



भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद

Indian Council of Agricultural Research

राष्ट्रीय कृषि विज्ञान कोष

National Agricultural Science fund (NASF)

भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान भवन-1, पूसा परिसर, नई दिल्ली-110012

Krishi Anusandhan Bhavan-I, Pusa Campus New Delhi-110012

F/ABP-8008/2019-20/164

Dated: 28.10.2019

Chancellor,
University of Delhi (DU),
110007

Sanction letter for the Research project entitled, "Delineating the effector biology of phytoplasma affecting selected crop taxa in India with special emphasis on sesame (*Sesamum indicum* L.)" under the National Agricultural Science Fund (NASF)

The Empowered Committee (EC) of the NASF, considered the proposal on "Delineating the biology of phytoplasma affecting selected crop taxa in India with special emphasis on *Sesamum indicum* L.)" in its 38th meeting held on 19th September, 2019 and approved for sanction under the NASF. The total cost of this project is ₹ 136.55724 Lakh (Rupees One hundred thirty six lakhs fifty five thousand seven hundred and twenty four only) for a period of 31 months (November, 2019 to October, 2022). The financial sanction of the competent authority for the project is now being accorded for the period from 1st November 2019 to 31st March 2020. The sanction for the period from 1st April 2020 till the end of the project i.e. 31st October 2022 will be conveyed. The release of fund will be through PFMS/FMS-MIS and the funded centre need to comply accordingly.

Name of the Lead Centre

Deptt. of Botany, Delhi University, Delhi-110007

Name & Designation of the Principal Investigator

Dr. Suman Lakhanpaul, Professor, Deptt. of Botany, Delhi University, Delhi-110007

Names of Cooperating Centre

i. ICAR-Indian Institute of Oilseed Research, Hyderabad-500030

Name & Designation of the Cooperating Centre Principal Investigator

i. Dr. V. Dinesh Kumar, Principal Scientist (Biotechnology), ICAR-IIOR, Hyderabad-500030

The details of the project are given in the project document in **Annexure I** wise budget (both consolidated and for each partner) are given in the **Annexure I**

The Sanction will be subject to the following conditions:

1. The Principal Investigator (PI) and the Lead Centre will have the carrying out the work shown in the project as given in **Annexure I**. Principal Investigator (CCPI) and the Cooperating Centre will have the assigned to the Centre under the project by the competent authority will fully cooperate with the Lead Centre and the NASF authorities.
2. All the Centres and the scientists will follow the rules and regulations operation of the projects sanctioned under NASF.

3. Financial and Procurement

- i. Funds will be released by the Secretariat of the NASF directly to the (Lead Centre) and to the institutions of the CCPIs (Cooperating Centre).
- ii. The Lead Centre and each of the Cooperating Centre will submit to the Finance Officer(s) twice every financial year: the first will be the Utilization Certificate (UC) in the prescribed format duly verified for the preceding financial year ending 31st March and will be submitted by the second a six-monthly UC for the period from 1st April to 30th September of October. Each Cooperating Centre will submit a copy each of the afore
- iii. For facilitating smooth and speedy implementation of the activities sanctioned project, the PI and the CCPI from each Cooperating Centre will executing the project to the extent of sanctioned funds of his/her respective project as given in **Annexure VIII**.
- iv. The Heads of the Lead Centre and the Cooperating Centre(s) will ensure in an efficient manner, provide laboratory space, salary, logistic facilities for the same and monitor its progress on a regular basis.
- v. **The expenditure will be made only on the approved items.** The amount under each head/subhead is the maximum budgetary limit for that item but the actual expenditure should not exceed the amount actually released by the ADG under the head for that item. In case of public organizations the expenditure under any head shall be made by the Cooperating centre in accordance with their own institutional prescribed norms. However, in cases of conducting workshops, meetings, and cost of Ad meetings norms and rules enclosed as **Annexure IX** should be followed. **appropriation from one head to another is not permissible.** All institutions belonging to the ICAR will maintain a separate ledger for the project. In case of non-governmental organizations the expenditure will be made in accordance with their own rules. In case any guidance is required in this matter, the Lead or Co-operating Centre should take the guidance of the Finance and Accounts Officer of the nearest ICAR and provide information to the ADG, NASF.
- vi. There will be **no revalidation of unspent funds released for recurring expenditure** financial year to the next financial year. For funds released for non-recurring expenditure

will be allowed in exceptional cases. Funds revalidated once will not be for the second time.

Accounting system has to be followed for the funds of the project without any. The reporting of annual accounts will also be in accordance with the accrual system.

At the end of each financial year, a Utilization Certificate will be submitted by the designated Officer/F&AO/Comptroller of the Lead and each Cooperating Centre by 15th April showing the head wise expenditure incurred in the previous year and resultant unspent savings. Only on the receipt of UC, any funds will be released for the next financial year after adjusting for the savings from the previous financial year. Each of the Lead and the Cooperating Centre will submit an Audited Utilization Certificate (AUC) for the previous financial year by the 30th September of each year in the prescribed proformas. The Central Government/State Government Institutes will get the certificate from the CAG/State AG. The Institutes (General and Agricultural) and the non-ICAR institutes will have the option to get the certificate from their statutory auditors or from a Chartered Accountant empanelled by ICAR. (Please see the website <http://www.icar.org.in/nasf/index.html> for the list of empanelled Chartered Accountants and their remunerations). The private and NGO institutions will get the certificate from a Chartered Accountant empanelled as given in the above website. The cost of the Chartered Accountants will be met out of the institutional charges. In case it is not sufficient, the operational cost budget may be used with the permission of ADG, NASF.

After the receipt of the AUC and the half yearly UC any funds for the second half of a financial year will be released.

Salaries of the RAs and SRFs will be according to ICAR norms prevalent during the period of appointment (copy of the current norms in vogue is enclosed as **Annexure X**). Equate transparent and competitive procedure should be adopted for the selection of the contractual staff.

ICAR will have no liability, whatsoever, for the SRFs and RAs or any other staff employed under the Project on contractual basis during and after expiry of the project term.

Institutional charges will be available to the Institution concerned for meeting expenditure on overheads, institutional services, monitoring, reporting, and audit which are required by the Lead or Cooperating Centres to support the project. Expenditure under this item should be properly accounted for.

Funds for every year will be released after the submission of UC and on the basis of demands for funds, scientific/technical reports, submission of data and recommendations of the PI and the ADG regarding the satisfactory achievement of research targets set for the period. The UC should be submitted head wise duly verified by competent finance officer of the institution concerned indicating head wise closing/unspent balances.

Submission of research publication, data management and cost of publication need to be as per ICAR guidelines.

4. Monitoring:

- (i) This sanction letter, and the research project (as given in Annexure X) will be treated as a Work Programme Agreement between the ICAR and Cooperating Centres.
- (ii) ADG, NASF will form an Advisory Committee consisting of two members (one as Chairman and the other as a member) who are very eminent scientists in the field of the project. The ADG or his representative, the Head of the Lead Centre, CCPI(s), Head of Finance and the Head of Administration of the Cooperating Centres will be members. The PI of the project will be the Member Secretary. The Advisory Committee may be reviewed by the NASF. The NASF decisions on the recommendations/suggestions of the Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee will be constituted by the ADG/Director, ACs may recommend additional resources to the NASF within the approved budget for consideration during midterm evaluation.

ACs will be evaluating, monitoring and review the project once in a year at the laboratory/field/sites in consultation with NASF office.

Chairman(s) of ACs may participate during the annual review meeting to discuss the project on requirements.

The names of the External Members of the Advisory Committee and the names of the members of the Committee are given in Annexure XI.

As the Member Secretary, the PI will conduct one meeting of the Advisory Committee once in a year to formulate the plan of work, review and monitor, the progress of the project for the improvement in the project.

- (iii) The PI will submit to the ADG an Annual Report for the previous year (to be submitted by 15 April of every year in a prescribed Proforma(s)).
- (iv) The PI and the CCPIs may be called to present their progress before the ADG or his representative organized by the NASF whenever required.
- (v) A final report of the project will be submitted to the ADG within 30 days of the completion of the project with all technical and financial details. This deadline will be strictly followed.
- (vi) The ADG or his representative will visit the project institutions as and when required.

5. Intellectual Property Rights:

- (i) The rights on any intellectual property shall be vested in the ICAR, who shall be the sole creator and full owner.
- (ii) The sharing of income from Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) from the project shall be in accordance with the proportion/percentage given below:
 - (a) Share of ICAR: 60%
 - (b) Share of Project Participating Institutions: 40%. Out of this 40%, the share of the Lead Centre partner(s) will be 50% and the rest 50% shall be shared equally among other Cooperating Centres.

Intellectual properties may be licensed against a fee (premium) which may be in a lump sum or royalty for a fixed/defined period of time.

Intellectual properties to be licensed on exclusive basis or non-exclusive basis will be decided by the ICAR depending upon the welfare/gains considerations or public interest or public welfare embedded in the intellectual properties.

If a minimum price for the intellectual properties is to be evaluated, it may not be applicable; and the offers made by different parties shall be given due consideration in consultation with the Empowered Committee on the basis of recommendations of ICAR. The objective should be to commercialize the intellectual properties in the best interest of the project.

If more than one of the partners (i.e., the Lead or Cooperating Centre) of the Project is (are) interested to commercialize the intellectual properties, it may be given preference over others at mutually agreed terms and conditions between the interested partner and the ICAR.

ICAR will hold the right to use the intellectual property for non-commercial purposes in the public interest.

Services of the inventor(s) rendered subsequent to the transfer of intellectual property shall include but not be limited to, but not limited to, distribution of which will be as per the clause stated in para 4(ii) above.

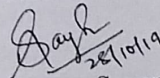
It shall not be incumbent upon the ICAR to protect every Intellectual Property (IP) generated during the Project. On refusal by the ICAR to own the IP, the inventor(s) shall be free to protect it at their own cost provided ICAR has no objection to it in public interest.

PI and the CCPI will not be removed/ transferred from the project without the prior approval of the Empowered Committee of the NASF.

The decision of the Empowered Committee of the NASF will be final in all matters of the project.

A receipt of this letter may please be acknowledged. The PI is requested to make copies of the decision letter along with all the Annexures and distribute the same to the CCPI(s) and the Heads of the Lead and Cooperating Centers.

Yours faithfully,


(Sanjeev Saxena)
ADG (NASF)

For information and necessary action to:

1/CCPIs of the project
Heads of Cooperating Centres
S&AO, NASF Secretariat
Office copy