

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2020-21
BETWEEN MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND SAHITYA AKADEMI**

Memorandum of Understanding between **Ministry of Culture (MoC)**, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi and **Sahitya Akademi, Rabindra Bhavan, 35, Ferozeshah Road, New Delhi** for the Financial Year 2020-21.

1. This agreement made this 18th day of December 2020 between **the Ministry of Culture**, as the first party and **the Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi**, an organization under the Ministry of Culture, hereinafter called the second party.
2. Whereas the mandate of the Ministry of Culture is to preserve and promote all forms of art and culture. It is responsible for formulation of policies of the Government in relation to Indian Art, Culture and Heritage and also for the execution, monitoring and review of those policies and whereas the Sahitya Akademi has the mandate/objectives as prescribed under Clause 3 of its Constitution.

Purpose of the MoU

To achieve the organizational goals by optimum use of the funds available and proper functioning of the organization.

To achieve this, the following deliverables are required:

1. Budget / Accounts

- (i) Budgetary outlay for the year 2020-21 amounting to Rs.4285.08 lakh i.e. Rs.2250.00 lakh under 31-GIA General, Rs.15.00 lakh under SAP, Rs.240.00 lakh under 35 CCA and Rs.1780.08 lakh under 36 GIA Salary has been allotted to Sahitya Akademi for carrying out organizational work. While incurring the expenditure, requisite approval of concerned GC/EB/FC or MoC as the case may be will have to be obtained before executing the work.
- (ii) The Annual Report and Audited Account for the year 2019-20 shall be submitted before the end of November 2020.
- (iii) The CAG audit, if required to be done, for the year 2019-20 shall be completed by September 2020.

- (iv) Provisional utilization certificate shall be submitted to the Ministry whenever called upon and final utilization certificate by November 2020.
- (v) All pending CAG audit paras and internal audit paras shall be disposed of in a time bound manner.
- (vi) Inputs for preparations of EFC/SFC in accordance with the extant guidelines/instructions of Ministry of Finance shall be submitted as per directives of MoC.
- (vii) Monthly report in respect of financial and physical achievement shall be submitted to Ministry of Culture by 1st week of the month in which it becomes due. Any other periodic report asked by the Ministry shall also be submitted within the stipulated time.
- (viii) Governing body of SA shall review user charges/source of internal revenue generation at least once in a year and this exercise should preferably be completed by the month of December every year. Akademi shall also send the status of the same to this Ministry as per annexure-IX attached.
- (ix) SA shall maintain data-base relating to grants, income, expenditure, investment, assets and employee strength etc. in the format prescribed by the Government.
- (x) SA shall be designate and appropriate level officer to render financial advice whose concurrence should be obtained for sanction and incurring of expenditure.
- (xi) Administrative Division in the Ministry may put up in place a system of external or internal peer review of the SA every three year or five year depending on the size of SA in terms of GFR 229 (ix) and further release of grant to SA shall depend on the outcome of such review.
- (xii) SA shall account for revenue and capital expenditure separately. SA shall maintain and present their annual accounts/final accounts in the standard prescribed format by the Government.
- (xiii) While seeking grants from the Ministry, SA shall provide the information in the prescribed format and the Administrative Division shall process the proposal on quarterly basis indicating the month-wise proposed release amount during the quarter to the IFD, Culture.

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- (xiv) All interests or other earnings against the GIA or advances (released to SA) shall be mandatorily remitted to CFI, immediately after finalization of the accounts. Such advances shall not be allowed to be adjusted against future release.
- (xv) SA should take advantage of the pension or gratuity schemes or group insurance schemes or house building loan schemes or vehicle loan schemes etc. available in the market for employees instead of undertaking liability on their own or Govt. account.
- (xvi) SA shall adhere to the time schedule prescribed under Rule 237 of GFR 2017 for submission of annual accounts and annual report.
- (xvii) SA shall submit UC in the prescribed format alongwith the reports regarding performance/targets achieved, outcome etc. in accordance with new UC format (GFR 12-A). The UC shall disclose separately the annual expenditure incurred and the funds given to the suppliers of stores and assets to construction agencies, to staff for (HBA and purchase of conveyance) which do not constitute expenditure at that stage but have been met out of Grants and are pending adjustments. These shall be treated as unutilized grant allowed to be carried forward.
- (xviii) The Administrative Division shall encourage SA to maximize internal resources and eventually attain self-sufficiency. To achieve this, administrative division may assign the target of internal revenue generation at least 30% of the total budget of the SA, and accordingly the physical and financial targets may be given to the SA.
- (xix) The actual expenditure by SA on the activities shall be subject to the availability of fund. While incurring the expenditure, SA shall adhere to the GFRs provisions besides other instructions of the Govt. issued from time to time.
- (xx) Ministry of Finance has restricted the expenditure/ release of fund during the first, second and third quarters of the current year at 15% each. Therefore, it appears remote that entire budget allocation for BE 2020-21 will be available to the ABs for utilizing. In view of this, it is advised to prioritize the activities and only urgent activities which are planned in current year taking into account availability of funds and also mandatory expenditure in salary and pensions may be undertaken. Further, it may also be taken into account that due to Covid-19 situation in the country, outdoor activities and functions may be limited during the current year.

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2. Human Resource

- (i) Akademi shall review/frame its Human Resources Policy and modify the same, if required with the approval of Competent Authority in a time bound manner.
- (ii) The Akademi will initiate necessary time bound action well in advance to fill up the vacant posts following the prescribed rules.
- (iii) All DPC's will be conducted by the Akademi within the stipulated time frame following the prescribed rules.
- (iv) All pending vigilance cases shall be disposed off within the stipulated time following the prescribed rules by the Akademi.
- (v) Training of the staff of the organization will be ensured as per the Staff Training Policy. Training Policy for the staff will be worked out and submitted to the Ministry of Culture by the Akademi. For this purpose, a training calendar be designed in the beginning of the year. The Akademi will assess needs for skill development and create tailored training modules. Akademi shall also send the status of Skill Development Module quarterly to this Ministry as per annexure-V attached.
- (vi) Verification of appointments made during the last 5-10 years has to be carried out by the Akademi. This process has to be completed by the Akademi in a time bound manner.

3. Legal Matters

- (i) Memorandum of Association shall be amended on the line of HPC's recommendations agreed by the Ministry with the approval of the Competent Authority.
 - (ii) Bye-laws of the organization shall be framed/reviewed and made requisite amendments as per the prescribed guidelines will be made with the approval of the Competent Authority.
 - (iii) Recruitment Rules in respect of all the posts will be framed/reviewed as per the laid down guidelines and prescribed procedures.
 - (iv) Akademi shall ensure timely monitoring of the court cases. All the court cases with their status will also be updated on the website of Legal Information Management & Briefing System (LIMBS) from time to time. The information will be kept up to date.
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(v) The Organization will utilize the online Court case monitoring software developed by NIC for regularly monitoring its ongoing Court cases during the year.

(vi) The Akademi will take action for implementing the recommendations of the High Powered Committee which has been accepted by the Ministry of Culture.

4. Parliament Matters

(i) The Audited Accounts and Annual Report for the year 2019-20 to be placed before the Parliament.

(ii) Fulfillment of all pending Parliamentary Assurances will be ensured within the stipulated time frame.

(iii) Legislative matters, if any, will be taken up for approval of Parliament within the stipulated time frame.

5. General

(i) Mandatory meetings of all the Committees / Sub-Committees will be convened and conducted on time.

The meetings will be convened as per the following schedule:

General Council June 2020 & February 2021

Executive Board June 2020, December 2020 & February 2021

Finance Committee June and December 2020

Advisory Boards in December 2020, January/February 2021

24 languages

(ii) The Performance Audit/Peer Review shall be carried out as per GFR provisions contained in chapter 9 rule 208 (v). Every two years a Performance Audit should be done by reputed institutions of the activities of the Akademi. For maintaining quality in academic work, an appropriate peer review system may be put in place. The Akademi will need to display its capacity for self-introspection, if it is to remain truly independent.

(iii) Akademi shall furnish/file mandatory returns/ report on time. Akademi shall also provide the report/returns as and when asked by the Ministry.

- (iv) Akademi shall ensure timely disposal of RTI application and appeal. Akademi shall be furnish/upload certificate/report on RTI portal as per the extant guidelines. Akademi shall also send the status of RTI application/appeal quarterly to this Ministry as per annexure-I attached.
- (v) For disposal of Public Grievances/complaints, Akademi shall ensure that an effective grievance redressal mechanism is in place to ensure timely disposal of public grievances/complaints received through PG Portal or any other sources. Akademi shall also send the status of Public Grievances quarterly to this Ministry as per annexure-II attached.
- (vi) The Sahitya Akademi website shall be updated, reviewed and revamped from time to time as per the Government guidelines. MoA, Rules and Regulations, Service bye-laws and Recruitment Rules and amendments thereof the Organization will be uploaded on the website of the Organization. Akademi shall also send the status of updating by-laws and RR on the Website to this Ministry as per annexure-III attached.
- (vii) Akademi shall ensure the inputs for Cabinet Memos within the prescribed time frame.
- (viii) Akademi shall ensure compliance with the Rajbhasha Policy as per directives received from MHA.
- (ix) Akademi shall implement New Pension Schemes (NPS) as per the norms of the NPS subject to GFR Provisions and approval by IFD(Culture)/Competent Authority.
- (x) Swachh Bharat Campaign/Programmes as well as cleanliness drive shall be taken up by the Akademi and instruction/directions given by the Ministry in this regard shall be followed. Akademi shall also send the status of Swachhta Abhiyan undertaken to this Ministry as per annexure-IV attached.
- (xi) The Akademi shall do an inventory of cultural spaces under the charge of the organization and submit the same to this Ministry as per Annexure-IX attached.
- (xii) The Akademi shall be active on social media like Youtube/facebook/twitter etc. After the programme is held, photographs and videos shall be uploaded immediately alongwith the information on the programme. Sahitya Akademi shall also upload its programmes on Mobile Apps. Followers of the Akademi on the social sites have to be enhanced to double from the present number of followers.

(xiii) Akademi will implement the following e-services:

- a) Akademi will create online system for application and utilization certificates.
- b) The Akademi shall create online system of Accounting by December, 2020.
- c) Sahitya Akademi will prepare and upload its publications online which would cover both free and paid access to these e-books.
- d) The organization will be active on the MyGov platform for inviting suggestions, ideas regarding its activities during the year.

(xiv) Akademi will provide archival material on intangible culture to the agency designated by the MoC.

(xv) Akademi will provide promotional films to DD Bharti and also make an inventory of films.

(xvi) Vision and Mission document will be prepared by the Organization and uploaded on its website.

(xvii) Under Government of India's HRIDAY and PRASAD projects. Akademi has identified six writers Sant Kabir, Acharya Tulsidas, Acharya Hazari Prasad Dwevedi, Munshi Premchand, Aadi Shankacharya and Acharya Ramchandra Shukla on whom the Akademi will take up work in the seven schools by the Sahitya Akademi. The programmes are continuing as per the schedule in the following seven schools/inter colleges:

1.	RameshwarMahadeo Inter College	Premchand
2.	AryaMahilaBalika Inter College	Kabirdas
3.	Ram Krishnan VidyaMandir Inter College	Tulsidas
4.	AgrasenKanya Inter College	RamchandraShukla
5.	SanatanDharm Inter College	AdiShankaracharya
6.	Rajkiya Queens Inter College	Premchand
7.	Sewabharati Uttar Buniyadi Inter College	Hazari Prasad Dwivedi

A lecture on the life and works of the writers will be arranged. Akademi will also arrange debate, essay competition, poetry reading and will try to place the works of the above writers in the above colleges as per the demand of the schools from time to time. Akademi shall also submit the status of Seminar/Symposium/Literary forum/Translation workshop/Meet the Author/Kavi Sandhi/Katha Sandhi/Poetry Festival/All India Writers Meet etc. every month to this Ministry as per annexure-VI attached. Status of Grammluk Programees shall also be submitted to the Ministry as per Annexure-VII attached.

(xviii) Akademi will emphasis on cultural research and education activities and will continue to undertake literary activities in collaboration with the Government funded education institutions.

(xix) Governing Body of the organization shall review user charges/sources of internal revenue generation at least once a year and inform the administrative Ministry. This exercise should preferably be completed before the formulation of Union Annual Budget.

(xx) Organization shall designate an officer of appropriate level to render financial advice whose concurrence will be obtained for sanction and incurring of expenditure. The Financial limits up to which such concurrence is mandatory will be drawn up by the organization. The Chief Executive officer of the organization will be responsible for overall financial management of the organization.

(xxi) Public Financial Management System (PFMS) has been implemented by the organization.

(xxii) Akademi shall provide gist of the physical and financial progress to the Ministry and status report of all pending CAG audit paras/parliamentary assurances on monthly basis to this Ministry. If the report is not received within the stipulated time, monthly grant released will not be processed.

6. Specific deliverable for achieving Moc goals:-

At present all Akademis of Ministry are working in silos. SA should remain in constant touch with other akademisso as to utilize the maximum benefit of their collective resources. Their interaction should be IT based so that real time basis information can be exchanged.

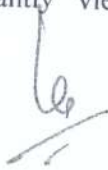
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Akademis should take note of the fact that same few select art forms should not be given budgetary support to the detriment of other art forms. Similarly, regional coverage must be broad based. Akademi should conduct programmes all over India unless it is not state centered.

- i) SA distribute grants and also they are the repositories of extensive research work done by scholars. Since Govt. funding is involved public should get maximum exposure of the work done by the Akademi. Akademi shall also submit the status of Research/Publications/Grants undertaken/released every month to this Ministry as per annexure-VIII attached.
- (ii) Management of space: Optimum use of facilities should be endeavoured so that common people/artists may have the access. Space which is unused by the SA should be used for public facility areas like café, toilets, cloak rooms etc. Public space should be towards front of buildings and office areas towards the back. Akademi shall also send the status of Space allotted quarterly to this Ministry as per annexure-IX attached.
- (iii) Value Addition to the SA: Akademi should be at the fulcrum of our cultural activities. All programmes should be given the maximum publicity so that extensive foot fall can be garnered. They may think to install, interactive kiosks or young generation. Their web-site should have a virtual facility for promotion of Akademis origin, role and growth of their activities. Their websites, apps and other kiosks should be monitored and measured by the site visits of netizens.
- (iv) Outreach activities: Akademis should give focus on membership and should design different types of activities to cater different type of people. They may work out a plan to bring under privileged children to the SA for exposure to their activities. Alongwith annual calendar which is submitted towards beginning of the year, quarterly calendar must be reviewed and shall be sent well in advance with the Ministry so as to ensure maximum publicity. Akademi shall submit the details of the visits of poor/under-privileged children as per Annexure X attached to the Ministry.

SA may think of a collaboration with Doordarshan, Tata Sky, Airtel and other satellite channels and content providers so that Akademis' programmes can be constantly viewed on a dedicated channel.



(v) Marketing: All relevant public and private space should be used for marketing events. Approach new generation outfits like Spic Macay to popularize the ethos of our culture which are propagated by Akademis.

(vi) Capacity Building: Encourage courses and exchange of best practices followed in other parts of the world. Engage specialized professionals for capacity building. Informal social media group or facebook pages where informal interaction about programmes takes place may also be used.

7. Other matters:-

- (i) Sahitya Akademi will take up the matter of publication of Vedas, Upanishads, Bhagvad Gita etc. in 24 languages before its Executive Board again for its approval.
- (ii) Sahitya Akademi will also provide a list of 10 best books (five of ancient/medieval time and five of modern time based) in all the 24 languages.
- (iii) Sahitya Akademi will expedite the release of payment to the writers and should ensure that there is no delay.
- (iv) Sahitya Akademi will provide vacancy break up cadre wise by 30th December 2020.
- (v) Sahitya Akademi shall submit a concept note/proposal for undertaking publication of Evolution of Indian Literature since 1947 in 24 Indian languages on the occasion of completion of 75 years of India's Independence.
- (vi) Sahitya Akademi shall reduce the number of contractual staff working in the Akademi and expenditure incurred.

Signature on behalf
of Ministry of Culture

निरुपमा कोत्रु / Nirupama Kotru
संयुक्त सचिव / Joint Secretary
भारत सरकार / Government of India
संस्कृति विभाग / Ministry of Culture
नई दिल्ली / New Delhi

Signature on behalf
of Sahitya Akademi

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