Speed Post/By Hand

Dr. Sili Rout
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Indian Council of Social Science Research
(Ministry of Education)
Aruna Asaf Ali Marg, JNU Institutional Area
New Delhi – 110067
Website: www.icssr.org

SANCTION ORDER

File No. 181/2025-26/ICSSR/RP/MN **Dated: 20.03.2026**

The Principal
Sri Venkateswara College,
University of Delhi,
Benito Juarez Road,
New Delhi-110 021

Subject: Sanction of First Instalment of Grant under ICSSR Minor Research Project (2025-26) entitled "Examining the Influence of Political Party's Website Quality Dimensions on the Political Participation and Voting Intention: A Comparative Analyses of Urban vs Rural Electorates" awarded to Dr. Durgesh Kumar

Dear Sir/Madam,

With reference to the ICSSR's Award letter of even number dated **20.03.2025** on the above subject, I am directed to convey the sanction of the Competent Authority, ICSSR, for the payment of **Rs.500000/-** as the **First Instalment** for the research project mentioned above. The first installment is **50%** of the total sanctioned grant of **Rs.1000000/-** for the Project. The subsequent installments will be released as per the details given in Award letter. The grant-in-aid is subject to all the conditions laid down in our Award letter referred above.

The expenditure on this account is debitable to the **Budget Head OH-31(02) - Research Projects.**

(Dr. Sili Rout)
for MEMBER SECRETARY

Copy to:

1. **Dr. Durgesh Kumar, Assistant Professor**
   Department of Political Science,
   Sri Venkateswara College, University of Delhi,
   Benito Juarez Road, Dhaula Kuan,
   New Delhi-110 021

2. **Co-PD**
   Dr. Deepika, Assistant Professor
   Department of Commerce,
   Sri Venkateswara College, University of Delhi,
   Benito Juarez Road,
   New Delhi-110 021

3. **Finance Branch, ICSSR, Delhi**

4. **Record file**

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F. No.181/2025-26/ICSSR/RP/MN

Dated: 20.03.2026

AWARD LETTER

The Principal
Sri Venkateswara College,
University of Delhi,
Benito Juarez Road,
New Delhi-110021

Subject: Award Letter for the Research Project entitled "Examining the Influence of Political Party's Website Quality Dimensions on the Political Participation and Voting Intention: A Comparative Analyses of Urban vs Rural Electorates" to Dr. Durgesh Kumar, Project Director (PD) under ICSSR's Research Programme of Major & Minor Research Projects (2025-26)

Dear Sir/Madam,

1. The Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) approved the award of **Minor Research Project** entitled **"Examining the Influence of Political Party's Website Quality Dimensions on the Political Participation and Voting Intention: A Comparative Analyses of Urban vs Rural Electorates"** submitted by **Dr. Durgesh Kumar** of your Institution.
2. The study, as proposed by the researcher, is to be located at and financially administered by your Institution as per the guidelines of this award.
3. The ICSSR has sanctioned a grant-in-aid of **Rs.1000000/- (Ten Lakh Rupees Only)** for the above research project and the grant will be released as follows:

Title approved by the Expert Committee	**Examining the Influence of Political Party's Website Quality Dimensions on the Political Participation and Voting Intention: A Comparative Analyses of Urban vs Rural Electorates**
Budget Approved	**Rs.1000000/-** **(Ten Lakh Rupees Only)**
Approved Duration of the Project (Months)	**12 Months**
First Instalment (50% of the awarded grant)	**Rs.500000/-**
Second Instalment (30% of the awarded grant)	**Rs.300000/-**
Third/Final Instalment (20% of the awarded grant)	**Rs.200000/-**
Total	**Rs.1000000/-**
Overhead charges over & above (10% of the awarded grant, subject to a maximum limit of Rs.2,00,000) (To be released after successful completion of project)	**Rs.100000/-**

(The break-up of Budget Heads approved by the ICSSR for **Rs.1000000/-** is enclosed as Annexure-A).

4. **The first instalment** of the approved grant-in-aid amounting to **Rs.500000/-** will be released after receiving the grant-in-aid bill (GIB) duly filled in, stamped and signed by the Project Director as well as the affiliating organization and other required documents as mentioned in the provisional award letter.
5. As the study involves research, the finalized schedules/questionnaires designed to elicit information should be sent to the ICSSR as per the following schedule:
   - If the schedule /questionnaire for eliciting information is as per standard questionnaire, these will have to be sent to ICSSR immediately,

- If the schedule /questionnaire for eliciting information are to be designed afresh keeping in view requirements of the project, these will have to be sent to the ICSSR within a period of four months in case.

6. **The second instalment** will be released after receiving hard copies (original) of satisfactory **6 months** progress report in a prescribed format (available at ICSSR website), Detailed Progress Report of approximately 15-20 pages, GIB (pre-receipt) and a budget statement (format available at ICSSR website) with 60% and above utilization from the already released grant.

7. **The Final (Third) Instalment** will be released after receiving the following:

- Book length Final Report **(at least 250 pages)**, Executive Summary of Final Report, Abstract of the Final Report in 500 words (both MS-Word and PDF formats) and certified Similarity Index score sheet (below 10%) of final report from the affiliating institution needs to be submitted prior to the date of completion of the project.

- If the expert suggests any changes in the Final Report at the time of evaluation, the Project Director shall incorporate the changes within stipulated time. The receipt of recommendations of the expert for acceptance of the Final Report and **at least one published research papers in the Peer Reviewed /Scopus Indexed journals with acknowledgement to ICSSR** is essential.

- Audited statement of accounts (AC) in prescribed format with utilization certificate (UC) in Form 12A of GFR, for the entire approved project amount duly signed by the Finance Officer/Registrar/Director of the affiliating Institution; The Audited Statement of Accounts whose accounts are not audited by CAG/AG, will be signed by the Finance Officer and Chartered Accountant (with UDIN number); and a certificate of statement of assets and books purchased out of the project fund issued by the affiliating institution.

8. The scholar/awardee must acknowledge the support of ICSSR in all their publications resulting from the project output such as Research Papers, Journal Articles, and Articles in edited Books etc., and they must submit a copy of the same to the ICSSR during the course of or after completion of the project. In case of absence of acknowledgement by the scholars, they will be blacklisted and they will not be able to apply for any schemes of ICSSR in the future. Papers published in Conference/Seminar proceedings will not be considered as they are not peer reviewed. However, proceedings published by Peer Reviewed / Scopus indexed journals can be considered.

9. The University/Institution of affiliation will provide office accommodation to the scholar, including furniture, library and research facilities, and messenger services. For this, the ICSSR shall pay the overhead charges at 10% of the awarded budget of the project, subject to a maximum limit of Rs.2,00,000/- to the University/Institution of affiliation only after the successful completion of the project.

10. The Director of the research project will be Dr. Durgesh Kumar, who will be responsible for its completion within **12 Months** from the date of commencement of the project, which is **1st April 2026**.

11. All grants from the ICSSR are subject to the general provision of GFR 2005 and in particular with reference to the provision contained in GFR 209, GFR 210, GFR 211 and GFR 212.

12. The Project Director will ensure that the expenditure incurred by him/her conforms to the approved budget heads and relevant rules. The Audited Statement of accounts with Utilization Certificate in form 12A of GFR is mandatory for the entire approved amount for the project.

13. **The Overhead Charges to the affiliating Institution will be released only after settlement of approved grant i.e. receipt of the final Audited Statement of Accounts (AC) and GFR-12A form (UC) along with the acceptance of Final Report. The affiliating Institution is instructed not to deduct Overhead Charges from the grant released.**

14. The expenditure on this account is debatable to the **Budget Head-ICSSR (Scheme Code 0877); OH 31(02) Research Projects**.

15. All project instalments will be transferred through EAT Module of Public Financial Management System (PFMS) for ensuring transparency of expenditure at all levels and to ensure that there is no parking of funds with affiliating institution.

16. As per Ministry of Education, Govt. of India instructions, the amount of grant sanctioned herein is to be utilized by the end of the project duration. Any amount of the grant remaining unspent shall be refunded to the ICSSR immediately after the expiry of the duration of the project. **If the grantee fails to utilize the grant for the purpose for which the same has been sanctioned/fails to submit the Final Report, audited statement of expenditure within the duration of the project, the grantee will be required to refund the amount of the grant with interest thereon @ 10% per annum.**

17. If the researchers do not submit the requisite documents and the final report in time or the project is not completed in the stipulated period, the scholars will be blacklisted and the legal recourse will be initiated for recovery of released grant.

18. The ICSSR reserves the right to change the affiliating institute if it is found that the affiliating institute is not co-operating with the scholar and it is not facilitating timely completion of the study.

19. You are once again required to review the eligibility criteria in the guidelines and ensure that you fulfill all requirements, both as an individual and as an institution. If you have been awarded a project under any other programme of ICSSR, and the Sanction Letter for that project has been issued, you are requested to proceed with the earlier sanction and inform us accordingly. In this situation, the current award will not be considered operational. If you have already been awarded a project, and the sanction letter has not been issued yet, you may choose between the two awards and clearly inform us which project you would like to proceed with.

20. The project title and approved budget, as recommended by the Expert Committees, are final.

21. ICSSR reserves the right to cancel the award at any stage if any submitted documents related to eligibility or criteria as per the guidelines is found to be false or violated.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. Sili Rout)
for MEMBER SECRETARY

Encl: As above

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   Sri Venkateswara College, University of Delhi,
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   Department of Commerce,
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3. **Record File**