

SPONSORING ASSISTANT PROFESSORS (TEMPORARY) ENGAGED UNDER TEQIP III FOR ENROLLMENT IN PhD PROGRAMME AT NITs

In an initiative by Ministry of HRD Govt of India for improving quality of engineering education in States less well developed in technical education, approx. 1225 Assistant Professors (Temporary) have been engaged at 53 project institutes in 11 Focus States. Most of the candidates engaged through TEQIP had obtained their Masters and/or PhD degrees from institutions of repute.

Prior to joining the TEQIP institutes, many of these teachers are already registered in PhD programme while several other teachers are yet not enrolled in research degree. In this perspective, NPIU has proposed the Assistant Professors (Temporary) engaged through TEQIP which are not pursuing PhD programme, to encourage them enroll in PhD degree at a nearest National Institute of Technology (NIT) and pursue research work with partial support from TEQIP.

Salient points of the programme are as follows.

- **Enabling encouraged:** The NITs are also part of TEQIP-III and may make statutory provisions through appropriate revision/modification in their ordinance for accommodating part-time PhD programme. The NITs, through such enabling mechanism (revision/modification), will be able to fulfil one of the activities in Twinning Arrangement.
- **Scope:** TEQIP institutions' faculty members having ME/MTech as highest qualification which are not enrolled for PhD programme.
- **Registration application:** NPIU encourages all candidates who are presently not enrolled in PhD programme, to register for their PhD at a nearby NIT as a part-time candidate essentially with prior NOC by the head of the institution.
- **Entrance test:** As per provisions of the concerned NIT.
- **Admission mechanism:** Candidates is suggested to visit nearest NIT and identify a supervisor for relevant area of research. He would inform the TEQIP coordinator at that NIT, and submit a request for permission under this scheme. Academic section, upon approval from the concerned department and institute, arranges for a formal admission letter. Upon receiving the admission letter, candidate informs his host institute, and upon its approval, registers for PhD at NIT.
- **Course work requirement:** PhD course work requirement at NIT shall be fulfilled at the NIT or by taking online courses such as MOOCs, Swayam courses approved by the concerned Supervisor/Departmental Research Evaluation Committee, for course work requirement. Course work evaluation of these courses is to be done at the concerned NIT, through their routine examination process, for which the candidate has to visit the concerned NIT. PhD regulation norms applicable for these faculty may be at par that for the internal faculty.
- **Supervisor Interaction:** The candidate may be mandated to have contact with his/ her supervisor at NIT for appropriate number of days in a calendar year, during vacations and holidays. These may be spread in appropriate number of recorded visits to the concerned NIT in a year, using which the candidate can fulfil his/her supervisor interaction and all other official requirements.

- **External supervision:** Eligible external supervisor from the host institute may be taken for regular research monitoring as a joint supervisor.
- **Academic progression:** As per norms of the concerned NIT.
- **Residency requirements:** NITs typically may have a residency requirement of a certain period. Deeming that necessary research facilities are available at the host institute, the candidate's residency requirements may be waived off. In lieu of this, the candidate's visit to the NIT may be scheduled during summer & winter vacations, other holidays and extended weekends which comes out to meet the requirement.
- **Support through TEQIP:** Project supports the candidates for the reimbursement of the expenses incurred towards registration for PhD programme, course/tuition fee, charges for research facilities at other institutions, consumables, expenses on thesis printing and research papers. This support shall be limited to the completion of TEQIP III. Expenses towards travels in connection to PhD work shall be borne by the candidate.
- **Equipment purchase:** Research work may be computational or experimental in nature, and the host institute shall provide the available infrastructure for this research. TEQIP aide may be utilized under procurement subhead to develop necessary research facilities at the host institute. In case of high cost research equipment being not available at the host institute, the candidate shall use his visit periods for performing these experiments at concerned NIT.
- **Undertaking to serve:** Candidates enrolled in PhD programme through TEQIP shall furnish an undertaking to serve the project institute which s/he is sponsored under TEQIP for the period upto completion of Phase III of TEQIP. In the event of unsatisfactory performance at the institute and/or in PhD work, or early termination of the engagement by the candidate, the candidate shall refund the financial support received under TEQIP towards his/her PhD.
- **Duties at host institute:** The host institute sponsoring a PhD candidate, needs to balance candidate's time for his assigned duties at the institute while supporting his research progression. The prime focus of his engagement remains teaching, NBA accreditation, however, in the interest of research outcome for the candidate and the host institute, necessary support in terms of duty leave may be considered. This may be done through necessary teaching load arrangements, if required.
- **Support at NITs:** The supervising NIT should make suitable arrangements for the candidates, including stay and other logistic arrangements.

Any other aspect if untouched here, shall be clarified by NPIU.