

## NMF Guidelines for Research Proposal

1. The Proposal should not exceed 3000 words (excluding bibliography). The Research Proposal for submission to the NMF should adhere to the research design enumerated in the succeeding paragraphs.

### 2. **Introduction**

- It should provide a brief idea about the theme that is proposed for research. It should be concise on the title/ sub-title of the Research Proposal.

### 3. **Significance/ Rationale/ Objectives of the Study**

- This section should state the objectives and the importance of the proposed research on the selected subject.
- It should also explore how the proposed research is going to benefit the research professionals and NMF as well as the policy makers formulating policy in public/ national/ global interest.

### 4. **Research Questions**

- The Researcher should specify the key questions/ hypotheses that the research is going to address in the proposed research.
- These questions should also reflect the latest developments in the current debate/ discourse that involve the theme of the Research Proposal.
- The Research Proposal should also list the expected outcomes that will fulfil its objectives.

### 5. **Review of the Literature**

- The review should highlight important existing works (up-to-date) on the proposed theme.
- This should also discuss broader arguments brought out by the existing literature relevant to the proposed theme
- The Researcher should clearly list the significant gaps in knowledge in the existing literature and how attempts will be made to fill them and advance knowledge and/ or practices for achieving the objectives of the Research Proposal.

## 6. **The Framework of the Study/Research Outline**

- The proposed research should provide an overarching outline about the work to be undertaken and provide the framework of the study using relevant and appropriate research methodology. The conceptual framework must specify which tools of research methodology would be used by the researcher (such as theoretical analysis; building and validating empirical model; statistical/econometric tools; narrative based on historical records; interpretations and interviews; field visits; surveys; case studies; etc.) for improving the credibility of the research and its conclusions.
- The Researcher should also list the data requirements of the proposed study; sources; and ready availability of the data or how the data will be generated.

## 7. **Tentative Chapterisation**

- The Researcher should provide a tentative scheme of chapters arranged in logical order and explain the linkages between/ among the chapters.
- These chapters should also explain the tentative contents of each chapter within the scope and likely exclusions outside the scope of the study.

## 8. **Timeline for the Completion of Research Project**

- The Researcher should specify a timeframe for the completion of each chapter and the entire proposed work providing reasonable time for revision after receiving feedback from the referees/ experts as per NMF's procedure.

## 9. **Bibliography**

- The bibliography should contain the following: -
  - Primary Sources
    - ✓ Autobiographies, Memoirs, Government Documents, Speeches, Archival materials, and interviews.
  - Secondary Sources
    - ✓ Books/Monographs
    - ✓ Journal Articles
    - ✓ Newspapers and Newsmagazines
    - ✓ Online Resources
    - ✓ Documentaries

## 10. **Layout/Font/Structure**

- Font: Times New Roman
- Size: 12
- Spacing 1.5