

Interim Financial Report

2003-0-012
Grant Number

Grantee: Moushumi Bhowmik
Grant period: 15 March 2004-14 March 2006

Financial statement for the year ending 14 March 2005

(in rupees)

Description	Approved Budget for whole grant period 15 Mar 04-14 Mar 06	Amount expended from 15 March 2004 to 14 March 2005
Maintenance allowance	1,80,000	90,000
Travel and living costs	1,01,425	28,308
Recording equipment	65,000	32,024
Remunerations	63,000	47,792
Communications and supplies	8,000	7,943
Photography and library costs	7,000	2,492
Total	4,24,425	2,08,559

Approved grant amount:

Rs. 4,24,425

Approved grant term: Two years beginning 15 March 2004

Total funds released by IFA: 2,12,000

2,12,425

Rs. 4,24,425

Total amount expended:

Rs. 2,08,559

Balance with Moushumi Bhowmik:

Rs. 2,15,866

Unpaid balance with IFA:

nil

Moushumi Bhowmik
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A NOTE ON THE INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

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As the interim financial report will show you, it has not been possible for me to strictly keep to the approved grant for every item of the budget. I understand that under an IFA grant, it is possible to juggle funds between different budgetary heads, if the situation so demands; I hope I shall be allowed to do so.

After a year into my Grant, I have come to realise certain things regarding spending:

- While travelling on the field, it is often not possible to travel alone, because assistants and guides and recording personnel have to join me from time to time, as and when the situation and place demands. So, even though I budgeted for travelling alone, often I was travelling with one or two companions, who were connected with my project in some way or the other.
- Yet, travel and stay has cost me less than I had expected.
- Artiste remuneration and entertainment is an unknown category—it is impossible to say how much you will need to spend on artistes on a certain field trip, because it is difficult to know from beforehand how many people you will meet, what they will expect to get from you (depending on how far exposed they are to research and researchers), what you will deem fit to give. As I look back now at the amount I had asked for in my final proposal, I see a total lack of experience on my part. I have nearly spent in just one year nearly the entire amount allocated in my budget for spending over two years. However, as I have spent far less than the amount allocated for travel and living and also on equipment, I suppose I can use some of the travel and living money for paying my artistes.
- The above point also applies to the amount allocated for research assistantship and the actual amount spent. As my field is very vast, I find I often need to work with more than one assistant, even travel with them as and when the situation demands, which takes up the cost. I have also found it very useful to hire the services of a sound engineer (a final year film school student, in my case) to store the field recordings on the computer, separate songs from interviews and for finalising archive quality CDs for each trip and each singer.
- Minidisks (MD) cost more than what I had expected and I am also having to use far more MDs than I thought I would need, because when we record on PCM mode (for non-compressed sound), we get only 27 mins of recording per MD. The cost of running the player on batteries is also quite high for PCM mode.

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