Minutes of 36th Finance Committee meeting held on November 29, 2024 at Committee Room No.III, India International Centre, New Delhi

The 36th Finance Committee meeting of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research was held on November 29, 2024 at Committee Room No.III, India International Centre, New Delhi. The following were present:

Prof. Sachchidanand Mishra
Prof. Nirmalaya Narayan Chakraborti
Shri Jyoti Ranjan, Under Secretary (ICR)
Shri Vivek Kumar, Under Secretary (IFD)
Dr. Pooja Vyas, Director (A&F) i/c
Chairman, Finance Committee
Member
Representative of (MoE)
Member-Secretary, Finance Committee

Shri Mohinder Pal Chopra, Senior P.A/Superintendent (A&F) i/c and Shri Ashutosh Upadhyay, Senior Accountant were also present in the meeting.

At the outset, the Chairman, Finance Committee welcomed the members to the Finance Committee and advised the Member-Secretary to take up the agenda items for consideration.

Item No.1 To confirm the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on June 27, 2024

Comments of IFD Section (MoE): Subject to strict compliance of the relevant Statutory provisions and also strict compliance of the related Govt. of India instructions and guidelines including those issued by the Central Vigilance Commission, the minutes may be confirmed.

The Finance Committee approved the minutes of the Finance Committee held on June 27, 2024.

Item No.2 To report about the Action Taken on the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on June 27, 2024

Comments of IFD Section (MoE): Subject to strict compliance of the relevant Statutory provisions and also strict compliance of the related Govt. of India instructions and guidelines including those issued by the Central Vigilance Commission, the action taken may be noted.

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Item No.3 To report about the expenditure incurred upto November 25, 2024 for the year 2024-25

Comments of IFD Section (MoE): May be noted after detailed discussion in the meeting as per GFRs, 2017 and other relevant GOI Instructions.

Regarding Item No.1, which relates to books lying with distributors, the Finance Committee recommended that again a letter may be sent to Counsel for getting legal opinion by mentioning a timeline i.e. by 15th January, 2025 and the same may be placed in the concerned Committee meeting and the decision of the meeting be reported in the next meeting of Finance Committee.

Regarding Item No.2, the Finance Committee observed that to avoid delay in submission of Annual Report every year, the Council should preferably submit the printed copy of the Annual Report and Annual Accounts to the Ministry in November month every year for laying the same in Parliament in the month of December.

The Finance Committee members discussed the other part of Action Taken Report of and noted the Action Taken by the Council.

Item No.4. To consider and approve the MoU between the Council and Ministry of Education for the year 2024-25.

Comments of IFD Section (MoE): May be noted. Further, changes in the Mou, if any, may be specifically highlighted and discussed in the meeting.

The Finance Committee members went through draft MoU between the Council and the Ministry of Education for the year 2024-25. The ICR representative recommended to include the statement as per their format and place the same in Governing Body for approval.

Item No.5. To consider the Annual Action Plan for the year 2024-25.

Comments of IFD Section (MoE): May be discussed in detail in the meeting.

The Finance Committee recommended that Annual Action for every year should be prepared on Annual and quarter-wise basis and same may be placed in the Finance Committee and Governing Body meeting to be scheduled in the month of April every year for approval.

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Item No.6 To report about the increase of Honorarium and Sitting Fee-Meeting fee paid to members

Comments of IFD Section (MoE): May be noted after detailed discussion in the meeting as per GFRs, 2017 and other relevant GOI Instructions.

The Finance Committee approved the revised rates of Honorarium/sitting fee paid to the members who were attending meetings of the Council.

Item No.7 To report payment of Honorarium to conduct an Enquiry related to publication of *Cosmic Infinity* book

Comments of IFD Section (MoE): It may be clarified as to why prior approval of Finance Committee was not obtained.

2. The payment of Honorarium to the Enquiry Officer may be regulated as per Department of Personnel & Training OM No.DOPT-1668597747466 dated 16.11.2022 (Copy enclosed). However, in case ICPR has own set of instruction, duly approved by MoE, in this regard they may follow the same.

Decision: The Finance Committee discussed this item in detail. Regarding Comments of IFD, MoE regarding point no.2, regarding Department of Personnel & Training OM No.DOPT-1668597747466 dated 16.11.2022, the Chairman, FC clarified that the above order relates of Departmental Enquiry and the Council is paying this honorarium for Judicial Enquiry.

The Finance Committee observed that a clarification may be asked from the Ministry of Education for the admissible Honorarium for Judicial Enquiry.

Item No.8: To purchase the following capital assets for ICPR Office, New Delhi

Comments of IFD Section (MoE): May be considered for approval after detailed discussion in the meeting in the light of GFRs, 2017 and other relevant GoI guidelines/instructions.

Decision: The Finance Committee approved the purchase of Capital assets i.e Almirah-3 and Steel Rack-3 for ICPR Office, New Delhi and also Lap Top-1 for ICPR Office, Lucknow.

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Item No.9 Implementation of e-office in the Council

Comments of IFD Section (MoE): Detailed proposal may be sent to MoE for consideration.

Decision: The Finance Committee discussed this item in detail and recommended that the ICPR Office should visit NIC Office for implementation of e-office in the council at the earliest and after getting necessary estimate for implementation of e-office in the Council, send a detailed proposal to MoE for approval.

Item No.10 Implementation of the PM Suryaghar Muft Bijli Yojana

Comments of IFD Section (MoE): May be considered for approval.

Decision: The Finance Committee discussed this item and recommended that after getting necessary estimate for Implementation of the PM Suryaghar Muft Bijli Yojna in the Council from Solar Energy Corporation of India, the same may be placed in the next meeting of the Finance Committee for approval.

Item No.11 To report settlement of grant released to Govt. Institutions/organizations on the basis of Utilization Certificate and Statement of Expenditure

Comments of IFD Section (MoE): May be noted after detailed discussion in the meeting.

Decision: The Finance Committee noted and approved procedure to be followed by Council regarding settlement of grant released to Govt. Institutions/organizations on the basis of Utilization Certificate and Statement of Expenditure.

Item No.12 Regarding Fund Transfer from Provision Account to GPF Account for settlement

Comments of IFD Section (MoE): May be considered if it is permissible as per rules & regulation of ICPR.

Decision: The Finance Committee noted the Fund Transfer of Rs.10.00 lakhs from ICPR Provision Account on August 02, 2024 to GPF Account for final settlement on the superannuation of Shri Ashok Kumar Tiwari, MTS of the Council.

Item No.13 To report about restricting 2nd AC Train fare in lieu of Air Tickets booked from other than three portals which are admissible by GIO.

Comments of IFD Section (MoE): The powers to grant relaxation in respect of booking of air tickets other than three authorized agents vests in Financial Advisor of the concerned Ministry only. Therefore, the agenda item is not recommended.

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Decision: The Finance Committee discussed this item in detail and recommended that a proposal may be sent to the MoE for approval.

The meeting ended with a Vote of thanks to the Chair.

(Pooja 'yas) Member-Secretary, FC

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(Sachchidanand Mishra) Chairman, FC