

***RESEARCH PROPOSAL FORMAT**

- A. A concise abstract of the research proposal (about 300 words).
- B. A detailed research proposal (2000 words).

An indicative outline for the detailed research proposal is given below:

1. Title:

The research proposal should have a clear, meaningful and concise title reflecting the scope of the investigation.

2. Introduction and / or Statement of the Problem

The research proposal should begin by clearly stating the research problem to be investigated in the light of its theoretical and/or empirical context in the relevant area.

3. Aims and/or Objectives of the Study

The general aim of the study as well as its specific objectives should be clearly stated in the proposal.

4. Scope and Methodology

The researcher must describe in detail (a) the scope and coverage of her/his study; and (b) approach and methodology with adequate justification. Emphasis should be given to bringing out innovativeness in approaches proposed to be followed. The detailing of the methodology may include research design, data to be collected and empirical and analytical methods to be used. The description of the methodology must be clearly linked to the aims of the research and the research questions/hypotheses of the study.

5. Relevance, Anticipated Outcomes and Proposed Outputs from the Research

The proposal should include a statement on the relevance of the study and the anticipated outcomes. It should bring out the significance of the research problem, the contribution which the proposed study is expected to make to theory and to methodology as well as its practical importance to society and policy making. It should also describe the proposed outputs from the study (Books, research papers, occasional papers with themes etc.)

6. Time Frame

The research proposal should include a phased time frame for different components of the study.

7. Estimated Budget

The budget for the study should be formulated for the grant sought. It should be clearly linked to other elements of the proposal and must include a detailed justification of each item that is proposed.