

**NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE FOR COMMEMORATION OF
THE 150th BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF SWAMI VIVEKANANDA**

5TH MEETING ON 13TH AUGUST, 2013

MINUTES

The fifth meeting of the National Implementation Committee (NIC) for commemoration of 150th birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda was held on 13th August, 2013 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Defence Minister. A list of Members of NIC and others who attended the meeting is given at Annexure.

The Chairman welcomed everyone and requested Member Secretary of NIC & Secretary (Culture), Shri Ravindra Singh to take up the Agenda items. The same were accordingly taken up as follows:

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the 4th NIC meeting held on 21st November 2013

The Minutes were confirmed as there were no observations from any member.

2. Action Taken Report on the decisions of the 4th NIC meeting held on 21st August 2013

The action taken was noted.

3. Overview of proposals and budget position

The position as stated was noted.

4. Proposals from State Governments

4.1 Proposal from the State Government of Uttarakhand

The proposal relating to Almora district was approved for Rs 139.90 lakh.
The proposal relating to Champawat district was not approved.

4.2 Proposal from the State Government of Gujarat

The proposal for construction of a memorial of Swami Vivekananda at Somnath at an estimated cost of Rs 150 lakh was approved.

4.3 Proposal from the State Government of Tamil Nadu

The proposal for taking up cultural activities to commemorate Swami Vivekananda's 150th birth anniversary was deferred.

4.4 Proposals from West Bengal

The Agenda point was noted.

5. Proposals from Branches of Ramakrishna Mission, Belur

5.1 Proposal from Swami Vivekananda's Ancestral House and Cultural

Centre, Kolkata- The proposal of Swami Vivekananda's Ancestral House and Cultural Centre, Kolkata for a grant of Rs 10.50 crore was approved for 50% of the projected cost i.e. only Rs 5.25 crore to be borne by Ministry of Culture. The balance amount of Rs 5.25 crore will be arranged by the Ramakrishna Mission Hqrs., Belur.

5.2 Proposal from Sri Ramakrishna Math, Chennai to dedicate Vivekananda Illam to Swami Vivekananda by launching

"Experience Vivekananda" Project- The proposed Project was approved in principle. Ministry of Culture will bear the cost up to Rs 5

crore only. The balance requirements of funds will be arranged by the Ramakrishna Mission Hqrs., Belur.

- 5.3 Proposal from Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, Sargachhi, Murshidabad for construction of a community hall** - The proposal was deferred.
- 5.4 Proposal from Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama Belgaum for purchase of building and adjacent plots** - The proposal for purchase of existing building (Rs 3.76 crore) and its renovation (Rs 1.12 crore) totaling to Rs 4.88 crore was approved. The proposal for purchase of adjacent plot (Rs 3.59 crore) and construction of building thereon (Rs 1.80 crore) was not approved. Funds for the proposal relating to this part will be arranged by the Ramakrishna Mission Hqrs., Belur.
- 5.5 Proposal from Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Memorial, Vadodara for renovation of their Building** - The proposal for renovation of the Memorial (Dilaram building) at an estimated cost of Rs 62.50 lakh was approved.
- 5.6 Proposals from Ramakrishna Math, Baranagar for (i) renovation of Math and (ii) development of ghats-** The proposals were deferred.
- 5.7 Proposal from Ramakrishna Mission Sevashrama, Muzaffarpur seeking financial assistance of Rs 3.46 crore for upgradation of Hospital** - The proposal of Ramakrishna Mission Sevashrama, Muzaffarpur for upgradation of hospital was approved in principle. Ministry of Culture will, however, provide Rs.1.73 crore i.e. 50% of the projected cost of Rs 3.46 crore. The balance requirement of funds will be arranged by the Ramakrishna Mission Hqrs., Belur.
- 5.8 Proposal from Ramakrishna Math (Yogodyan), Kolkata for renovation of auditorium** – The proposal was deferred.

5.9 Proposal from Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, Jalpaiguri for construction of Vivekananda Sabha Griha- The proposal was approved in principle. Ministry of Culture will, however, provide Rs.56.50 lakh i.e. 50% of the projected cost of Rs 1.13 crore. The balance requirement of funds will be arranged by the Ramakrishna Mission Hqrs., Belur.

5.10 Proposal from Ramakrishna Mission Sevashrama, Haridwar for undertaking various programmes for upgradation of hospital -

The proposal of Ramakrishna Mission Sevashrama, Haridwar for upgradation of the hospital was approved. However, Ministry of Culture will bear only 50% of the projected cost of Rs 5.84 crore (i.e. Rs 2.92 crore only). The balance requirement will be met by the Ramakrishna Mission Hqrs, Belur. The proposal for corpus fund for the Project was not approved.

5.11 Proposal of Ramakrishna Mission, Belur received through PMO for acquisition of the house in Meerut Cantonment where Swami Vivekananda had lived in 1890-

The NIC decided that since the Bangalow in question was within the cantonment area, the matter will be looked into by the Ministry of Defence. Ministry of Culture may send a communication to them.

6 Proposals from Organisations not related to Ramakrishna Mission, Belur

6.1 Proposal from Vivekananda Rock Memorial and Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari for setting up 3 centres for Research in Human Excellence in Tamil Nadu, Odisha and Arunachal Pradesh

– NIC decided that Ministry of Culture will provide a sum of Rs 2.0 crore only for setting up of one Centre for Research in Human Excellence in Arunachal Pradesh only.

- 6.2 Proposal from Sri Sathya Sai Orphanage Trust, Thiruvanthapuram for construction of school and related infrastructure etc.** – The proposal was deferred.
- 6.3 Proposal from Sevalaya, Chennai for taking up Vivekananda Awareness Programme-** The proposal was deferred.
- 6.4 Proposal from INTACH for documentation** – The proposal for documentation of heritage sites associated with Swami Vivekananda at an estimated cost of Rs 32 lakhs was approved.
- 6.5 Proposal from Ramakrishna Vivekananda Mission, Deoghar for construction of school building-** The proposal was deferred.
- 6.6 Proposal from IIT Kharagpur for setting up of a Centre of Excellence-** The proposal was deferred.
- 6.7. Proposal from Shree Ramakrishna Ashrama, Kalahandi for building tribal's hostel, making herbal garden etc.** – The proposal was deferred.
- 6.8 Proposals from Ramakrishna Sarada Mission, Kolkata for acquisition and development of Sister Nivedita's residence at 16-A, Bosepara Lane, Baghbazar, Kolkata** - The proposal from Ramakrishna Sarada Mission, Kolkata for renovation of Sister Nivedita's residence at 16-A, Bosepara Lane, Baghbazar, Kolkata to be undertaken by ASI was approved at a cost of Rs 1.35 crore as per the estimates given

by Archaeological Survey of India. No part of this grant will be utilized for acquisition of land or structures and buildings.

6.9 Proposal from Sonex TV Appliances Pvt. Ltd. Kolkata for production of a film on Swami Vivekananda- The proposal was not approved.

6.10 Proposal from SPIC MACAY for giving dhrupad performances- The proposal was deferred.

6.11 Proposal from Datta-Dariaton Swami Vivekananda Vidyamandir, Burdwan for development of the village's infrastructure- The proposal was not approved.

7.1 Overseas commemoration proposals- The NIC approved the proposal to give grants for the overseas proposals from the grant-in-aid budget instead of out of the Scheme of Indo-Friendship Societies of the Ministry but within the guidelines already approved. With regard to the commemoration proposals in Bangladesh, NIC approved an amount of Rs 25 lakh for the branches of Ramakrishna Mission Hqrs, Belur in Bangladesh.

7.2 A & B. Proposals from the Embassy/ Mission in Sydney and South Africa- The NIC approved an amount of Rs 5 lakh each to the Embassy/ Mission in Sydney and South Africa for overseas commemoration.

8. Proposal for joint Indo-UNESCO observance of 150th birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda in Paris - The estimated expenditure of (i) Euro 14,000 for Indo- UNESCO joint observance of 150th

birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda in the Sorbonne University, Paris, (ii) Rs 5 lakh for installation of a bronze statue (1.73 metres) of Swami Vivekananda in Paris and (iii) showing of "Rising India" DVD was approved.

9. Proposal of Ramakrishna Mission, New York to invite Prime Minister on a function for commemoration of 150th birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda -NIC decided that the matter be taken up with PMO.

10. Proposal to declare 2013-14 as the year of National Awakening
The proposal was approved. During the meeting, the Ramakrishna Mission, Belur's General Secretary submitted a logo for NIC's approval for use on official stationery, invitation cards, advertisements (publicity material) etc., which was also approved.

A budget of Rs 2.0 crore was approved for taking up various proposals in connection with celebrations of 2013-14 as the Year of National Awakening.

11. Proposals relating to performing arts, seminars etc.- This was noted.

12. Proposal of government of J & K for change in programmes to be undertaken in commemoration of 150th birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda - The revised programme submitted by the J&K government was approved.

13. Closing ceremony- The NIC approved an amount of Rs 2.0 crore for the closing ceremony to be held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on 12th January 2014. It was also decided that Hon'ble Prime Minister be requested to grace the occasion.

14. Progress in implementation of the Vivekananda Value Education Programme (VVEP)- The report as given by the Ramakrishna Mission was noted.

15. Any other matter with permission of the Chair

CEO Prasar Bharati requested that Doordarshan be allowed to show in all regional languages the DVDs produced by the Ramakrishna Mission with government grant during the Year of National Awakening. It was agreed to in principle, subject to an MoU between the Ministry of Culture and Doordarshan.

Items included in the Supplementary Agenda

- 1. Proposal from the Government of Uttarakhand-** This was considered against item No 4.1 of the main agenda.
- 2. Proposal from Ramakrishna Mission Home of Service, Varanasi for setting up a cultural centre, a library and an exhibition hall -** The proposal of Ramakrishna Mission Home of Service, Varanasi for setting up of a cultural centre, a library and a permanent exhibition on Swami Vivekananda was approved for the projected cost of Rs 52 lakh only on the

condition that no expenditure will be made from this grant towards payment of staff salary.

3. Proposal from Bangalore Little Theatre Foundation for staging of "Finding Ananda"- NIC approved the proposal for a grant of Rs 7.82 lakh subject to recommendation of the state government.

4. Proposal from All Time Productions Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi for production of a 3 part film series "Epic Journey on Vivekananda" - The NIC approved Rs 30 lakh for the proposed 3 part film series of 25 minutes @ Rs 10 lakh each part of "Epic Journey on Vivekananda" subject to the recommendation of the state government.

5. Proposal of Ramakrishna Mission, Belur for production of one film on Swami Vivekananda at a cost of Rs 7.0 crore instead of two films for Rs 3.5 crore each as originally included in the Vivekananda Value Education Programme (VVEP) - NIC was informed that the proposal was taken up with Ministry of Finance as per the decision of the 4th NIC meeting held on 21st November 2012. Ministry of Finance has now indicated their no objection to the proposal of one film at a cost of Rs 7.0 crore subject to approval by NIC in its next meeting.

NIC approved the proposal for production of one film at a cost of Rs 7.0 crore.

6. Proposal from Sahitya Akademi for organizing "Biennale of World Poetry" - The proposal of Sahitya Akademi to hold a World Poetry Festival (which is proposed to be later turned into a regular Biennale of World Poetry by Sahitya Akademi) was considered and deliberated upon by NIC. It was decided to hold it in joint commemoration of 150th Birth Centenary of Swami Vivekananda and 100th year of receiving of Nobel Prize by Gurudev

Rabindranath Tagore. It was also decided that the modalities relating to the actual organization of this festival will be finalized by Ministry of Culture in consultation with Sahitya Akademi and Raza Foundation.

The NIC approved the proposal for Rs 2.03 crore.

List of NIC Members and other officials who attended the 5th NIC meeting for the Vivekananda commemoration on 13th August 2013

Chairman

1. Shri A.K. Antony, Minister of Defence

Members

2. Shri Vayalar Ravi, Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs
3. Smt. Chandresh Kumari Katoch, Minister of Culture
4. Swami Suhitananda, General Secretary, Ramakrishna Mission, Belur
5. Swami Suvirananda, Trustee, Ramakrishna Mission, Belur
6. Shri Ravindra Singh, Secretary (Culture)- Member Secretary

Special Invitees

7. Shri Jawhar Sircar, CEO Prasar Bharati
8. Swami Shubhakarananda, Ramakrishna Mission, Belur

Officials

9. Shri P.K. Jha, AS & FA Ministry of Culture
10. Shri K.K.Mittal, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Culture
11. Shri Pramod Jain, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture
12. Shri Amit Khare, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Human Resource Development
13. Smt. Supriya Sahu, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting
14. Smt. Nirmala Goyal, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Culture
15. Shri Sudesh Kumar, Project Coordinator, Ministry of Culture