

G. B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment and
Sustainable Development

Kosi-Katarmal, Almora - 263 643, Uttarakhand

**Proposal for Establishing Prof. A.N. Purohit Chair
on Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development**

1. Background:

The Governing Body of G. B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development (GBPNIHESD), in its 36th Meeting (March 20, 2013), deliberated on the need for associating persons of high credentials and proven dedicated service in the Indian Himalayan Region, so as to further enhance Institute's credibility and derive benefits from such experience. In this context it was suggested that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change may consider making provision for the establishment of a suitable Chair by GBPNIHESD or/ and provide status of Distinguished Professor with appropriate remuneration. The Governing Body further advised the Institute to prepare a suitable proposal in consultation with the Ministry.

As a follow- up of the above, it is proposed to establish a Chair of G. B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development in the name of former Director, Prof. A.N. Purohit to acknowledge his significant contribution to Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development.

The details of the proposed GBPNIHESD A.N. Purohit Chair are as follows.

2. GBPNIHESD A.N. Purohit Chair on Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development

2.1 Introduction:

The G. B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development (GBPNIHESD), in consultation with the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change proposes to establish A.N. Purohit Chair. Setting up of the Chair aims to further recognize the wide ranging values of the Himalaya in maintaining flow

of goods and services that help in sustaining diversity of life within and well beyond its geographic limits.

The Himalayan Ecosystems assume special significance among various mountains of the world. The region has been recognized amongst the 34 global biodiversity hotspots. This importance of the region has been recognized by the Government of India in the form of making provision for a National Mission on Sustaining Himalaya Ecosystem (NMSHE) under its National Action Plan for Climate Change (NAPCC) and initially National Mission on Himalayan Studies (NMHS). Therefore, setting up of GBPNIHESD A.N. Purohit Chair has been envisioned as a step forward for strengthening the activities of G. B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development (An autonomous Institute of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change) which is mandated to advance scientific knowledge, to evolve integrated management strategies, demonstrate their efficiency for conservation of natural resources, and to ensure environmentally sound development in the entire Indian Himalayan Region (IHR).

2.2. Objective:

The main objective of the A.N. Purohit Chair is to further strengthen Institute's R&D efforts and outreach by way of promoting and propagating contemporary thinking on mountain environment and development with a view to attaining sustainable development in the IHR by supporting and encouraging established experts to take up work in critical and emerging issues of Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development.

2.3. Thrust areas of Research:

The selected Fellow for the Chair will work on any one or more of the following thematic thrust areas of the Institute pertaining to Himalayan Environment and Development. However, this is only an indicative list and more thematic areas may be added from time to time based on emerging issues pertaining to the IHR.

- Socio Economic Development
- Environmental Assessment and Management
- Watershed Processes and Management
- Biodiversity Conservation and Management
- Biotechnological Applications
- Knowledge Products and Capacity Building

2.4. Target Candidates:

The A.N. Purohit Chair shall be awarded to an eminent person who has work experience in the Himalayan region at the level of University Professor or an equivalent grade Scientist in a recognized Institute. The candidate may be from any discipline of Science, Engineering, Social Work, Art and Humanities.

2.5. Eligibility criteria for selection:

The applicant should be an Indian citizen with doctorate or equivalent qualification demonstrated by quality research/experience in any field mentioned above in para 2.3 with outstanding track record and proven leadership qualities in the area of Himalayan Environment and Development with work experience of at least 25 years.

The applicant must be at the level of University Professor or an equivalent grade Scientist in a recognized Institute either serving or superannuated with an appropriate background in academics and experience in R&D in any field of Environment and Sustainable Development related to one or more thematic areas of research listed for the programme under para 2.3.

This will be open for persons above 58 years of age including those who have superannuated from service. The candidate must be physically fit for undertaking field tours in remote areas in the Himalaya, if required. The Fellowship will be applicable only upto the age of 70 years.

2.6. Selection procedure:

Institute shall invite applications through an open advertisement. A three member search-cum-selection committee consisting of following will be constituted by the Institute:

- (i) Chairman of Scientific Advisory Committee of the Institute
- (ii) Subject Matter Specialist - An eminent person
- (iii) Director GBPNIHESD or his nominee

The above committee will screen the applications received and recommend the name/panel of eminent person(s) for approval by Chairman Governing Body, GBPNIHESD.

Alternatively the search-cum-selection committee may suggest name(s) of eminent person(s) who have not applied for fellowship but are having proven record in any field (as indicated under 2.3 above) and committee considers him/her as most suitable person for the fellowship. In such cases the committee will record enough justification in respect of identified person.

The applicant will attach a proposal with his/her application in any one of the thrust areas of research listed under para 2.3 above. The R&D proposal shall be submitted in the prescribed application proforma given in Annexure IV of the "Guidelines for Support to Environmental Research" brought out in July, 2012 by the Ministry. The same is available in the Ministry's website at www.envfor.nic.in

2.7. Details of the Chair for GBPNIHESD:

It is proposed to provide a total annual grant of Rs. 14,93,200 (+ overhead costs where applicable and as per norms) for the Chair. The breakup of the amount is as follows:

I. Emoluments @ Rs. 80,000/- per month	Rs. 9,60,000/-
II. Data Entry Operator @ Rs. 8,000/- per month	Rs. 96,000/-
III. Project Assistant at the level of JRF [@ 18,000/- +HRA (10%)] per month	Rs. 2,37,600/-
IV. Travel/contingency per annum	Rs. 2,50,000/-
<hr/> Total	<hr/> Rs. 15, 43, 600/-

This amount will be made available from the R&D budget of the Institute.

The duration of the Chair will be for two years extendable to one more year (Maximum). Routine extension will not be allowed. Only in exceptional cases, on recommendation of Director, GBPNIHESD, the Chairman Governing Body may permit a maximum of one year extension to ensure that the studies initiated are taken to logical, fruitful conclusion.

2.8 Others:

The Fellow selected for the Chair shall work for the full tenure of the Chair at the Institute HQs/ Institute Units/any other recognized University/Organization located in IHR.

All necessary infrastructural facilities including adequate and suitable office space, required laboratory facilities, access to the library, other publications and computerized data base relevant to the project etc. shall be provided by the Institute/recognized organization, as above, to enable the Fellow to carry out the project.

The selected fellow for Chair may be invited to present his/her findings once a year before the Institute, if required. The selected fellow for the Chair shall be an invited member of the Scientific Advisory Committee of GBPNIHESD.

All the guidelines/details in the document "Guideline for Support to Environmental Research" published by the Ministry in July, 2012 would apply to the research project to be carried out by the Fellow selected for the Chair.