

**MINUTES OF THE XXIV MEETING OF STANDING COMMITTEE
REGARDING GRANT OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO SCIENTIFIC
SOCIETIES/ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS FOR HOLDING NATIONAL AND
INTERNAL SEMINARS/SYMPOSIA AND PUBLICATION OF SCIENTIFIC
JOURNALS HELD ON 03.01.2007 IN COMMITTEE ROOM NO. 1, KRISHI
BHAVAN, NEW DELHI**

The XXIV meeting of the Standing Committee was held on 3rd January, 2007 at 10.00 A.M. in the ICAR Committee Room No. 1 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Mangala Rai, Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR, New Delhi. List of participants is given at Annexure-1. With welcome remarks by ADG (Coord.), the proceedings of the meeting began with the approval of the Chairman. Agenda Items were taken up for discussion one by one as under:

Item No. 1: Confirmation of the Proceedings of the 23rd meeting of the Standing Committee held on 20th July, 2006.

It was informed that the proceedings of the meeting held on the 20th July, 2006 had been circulated and no comments were received. Hence the proceedings were approved.

Item No. 2: Action Taken on the decision of the Standing Committee in the 23rd meeting held on 20th July, 2006.

ADG (Coord.) presented the Action Taken Report (ATR) on the recommendations of the last Standing Committee meeting and the same was accepted by the Committee.

Item No. 3: Ratification for grant given in anticipation of the Standing Committee's approval during 2006-07

The Committee was apprised of the sanctions accorded by the Council in anticipation of approval of the Standing Committee, for two National Conferences; one organized by Indian Association of Veterinary Pathologists, IVRI, Izatnagar and the other organized by Indian Association of Veterinary Anatomists @ Rs. 1.5 lakh each. The Action Taken by the Council was confirmed by the Committee.

Item No. 4: Financial Statement as per the Budget Allocation for 2006-07

The Committee was apprised that during 2006-07, Rs. 160 lakhs from Plan funds have been allocated by the Council for support to Scientific Societies/Academic Institutions and to NAAS. As against this, utilization aggregated Rs. 118.38 lakhs. This included release of Rs. 60 lakhs to NAAS. The Committee was also apprised that there were 13 proposals for National Seminars, 7 proposals for International Seminars and 15 for publication of Journals of various societies for the consideration of the Committee. Besides, Rs. 3 lakhs are to be given to Indian Agricultural Universities Association (IAUA). A consensus emerged that support to the societies has to be managed within the available funds for the year for the purpose.

Item No. 5: Consideration of Applications of Societies/Institutions for Grant of Financial Assistance for holding National Seminars/Symposia/Conferences etc.

The Committee was informed that request for organizing seminars/symposia/conferences, from four scientific societies and 23 academic institutions, universities had been received for financial assistance, out of which Subject Matter Divisions (SMDs) have recommended only 10 proposals as given in the Agenda Notes. The Committee was also informed their request for two more national conferences had been received lately and their details had been presented in the Supplementary Agenda Notes. The Committee critically considered the proposal and recommended financial assistance to only 4 proposals namely; (i) National Symposium on Plant Genome of BHU, (ii) National Seminar on Changing Global Vegetable Oil Scenario of DOR, Hyderabad, (iii) National Symposium on Application of Space Technology for the Development of Agriculture of Federation of Farmer's Association, Hyderabad and (iv) National Symposium on Guava of Growers' Association of India @ Rs. 1 lakh each. Thus in all Rs. 4 lakhs were sanctioned for national seminars/symposia/conferences.

[Action: ADG (Coord.)]

Item No. 6: Consideration of Applications of Societies for Grant of Financial Assistance for holding International Seminars/Symposia/Conferences etc.

ADG (Coord.) informed that 12 proposals had been received from 3 scientific societies and 9 Institutions/Universities for financial assistance, out of which only 6 proposals have been recommended by the SMDs. The Committee critically examined the proposals and recommended financial assistance for 3 proposals aggregating Rs. 6.90 lakhs viz. (i) Rs. 2.5 lakhs for International Conference on Mushroom Biology and Biotechnology of Mushroom Society of India, (ii) Rs. 3 lakhs for Regional Conference for Natural Resource Conservation, Use and Sustainability in Dryland to Gujarat Institute of Desert Ecology, Bhuj, and (iii) Rs. 1.4 lakhs for International Conference on Traditional Dairy Food to Dairy Technology Society of India, NDRI, Karnal.

[Action: ADG (Coord.)]

Item No. 7: Consideration of Applications of Societies for Grant of Financial Assistance for Publication of Journals

The Committee for publication of journals apprised that request from 15 Societies has been received for financial assistance of the order of Rs. 13.95 lakhs out of this 3 journals belong to category 'A', 9 belong to category 'B' and 3 belong to category 'C'. The proposal was critically examined and a consensus emerged that these Societies be assisted according to norms @ Rs. 1.2 lakhs to Journals of 'A' category. Rs. 90,000 to Journals of 'B' category and Rs. 75,000 to Journals of 'C' category. Thus in all Rs. 13.95 lakhs were sanctioned as per details given in the agenda item no. 7.

[Action: ADG (Coord.)]

Item No. 8: Guidelines for Proper Functioning of Scientific Societies and Improvement of Quality of Journals and reviewing of criteria and category of Journals

The Report of the Committee for proper functioning of Scientific Societies and Improvement of Quality of Journals and Reviewing Criteria and Category of Journals headed by Dr. N.K. Tyagi presented at agenda item no. 8 was discussed. Consensus emerged that the recommendations relating to Proper functioning of societies, Improving quality of Journals and Democratic functioning of societies should be adhered to. It should be among other things clearly indicated to the societies that office bearers

should not hold more than two consecutive terms. Suggestions in the Report in regard to criteria for categorization of scientific Journals, Mandate and Norms as suggested in the Report were approved by the Committee. It was decided that the suggestions made in the Report should be incorporated in the Guidelines developed by ICAR and got printed and also that the concerned Societies should be informed about the recommendations of the Report.

[Action: ADG (C)]

Item No. 9: Any other item with the permission of the Chair

AS & FA, DARE mentioned that assistance to Societies should be given in accordance with the clarifications recently conveyed by the Ministry of Finance, Deptt. of Expenditure under Rule 207 and 209 (1) of GFRs. In terms of these Rules, any institution or organization seeking grant-in-aid from the Government will be required to submit an application which includes all relevant information such as Articles of Association, Bye-Laws, Audited Statement of Accounts, sources and patterns of Incomes and Expenditure etc. The application should clearly spell out the need for seeking grant. The Institution or Organization seeking Grants-in-Aid should also certify that it has not obtained any grants for the same purpose or activity from any other Ministry or Department of the Govt. of India or the State Govt. Thus it would be open for the Ministry/Deptt. to examine to look generally into the sources of funds for the grant seekers and particularly in financing from public funds such as the extent of grants received by the applicant body either directly from Centre/State Govt. or indirectly from the Govt. funded bodies such as UGC, CSIR, ICAR etc. The following action points emerged:

- 9.1** Grant Seeking Societies should be informed of the decision of the Govt. in regard to Rules 207 and 209 (1) of GFRs

[Action : ADG (Coord.)]

- 9.2** ICAR to maintain a list of institutions and organizations along with details of amount and purpose of grant given to them on its website.

[Action: ADG (Coord.) and ADG (ARIS)]

The meeting ended with Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

ANNEXURE-A

LIST OF THE PARTICIPANTS OF XXIV MEETING OF STANDING COMMITTEE on 3.01.2007

1.	Dr. Mangala Rai, Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR	Chairman
2.	Dr. Rita Sharma, AS &FA, DARE	Member
3.	Shri A.K. Upadhyay, AS (D) & Secretary, ICAR	Member
4.	N.K. Tyagi, Member, ASRB	Member
5.	Dr. S. P. Tiwari, DDG (Edu.&CS)	Member
6.	Dr. J.S. Samra, DDG (NRM)	Member
7.	Dr. S. Ayyappan, DDG (Fy.&AS)	Member
8.	Dr. T.P. Rajendran, ADG (OP)	Member
9.	Dr. S.N. Pandey, ADG (H-1) for DDG (Hort.)	Member
10.	Dr. Pitam Chandra, ADG (PE) for DDG (Engg.)	Member
11.	Dr. Rajinder Parshad, ADG (Agron.) for DDG (Extn.)	Member
12.	Dr. K.S. Khokhar, ADG (PIM)	Member
13.	Shri H.C. Pathak, Director (Fin.)	Member
14.	Dr. J.P. Mishra, ADG (Coord.)	Member Secretary