

September 21st, 2021

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

The undersigned is directed to say that the competent authority has approved continuation of the Central Sector Schemes, viz. (i) Establishment of Multi Disciplinary Research Units (MRUs) in Medical Colleges/Research Institutes and (ii) establishment of Model Rural Health Research Units (MRHRUs) for the 15th Finance Commission Period (2021-22 to 2025-26).

2. Various references seeking clarifications on issues concerning these schemes, have been received from MRUs/MRHRUs. These have been examined and clarifications on the said issues as follows for guidance and compliance:

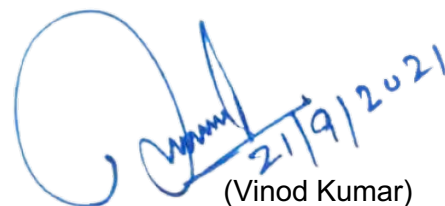
	Question	Clarification
1.	Effective date of implementation of revised salary structure announced in Administrative Approval for 15 th Finance Commission period (2021-22 to 2025-26).	The revised salary structure for the 15 th Finance Commission period takes effect from 01/04/2021.
2	Effective date of implementation of Guidelines for implementation of the Schemes of MRUs/MRHRUs	The 'Guidelines' for implementation of the MRU/MRHRU schemes are effective from 01/04/2021.
3	Effective date of increments in the revised pay structure for 15 th Finance Commission period.	The increase in remuneration at the rate of 5% of basic salary is admissible after completion of two years' contractual service including contractual service rendered before commencement of 15 th Finance Commission period.
4	Provision of additional funds to cater for arrears under revised salary structure announced in Administrative Approval for 15 th Finance Commission period (2021-22 to 2025-26)	Current year's contractual salary payments together with arrears, if any, arising due to commencement of revised salary structure, would be disbursed out of the normal recurring annual grant for Salaries. If in any case, the total expenditure on normal contractual salary payments for the year and arrears, if any, exceeds the annual sanctioned grant, a separate proposal for release of grant over and above the normal admissible grant,

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		would need to be submitted, with complete details, for consideration of the competent authority in DHR.
5	Pay protection in cases where the revised contractual salary plus HRA falls short of the pre-revised salary.	Pay protection clause is incorporated in Foot Note to Annexure 7 of the Guidelines (for MRUs and MRHRUs) to the effect that in cases of contractual salary under the orders for 15 th Finance Commission period falling short of the pre-revised salary, the existing salary shall be protected, on personal basis till such time as the revised salary reaches the level of the higher pre-revised salary.
6	Admissibility of slabs of House Rent Allowance	For the purposes of House Rent Allowance, cities are classified into three categories – ‘A’, ‘B’ and ‘C’. For employees in Central Govt. Offices located in each Category, HRA is admissible at the percentage (of basic pay) rate assigned to that category. This position would apply to MRUs/MRHRUs as well.
7	Introduction of House Rent Allowance as percentage of basic salary for some posts while only lump sum amounts have been retained as salary for some other posts.	In the salary structure allowed to contractual positions in MRUs/MRHRUs continued in the Fifteenth Finance Commission period, House Rent Allowance as percentage of basic salary has been allowed only to the contractual positions corresponding to “Scientific and Technical posts” in pursuance to general guidelines of the Deptt. of Science and Technology. For the remaining contractual positions, the earlier dispensation of lump sum amounts as contractual salaries has been continued.
8	Permission to make appointments against posts sanctioned for MRUs/MRHRUs.	In cases of newly sanctioned MRUs/MRHRUs, after issuance of administrative approval for the new Units and release of salary grant, there is no further requirement of seeking specific approval of this Department for making recruitments against sanctioned contractual positions. The competent authority in the College/Institute can take necessary action for filling up the contractual positions in accordance with the extant procedure followed in the

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		<p>College/Institute for appointment to other similar contractual positions.</p> <p>Under the Clinical Trial Network envisaged in the Schemes of MRUs and MRHRUs, however, action for filling up of posts would commence only after issuance of detailed guidelines as envisaged in the administrative approvals for the respective schemes.</p>
9	Guidelines for recruitments against post of Assistant (Multi Purpose) sanctioned for MRHRUs.	For administrative purposes, the contractual posts allowed under the Scheme of MRHRUs are borne on the strength of contractual positions under the respective mentoring ICMR Institutes. In matters concerning educational qualification and experience for recruitment to posts under MRHRUs, therefore, the stipulations laid down for corresponding posts under the ICMR Institutes would apply. In the event, however, that posts identical to any MRHRU position are not available in the ICMR institute, posts with similar duties and responsibilities, in similar pay-scales under ICMR Institutes would serve as precedents.
10	Whether any of the post(s) sanctioned for MRHRUs can be deployed at the Headquarters of mentoring ICMR Institutes.	The contractual posts allowed under the Scheme of MRHRUs are to be positioned at the sanctioned location of the MRHRUs only. However, in cases where the civil works and other facilities are not complete so as to accommodate the entire sanctioned strength of the MRHRU, the Director of the mentoring ICMR Institute may permit any of the posts to operate from the alternate temporary sites till such time as the MRHRU becomes fully functional at the designated location.
11	Recruitment Rules for posts sanctioned under the schemes for MRUs/MRHRUs	The contractual positions allowed under the Scheme of MRUs are, for administrative purposes, borne on the strength of contractual positions under the respective Medical Colleges/Research Institutes. In matters concerning educational qualifications and experience, age etc for recruitment to posts under MRUs, therefore, the stipulations laid

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		down for corresponding positions under the respective Medical Colleges/Research Institutes may be applied.
12	Effective date for implementation of salary structure announced for 14 th Finance Commission period.	<p>The effective date for implementation of salary structure announced for the 14th Finance Commission period vide DHR's OM No.Z.14011/1/2016 dated 25.10.2017 is 10.10.2017, as mentioned in Para 3(iv) of the said OM.</p> <p>The effect of corrigendum dated 23/07/2020 was limited to correcting the error in entries at S. No. 1 and 2 in Annexure VI of the said OM with regard to salary for the position of Scientist (Medical/Non-Medical).</p> <p>In the above corrigendum, the date of effect of the original order was not modified. For all other purposes, therefore, the date of effect as mentioned in OM dated 25.10.2017, remains the same, i.e. 10.10.2017.</p>

3. This issues with the approval of Secretary (DHR).



(Vinod Kumar)
Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India

To

1. Directors of ICMR Institutes
2. Nodal Officers of Model Rural Health Research Units
3. Principals/Deans of Medical Colleges/Research Institutes
4. Nodal Officers of Multi Disciplinary Research Units

As per enclosed List

Copy to:

5. Dr. Tanu Anand, Scientist 'D', ICMR
6. Dr Aparna Mukherjee, Scientist 'E', ICMR

Copy for:

- i) Website <https://dhr.gov.in/schemes> of the Deptt. of Health Research
- ii) Guard File