



AUROVILLE FOUNDATION

33rd MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Date: 7th March 2020; Time: 11.00 AM; Venue: Camp Office, 3 Nyaya Marg, Delhi -21.

MINUTES

Present: Dr. Karan Singh, Chairman, Ms. Neeta Prasad, J.S (ICC), Shri. V.K. Siljo, Director (INC), Shri. Fazal Mahmood, Deputy Secretary (F), Shri. P. R. Srinivasamurty, Under Secretary & Secretary-In-Charge.

Chairman welcomed the members and remarked that he has taken the initiative to reactivate the Finance Committee which could not meet for the last 4/5 years. He expressed his concern that the ex-officio members from the Ministry should take more interest on the Auroville Foundation issues/ matters and guide them as it is a unique institution which was endorsed 6 times so far by the UNESCO General Conference, which no other institution in the country can have such support.

1. Finance Committee re-constituted:

Chairman and members agreed that the Finance Committee may be reconstituted with the JS & FA or JS (ICC) to chair the Committee meeting. Dr. K. Parameswaran, member, Governing Board can be added as member. Dr. Karan Singh, Chairman expressed that he would continue to be part of the Board and not like to be of the Finance Committee.

The new Finance Committee members are:

- i. J.S & F.A
- ii. J.S (ICC)
- iii. Dr. K. Parameswaran
- iv. Secretary, AF
- v. An expert from any similar Govt. institution who may be nominated by the Chairman of the Governing Board.

2. The Budget for the financial year 2020-21:

The comments of the IFD below are noted and generally in agreement.

Subject to the condition that the estimates are based on a realistic assessment of requirement of funds for the Foundation and also subject to availability of funds the proposal may be recommended for approval.

The Foundation should ensure that expenditure is restricted within the sanctioned Budget grant for the year 2020-2021 and no liabilities should be allowed to accumulate and also that the expenditure on Capital projects should be incurred only after the project along with the DPR has been appraised and approved by the Competent Authority in the MHRD.

Any new projects to be started has to have overall plan for completion and justification which requires the approval of Governing Board.

It was noted that Government has to review the projects of all organizations and these Projects can be appraised and approved by a forum. Five years plan proposal have to be made otherwise no funding can be assured.

The proposed budget of Rs. 1750 lakhs for 2020-21 with the following items may be sent to the Ministry of H.R.D for consideration and approval.

2020-21 (Rs. in lakhs)

Project details	Capital OH 31	General OH 35	Salaries OH 36
Foundation Secretariat	75.00	85.00	200.00
L'avenir (TDC)	561.00	26.00	–
SAIIR	196.00	229.00	–
Bharat Nivas	175.50	35.00	–
Working Committee	–	65.00	–
Udavi School	73.00	–	–
Aurinoco	26.50	–	–
New Era Secondary School	3.00	–	–
Grand Total	1110.00	440.00	200.00

** Housing – Vibrance is not approved as per the directions of the IFD, the project can be submitted for the 5 years plan proposal.*

3. Utilization of Budget:

The Finance Committee reiterated that GoI grants should be utilized in the light of GFRs, 2017 and related Government of India Rules, CVC guidelines, as applicable.

4. ‘Vibrance’ – youth housing project of Auroville:

Justification(s) and DPR has not been provided for the project. Commitment to provide funds from MHRD can **not** be given at this stage. This may be included in the 5 years plan project and referred to Ministry of H.R.D

5. Income Tax Notice for the Assessment Year 2017-18:

The matter may be taken up with the Income Tax Department, in the light of extant Income Tax Rules and report to the Finance Committee and the Governing Board in the next meeting.

Chairman may write to the Hon'ble Finance Minister and the office of the Foundation may send a copy to Ministry of H.R.D.

6. CAG Audit outstanding paras:

It is advised that all paras be brought to the notice of the Finance Committee as well as the replies for action taken. It is not enough to highlight only a few paras but all issues be taken up seriously by the Foundation

- (i) *The CAG has raised a para on 'Non-recovery of Labour Welfare Cess of Rs. 41.57 lakhs' on Auroville Foundation.*

The suggestions of the IFD have been noted and it was agreed that the Statement / Details of Pending Audit Paras (year-wise details and also the numerical abstract of the year-wise pending audit paras), **If any**, and the Action taken / Action Taken Notes (ATNs); thereon, to be brought before the Finance Committee, as a separate Agenda Item. Also, as advised, *the **Standing Audit Committee (SAC)** of the Foundation, should be constituted, forthwith, under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, Auroville Foundation comprising of officials of Units to whom the audit para pertains as members of SAC. The Progress of Settlement of Pending Audit Paras should be reviewed and monitored by the SAC every three (3) months. As per the extant instructions issued by the Ministry of Finance, responsibility should be fixed for delay in submission of replies for settlement of long pending audit paras and for proven acts of gross*

irregularities and incompetence, resulting in audit paras, wherever applicable, as per rules.

(ii) *Allotment of Staff Quarter:*

Establishment matter.

7. Creation and Conversion of the posts:

Establishment matter.

8. Any other items with the permission of the Chair.

Internal Resource Generation IRG):

IRG has to be increased through user charges and other possible measures

CSR funding can be actively pursued, so that dependence on GoI grants is avoided to the maximum possible extent.

Meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.