

Ministry of Science & Technology
Department of Science & Technology

**Fund for Improvement of S&T Infrastructure in Universities and Higher
Educational Institutions (FIST).**

Proposals are invited for consideration of support under the Scheme "Fund for Improvement of S&T Infrastructure (FIST)" of the Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India. The Scheme is intended to provide basic infrastructure and enabling facilities for promoting R&D activities in new and emerging areas and attracting fresh talents in universities & other educational institutions.

Nature of Support: The Scheme will provide optimal infrastructure facilities for post-graduate teaching and research, such as, renovation of laboratory space (no fresh constructions) and cold room, modernization of laboratories involved in PG teaching and research, acquisition of essential equipment, up-gradation of existing facilities, networking & computational facilities including software & databases, scientific books (no journals), maintenance & refurbishing of existing and new facilities etc.. The facilities provided under the Program are intended to support the efforts of the Department as a whole or a number of faculty members in the Department. Proposal towards individual R&D support would not be accepted under this Scheme.

Duration: The duration of support for each Department will be for a period not exceeding 5 years.

Eligibility: All Science (including Medical & Agriculture) and Engineering Departments/ Centres having strong post-graduate teaching and research programs which have existed for at least 3 years or more in universities and other higher educational institutions are eligible. Such Department/ Centre/ School shall have atleast five permanent core faculty members with PhD degree. The Department/ Centre/ School already supported under FIST Program may submit fresh proposal after completion of the ongoing project or likely to be completed by 31.03.2009. Progress of ongoing project of the Department/ Centre/ School will be monitored as per monitoring schedule of the Program and any additional requirements will be considered as a part of that exercise. For **Self-financed post-graduate departments or post-graduate departments from private Colleges/ Institutes**, support shall be considered **only for research**, having **National Level Test (NET/GATE) qualified post-graduate students (more than 50 %)** and such department would need to **contribute 50 % of total recommended budget.**

Type of Support:

(1) **Level – I:** Proposals from relatively small but active post-graduate Department requiring moderate funding for improving quality of teaching & research in three categories. **Level I A:** post-graduate departments in Colleges and preparing themselves into research for a support up to Rs 50 lakh for 5 years towards augmentation of teaching facilities. **Level I B:** post-graduate departments from less endowed Universities with potential to develop in future for a support up to Rs 150 lakh (with an active and young faculty member in the Department) for 5 years towards augmentation of teaching & research facilities. **Level I C:** post-graduate departments from State & Central Universities & academic Institutions for support up to Rs 300 lakh for 5 years for augmentation of research and teaching facilities.

(2) **Level – II:** Proposals from well established Department (minimum eight faculty members with PhD degree) from State/ Central Universities and academic Institutions with high repute requiring substantial funding (upper limit – Rs 10 crores for 5 years) for acquiring state-of-the-art equipment and setting up laboratories for conducting internationally competitive research activities.

Selection: The selection will be through a peer review mechanism and visit to the laboratories, if necessary. An Advisory Board of Experts will assist the DST in making final selection.

Application: Applications are invited from eligible Departments in the post-graduate colleges, universities and other higher educational institutions in the prescribed format given below. The Departments may be required to submit additional information and/or presentation. **One copy of application complete in all respect along with a CD with proper labeling should reach the following address on or before 31st March 2008.** Sending proposal through e-mail shall be avoided as far as possible.

A Summary Sheet in a separate page containing Level, Subject Area, Name of Department / Centre & University/ Institute, Year of Establishment, Status of Institute/ University/ College, complete Postal Address for correspondence including name of Head/ Contact Person, Pin Number, State/ UT, Telephone no., Fax & E-mail and the total budget may also be attached. **Please note that incomplete Proposal, Proposal not in the prescribed format and Proposal received after the due date would summarily be rejected and no correspondence with Department would be made in this respect.** The name of the successful departments shall be displayed in the Website after completion of the process.

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The envelope should mention on top No “**PROPOSAL UNDER FIST in Subject Area -----**”.
[e.g. Life Science, Physical Science, Chemical Science, Engineering Science, Earth & Atmospheric Science & Mathematical Science]