### Dr. S. Radhakrishnan Post Doctoral Fellowship In Humanities And Social Sciences (Including languages)

**INTRODUCTION**

Post-doctoral research is an important enabling step in grooming young researchers for launching an academic/research career. This is a transition phase from a largely supervisor directed student at doctoral level to an independent researcher for leadership position, particularly in academia. A post-doctoral stint also provides an opportunity to acquire new skills, broaden one's horizon and offers a platform for transiting into cross disciplinary areas. Experience in other parts of the world has shown that university faculty is best inducted from among candidates who had a year or two of post-doctoral training and is generally considered an essential requirement.

Mentoring for independent research is an indispensable element of post-doctoral training. Top rated institutions in our country which value research also follow this practice but it has not permeated widely. Leading research groups around the world usually have a good mix of post-doctoral fellows and a doctoral student with the former bringing in a level of caught on and is practiced only sporadically in a few selected places. However, in our country post-doctoral research culture has not caught on and is practiced only sporadically in a few selected places. Ironically, Ph.D holders from leading institutions in India, particularly in Humanities and Social Sciences prefer seeking post-doctoral positions overseas. Within the country, a PDF position is mistakenly viewed as a mere parking opportunity while scouting for a regular appointment.

With our higher education system poised for rapid and massive expansion in the years ahead and the establishment of many new Universities and institutions on the anvil, requirement of potential faculty with PDF experience will be very substantial. Thus, a 'home grown' PDF program can be expected to partly redeem the expected short fall in trained faculty required for Higher Education Institutes. It is in this context that UGC initiative to launch a prestigious PDF initiative, named after an illustrious educationist and former President of India (1962-67) is important and timely and fills a widely felt void.

**OBJECTIVE**

The objective of this award is to provide an opportunity to carry out the advanced studies and research in Humanities and Social Sciences including languages in Indian Universities/Colleges/ Institutions as indicated below:

i. Universities/Institutions/Colleges included under section 2(f) and 12(b) of UGC Act, 1956.

ii. Deemed to be Universities under section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956 which are eligible to receive grant in aid from UGC.

iii. Universities/Institutions/Colleges funded by Central/ State Govt.

iv. Institutes of National Importance.

**ELIGIBILITY**:

1. The candidate should be unemployed.

2.The fellowship is open for full time research work to young researchers below 35 years of age as on the last date of submission of online application. Relaxation of 5 years for SC/ST/OBC/Women/PWD (Persons with Disabilities) candidates.

3.For general category, minimum 55% of marks at UG level and minimum 60% of marks at PG level are mandatory. For reserved categories (SC/ST/OBC/PWD) candidates, minimum 50% of marks at UG level and minimum 55% of marks at PG level are required.

4.Candidates applying for PDF must upload the No Objection Certificate from the proposed research centre duly signed by the HOD and Registrar/Principal/Director of the University/College/Institute as per Annexure-I.

5.Transgender candidates are eligible to apply under the scheme. The reservation shall be followed as per the Govt. of India norms

**Note**:-Candidate must identify a Guide for his/her post doctoral research work and obtain his/her consent for the guidance

**NATURE OF ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE UNDER THE SCHEME:**

The numbers of slots available under the scheme are 200 per year.

The financial assistance available under the scheme is as follows:

Fellowship @Rs.38,800 – 1st year

@Rs.40,300 – 2nd year

@Rs.41,900 - 3rd year

Contingency A @Rs.50,000 p.a. for three years

Escorts/Reader assistance @Rs.2000/- p.m. (fixed) in case of physically disabled candidates

HRA : 1). Suitable single-seated hostel accommodation may be provided to the candidates in the institutions. In such cases, the fellow is eligible to draw only hostel fees excluding mess, electricity, water charges, etc. A certificate to this effect is to be furnished through the Registrar/Director/Principal. HRA is not permissible for those candidates who are staying in Hostel accommodation.

2).In case of non availability of hostel accommodation, the fellow may be provided with single accommodation by the host institution. In such cases, the rent paid by the fellow on actual basis may be reimbursed subject to the ceiling of HRA as per Govt. of India norms.

3).If the fellow makes her own arrangements of accommodation, he/she may be entitled to draw HRA as per categorization of cities by the Govt. of India.