Project

- Governing Body approved grant of Rs. 3,02,08,000/- to Rehabilitation Council of India towards support for conducting CBID programme through 16 organisations which include 6 National Institutes, CRC, Sundernagar and 9 other institutions selected by it.
- The grant is for following two components:-
 - support to 16 organisations @ Rs 20,000/- per student per batch.
 - stipend to students with disabilities @ Rs 700 and Rs 500/- to students without disabilities per month for the entire duration of 6 months.
- The number of students to be enrolled by an organization cannot exceed 40 and should not be below 25.
- Release of fund to the organizations by RCI will be based on actual number of students enrolled.
- Minimum attendance of students for qualifying for stipend is 80%.
- Funds will be released to RCI in two equal installments.
- First installment will be released in September, 2021 after signing of MoU (draft MoU will be approved by Governing Body).
- RCI will release the fund to the organisations as under:-
 - 40% after one month of enrolment of students;
 - 30% after 3 months
 - Remaining 30% after completion of the programme and on receipt of UC.
- RCI will release stipend after 4 months directly to the bank account of students through DBT mode.
- RCI and all the 16 organisations will maintain separate account for receiving fund and expenditure there-from, regarding CBID programme.
- In case of any un-utilised fund, RCI will

	<p>refund the same to National Fund alongwith interest accrued thereon.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RCI will sign an MoU with National Fund underlying the terms and conditions of grant in aid.
<p>Agenda Point No 3:</p> <p>Engagement of CA firm for pursuing old Income Tax matter under Trust Fund for persons with Disabilities and National Fund for People with Disabilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Governing Body gave its ex-post facto approval on the same.

3. The Governing Body noted as per RPwD Rules, 2017 it needs to meet as frequently as it can, but atleast once in year. The Governing Body decided that it will meet once in every quarter.

4. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

List of Participants

A	Members of Governing Body	
1	Ms Anjali Bhawra, Secretary, DEPwD	Chairperson
2	Ms Anjali Bhawra, Chairperson, National Trust	Member
3	Shri Sanjay Pandey, JS&FA, DEPwD	Member
4	Dr. Prabodh Seth, Joint Secretary, DEPwD & CEO, National Fund for PwDs	Convener
5	Ms. Rekha Shukla, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare	Member
6	Ms. Tanu Jain, DDG, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare	
7	Ms Rupali Roy, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare	
8	Dr. M A Balasubramanaya, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare	
9	Shri Gurdeep Singh, DS, Department of Financial Services	Member
10	Ms. Saroj Singh, US, Department of Financial Services	
11	Shri Amit Sagar Sharma	Member
12	Shri Vennapoosa Sreenivasulu Reddy	Member
13	Dr. Subodh Kumar, Member Secretary, RCI (Special invitee)	
14	Shri Arvind Dube, CA, Lucknow (Special invitee)	
B	Departmental Officials	
15	Shri KVS Rao, DEPwD	
16	Shri D.K. Panda, US, DEPwD	