



**Centre for Science & Technology
of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries
(NAM S&T Centre)**

**RESEARCH TRAINING FELLOWSHIP
FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRY SCIENTISTS
(RTF-DCS)**

**Guidelines and Announcement
2016 -17**

Programme Sponsored by:
Department of Science & Technology (DST),
Ministry of Science & Technology
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

RESEARCH TRAINING FELLOWSHIP FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRY SCIENTISTS (RTF-DCS) 2016 – 17

I. INTRODUCTION

The Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T Centre) is presently implementing a Fellowship programme titled 'Research Training Fellowship for Developing Country Scientists (RTF-DCS)' to provide opportunity to young researchers of the developing countries for their capacity building in science and technology through their affiliation with premier academic and research institutions in India to carry out short-term research work. Under the programme, full financial support is provided to the research fellows for their international travel, subsistence allowance, research contingency, domestic travel in India, etc.

The RTF-DCS programme has been sponsored by the Government of India, Department of Science & Technology (DST), Ministry of Science & Technology.

The RTF-DCS programme that was initiated in 2012-2013, was successfully implemented in the last four years with the selected scientists having completed their research work in the respective host institutions in India. Considering the persistently high demand from the researchers from developing countries and the keen interest shown by the Indian research institutions in implementing this programme, the number of Fellowships was increased from 20 to 50 per year with effect from 2014-15.

In the fifth year of implementation of the RTF-DCS scheme, the NAM S&T Centre invites applications from the eligible researchers of the developing countries for the Fellowship for the financial year 2016-17 (1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017).

II. OBJECTIVES

The RTF-DCS is a destination India Fellowship with the following objectives:

- To promote mobility of scientists and researchers from the developing countries into India and provide them opportunity to work at Indian R&D/academic institutions to upgrade their research skills and expertise.
- To facilitate exchange of information and contacts between the scientists and researchers of India and other developing countries and create a network for building research collaborations.

As a spin off, the Fellows may also have opportunity to get co-supervisors from India for their research projects for Ph.D. or M. Tech. degree on their return to their home countries.

III. ABOUT THE NAM S&T CENTRE

The Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T Centre; www.namstct.org) is an inter-governmental organisation with a membership of 48 developing countries spread over Asia, Africa, Middle East and Latin America. The Centre was set up in 1989 in New Delhi, India in pursuance of the recommendations of various NAM Summit meetings for the promotion of South-South cooperation in science and technology. The Centre undertakes a variety of activities, including organisation of workshops, symposiums, meetings and training courses and implementation of collaborative projects. It also offers short-term research fellowships to

scientists from developing countries in association with the Centres of Excellence in various countries. The Centre also publishes technical books and other scientific material on different subjects. These activities provide opportunity for scientist-to-scientist contact and interaction; familiarising participants on the latest developments and techniques in the subject areas; identification of the requirements of training and expert assistance; locating technologies for transfer between the members and other developing countries, dissemination of S&T information etc. In addition to the above, the Centre encourages academic-research-industry interaction in the developing countries through its NAM S&T-Industry Network.

Even though the NAM S&T Centre has only 48 countries as its members, scientists and researchers from almost all the developing countries over the world take part in its various scientific activities from time to time, including this RTF-DCS programme.

IV. NUMBER OF FELLOWSHIPS

Fifty (50) scientists and researchers from the developing countries will be selected this year under the RTF-DCS Scheme to get affiliated with Indian academic and R&D institutions.

V. DURATION OF FELLOWSHIP

The Fellowship will be for a period of **six months**, but minor variation in the duration may be allowed with prior approval of the NAM S&T Centre depending upon the actual requirement of the research project as mutually agreed between the Fellow and the host institution.

Therefore the interested applicants must be sure about their availability for six months if selected for this Fellowship.

VI. AREAS IN WHICH FELLOWSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE

India has a vast and excellent infrastructure for Education and Research in Science, Technology and Engineering. There are 744 universities and extensive networks of more than 5700 S&T Institutions, including several of national importance. Most of these are Government supported and cover virtually every branch and facet of science, technology and engineering.

Fellowship will be offered for working in research topics under any of the following **broad disciplines**:

1. **Agricultural Sciences**
2. **Biological and Medical Sciences**
3. **Chemical Sciences**
4. **Physical Sciences and Mathematics**
5. **Earth Sciences**
6. **Engineering Sciences**
7. **Materials, Minerals and Metallurgy**
8. **Multi-disciplinary and Other Areas**

A suggestive list of Indian institutions along with the areas of research offered by them is enclosed (**Please see Para-3 under Section – VIII: Submission of Application and Selection Criteria**).

VII. ELIGIBILITY

1. Applicant should possess at least a Post Graduate Degree in any Natural Science subject or an equivalent degree in Technology / Engineering / Medicine / allied disciplines.

2. Applicant should be working in a national R&D or academic institution in his/her home country. The application should be endorsed by the Head of his/her institution confirming that if selected, he/she will be sanctioned leave for the Fellowship period and will join his/her duties back in the institution on completion of the Fellowship in India.
3. The upper age limit for the applicant is **40 years as on 1st January 2016**.
4. **Indian nationals are not eligible for the Fellowship.**

VIII. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION AND SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Application for the award of the Fellowship should be submitted to the NAM S&T Centre in the enclosed format along with the following enclosures:
 - i. Curriculum Vitae (**in MS Word format, not more than two Pages**), including Professional and Research Experience and a list of latest publications (**Not more than five**)
 - ii. Research Proposal with Objectives, Scope of Work, Plan of Action, Methodology and Deliverables (**in MS Word format**).
 - iii. Recent Passport size Photograph.
 - iv. Copy of Relevant Pages of Passport
 - v. Copy of an endorsement from present employer, duly filled in and signed, along with Signature of the applicant. Take a print out of the format of '*Endorsement of Present Employer*' appended at the end of this Announcement and attach a scanned copy of the appropriately filled up document along with the application form).
 - vi. A copy of the letter / e. mail (**if obtained**) from any Indian scientist/institution with consent to accept you to work with them, if you get selected by the NAM S&T Centre (Please refer to Para – VIII. 2).

The application form must be filled up only in typed script (**NOT HAND WRITTEN**). Incomplete and illegible applications will be rejected.

All the enclosures as above must be submitted along with the application. Applications without any of the enclosures as mentioned at i. to v. above will be rejected.

2. Only electronic communication will be accepted and therefore all the materials should be sent as attachments to an e-mail addressed to rtfdcs15@gmail.com after scanning the documents wherever required.

Hard copies of the application by post/courier/FAX are neither required nor will be considered.

3. It is strongly advised that the applicant, in his/her own interest, should make a prior contact with an Indian institution, where work is in progress in his/her area of interest, or with a concerned scientist in India, and obtain consent that the applicant, if selected for the RTF-DCS, will be accepted to work in the institution on the proposed research project. A copy of such consent letter should be enclosed with the application.

In this connection, a suggestive list of Indian academic and R&D institutions has been enclosed with this Announcement to help the applicant, but the applicant is free to contact any other institution in India for his/her affiliation.

However, even if the applicant has not been able to secure such prior consent, the NAM S&T Centre itself will try to find out a suitable matching institute on the basis of the information provided by the applicant and the research proposal submitted along with the application.

4. Securing a prior consent from an Indian institution/scientist does not guarantee the selection of an applicant. All applications received by the due date will be scrutinised in consultation with the concerned Indian institutions and the selection will be made by a High Level Selection Committee based on the quality of the research proposal submitted by the applicant, applicant's academic merit and available slots in the Fellowship scheme.
5. **The last date for submission of completed application form is Friday, 17th June 2016.**

IX. FINANCIAL AND OTHER TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. Full financial assistance will be provided to the selected Fellows which will include the following:-
 - a. Round trip international airfare by excursion/economy class and by shortest route from the international airport in the home country to the international airport nearest to the host institution.
 - b. A consolidated Fellowship amount of Indian Rupees (INR) 35,000 [about US\$525 at the current exchange rate] per month (non-taxable) for accommodation, meals and other miscellaneous expenses.
 - c. One-time grant of INR 30,000 [about US\$450 at the current exchange rate] for research contingency expenses and domestic travel for airport transfers and visiting research institutions, attending scientific /events and field-trips within India.
The allowance as in (b) and the actual expenditure as in (c) will be released to the host institution for disbursement to the RTF-DCS Fellow.
The host Institution will arrange appropriate accommodation for the Fellow on payment basis.
The host institution will also be suitably compensated for its services for implementation of the programme.
2. The selected Fellow will take an appropriate policy for health insurance coverage for the period of stay in India. The cost for taking the insurance policy is not reimbursable by the NAM S&T Centre.
The NAM S&T Centre will purchase the air ticket for his/her travel to India only after receiving the insurance policy document of the selected Fellow.
The selected Fellow must take vaccinations (such as Yellow Fever, Polio etc.), as may be required under Government of India guidelines.
3. Individual Fellow, or his/her government / institution, is required to bear the following costs:
 - a. All expenses in the home country incidental to travel abroad, including expenditure incurred to obtain passport and visa and for medical examinations and vaccinations as may be required as well as other miscellaneous expenses such as internal travel to/from the international airport of departure in the home country.
 - b. Salary and other related allowances in the home country, if applicable, during the Fellowship period.
 - c. Cost towards the medical insurance to cover the period of Fellowship in India.
4. Neither the NAM S&T Centre nor the host institution in India will assume any responsibility whatsoever for the following expenditure of the Fellows during the tenure of the Fellowship:

- a. Visa Fee.
- b. Insurance, medical bills or hospitalisation fees.
- c. Compensation in the event of death, disability or loss of personal belongings or compensation for damage caused by climatic or other conditions.
- c. Travel and other costs incurred by the dependents, who might accompany the Fellows.

X. OBLIGATIONS OF THE RTF-DCS FELLOWS

The Fellows will observe the regulations and procedures stipulated below. If they fail to do so, the Fellowship shall be withdrawn.

- a. During their tenures, Fellows 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 abuse.
- b. Fellows shall stay in India continuously during the tenure of the fellowship and concentrate on their scientific work at the host institution. Fellows shall not engage in other work, either paid or unpaid, during their tenure.
- c. The Fellows shall follow the rules of the host institution and shall not undertake any acts of research misconduct, e.g., fabricating or falsifying research results and misuse of research funds.
- d. A Fellow shall submit a research report to the NAM S&T Centre on completion of his/her tenure.

ENDORSEMENT OF PRESENT EMPLOYER

The application of Dr./Mr./Mrs./Ms....., whose signature is given below, is recommended for consideration by the NAM S&T Centre for the **Research Training Fellowship for Developing Country Scientists (RTF-DCS)** in India. If selected, Dr./Mr./Mrs./Ms. will be sanctioned leave for the Fellowship period of **six months** and will join his/her duties back in this Organisation on completion of the Fellowship period in India.

Signature of Applicant

Name of the recommending officer (in Full)

Designation:

Signature of Recommending Officer :

Place:

Date:

Seal: