भारत सरकार Government of India
रेल मंत्रालय Ministry of Railways
(रेलवे बोर्ड) (Railway Board)

No.2013/E(TRG)/30/6 New Delhi - 110001,Dated: 07.08.2014

The Director General,
National Academy of Indian Railways,
Vadodara.

Sub: Fellowships in Universities for Railway-related Research.

Hon'ble Minister for Railways, in his budget speech on 26th February 2013, had announced institution of 5 fellowships for research on Indian Railways related issues at M.Phil and Ph.D. level in the Universities. In compliance thereof, Railway Board have approved a scheme for award of fellowships in Universities for Railway-related research. The Scheme is as under:-

1. There would be 5 fellowships awarded for Railway-related research every year.

2. Out of the five fellowships, three would be earmarked for M.Phil (Junior Research Fellowship) and two for Ph.D (Senior Research Fellowship).

3. The duration of M.Phil and Ph.D. study would be two and three years respectively.

4. Amount of Fellowship and Contingencies would be as under:-

Fellowship:-
(i) @Rs 12,000/- per month up to two years for M.Phil (JRF).
(ii) @Rs 14,000/- per month up to three years for Ph.D. (SRF)

Contingencies:
(For Non-Technical subjects: Human Resource Management, Business Innovation etc.):-
(i) @Rs 10,000/ per annum for M.Phil;
(ii) @ Rs 20,500/- per annum for Ph.D.

(For Technical subjects)
(i) @Rs 12,000/ per annum for M.Phil;
(ii) @ Rs 25,500/- per annum for Ph.D.

5. To start with, fellowships would be open to Central Universities, State Universities and Centres for excellence i.e., IITs, IIMs, IIS etc. Reputed Deemed-to-be Universities and Private Universities, such as NLS, BITS Pilani, XLRI etc., may be considered on case to case basis strictly on the basis of the research proposals received.

6. A detailed list of research areas would be identified by various Directorates of Railway Board and Centralised Training Institutes (CTIs). Training Directorate would coordinate to finalise the list of probable research areas.

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7. Depending on the topic/focus area of research, NAIR (who would coordinate the selection of suitable candidates for fellowship), would involve the respective CTI to monitor the research.

8. Copies of the Research papers (Dissertation/ Thesis) would be submitted to the respective CTIs and Railway Board.

9. Fellowships would be awarded to the candidates who have qualified in the National Eligibility Test (NET) conducted by the University Grants Commission (UGC).

10. Training Directorate would monitor the efficacy of the programme at the end of every year.

11. Power would be delegated to DG/NAIR to sanction fellowships to with necessary additional budgetary allocations.

12. NAIR would follow the following modalities for awarding the fellowships:-

(i) Short advertisements inviting applications for the M.Phil/ Ph.D. fellowships should be published in National Dailies and Employment News.

(ii) The details of the fellowships (i.e, guidelines, norms, terms and conditions etc. of the fellowships) should also be published in the website of NAIR and Indian Railways. Areas of possible research need to be indicated.

(iii) The applications would be scrutinised by a Committee constituted by NAIR. Depending upon the topic of research, subject experts may be co-opted from outside in the Committee. Such experts would be entitled to TA/DA etc. and 1st AC Railway Passes for to-and-fro journeys to Vadodara. TA/DA etc and Railway passes would be arranged by DG/NAIR.

(iv) Shortlisted candidates have to be called for a face-to-face interview with the Committee at NAIR for which a minimum of two weeks notice may be given to the candidates. 2nd AC Railway Passes for travel to and from Vadodara are to be issued to such candidates by DG/NAIR.

(v) Each selected candidate would be assigned one faculty from NAIR/ other CTIs who would closely monitor the performance of the student to ensure best value for the money being invested.

(vi) Bond to be taken from the candidates to work in the area chosen till completion of the research project. In case the candidate chooses to change his area of research or abandon it midway, he would be required to refund the amount availed. However, it would be left to the discretion of DG/NAIR to consider waival, either fully or partially, if the student has done some worthwhile work which can be utilised in the Railways. Board needs to be kept apprised of all such cases.

(vii) NAIR would send a six-monthly report to Training Directorate of Railway Board on the progress of research of each of the candidates.

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(viii) Fellowship awardees would be entitled for a maximum of 30 days of leave in a year in addition to the public holidays. They would not be entitled to any other vacation. Women candidates would be eligible for 180 days of maternity leave at full rates of fellowship once during the tenure of their award.

(ix) In special cases, the Research Fellows may be allowed leave without fellowship by DG/NAIR up to one academic year during the entire tenure of award for accepting teaching assignments on a temporary basis provided the assignment is in the same town/ city. In other cases, leave without fellowship will be restricted to a period not exceeding three months during the tenure of the award on the recommendation of the supervisor and the Institution. The period of leave without fellowship will be counted towards the total tenure of the award. The candidates should apply for leave through the Institutions well in advance for the approval of DG/NAIR.

2. Necessary steps may be taken for institution of the fellowships and Board may be apprised of the developments.

3. This issues with the concurrence of Finance Directorate of Railway Board.

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