



Department of Science and Technology (DST)
Ministry of Science and Technology
Government of India

INDIA SCIENCE AND RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP (ISRF)



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INTRODUCTION:

The dynamics of the 21st century knowledge economy is being progressively driven by scientific and technological capabilities of a nation. The economic growth, prosperity and development of a country is increasingly being determined by its science and technology (S&T) competence and strength rather than its material and resource base. Recognizing that S&T is an important instrument in the growth paradigm, both developed and developing countries have evolved S&T policies to augment and strengthen their research infrastructure and technology intensity. India over the years has evolved a policy and program framework aimed at strengthening research and education infrastructure, building excellence and capacity in science for fostering knowledge creation and promoting innovation. India with its long culture and tradition in science has positioned itself as one of the leading countries in basic research supported through a vast network of apex R&D institutions. India is keen to enter into partnerships with its neighboring countries to foster closer scientific and technological collaboration through human capacity building in advanced areas of research and development. The **India Science and Research Fellowship (ISRF)** aims at providing opportunity to researchers and scientists from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand to undertake R&D at premier research and academic institutions in India.

SCOPE AND DURATION OF FELLOWSHIP:

India Science and Research Fellowship is to provide opportunity to scientists and researchers from neighboring countries namely Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand to work in **contemporary research areas across all major disciplines of science and technology including engineering and medical sciences at premier research laboratories and academic institutions in India.**



Up to 80 fellowships (10 per country) will be awarded annually under this scheme. The fellowship applications will be considered once a year by a Selection Committee.

FEATURES:

- Enable to undertake cutting edge research work in India
- Open to faculty, scientists and researchers in science, engineering and medicine
- Monthly sustenance allowance and one-time contingency grant
- Round trip airfare

TYPE AND DURATION OF FELLOWSHIP OFFERED:

Visiting Fellowship: for durations between 3 to 6 months

OPENING OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS:

31st December 2025

DEADLINE FOR RECEIVING APPLICATIONS:

31st March 2026

ELIGIBILITY:

- Applicant should be a **citizen/permanent resident** of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand.
- The applicant should be actively engaged in research at a university or research institution in their country in various areas of science and technology including engineering and medical sciences.
- **Minimum Qualifications:** Ph.D. /M.Tech /M.Sc /MBBS with 3-5 years research or teaching experience. Applicants registered for a Ph.D. degree in home country may also apply.



- An applicant shall be permitted to avail the fellowship only once during a period of five (5) years and shall be below forty-five (45) years of age as on 31 March 2026.
- The applicant should possess a valid passport
- Must not hold any visa for temporary or permanent residency in India

VALUE OF FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship Allowance:

- Rs. 50,000/- per month which includes accommodation and medical facilities as available to host institutes.

Contingency grant to Fellow Scientist:

- Rs. 10,000/- as one-time contingency grant.

Contingency research grant for host scientist (through institution):

- Rs. 20,000/- as one time grant.

Airfare:

- Round trip air fare by economy class from the place of employment in their own country to the Indian host institute, through shortest route. Local transport by Road/ rail between the nearest airport and the host institute in India.

Visa fee:

- Will be reimbursed.

HOW TO APPLY:

- Researchers/scientists actively engaged in research at a university or research institution meeting the eligibility criteria should apply using prescribed format (can be downloaded from the websites www.dst.gov.in) to respective implementing agency in partner country (if available) or INSA, New Delhi.



- If the respective implementing agency in partner country is not available, Applications may be submitted as hard copy or scan copy with supporting documents (please see application form) to INSA.

Hard Copy to:

The Executive Director
Indian National Science Academy (INSA)
Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg
New Delhi-110002

Soft Copy to:

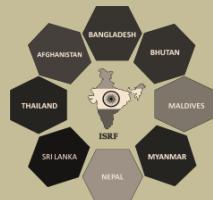
Email: isrf.dst@insa.nic.in

- **The last date for receipt of the applications is 31st March 2026.** No application submitted beyond the deadline will be accepted.
- a) Selection Process:** Pre-screening of applications will be undertaken by the implementing agency in partner country solely based on scientific merit and proposed contribution to advanced research in the subject field. Final selection and fellowship decision will be made by DST, Ministry of Science and Technology, Govt. of India through their implementing agency, INSA, New Delhi.
- b) Notification of selection results:** Fellowship intimation will be sent to the successful candidates by the Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India through INSA. The names of the fellows, host researchers and institutions as well as their research themes will be posted also on the websites of DST, India; INSA, New Delhi and the respective Indian Embassies.
- c) Placement Process:**
- Candidates are required to finalize the dates of fellowship jointly with host Indian scientist.
 - The selected candidates will be issued visa by Indian Mission in their country.
 - For visa issuance, selected candidates will be required to approach Indian Mission with all documents and travel plan.
 - A copy of these documents and other travel details must be sent to INSA, New Delhi.
 - The Academy may assist the researchers in identifying the host institution wherever necessary.

OBLIGATION OF THE FELLOWS/ INTERN RESEARCHERS:

The research fellows are expected to strictly observe the regulations stipulated below and those of the host institution. Failure to follow these may result in withdrawal of the Fellowship.

- a) Fellow must stay in India continuously during the accepted tenure of their fellowship and devote his/her maximum working time on the research work at the host institution. Fellow should not engage in any other work, either paid or unpaid, during the tenure of the Fellowship.
- b) Only due to any unforeseen circumstances a Fellow will be allowed to leave India before completing the full tenure of the fellowship after seeking due permission of Indian Host Institute, INSA/DST and parent institution. In such circumstances, the fellowship amount proportional to remaining period shall not be paid.
- c) The Fellow shall follow the rules established by the host institution and DST, including prohibiting acts of research misconduct (e.g. fabricating or falsifying research results) and misuse of research fund (e.g. use for private purpose or for purposes other than the approved research activity).
- d) Fellow shall not either in or outside the host institution, infringe in any way on the human rights of others, including racial or gender discrimination or other forms of social abuse.
- e) The Fellow must submit a detailed research report after completion of his/her tenure duly endorsed by the host researcher to DST and INSA.
- f) The selected fellow should have his/her own medical insurance for the period of stay in India.



ABOUT DST

The Department of Science and Technology of the Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India is mandated to nurture, foster and promote scientific and technological research and development in India. DST is the major agency in the country for the promotion of basic and applied sciences through intramural and extramural research funding across disciplines and institutions. This includes support to both human capacity development and research infrastructure building. The Department plays a critical role in supporting technology development capabilities in non-strategic sectors including societal interventions through science and technology and the promotion of innovation and techno-entrepreneurship. DST is also responsible for the formulation of the science, technology and innovation policy of the country including other R&D enabling policies of the Government of India. One of the core responsibilities of DST is to enter into international cooperation, partnerships and alliances required for promoting bilateral, regional and multilateral S&T collaborations.

(www.dst.gov.in)

ABOUT INSA

Indian National Science Academy (INSA), New Delhi is an autonomous institution of Dept. of Science & Technology, Govt. of India. INSA was established in January 1935 with the object of promoting science in India and harnessing scientific knowledge for the cause of humanity and safeguarding the interests of the scientists, establishing linkages with international bodies to foster collaboration and expressing considered opinion on national issues. The Academy also plays a significant role in promoting, recognizing and rewarding excellence in scientific research. With a view to promoting the pursuit of excellence in the field of Science and Technology, the Academy has instituted, apart from the regular fellowship, new categories of fellows as INSA Young Associates, INSA Associate Fellows and INSA Distinguished Lectures. In addition, to recognize not only the creation of scientific knowledge, but also to recognize the consumption of knowledge for socio-economic opportunities, fellows in the two new categories viz. Science in Translation and Science for Society has been instituted. The academy also publishes journals, organizes scientific discussions and brings out proceedings, monographs, memoirs and special publications on latest scientific topics from time to time. For more information, please visit our website www.insaindia.res.in

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