

Minutes of the meeting
at
Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India, New Delhi
On
June 08, 2022 (Wednesday)

The Scientific staff of the DST-Centre for Policy Research at Panjab University, Chandigarh visited the DST Office at New Delhi. The meeting was held to apprise head office about the current activities and future plans of the Centre. The meeting was joined by the head of the Policy Coordination and Program Management (PCPM) division and other scientific officials of the department. Prof. Kashmir Singh, the Coordinator of the Centre apprised the attendees about the detailed activities, achievements, outcomes and future plans of the Centre. The meeting was attended by the following people:

From DST, GoI, New Delhi

1. Dr. Akhilesh Gupta, Head, Policy Coordination and Program Management (PCPM) Division
2. Dr. Rabindra Kumar Panigrahi, Scientist D, PCPM Division
3. Dr. Bhupendra Kumar Sharma, Scientist C, PCPM Division
4. Mr Mayank Mishra, Junior Analyst, PCPM Division
5. Dr Perminder, Senior Policy Fellow, DST, GoI
6. Dr Debanjana, Post-Doctoral Fellow, DST, GoI
7. Ms. Famida, Young Policy Professional, DST, GoI
8. Mr. Rohan, Young Policy Professional, DST, GoI
9. Mr Rahul, Young Policy Professional, DST, GoI
10. Mr Saikat, Young Policy Professional, DST, GoI
11. Ms Arthitha, Young Policy Professional, DST, GoI
12. Ms Archita, DST Media Team
13. Mr Sanjeev, DST Media Team

From DST-CPR at PU, Chd.

1. Prof. Kashmir Singh, Coordinator
2. Dr. Radhika Trikha, Senior Policy Fellow
3. Ms. Mamta Bhardwaj, Scientist C
4. Dr. Sukhdeep Kaur, Scientific Officer

Following points were discussed in the meeting

1. The DST, GoI aims to strengthen the STI policy domain in the country. The DST has proposed a 5 year core grant to the CPRs for efficient functioning. A proposal for 5 years action plan will be sought from the CPRs in coming weeks.
2. The Centre for Policy Research at Panjab University, Chandigarh was advised to scale up their activities and for the same manpower should also be hired at the Centre.
3. The participants in the meeting suggested that the interns (paid or non-paid based on certification from DST and DST-CPR at PU, Chd.) and project associates be involved in the research activities carried out at the Centre.
4. The provision for involving experienced faculty at the Panjab University, Chandigarh for policy research work can also be explored.

DST suggested that the CPR at PU, Chd. should reorient itself and present its action plan in the proposal as follows:

- DST-CPR at PU, Chd. should highlight its core and accessory activities in the proposal. The prominent issues to address are training in S&T activities, specialization in S&T and university-industry collaborations.
- The CPR may be strengthened as the national level mechanism to work on the domains like science diplomacy, national disaster management, SDGs and climate change.
- Core Activities include policy research work and generation of evidence based policy recommendations on the subject matter. DST-CPR at PU, Chd. should select Primary themes on which it will pursue policy research work for next 5 years.
- Under each theme, sub-themes or secondary themes can also be identified and further classify them like National, Regional or State Level. The themes should lay down an action plan along with targeted deliverables in the proposal.
- In the secondary theme activities, the external support can be sought and CPR will provide full support for the execution.
- To carry out national and international studies, DST will provide and assist the necessary linkages and support to pursue the work.

Accessory activities:

- a. DST-CPR at PU, Chd. should focus on evolving itself as a nodal centre for the policy research in the northern region of India and will provide necessary support to upcoming policy initiatives and units on STI policy.
- b. DST-CPR at PU, Chd. will also contribute to the formulation of the STIP Implementation framework.
- c. DST-CPR at PU, Chd. will actively participate in the formulation of national and sectorial policies for example with an immense experience in the field of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), DST will link CPR with the concerned organizations/offices/departments with IP to take necessary policy interventions in the subject matter.

- d. DST-CPR at PU, Chd. should hold national and international workshops, hands-on training, webinars and seminars. It was suggested that a webinar/seminar once a month should be planned to disseminate and deliberate on STI policy work.
- e. DST-CPR at PU, Chd. will provide policy advisory and advocacy to STI units in universities, research institutes, state and central government on key policy issues where the Centre has the experience and expertise.
- f. Centre should actively involve with the cluster working in the region to understand regional challenges and lead to required coordination for addressing the same.
- g. DST-CPR at PU, Chd. should evolve as the coordinating points for STI coordination on behalf of the DST with the State Government. The centre should focus on strengthening the State/UT STI ecosystem of the region.
5. It was suggested that DST-CPR at PU, Chd. should take necessary measures to attract and incentivize the manpower in this domain. The faculty and research scientist positions should be opened up for the STI policy professionals.
6. To enhance the visibility of the CPRs, CPRs can post pertinent issues, matters and developments through the DST Social media handlers and Website.
7. It was suggested that the 'DST Magazine' will have an issue on CPRs. This will bring the role and importance of CPRs in building the STI ecosystem forward.
8. The DST also suggested exploring how DST-CPR at PU, Chd. can assist 'Young Policy Professionals' to enroll themselves for PhD in Panjab University. In this way capabilities of policy professionals can be utilized for the Centre's work.
9. The specific work carried out in the domain of IP will be compiled and presented to DST. The presentation will focus on identifying current policy issues in the field of IP and required policy interventions for the same.
10. A presentation on Public Private Partnerships will also be scheduled to apprise the PPP model to scientific secretaries to deliberate on its relevance and functioning.
11. There will be no isolation between DST, GoI, DST-CPR, PU as well as with other CPR's. DST-CPR, PU will have potential contributions towards the national centre of STI statistics to be set up at DST-CPR, IISc, Bangalore as well as towards national institute for policy research.
12. The reports on innovation vouchers and IPR studies will be submitted to DST for further deliberations.

