



DR. BHASKAR CHATTERJEE

DR. CHATTERJEE NATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS IN CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR)

Empowering Practitioners and Scholars to Shape the Future of CSR

1. Purpose

The **Dr. Chatterjee Fellowships in CSR** aim to promote high-quality research and thought leadership among practitioners and scholars in the field of Corporate Social Responsibility. As CSR continues to grow in scale, investment, and strategic relevance across industries, there is an urgent need for evidence-based insights that can guide responsible business practices, sustainable development, and social impact.

- CSR expenditure in India has shown a steady upward trajectory since the implementation of the Companies Act, 2013.
- India's CSR spending is expected to grow from approximately ₹35,000 crore in the last financial year (2023-24) to around ₹60,000 crore in the next five years, indicating growing corporate commitment and expanding opportunities for impactful research.
- With companies moving from philanthropy-driven models to **strategic, impact-oriented CSR**, there is a heightened need for scholars who can critically study frameworks, community impact, sustainability metrics, and policy implications.

This fellowship supports emerging researchers who demonstrate commitment, curiosity, and the ability to contribute meaningfully to India's evolving CSR landscape.

2. Who Can Apply

- Individuals passionate about research and academic work in **Corporate Social Responsibility**
- Applicants must hold at least a **Master's degree** in any discipline from a recognized university.

- Practitioners, former practitioners, Research scholars or academics, former academics.

3. Fellowship Details

- *Number of Fellowships:* 2 per year (1 for Practitioners, 1 for academics).
- *Value:* ₹1,00,000 per fellowship.
- *Duration:* 1 year.
- *Application Submission:*
 - i. Applications will be invited on the website () and shall be promoted through social media platforms and word of mouth.
 - ii. Applicants are required to submit an online application/proposal in the prescribed format (See Annexure – 1)
 - iii. Research proposals and final reports should be in English, Font style “Verdana”, Font size 12, Line Spacing 1.15.
 - iv. Applicants will be required to submit an Undertaking on Research Integrity in the Prescribed Format (See Annexure - II)

4. Screening/Selection Process and Declaration of Result

- All applications will be reviewed by an eminent **three-member jury** comprising experts in CSR.
 - Shortlisted applicants will be invited for interaction/presentation on virtual mode.
 - Results will be declared on the website ().
 - Selected candidates will also be notified individually via email.
5. The Fellowship amount will be broken up under different heads as indicated in the table below:

Detailed budget breakup Of the Fellowship Amount		
S. No.	Heads of Expenditure	Value (Rs.)
1.	Research Staff:	Not exceeding 45% of the total
	Hired services	budget
2.	Field work	Not exceeding 35%
3.	Research Equipment and study material (Stationery, Printing, Photocopying etc.)	Not exceeding 15%
4.	Contingency	Not exceeding 5%
5.	Grand Total	100%

6. MONITORING OF RESEARCH PROJECTS

- Research undertaken by the awardee will be monitored through the submission of periodic progress reports in the prescribed format. The project may be discontinued/terminated if research progress is found unsatisfactory or if any rules are violated. In such cases, the entire amount must be refunded with a 10% penal interest.
- All project related queries will be addressed to the Project Director, Prof. Rohan Sarma whose coordinates will be shared with the Awardees.
- The Project Director may, at any time, ask for verification of accounts and other relevant documents related to the Project.
- The Project Director's consent will be mandatory prior to the release of the final instalment.
- If the awardee does not submit the requisite documents and the final report in time or the project is not completed in the stipulated period, the awardee will be

blacklisted and legal recourse will be initiated if necessary for recovery of released amounts.

- The amount of fellowship sanctioned is to be utilized within the stipulated duration. Any amount remaining unspent shall be refunded to the Project Director immediately on expiry of the duration of the project. If the awardee fails to utilize the grant for the purpose for which the same has been sanctioned/or fails to submit the audited statement of expenditure within the stipulated period, he/she will be required to refund the amount of the grant with interest thereon @ 10% per annum.

7. COMPLETION OF THE STUDY

- On completion of the study, the awardee will be required to submit:
 - a. A soft copy of the Final Report which must be submitted in both PDF and Word formats, with a minimum of 100 pages for Practitioner and 150 pages for Researcher (Verdana 12 Font with 1.15 line spacing);
 - b. A Softcopy of the abstract in 500 words in both PDF and “Word” formats (Same specifications as above);
 - c. A Softcopy of the Executive Summary of the final report in 5000 words along with softcopy in both PDF and word formats (same specifications as above);
 - d. Similarity index sheet (Plagiarism check) for the final report.
 - e. If the Project Director suggests any changes in the reports at the time of evaluation, the awardee shall incorporate the changes within the stipulated time and should submit the following:
 - i. Soft copy of modified final report in both PDF and “Word” formats along with two hard copies;
 - ii. Two hard copies of executive summary;
 - iii. Softcopies of Data Sets (if any), along with well-defined definition of data and other important information for documentation.
 - f. Every Final Report shall checked for plagiarism and the similarity report will also generated. Reports having similarity beyond 10 per cent on similarity index will not be accepted. Awardees are required to get their final report checked for similarity index and attach a certified report of the same at the time of submission.
 - g. The Final Report submitted by the awardee will be considered as satisfactory only after final recommendation of acceptance by the Project Director.
 - h. The decision of the Project Director in all matters relating to Reports

submitted by the awardees shall be final and binding.

8. Release of Fellowship Grant

The grant amount will be disbursed in **three tranches**, linked to research milestones such as proposal acceptance, mid-term progress review, and submission of final report. 10% of the Grant will be disbursed after completion of all necessary formalities.

9. OTHER CONDITIONS

- The duration of the project includes the time for Final Report writing. In exceptional circumstances, if the Project Director is satisfied with the progress of the work, an extension may be granted (up to three months) without any additional grant.
- The contingency grant may be utilized for stationery, computer/typing related costs, specialized assistance such as data analysis and consultation for field trip etc., related to the research work or for any unforeseen circumstances.
- The awardee must participate in at least one knowledge-sharing session / workshop prepared by the organizers.
- The awardee must acknowledge Dr. Chatterjee CSR Fellowship in all publications, presentations, or project dissemination material.
- The awardee must agree to the organizers using the project outcomes for CSR publications, Institutional reports, Media and outreach (with due credit).
- The organizers reserves the right to reject any application without assigning any reason. They will not be responsible for any postal delays/loss. Incomplete applications in any respect will not be considered.
- The final authority related to the interpretation of these guidelines or any other issue is vested with the organizers.
- The organizers retains all rights to publish any project funded by them.
- Copyright for the final report and outcomes of the project shall be held by the organizers.
- Any publication or dissemination of Research Studies shall solely be at the discretion of the organizers.

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