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No.14/4/2020-ITEA-MeitY  
Government of India  
Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)  
R&D in IT Group  
ITEA Division

Dated: 26th October, 2020  
New Delhi: 110003

**ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL**

**Subject: The project entitled "Saswathaiswaryam- Knowledge-discovery & dissemination from Palm Leaf Manuscripts through ICT" to be implemented by Sri Chandrasekarendra Saraswathi Viswa Mahavidyalaya (SCSVMV Deemed University), Kanchipuram – regarding.**

The undersigned is directed to convey the Administrative Approval of the Competent Authority to the implementation of the project entitled "Saswathaiswaryam- Knowledge-discovery & dissemination from Palm Leaf Manuscripts through ICT Integration of Culture & ICT" by Sri Chandrasekarendra Saraswathi Viswa Mahavidyalaya (SCSVMV Deemed University), Kanchipuram at a total estimated cost of Rs. 222.20 Lakh (Rupees Two Crore Twenty Two Lakh and Twenty Thousand only) with Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)'s contribution: Rs.212.20 Lakh as grants-in-aid and SCSVMV's contribution : Rs.10.00 Lakh, over a period of two years.

2. The details of the project are given in the Annexure-I enclosed. The other Terms & Conditions governing release of Grant-in-aid from MeitY are given in Annexure-II.
3. This issues with the approval of Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology vide note dated 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2020 on e-file no.3072072 and with the concurrence of AS&FA, MeitY vide note dated 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2020.

*Medhavi Singh*

(Medhavi Singh)  
Deputy Director

Copy to:

1. The Director, Office of the Director General of Audit, Finance & Communication, Sham Nath Marg, Delhi-110054.
2. Dr. G. Srinivasu, Professor and Registrar, Department of Sanskrit and Indian Culture, SCSVMV Deemed University, Enathur, Kanchipuram – 631561 (TN).
3. Dr. R. Vasantha Kumar Mehta, Associate Professor, Department of CSE, SCSVMV Deemed University, Enathur, Kanchipuram – 631561 (TN).
4. Drawing & Disbursing Officer, MeitY.
4. Joint Director, Finance Division, MeitY.
5. GC(R&D in IT & NKN)/Dir(MKJ)/Sc.D(NK)/DD(MS),MeitY.
6. Sanction Folder.



**Annexure-I to Administrative Approval No. 14/4/2020-ITEA-Meity**

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1	Name of the Project	Saswathaiswaryam- Knowledge-discovery & dissemination from Palm Leaf Manuscripts through ICT
2	Objective	<p>One of the important facets of country heritage is the palm-leaf manuscript. Our country is home to more than five million palm leaf manuscripts - the largest collection in the world. The manuscripts cover a variety of subjects – from music, to yoga, languages, art, architecture etc. Their fragile nature makes palm-leaf manuscripts susceptible to damage. The need is to safeguard its culture and heritage and pass it on to the next generation. It is believed that the palm-leaf manuscripts contain rare knowledge from several generations that might potentially explain the unexplained from science point of view.</p> <p>Further, the objective of the project is to develop a scalable system called Saswathaiswaryam which will comprise of scaling and automating efforts in digitization, cataloguing, storing, annotating and retrieving Palm Leaf Manuscripts available in various repositories. The system will be tuned to the promotion of Culture and Heritage in digital form. Relevant contents in form of Audio, video, images and text-based queries, searches and rendering will be an integral part of Saswathaiswaryam, progressively. The model and software developed for district will be scalable to all districts in the country. The implementation will be carried out for the district for around 2.0 Lakh palm leaves as part of the project through the University being located in Kanchipuram.</p>
3.1	Deliverables	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. An integrated Manuscript Access facility based on Digital Infrastructure highlighting the cultural aspects of India for any palm-leaf manuscript environment.</li> <li>2. Digitization of the large collection of the palm leaf manuscripts will result in the generation of a large and valuable dataset of Palm Leaf manuscripts that can be used for carrying out Research and Development.</li> <li>3. A metadata scheme will be designed and developed. This can serve as a template for manuscript libraries.</li> <li>4. A catalog of manuscripts based on the scheme and digitization will be prepared. A software based search interface will be created to provide easy access to this large collection.</li> <li>5. Repository of contents relevant to the manuscripts from different contexts in various formats (Audio, Video, Images, Text) through collation and generation (translation, interpretation) with the help of scholars.</li> <li>6. Software tool for all the above activities right from Digitization to end-user access.</li> </ol>
3.2	Intermediate Milestones on six months basis	As per Appendix 'A'
4	Name of the Implementing Agencies and status	Sri Chandrasekarendra, Saraswathi Viswa Maha Vidyalaya (SCSVMV Deemed University), Kanchipuram (Tamil Nadu) (Trust).
5	Name of Chief Investigators:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Dr. G. Srinivasu, Professor and Registrar, Department of Sanskrit and Indian Culture, SCSVMV Deemed University, Enathur, Kanchipuram.</li> <li>(ii) Dr. R. Vasantha Kumar Mehta, Associate Professor, Department of CSE, SCSVMV Deemed University, Enathur, Kanchipuram.</li> </ol>

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6.	Total Project duration	24 months
	(i) Expected date of commencement	26.10.2020
	(ii) Expected date of completion	25.10.2022

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7. Total Project Outlay: Rs. 222.20 Lakh (Rupees Two Crore Twenty Two Lakh and Twenty thousand only)

(Rs. Lakh)

S. No.	Budget Head	Year-1	Year-2	Total (INR)
1	Capital Equipment	MEITY- 50,00,000 SCSVMV- 10,00,000	--	60,00,000
2	Consumables Stores	2,50,000	2,50,000	5,00,000
3	Manpower	63,60,000	63,60,000	1,27,20,000
4	Travel	3,00,000	3,00,000	6,00,000
	Training	5,00,000	5,00,000	10,00,000
5	Contingencies	5,00,000	5,00,000	10,00,000
6	Overheads	2,00,000	2,00,000	4,00,000
	<b>Total – MeitY</b>	<b>1,31,10,000</b>	<b>81,10,000</b>	<b>2,12,20,000</b>
	<b>Total – SCSVMV</b>	<b>10,00,000</b>		<b>10,00,000</b>

**MEITY COMPONENT: Rs.2,12,20,000/-**

**SCSVMV COMPONENT: Rs. 10,00,000/-**

**Grand Total : Rs. 2,22,20,000/-**

8. Mode and extent of Funding:

(i)	Budgetary Support	
a)	Grants-in-aid from MeitY	Rs.212.20 Lakh
b)	Loan	Nil
c)	If loan, terms and condition for grant or loan to be stipulated if terms and condition have been Accepted, reference to acceptance	N.A.
(ii)	Internal generation	Nil
(iii)	SCSVMV Deemed University	Rs.10.00 Lakh

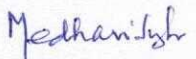
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9. Stages of release Grants-in-Aid:-

Release No.	Pre-condition/ Stages of implementation	Documentation to be supplied by Implementation Agency	Amount to be released Rs.
1 <sup>st</sup> release	Initiation of the project	Acceptance of Terms and Conditions governing grants-in-aid	1,00,00,000/-
2 <sup>nd</sup> and subsequent releases	Recommendations of the PRSG & satisfactory progress report of the project w.r.t. quarterly deliverables / milestones.	a. Submission of Utilization Certificate of the previous release. b. Technical & Financial Progress Report. c. Audited Statement of Accounts.	1,12,20,000/- (Total of 2 <sup>nd</sup> and subsequent releases)
		<b>Total</b>	2,12,20,000/-

Note: Since the system to be development under the project will scalable, the implementing agency may rope in user agencies during the project implementation stage.

  
 (Medhavi Singh)  
 Deputy Director

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APPENDIX - A

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Q 1	Procurement and Establishment of ICT- related infrastructure (Commencement) Manpower identification and induction
Q2	Establishment of ICT-related infrastructure (completion) Metadata catalog
Q3	Metadata catalog, software design
Q4	Datasets of Digitized manuscripts – About 75,000 palm leaves will be digitized and dataset created
Q5	Datasets of Digitized manuscripts and software (data capture aspects) Remaining 1.25 Lakh leaves will be digitized over Q5-Q8 in parallel to other processes.
Q6	Quality tested and enhanced digitized manuscripts dataset, Software for access
Q7	Field Testing, Final version of Software
Q8	Completion of Digitization, Documentation & Report Submission

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Terms & Conditions for Grant-in-Aid

The grant is for the specific project as approved by Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) and shall be subject to the conditions listed below. The proposal originating industry and grantee institution shall give an undertaking that they agree to be governed by these conditions.

1. The grant amount shall be i) spent for the project within the specified time; and ii) Any portion of the grant, which is not ultimately required for expenditure for the approved purposes, shall be duly surrendered to MeitY;
2. The grantee institution shall maintain an audited record in the form of a register in the prescribed proforma for permanent, semi-permanent assets acquired solely or mainly out of MeitY grant;
3. The assets acquired wholly or substantially referred to in (2) above will be property of MeitY and should not, without prior sanction of MeitY, be disposed off except those declared as obsolete and unserviceable or condemned in accordance with the procedure laid down in the General Financial Rules, 2017. Similarly, the assets acquired under the project "Saswathaiswaryam- Knowledge-discovery & dissemination from Palm Leaf Manuscripts through ICT" shall be encumbered or utilized for the purposes other than those for which the grant has been sanctioned;
4. At the conclusion of the project, MeitY will be free to sell or otherwise dispose of the assets which are the property of MeitY and grantee institution shall render to MeitY the necessary support for facilitating the sale of these assets;
5. The grantee institution shall send to the MeitY at the end of each financial year as well as at the time of seeking further installments of the grant a list of assets referred to in (2) above;
6. Should at any time grantee institution cease to exist, such assets etc., shall revert to MeitY;
7. The grantee institution shall render progress-cum-achievement reports at interval of not exceeding six months on the progress made on all aspects of the project including expenditure incurred on various approved items during the period;
8. The grantee institution shall render an audited statement of accounts to MeitY;
9. The audited statement of accounts relating to grants given during financial year together with the comments of the auditor regarding the observance of the conditions governing the grant should be forwarded to the MeitY within six months following the end of the relevant financial year;
10. The utilization of grant for the intended purposes will be looked into by the Auditor of grantee institution according to the directives issued by the Government of India at the instance of the Comptroller and Auditor General and the specific mention about it will be made in the audit report;

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11. MeitY or its nominee(s) will have the right of access to the books and accounts of the grantee institution for which a reasonable prior notice would be given;
12. The grantee institution should maintain separate audited account for the project. If it is found expedient to keep a part or whole of the grant in a bank account earning interest, all the interest or other earnings against GIA should be mandatorily remitted to the Consolidated Fund of India immediately after finalization of accounts. Such advances shall not be allowed to be adjusted against further releases in pursurance of GFR provisions. 25
13. Institute may retain the sale proceeds of prototypes, etc fabricated as a result of the development of the project arising directly from funds granted by the Ministry. The Institute may use funds thus generated for furtherance of project objectives;
14. The ownership in the physical and intellicutal assets created or acquired out of such funds (gran-in-aid) shall rest in the sponsor. The recipient agency should not treat such assets as its own assets in its books of accounts.
15. Application by grantee institution for any other financial assistance or receipt of grant/loan from any other Agency/Ministry/Department for this project should have the prior approval of Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology;
16. The Grantee institution(s) is not allowed to entrust the implementation of this project for which grant-in-aid is received to another institution and to divert the grant-in-aid received from Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology as assistance to the later institution;
17. MeitY shall appoint a Project Review and Steering Group (PRSG) comprising of representatives from MeitY and other experts. PRSG will periodically monitor the project in all respects including technical and financial;
18. In case of any dispute on any matter, related to the project during the course of its implementation, the decision of the Secretary, MeitY, shall be final and binding on the proposal originating industry/ industry consortium and grantee institute.

*Medhavi Singh*