

अभिषेक सिंह, आई. ए. एस.
संयोजक एवं मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी

ABHISHEK SINGH, IAS
MD & Chief Executive Officer



डिजिटल इंडिया कॉर्पोरेशन
इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय

Digital India Corporation
Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology

D.O.No. DIC/PhD/Visvesvaraya2.0/DU
3rd June, 2022

Dear Prof Singh

As you might be aware Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has approved the Phase-II of the Visvesvaraya PhD Scheme with an objective to strengthen our research ecosystem by providing financial support to institutions and researchers for taking up research in frontier areas. The guidelines of the scheme are enclosed at Annexure-I.

2. Under the scheme every year 200 candidates will be enrolled for full time PhD with financial support of Rs. 38750/- per month for 2 years and Rs. 43750/- for the remaining 3 years. Over a period of 5 years 250 full time candidates would also be given an opportunity to carry out their research in labs abroad for 6 months. The scheme has been approved for five years.

3. In addition there is a provision of 30 candidates per year for part time PhD as also 10 awards per year for Young Faculty Research fellowship under which support will be provided for upto 5 years. For post-doctoral fellowship, 25 candidates will be selected per year for the next 9 years and each candidate will be provided financial support for one year.

4. In view of the limited number of seats and fellowships available, I would request you to kindly indicate number of candidates of the institution who would be taking support under the scheme. This should depend on the strength of the faculty as also research facilities in the institution.

5. The same can be submitted online on the portal <https://phd.dic.gov.in>. For any clarification you may contact PhD Cell at 011-24301285 or an email to phd-scheme@digitalindia.gov.in.

With regards

Yours sincerely,


(Abhishek Singh)

Prof. Yogesh Singh
Vice Chancellor
University of Delhi

Enclosure: Guidelines of the Scheme

Room No. 4013, 4th Floor, Electronics Niketan, 6 CGO Complex, Lodhi Road New Delhi – 110003

Ph: +91-11-24301913, +91-11-24369222

E-mail: ceo@digitalindia.gov.in Website: www.meity.gov.in, www.dic.gov.in

Guidelines-Visvesvaraya PhD Scheme for Electronics & IT- Phase II**1. Background**

MEITY has approved implementation of Phase-II of Visvesvaraya PhD Scheme for Electronics & IT with the objective of enhancing the number of PhDs in the Electronic System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) and IT/IT Enabled Services (ITES).

In the Phase-I of the Scheme, a total of 1017 Full Time, 330 Part Time PhD candidates and 158 Young Faculty Research Faculty (YFRFs) were supported under the scheme. It has been decided to continue the scheme for Phase-II to help increasing the number of PhDs in the country to enable India to compete globally in the coming decades, to develop an ecosystem of research, development and IP creation in these knowledge intensive sectors.

2. Salient Features of Phase-II

- 2.1 The scheme aims at generating a total of 1000 Full-time PhD Candidates (@200 Candidates per year) and 150 Part-time PhDs (@30 Candidates per year) in emerging research areas of ESDM and IT/ITES sectors over a period of 5 years.
- 2.2 The scheme will also identify and support 50 Young Faculty Research Fellowships (@10 awards/year) to recognize and encourage young faculty involved in research and technology development in the areas of ESDM and IT/ITES.
- 2.3 The scheme would support 225 Post-Doctoral Fellowships for candidates @ 25 seats per year for a period of support of one year to encourage specialized research in emerging research areas under ESDM and IT/ITES sectors. The support has been provisioned for a total of 9 years.
- 2.4 The scheme will have a provision for one time support to 250 Full time PhD fellows for 6 months to facilitate visits to labs abroad, to broaden their research perspective and be in-sync with the state of art research being carried out throughout the globe.

3. Institutions Eligible for Support

- 3.1 All Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), National Institutes of Technology (NITS), Indian institute of Science (IISc), all Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISERs), Central Universities, Deemed Universities under Central Government, Colleges, and Institutions of national importance will be eligible for support under the scheme.
- 3.2 A University created under Provincial Act, State Act, State Universities, Private Universities, Private Deemed Universities, "Colleges that are allowed to offer PhD", and other academic, R&D institutions with the following eligibility criteria:
 - 3.2.1 The Institute should have existing post graduate stream in Electronics/IT and have produced PhDs in these areas for the last 3 years. The PhD student(s) under this scheme to be admitted as per UGC admission norms and
 - 3.2.2 The Institute should be recognized by AICTE & NBA (National Board of Accreditation) accredited with respect to Electronics/IT Programmes or The Institute should be accredited by NAAC (National Assessment and Accreditation Council of UGC).



3.3 The minimum requirement for eligibility under the scheme will be as per the norms specified by UGC. This will comply to "UGC's Minimum Standards & Procedures for award of M. Phil/Ph.D. Degree, Regulation, 2009" (ref. The Gazette of India July 11, 2009 Part III Sec 4) as amended time to time.

4. Full-time PhD candidates (1000 candidates @200candidates/year):

4.1 Financial Support for Full-time PhD candidates:

4.1.1 Fellowship: Rs. 38,750 per month in 1st & 2nd year and @Rs. 43,750 per month in 3rd, 4th and 5th years of PhD. (support till PhD completion or 5 years whichever is earlier).

4.1.2 Reimbursement of Rent (RoR): This component is linked with the fellowship of PhD Candidate and will be as per Govt. of India HRA norms, as notified by Ministry of Finance, for support duration of PhD candidate under the scheme.

4.1.3 Institutional Overheads: An amount of Rs. 25,000/Year/Full-time PhD candidate for support duration of PhD candidate to be given to the institution.

4.1.4 Research Contingency Grant Support: An amount of Rs. 1,20,000/Year/Full-time PhD candidate for support duration of PhD candidate.

To avail it, the institution supported under the scheme would need to submit the procurement proposal of the laboratory, equipment (excluding civil construction/expansion of the building) signed by supervisor, nodal & competent authority of the institute. The proposal should clearly specify the Utility & role of the proposed equipment in research of the PhD candidate(s) whose eligibility is linked to the proposal. The format of the proposal & additional guidelines, if any would be made available subsequently.

4.1.5 Support for attending International Conference: Support upto Rs. 1.5 Lakhs/Full-time PhD candidate.

This would cover the travel and other expenses of PhD candidate for attending International conferences, where his/her research paper has been accepted for the presentation by him/her. A list of renowned International Conferences related to the areas of ESDM and IT/ITES would be provided for this support under the Scheme.

4.1.6 Visit to Labs abroad: One time support for selected 250 Full-time PhD candidates upto Rs. 10.5 Lakhs/candidate for a 6 month visit to labs abroad.

4.2 Terms and Conditions for support of Full Time PhD Candidates

4.2.1 The support will be for additional PhD candidates taken up by an institution. No support would be provided for current levels of enrolment in the PhD programme at the institutions. Transfer from other scholarship schemes would not be permitted. Current level of enrolment will be determined by average number of PhDs in last 3 years of the concerned departments of the institution. For the current session the average of 2019-20, 2020-21 & 2021-22 will be determined.

- 4.2.2 Only the candidates enrolled/registered for PhD during the period of the scheme would be eligible to apply for the financial support. This scheme will be applicable for new PhD Scholars after notification of the scheme.
- 4.2.3 The candidate would be eligible for Fellowship for the period during which the candidate is in good standing, and fulfills the requirements of the PhD successfully. The maximum period for which the support would be available for any Full-time candidate would be five years or till the completion of PhD whichever is earlier.
- 4.2.4 The participating Institution will ensure that a candidate receiving fellowship under this scheme is not receiving any financial support for PhD from any other scheme of Government of India/States etc. at the same time, The candidates who have availed support for their PhD from any other scheme of Government of India/States etc. will be automatically be disqualified for support under this scheme.
- 4.2.5 The PhD seats allotted for a particular year should be utilized in the same academic year only. The unfilled seats would be automatically pulled back to the general pool of the scheme and may be allotted to the institutions who have submitted eligible candidates in the same year.
- 4.2.6 The institutions, in the event of any drop-out, need to report it to PhD Cell/DIC immediately seeking directions. The institutions can not enroll a substitute candidate on their own. Only the cases which are found extraordinary would be considered for a substitute candidate's enrollment. For this consideration, the institution would require to submit adequate justification beyond the administrative checks and formalities. Any substitute enrolled by the institution without prior permission and due approval would not be considered for support under the scheme.
- 4.2.7 Once the institution has recommended the candidate for award of fellowship and the same has been approved under the scheme by the competent authority the fellowship amount and eligible HRA amount will be transferred directly to the bank accounts of the PhD candidate through DBT. The institution will submit annual performance report for each candidate enrolled under the scheme. In case of non-performance of any candidate, the institution shall intimate PhD Cell, DIC regarding the same. In case no such intimation is received, DIC will continue to transfer the fellowship directly to the bank accounts of PhD candidates.
- 4.2.8 The items of expenditure eligible to be released to the institution like Institutional Overheads, Research Contingency Grant shall be released directly to the institution.
- 4.2.9 The amount to be released under "Support for attending International Conference" and "Visit to labs abroad" will be released as per the requirement on a case to case basis.
- 4.2.10 The institution will be responsible for furnishing utilization certificates of the funds released to them based on the scheme parameters, and as per conditions of the sanctioned grant-in-aid.



5. Part-time PhD candidates(150 candidates @30candidates/year):

5.1 Part-time candidates who do not avail of any PhD Fellowship/scholarship/stipend from any Central or State Government shall be provided a one-time incentive of Rs. 3 Lakh on successful completion of the PhD degree.

5.2 Further guidelines if any will be provided subsequently.

6. Young Faculty Research Fellowship (50 awards @10 awards/year):

6.1 Research Fellowship @ Rs. 20,000/Month, in addition to regular income/salary of the awardee.

6.2 Research Contingency Grant of Rs. 5 Lakh/Year for presenting paper and research-work at national and international conferences and other research expenses for a maximum of five years.

6.3 Maximum tenure of each award will be 5 years subject to performance review.

6.4 Young Faculty Research Fellowship is meant for those who have a proven track record as evident from their research publications and recognitions. The Young Faculty must have a regular position in the Institute and should be engaged in research or must be on a regular scale, which leads to a regular position in the Institute and should be engaged in research. If he /she is availing any other fellowship, he/she will have to opt for only one of the fellowships.

6.5 Further details including qualifications, age limits, selection mechanism, roles & responsibilities would be provided subsequently.

7. Post-Doctoral Fellowship(225 candidates @25candidates/year):

7.1 Post-Doctoral Fellowship will be provided to eligible candidates for a period of one year @ 25 candidates/year.

7.2 Post-Doctoral Fellowship is meant for those who have a proven track record as evident from their research publications and recognitions. If the Post-Doctoral fellow is availing any other fellowship, he/she will have to opt for only one of the fellowships.

7.3 Further details including qualifications, age limits, selection mechanism, roles & responsibilities, quantum of support would be provided subsequently.

8. Miscellaneous

8.1 Collaborations with internationally reputed academics and R&D Institutions will be encouraged.

- 8.2** IPR generated under the Scheme will be governed by existing rules and regulations of MeitY.
- 8.3** All institutions who will participate would be subjected to Audit of their accounts/records in respect of the scheme as per government norms.
- 8.4** Assets created under the scheme using the research grant to the participating Institutions would be used by Institutions for the research and development activities in these institutions after the end of the scheme.
- 8.5** Mere submission of a proposal would not entitle the institution for support under the scheme.
- 8.6** MeitY may make additions/deletions/modifications in these guidelines at its own discretion.
- 8.7** Awarding support, its continuation, discontinuation etc. for component(s) of the scheme would be as per the sole discretion of MeitY and would be final and binding to all the applicants seeking support/beneficiaries.

