

F. No. 17020/32/2017-SCD-VI (DAIC)
Government of India
Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Department of Social Justice and Empowerment

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi

Dated 25th October, 2018

Subject: Draft Concept Note on establishment of Dr. Ambedkar International Centre (DAIC) - Inviting comments/suggestions/views of stakeholders including Public/Private Organizations, Experts and concerned citizens.

The undersigned is directed to inform all concerned that the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment proposes to establish the Dr. Ambedkar International Centre (DAIC) at 15, Janpath, New Delhi.

2. In the context, a Draft Concept Note has been prepared by the Ministry and the same is enclosed herewith and placed in public domain for information and for submission of specific comments.

3. All stakeholders including Public/Private organizations, Experts and concerned citizens are requested to kindly send the comments/suggestions/views on the enclosed Draft Concept Note and such comments should be very specific (indicate para of Draft Note), crisp, holistic and relevant so that these comments could be considered by the Ministry for finalizing the concept of Dr. Ambedkar International Centre (DAIC). The comments should be sent through e-mail in word file format including pdf version at sandeepkr.gupta@nic.in & singh.bk@gov.in (please mention Establishment of Dr. Ambedkar International Centre in the subject of mailbox) and provide details of your name/ name of organization including contact details/email while sending comments to us within one month i.e by 26.11.2018. Comments received beyond this deadline will not be considered.

Encl: as above.



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To

All other relevant Stakeholders including Experts, Public/Private Organizations and concerned citizens.

Concept Note

Dr.Ambedkar International Centre for Socio-economic Transformation

1. Government of India proposes to set up Dr. Ambedkar International Centre (DAIC) as a Centre of Excellence for research on social and economic issues. The Centre will serve as a think-tank for Socio-Economic Transformation in the country. The DAIC will be set up as an independent autonomous body in the form of a Society under the Society Registration Act, 1860.
2. The foundation stone of Dr. Ambedkar International Centre at 15, Janpath, New Delhi was laid by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 20th April, 2015. The iconic building of the Centre, built at a cost of Rs 195.74 crores, was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 7th December, 2017. Hon'ble Prime Minister had declared it as the Centre of Excellence for Socio-Economic Transformation and Buddhist Studies on the eve of its inauguration. The Centre will serve as a think tank for research on Socio-Economic Transformation in the country. It would guide and advise on issues for inclusive growth taking the country towards the philosophy of Sabka Sath Sabka Vikas'. Hence, Dr. Ambedkar International Centre (DAIC) needs to be developed as a Centre of Excellence and as an Institution of National Importance for social and economic research.
3. The DAIC building has three auditoriums, a library having at present 5000 books along with a digital library having one lakh resources at its access, office space with seating capacity of 100 persons and a museum on the life and works of Dr. Ambedkar known as Dr. Ambedkar National Memorial (DANM) situated at 26, Alipur Road, New Delhi.
4. The aims and objectives of DAIC are as under :
 - (a) To promote and support, high-quality research on social and economic issues.
 - (b) To develop a national data base through various studies conducted time to time.
 - (c) To disseminate advanced knowledge and nurture social scientists to meet the needs of users and beneficiaries.

- (d) To communicate and promote public understanding of social science to encourage involvement in research.
- (e) To undertake research activities which may help the Government in reviewing policies related to social welfare and social justice.
- (f) To undertake empirical researches in the field of sustainable development and livelihood which may be applied to industries, voluntary bodies and other organizations to bring out research from lab to land for benefit of society.
- (g) To organize training or refresher programmes for the officers of the State and Central Government and entrepreneurs.
- (h) To collaborate with best known institutes and training centres in the world to provide best opportunities for skill development.
- (i) To conduct research on vision, theories, principles and policies of nation building propounded by Dr. Ambedkar which have contributed in meeting the challenges of socio-economic transformation and inclusive growth.
- (j) To act as a think tank for the government, corporate sector and NGOs in the field of social sector.
- (k) To make DAIC as an umbrella institution for all Buddhist Study Centres in India which may attract and facilitate the scholars on Buddhism from across the world.
- (l) To conduct research both with the help of data mining and empirical basis to meet the challenges in the field of water resources, production of sufficient food, energy requirement and energy conservation, environment pollution and quality education for sustainable growth.

5. The following five schools are proposed to achieve the above :

- (i) **School of Socio-economic Transformation:** This School will conduct, promote and support research on socio-economic transformational studies which may develop an economic model for overcoming economic, ecological and social crisis in emerging New India.
- (ii) **School of Studies on Dr. Ambedkar:** This School will conduct research on relevance of vision, theories, principles and policies of Dr. Ambedkar on Labour Reforms, Central Water and Irrigation Policies, National Grid System, Women Empowerment, Entrepreneurship in the Marginalised

Sections of Society, Economic Equality, Indian Foreign policy and the Prevailing Education System

- (iii) **School of Policy Making and Policy Advocacy**- DAIC will act as a think tank for the Government and Non-Government Organisations in Social Sector and review policies for further improvement. The researches which may facilitate the government and other authorities in policy making will be the main focus area of DAIC.
- (iv) **School of Buddhist Studies**- DAIC will work in collaboration with some universities and Buddhist Study Centres of excellence both in India and abroad to focus on creating a common platform for establishment of international fraternity among all Buddhist countries to combat with the emerging challenges in the fields of religious radicalism, world peace and inclusive growth.
- (v) **School of Sustainable Development and Livelihood**- To help and support the Government and the Non-Government organisations, DAIC will focus on conducting applied researches on new and effective ways of agricultural productivity so that India can have self-sufficient food production.

The School of Socio-economic Transformation will act as a coordinating School for all the other four schools and will be headed by a Professor. The remaining four schools will be headed by Associate Professors.

6. Methodology and Activities Proposed in the Centre

All the proposed five schools shall pursue different activities like research, short terms accredited courses (In collaboration with DU, JNU, IGNOU and some select foreign universities of international repute), training and internship, national and international seminars, conferences and symposiums, workshops, lecture series, study tours, etc. In performing these activities, this Centre will collaborate with similar Centres, Agencies and Institutions through MOUs.

7. Organisational Structure

- (a) Governing Body - There will be a Governing body under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Minister, SJE with representatives from NITI AAYOG, Corporate Sector, ICSSR, ICCR, ICHR, JNU, IGNOU, Sarnath and Sanchi Buddhist Universities.

- (b) Academic Council - To assist the Governing body, there will be an Academic Council headed by the CEO of DAIC, an officer of Additional Secretary rank to be selected from Govt. Officers/ Academicians/ Persons of eminence. The Council would include nominated members, comprising two nominees of Chairman of the Governing Body, one by the Secretary, DAIC and one each from NITI AAYOG, ICSSR, ICCR, ICHR, ICPR, JNU, IGNOU, Sarnath and Sanchi Buddhist Universities. The Council may also include representatives from University of Oxford, Harvard University, Columbia University and any other institution having an MOU with DAIC.
 - (c) Executive Council - Under the Chairmanship of the Director, this body of DAIC will coordinate and advice for appointment of various committees, and design and implementation of various programmes.
 - (d) CEO –An officer of AS rank to be selected from Govt. Officers/ Academicians/ Persons of eminence will be selected by a committee constituted by the Ministry.
8. DAIC needs to be funded by the Government in initial phase. The DAIC would endeavor to make itself self sustainable by generating revenue through its internal resources such as by undertaking research projects, by developing knowledge products, organizing short/long term courses/trainings, exchange programs, organizing exhibitions, renting of auditoriums at DAIC building etc.. Government funding will not be required or will be reduced, once DAIC moves towards self sustainability.
9. It is expected that the Centre will evolve into a state of the art research centre which will develop:
- (i) State of the art Research Centre
 - (ii) Transformational approach in social sector
 - (iii) Research based think tank in social sector
 - (iv) Data base for effective policy making and advocacy
 - (v) World class library
 - (vi) A dedicated museum on Dr. Ambedkar
 - (vii) Establishment of international Buddhist fraternity for peace and progress
 - (viii) Ushering in inclusive growth and affirmative action