



**DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
(DST), GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**



**&
MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION & SCIENTIFIC
RESEARCH OF THE REPUBLIC OF TUNISIA**

**Bilateral Scientific and Technological Cooperation
between
The Republic of India and The Republic of Tunisia**

CALL FOR JOINT PROPOSALS (2012)

DEADLINE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS : MARCH 31, 2012

Under the Programme of Cooperation in the fields of Science and Technology for the years 2012-14, the Indian Department of Science and Technology (DST), Ministry of Science and Technology and the Tunisian Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research, (MHESR), invite Indian and Tunisian universities, research centres and institutes to submit joint proposals for scientific and technological research and development projects.

I - PRIORITY RESEARCH AREAS

The research fields of mutual interest listed below will be given priority in the present call for proposals. However, proposals in other fields may also be considered within the budgetary limitations.

1. Biotechnology,
2. Material sciences
3. Information Science, including Software Development,
4. Renewable Energy Sources,
5. Medical Sciences,
6. Water Technology
7. Geospatial Technologies
8. Science Popularization.

II – WHO CAN APPLY

The proposals should involve one or preferably more research entities from both sides. The joint application must include one Indian and one Tunisian Principal Investigators, who would be responsible for technical as well as administrative co-ordination of the project and its periodic scientific and financial reporting to the DST/ MHESR respectively.

III – THE DURATION OF PROJECTS:

The duration of the projects should be of two years which could be extended by one year, on the basis of progress assessment, after mutual agreement of both Coordinating Ministries.

IV - FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Financial support for the approved projects is usually provided for exchange visits of project team members .two visits up to 4 person months every year from each side may be supported. In the exchange of project researchers, the sending party covers the costs of international travel and the receiving party meets the boarding and lodging expenses. The financial coverage of the expenses of the visiting project researchers by the receiving party will consist of the following:

1. *In Tunisia*

Accommodation, food and out of pocket expenses, will be awarded according to internal regulations in force in Tunisia.

2. *In India*

Accommodation, food and out of pocket expenses will be awarded according to internal regulations in force in India.

V - GUIDELINES FOR PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

1. Proposals

- Duly filled relevant application forms distributed by MHESR and the Department of Science and Technology (also available on the websites www.mes.rnu.tn in Tunisia and www.dst.gov.in in India)) which are approved by the heads of the institutions of the coordinators.
- Curricula vitae of both research teams.
- Letter of intent exchanged between the coordinators of the project.

2. Submission

- The deadline for the submission of proposals is March 31, 2012.
- Indian and Tunisian Principal Investigators should submit required number of copies of the identical proposal to DST (3 hard copies + 1 digital copy) and MHESR (2 hard copies + 2 digital copies) respectively.
- Proposals should be submitted/mailed/e-mailed to the following addresses:

In India:

Address : Dr Rajiv Kumar, Principal Scientific Officer, International Division, Technology Bhawan, New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi 110016
E-mail : rajivarc@nic.in

In Tunisia:

Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
(General Directorate of Scientific Research)

Address : Avenue Ouled Haffouz - 1030 Tunis, Tunisia.

Tel : +216 71 835 351 /

Fax : +216 71 835 351/+216 71 833 450

E-mail : awatefsoltane@gmail.com

V - EVALUATION OF THE PROPOSALS

Proposals will be evaluated independently by the Department of Science and Technology in India and MHESR in Tunisia using their own procedures. Decision towards funding will be mutually agreed based on the gradings (on 1 to 10 scale) received on the two sides. Coordinators are likely to be informed in July / August 2012 about evaluation results. The jointly approved projects are likely to be started in September 2012.

Please note that only jointly submitted proposals to DST and MHESR will be considered. Proposal submitted only on one side may not be considered.

For further information please contact MHESR and DST officials at the coordinates given above.

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