

**A-12013/90/2016-Admn.1B**  
**Government of India**  
**NITI Aayog**

Sansad Marg, New Delhi,  
Dated 01<sup>st</sup> September, 2023

**Guidelines for engaging Distinguished Fellows in NITI Aayog, 2023**

**1. Introduction:**

NITI Aayog is the apex public policy Think Tank of the Government of India. Since its inception, NITI Aayog has evolved into a multi-disciplinary resource centre with the necessary knowledge and skills that enable it to act as the nodal agency for catalysing economic development, fostering cooperative federalism, promoting innovation and providing strategic policy vision for the government.

The objective of the NITI Aayog Distinguished Fellowship Programme is to augment and elevate the level of dialogue which can address some of the most pressing challenges of India so as to achieve the vision of a peaceful and prosperous society by tapping into the best minds across the world.

Distinguished Fellows are thought leaders who are pre-eminent in their fields and have made exceptional contribution in their specialised area of work in public, private or non-profit sectors or shown exceptional leadership skills in the public or private sectors. This fellowship is honorary in nature wherein persons of eminence will be invited to support NITI Aayog in its key initiatives and programmes. It is expected that their engagement with NITI will widen and enrich its intellectual landscape.

**2. Eligibility:**

- i. Persons of eminence with significant academic/corporate/technical/ government experience who have special knowledge or leadership skills in sectors/areas of relevance to governance and development.
- ii. And they have made significant, long term and distinguished contribution in leadership roles and are recognized in the world of scholarship, public policy/governance and/or in corporate world.

**3. Roles and Responsibilities:**

Distinguished Fellows are expected to;

- i. Provide expert advice to the NITI Aayog on various policy matters and work on strategies for long term planning to achieve national objectives and priorities.



- ii. Support NITI Aayog in designing strategic and long-term policy and programme frameworks and initiatives in their areas of expertise.
- iii. Facilitate partnerships between NITI Aayog and key stakeholders, national and international Think Tanks, as well as academic and research institutions.
- iv. Provide knowledge support to the Subject Matter Verticals (SMV) within the NITI Aayog with respect to ongoing key programs, initiatives and Projects.
- v. Engage with Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog, Members and CEO, NITI Aayog as and when required
- vi. Contribute to the discussions and conferences in their areas of work.
- vii. And any other area of work as per the advice of CEO, NITI Aayog.

### **3. Logistics and Support:**

- i. TA/DA within India (Domestic Air Tickets/reimbursement of Air fare/First-Class AC in Railways, food and lodging, local transport for official purpose) will be provided at par with Secretary, GoI for attending meetings, seminars, etc. in NITI Aayog and elsewhere as and when required with the approval of CEO, NITI Aayog.
- ii. Pick up and drop facility will be provided in Delhi/NCR for attending official meetings in NITI Aayog for Distinguished Fellows located in Delhi/NCR.
- iii. Distinguished fellows will have full access to a computer equipped office as and when required during their tenure and access to various NITI facilities such as library etc.

### **4. Number of Distinguished Fellows:**

The number of Distinguished Fellows shall not normally exceed 20 at any given point of time. However, the numbers may exceed the limit specified above, under special circumstances, as determined by CEO, NITI Aayog.

### **5. Period:**

One year from date of engagement, which is extendable by a year at a time with the approval of CEO, NITI Aayog.

### **6. Selection Procedure:**

Search and Selection Committee will be headed by CEO, NITI Aayog. Additional Secretary, NITI Aayog and AS&FA, NITI Aayog will be members of this Committee. The Committee may also co-opt any other member as it deems fit. It will shortlist the names and finalize the selection of the DFs.

### **7. Programme Requirements:**

- i. Distinguished Fellows will NOT be associated full time with NITI Aayog. NITI Aayog will not be paying any remuneration for their honorary engagement as DFs in NITI Aayog.



- ii. The Fellows will be free to publish their work with the disclaimer, "Views in this paper/journal are that of the author and do not reflect NITI Aayog's position."
  - iii. It is expected that they will not post on social media any issue relating to NITI Aayog.
  - iv. The Fellows are expected to participate in NITI Aayog's discussions, seminars, presentations and any other relevant events as and when requested by CEO, NITI Aayog. Fellows shall respect the confidentiality of the information/data and of the deliberations in which they participate.
  - v. DF is not a staff member of NITI and is not precluded from holding any other office.
  - vi. Fellows shall be primarily responsible for observing and complying with all legal, regulatory and professional ethical requirements relevant to the field of Fellowship and at NITI Aayog as per Government of India norms.
  - vii. Fellows shall not disclose confidential information acquired in the course of the Fellowship, except with prior permission in writing from CEO, NITI Aayog.
  - viii. Fellows who desire to visit NITI Aayog in connection with their related areas of engagement will be facilitated by the SMD leads.
8. The expenditure incurred under the Fellowship Programme will be met from the appropriate Budget Head allocated for NITI Aayog for the purpose of official tours/TA/DA.
9. **Termination:** NITI Aayog at any point of time can terminate fellowship without any notice. The fellow concerned can also give up the fellowship by informing CEO, NITI Aayog in writing.
10. **Relaxation:** Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog will have the power to relax any of the conditions mentioned above, in respect of any deserving candidate, with due justification.
11. This issues with the approval of Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog and financial concurrence of AS&FA dated 08.08.2023.

(Shoyab Ahmed Kalal)  
Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India

1. PS to VCh, NITI Aayog
2. PPS to Members/ PSO to CEO, NITI Aayog
3. O/o all AS/Sr. Advisers/Sr. Leads
4. O/o all JSs/Advisers
5. Standard circulation through NIC mail

