



From Financial Constraints to Scientific Achievement: Balamurugan S.'s Journey through National Fellowship Support

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Financial assistance for higher education and research can play an important role in enabling students from disadvantaged communities to pursue advanced studies, overcome economic barriers and contribute to scientific advancement. Timely fellowship support can provide students with the financial stability required to focus on research and achieve their academic aspirations.

Shri Balamurugan S., aged 35, belongs to the Devendra Kula Velalar community and is a Scheduled Caste beneficiary. Currently working as a Guest Lecturer of Physics, he is the first graduate in his family and the only person in his family lineage to have received a doctoral degree. While higher education was an attainable goal for him, financial constraints posed a significant challenge in pursuing advanced studies and scientific research.

Receiving support under the National Fellowship provided Shri Balamurugan with the financial assistance needed to dedicate himself fully to his research. During the fellowship period from 2017 to 2020, he received financial support of Rs. 25,000 per month during the first two years and Rs. 31,000 per month during the subsequent two years. The fellowship proved to be an important source of support in conducting specialised research involving chemicals and advanced techniques such as X-Ray Diffraction (XRD), X-Ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy (XPS), antimicrobial studies and magnetic studies.

With the support of the fellowship, Shri Balamurugan successfully completed his research and pursued his aspiration of making an original contribution to the scientific community. He authored and published a research paper on "Cadmium Oxide Nanopowders," which he describes as the world's first research paper on the subject. The fellowship support also contributed to his continued research work and enabled him to publish 28 international research papers.

SUCCESS STORY

NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

FROM FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS TO SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENT:

BALAMURUGAN S.'S JOURNEY THROUGH NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP SUPPORT

STATE: TAMIL NADU | DISTRICT: TIRUPPUR
COMMUNITY: DEVENDRA KULA VELALAR (SC)
OCCUPATION: GUEST LECTURER OF PHYSICS
TYPE OF CENTRE: NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

SUPPORT FOR HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH
The National Fellowship provided financial assistance, enabling him to pursue doctoral research and contribute to scientific advancement.

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Government of India

CHALLENGE
Conducting research was initially challenging and financial constraints made higher education difficult.

SCHEME SUPPORT
Received National Fellowship support (₹25,000/month for first two years; ₹31,000/month for next two years) from 2017 to 2020.

ACHIEVEMENTS
Completed doctoral research, published a research paper on "Cadmium Oxide Nanopowders" – the world's first on the subject, and 28 international research papers.

CURRENT STATUS
Working as a Guest Lecturer of Physics and continuing to contribute to the academic and research community.

“ The National Fellowship provided me with the support I needed to dedicate myself fully to scientific research. It helped me complete my research and publish 28 international research papers. ”

EDUCATION. | RESEARCH. | A BRIGHTER FUTURE.

The National Fellowship has significantly contributed to Shri Balamurugan's academic and research journey, enabling him to overcome financial limitations and pursue higher education with greater focus and confidence. His achievement as the only person in his family lineage to attain a doctoral degree has also marked an important milestone for his family.

Shri Balamurugan says, *“Receiving the National Fellowship provided me with the support I needed to dedicate myself fully to scientific research. It helped me complete my research and publish 28 international research papers.”*

Shri Balamurugan S.'s journey demonstrates how financial assistance for higher education and research can enable talented students from disadvantaged communities to pursue advanced studies, undertake scientific research and contribute to the wider academic community. His experience reflects the role of fellowship support in creating opportunities for higher learning, scientific advancement and greater self-reliance.

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