

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF RURAL INSTITUTES**  
**MHRD, Government of India**

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for NCRI Doctoral Fellowships for pursuing PhD in Rural Studies including (i)Rural Communication(ii) Rural Management, (iii) Rural Social Work (iv) Rural Sociology,(v) Rural Tourism, (iv)Rural Entrepreneurship, (v) Rural Education and any other area involving substantial rural field engagement. The selected fellows will be awarded fellowship @ Rs. 16,000/- per month and contingency grant @ Rs. 15,000/- per annum. Duly filled application forms should reach the undersigned on or before 25.01.2018. Guidelines and application form are available on [www.ncri.in](http://www.ncri.in)

MEMBER SECRETARY

## **GUIDELINES FOR NCRI DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP FOR THE YEAR 2108-19**

### **1. Introduction**

1.1 Doctoral Fellowships are awarded to the registered Ph. D scholars from UGC recognized Indian universities including deemed university/college having University approved Ph.D programme with requisite infrastructure/institutes of national importance to pursue and complete their doctoral research in any of the following areas of Rural Studies.

- (i) Rural Management
- (ii) Rural Communication
- (iii) Rural Tourism
- (iv) Rural Entrepreneurship
- (v) Rural Social Work/ Sociology
- (vi) Rural Education and any other area involving substantial rural field engagement.

2. **Type of Doctoral Fellowship** : NCRI Ph.D Fellowship for research in Rural Studies

### **3. Eligibility**

- a. The candidates must have confirmed Ph.D. registration (Research Degree Committee (RDC) approved) at any of the institutions mentioned at 1.1 above on the last date of application.
- b. Minimum
- c. 55% in Post-Graduation or equivalent grades in any relevant discipline. Five per cent (5%) relaxation of marks will be given to the SC/ST/PWD candidates;
- d. NET/SLET/M Phil from a recognized university or the candidates who are registered after qualifying Research Entrance Test (RET) conducted by a university;
- e. The scholar should not be more than 40 years of age on the last date of application. There shall be an age relaxation of 5 years for SC/ ST/ PWD/ OBC/ Women candidates;
- f. Candidates who have already availed of UGC Junior Research Fellowship (JRF)/Rajiv Gandhi Doctoral Fellowship (RGDF)/Maulana Azad Doctoral Fellowship (MADF) are not eligible to apply.

### **4. How to Apply**

- a. Applications will be invited through advertisements in leading newspaper(s) and NCRI website each year.
- b. Application in hard copy in prescribed format and duly forwarded by the affiliating institution must be sent to: Member Secretary, NCRI before the last date mentioned in the advertisement. An advance copy of the application in the prescribed form available in the website [www.ncri.in](http://www.ncri.in) may also be sent through email to [fellowship.ncri@gmail.com](mailto:fellowship.ncri@gmail.com)

## **5. Procedure for the Award**

- a. Applications are initially scrutinized by the NCRI Office.
- b. Thereafter, Subject Group(s)/Expert Committee(s) will short-list the meritorious proposals from the eligible applications.
- c. The recommendations of the Expert Committee will then be placed before the Chairman, NCRI for final approval.

## **6. Duration and Value**

- a. NCRI Doctoral Fellowship is a full time research work.
- b. The duration of the fellowship is strictly for three years.
- c. The value of the fellowship is Rs.16,000 p.m. and contingency grant is Rs.15,000/- p.a.

## **7. Joining & Release of Fellowship**

### **A) Centrally Administered Doctoral Fellowship**

- 7.1. The scholar has to join the fellowship within one month from the date of the award letter by submitting the required documents through the affiliating/administering institution. This may be extended by the NCRI up to three months in deserving cases.
- 7.2. The sanction of the fellowship will be issued initially for a period of one year, effective from the date of joining of the scholar in the Fellowship. The renewal of the Fellowship for the subsequent year shall be subject to the receipt of satisfactory Annual Progress Report and statement of expenditure for the entire grant released for first year.
- 7.3. The first year fellowship and contingency will be released in two equal installments. The first installment will be released after receiving the JOINING REPORT and the second installment after receiving a satisfactory Six Monthly Progress report along with statement of expenditure.
- 7.4. The second year fellowship will also be released in two equal installments. The first installment will be released on receiving a satisfactory Annual Progress Report of the first year and statement of expenditure. The second and third year first installment will be released on receipt of Annual Progress Report of the previous year with the audited statement of account & utilization certificate in GFR-12A Form. Final installment (10% of the third year fellowship amount) shall be released after receiving one copy each of Ph. D thesis submitted to the University and summary along with the audited statement of account & utilization certificate in GFR-12A Form.

7.5 The accounts and utilization certificate shall be signed by the Finance Officer/Registrar/ Principal/Director in case the accounts of the Institution are audited by the CAG/AG. Otherwise, they need to be signed both by the competent authority of the affiliating institution along with the chartered accountant.

## 8. **MONITORING OF FELLOWSHIP**

8.1. Regular monitoring of Fellowship is done on the basis of Six Monthly and Annual Progress Report in the prescribed format submitted by the scholar and duly forwarded by the supervisor.

8.3 The NCRI may ask for annual presentation/mid-term appraisal of the research work.

8.4 During the course of the fellowship, the scholars are required to publish at least two research papers in reputed journals on the theme of the research undertaken.

8.5. Research undertaken by a fellow may be reviewed and the fellowship may be discontinued if research progress is found unsatisfactory or any of the NCRI rules are violated.

## 8. **Completion of Fellowship**

a. If a fellow leaves the fellowship before its full-term, he/she has to give an undertaking to submit the Ph. D. thesis within a reasonable period but he has to submit a detailed progress report duly forwarded by the Supervisor without claiming the fellowship from the date of leaving. In such cases, the NCRI may consider to pay contingency grant only. In other cases, the scholar can leave the fellowship by refunding the entire amount already released by the NCRI. The scholars, who have left the fellowship without completion and without informing the NCRI, are required to refund the entire amount of fellowship released with penalty/penal interest @ 10% p.a.

b. If, as a special case, a scholar remains on leave due to maternity/medical/extra ordinary circumstances (not to exceed six months) duly approved by the NCRI, the tenure of fellowship will be extended by that period but the total amount of fellowship will not exceed 36 months.

c. On completion of the fellowship, the scholar should submit the following documents within one year after completion of the fellowship:

(a) Copy of the Ph. D thesis submitted to the University for award of the Degree along with a Summary of the report (3000-4000 words) and research papers published.

(b) These documents should be submitted in hard copy (one copy each of Ph. D Thesis, Summary and research papers) and a soft copy in a pen-drive.

## 9. **Obligation of the Affiliating Institution**

- 9.1 The affiliating institution is required to provide the requisite research infrastructure to the scholar and maintain proper accounts.
- 9.2 The affiliating institution is required to give an undertaking in the prescribed format contained in the Application Form to administer and manage the NCRI grant.
- 9.3 The affiliating institution will be under obligation to ensure submission of the final thesis and an audited Statement of Accounts and Utilization Certificate, (in the prescribed Performa GFR 12-A duly certified by the Competent authority including refund of any unspent balance.

## 10. **Conditions**

- a. Extension of fellowship beyond three years will not be considered under any circumstances. However, extension for submission of Ph.D. thesis may however be granted by the NCRI in exceptional circumstances without any additional financial commitment.
- b. The contingency grant may be utilized for books, stationery, computer related costs, and field work expenses related to the research work.
- c. The NCRI reserves the right to publish the Ph.D. thesis funded by it, provided the work is recommended for publication by the NCRI expert Committee.
- d. The scholar shall acknowledge NCRI's support in all publications resulting from the research output of the fellowship and should submit a copy of the same to the NCRI.
- e. NCRI follows Government of India Rules & Directives with regard to SC/ST/ PWD/ OBC categories.
- f. A fellow is not entitled for same type of fellowship more than once.
- g. While accepting Doctoral fellowships from the NCRI, a fellow should not accept any other fellowship from any other University/ Institute. An undertaking/ declaration in this regard needs to be submitted by the selected fellow.
- h. During the tenure of fellowship, the fellow will be governed by the rules of the affiliating/administering institution in all matters including drawls of TA, holidays /leave and contingency grant, etc.
- i. Books/periodicals/equipment purchased by the scholar out of the contingency grant should be deposited with the affiliating/administering institution and a certificate to this effect be submitted along with the final report.
- j. The Council reserves the right to reject any application without assigning any reason. It is also not responsible for any postal delays/loss.
- k. Incomplete applications in any respect shall not be considered for fellowship.
- l. The final authority related to the interpretation of the guidelines or any issue left is vested with the NCRI

## **RESEARCH PROPOSAL FORMAT**

**An indicative outline for the detailed research proposal is given below:**

### **1. Title:**

The research proposal should have a clear, meaningful and concise title reflecting the scope of the investigation.

### **2. Introduction and / or Statement of the Problem**

The research proposal should begin by clearly stating the research problem to be investigated in the light of its theoretical and/or empirical context in the relevant area.

### **3. Aims and/or Objectives of the Study**

The general aim of the study as well as its specific objectives should be clearly stated in the proposal.

### **4. Conceptual Framework**

Given the problem and the theoretical perspective for investigation of the problem, the proposal should clearly bring out the concepts to be used and demonstrate their relevance for the study. Besides, the dimension of empirical reality that needs to be explored for investigating the problem should also be specified.

### **5. Research Question or Hypotheses**

Given the conceptual framework and the specification of dimension, the specific questions to be answered through the proposed research should be sharply formulated. In the case of an explanatory research design, specification of variables and positing of relationship among them through specific hypotheses must form a part of the research proposal.

### **6. Review of Literature**

The proposal should summarize the current status of research in the area and major findings, including the researcher's own work in the area. Existing empirical findings may also be discussed. The overview should clearly demonstrate the relevance as well as inadequacy of existing findings or approaches and provide a rationale for the proposed study.

### **7. Scope and Methodology**

The researcher must describe in detail (a) the scope and coverage of her/his study; and (b) approach and methodology with adequate justification. Emphasis should be given to bringing out innovativeness in approaches proposed to be followed. The detailing of the methodology may include research design, data to be collected and empirical and analytical methods to be used. The description of the methodology must be clearly linked to the aims of the research and the research questions/hypotheses of the study.

**8. Relevance, Anticipated Outcomes and Proposed Outputs from the Research**

The proposal should include a statement on the relevance of the study and the anticipated outcomes. It should bring out the significance of the research problem, the contribution which the proposed study is expected to make to theory and to methodology as well as its practical importance to society and policy making. It should also describe the proposed outputs from the study (Books, research papers, occasional papers with themes etc.)

**9. Tentative Chapterisation.**

Details chapterisation should be clearly spelt out in the research proposal

**10. Bibliography:**

Bibliography should be prepared in Chicago Manual Style.

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**National Council of Rural Institutes**  
Application Form for Doctoral Fellowship

**Paste Your  
Passport  
Size  
Photograph  
Here**

Broad Discipline (*refer 1.1 of the guidelines*) \_\_\_\_\_

<b>1.</b>	<b>Name of the Applicant</b>																									
<b>2.</b>	<b>Address for communication</b> <i>(including mobile number and email ID)</i>																									
<b>3.</b>	<b>Permanent Address</b>																									
<b>3.</b>	<b>Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY)</b> Age as on last date of application.	____/____/____,      ____ Years ____ Months																								
<b>4.</b>	<b>Educational Qualifications</b> <i>(Graduation onwards)</i>	Name of Degree	Name of the University	Year of Passing	% of marks	Division	Subjects/ Disciplines																			
		B.A.																								
		M.A.																								
		M Phil																								
		NET/SLET/ RET																								
<b>5.</b>	<b>Indicate your category</b>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">GEN</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">SC</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">ST</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">OBC</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Male</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">Female</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">Transgender</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Persons with Disability</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Yes</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">No</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>						GEN		SC		ST		OBC		Male		Female		Transgender		Persons with Disability	Yes		No	
GEN		SC		ST		OBC																				
Male		Female		Transgender																						
Persons with Disability	Yes		No																							
<b>6.</b>	<b>Name &amp; Address of the affiliating institution</b> <i>(including phone number, email ID and website)</i>																									
<b>7.</b>	<b>Name of the Supervisor with designation and address</b> <i>(including mobile number and email ID)</i>																									

8.	<b>Indicate type of affiliating institution</b>	Central University State University Institute of National Importance Deemed University College with Ph.D. Programme Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
9.	<b>Title of the Research Proposal</b>		
10.	<b>Study Implications</b>	Please summarize the impact of your study (500 words each). (a) How it will benefit the society at large. (b) How it is relevant for policy making.	

### Declaration

I hereby declare that:

1. I am not a defaulter of any previous grant from any funding agency of the Govt.
2. I have neither been subjected to any disciplinary action nor found guilty of any criminal offence in my career.
3. The Research Proposal and its contents are entirely original and as per the standard practice.
4. I have not concealed any information in my fellowship application. If NCRI finds any contrary information at any stage, it may cancel my fellowship outrightly.

Place:

Date:

**Signature of the Candidate**

### **Annexure/Checklists (in the given order)**

1. Abstract of the Proposal (*About 500 words*).
  2. Detailed Research Proposal (*about 3000 words in the format as indicated in the guidelines*).
  3. One page academic CV mentioning (1) *the educational qualifications Graduation/M.A/M.phil* (2) *list of publications, if any, with bibliographical details*, (3) *details of scholarship received*.
  4. Brief academic CV of the Supervisor.
  5. Forwarding letter from the Head of the affiliating Institution duly stamped and signed on the letter head.
  6. Self-attested SC/ST certificate or certificate of disability issued by the competent authority.
  7. Self-attested Matriculation Certificate and Graduation/Post-Graduation/M Phil mark sheets.
  8. Self-attested copy of Ph. D. Registration Certificate.
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**Forwarding Letter by the Affiliating Institution**

*(By Head of the University/College/Institution)*

The Member-Secretary,  
National Council of Rural Institutes (NCRI)  
Shakar Bhavan, Fatehmaidan Road,  
Basheerbagh,  
Hyderabad – 500004

The \_\_\_\_\_ (Name of the organization) forwards the application of \_\_\_\_\_ (Name of the applicant) for NCRI Doctoral Fellowship.

With an undertaking that this organization agrees to provide basic required infrastructure facilities, make available all its research facilities such as library, laboratory and other equipment and provide the material and managerial assistance for the Fellowship.

On completion of the fellowship, the institution may ask the scholar to deposit books/periodicals/equipment purchased out of the contingency grant.

Signature of the Registrar/  
Principal/Director of the Institute (Seal)

Place:  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date:  
Designation: \_\_\_\_\_

(Signature of the applicant)

Name \_\_\_\_\_