



Indo- Sri Lanka Joint Research Programme Call for Joint Project Proposals-2024

Starting date: 01st June 2024

Closing Date: 15th July 2024

<https://dst.gov.in/>

The Ministry of Education, Research and Innovation Division, Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India renewed the Programme of Cooperation (PoC) in Science and Technology, on August 14th 2022. In terms of the PoC, funding can be made available for selected Joint Projects in bilateral mode involving scientist & technologists from India and Sri Lanka, in the following areas:

- a. Food Technology
- b. Plant base medicines
- c. Robotics & Automation
- d. Renewable Energy
- e. Waste Management
- f. Information and Communication Technology
- g. Sustainable Agriculture
- h. Aerospace Engineering
- i. Big data analysis
- j. Artificial intelligence
- k. Any other area of S&T with national relevance (with Justifications)

The Ministry of Education, Research and Innovation Division and DST (hereinafter referred to as the “Implementing Agencies”) hereby invite Indian and Sri Lankan scientists/researchers to submit proposals for Joint Research Projects in any of the above areas in terms of the provisions herein set out.

1. APPLICATIONS

a) An Application shall –

- i. be for a Joint Research Project as herein provided
- ii. be made simultaneously by a counterpart Team in each country as hereinafter provided
- iii. be made by the Leader of a team of scientists in each country (Team Leader), to the respective Implementing Agency of his/her country, simultaneously. Both

- Applications shall be identical. Since all projects are joint projects, it is expected that consultations would have been held between relevant counterpart Institutions in the other country prior to the submission of an Application
- iv. be in English and shall be in the Form prescribed by the relevant Implementing Agency
 - v. be required to be submitted by the dates set out below

b) Important dates:

Starting date of Call: 01 June 2024

Closing date of Call: 15 July 2024, 5:30 PM (IST)

c) How to Apply:

i. For Sri Lanka applicants

- The completed Application Form and all relevant, clearly labeled attachments should be submitted to below link by **15 July 2024**.
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdDn4Qe9COisMBRXIHD5zP5fNvChTWgVKlz7m322ZaT0Mf6Hg/viewform>
- Two (02) hard copies should be forwarded to the relevant Implementing Agency by **15 July 2024**.
- Only applications endorsed by the competent authority will be accepted.

ii. For India Applicants

Interested Indian applicants should:

- Submit their proposals on format available at www.onlinedst.gov.in by 5:30 pm IST on **15 July 2024**. After registration, they should move to scheme and format section where details about this call would be available in the International Cooperation (bilateral).
- Applicants should ensure that their applications with identical titles has been submitted by their Sri Lanka partners to the Ministry of Education, Research & Innovation Division by due date.
- Only applications endorsed by the competent authority will be accepted.
- **Applications which are not submitted on online portal will not be accepted.**

d) An Application shall be rejected if –

- (a) the Application required to be submitted by email and the hard copies thereof are not received by the respective Implementing Agency by the due date.
- (b) It is not in the Format prescribed by the relevant implementing Agency
- (c) It is incomplete and does not contain the information required to be submitted in terms of the prescribed Form to enable an assessment to be conducted.
- (d) If applicants submit multiple applications against this call.

2. JOINT RESEARCH PROJECTS

a) Requirements of Research Projects

- Research Projects should be carried out jointly by research teams from both countries.
- Each country should have a team with a Team Leader. The Team Leader should be one who holds a full-time position at a University or Research Institution in the respective Country.
- The duration of each project should be two years initially. After the completion of this period, an application for an additional one year may be considered on the merit of the progress.

(Applicants are advised to submit only one project against this call.)

b) Financial Support available

The funding will cover the following expenses in connection with a project up to a limit agreed

upon by each Implementing Agency:

- i. **Research Expenses:** Expenditure by the project team in their country in respect of consumables will be borne by the respective country
- ii. **Exchange of visits for research projects:** in the event that a research project provides for the exchange of visits by scientist, experts or students –
 - The cost of international air travel (up to the airport nearest to project location) and overseas medical insurance for a visiting scientist/expert/student shall be borne by the sending implementing Agency.
 - The cost of furnished accommodation, transport and per diem at a mutually agreed rate will be provided by the Receiving implementing Agency, for the approved duration of the visit.
- iii. **Human Resource Expenses:** in the event that a Junior or senior Research Fellow/Research Assistant and/or Technical Assistant is employed for the implementation of the project, an agreed remuneration will be borne by the respective Implementing Agency

3. ASSESSMENT OF APPLICATIONS

The following procedure will be followed in assessing valid Applications-

- a. All valid Applications will be submitted for peer review process and shall be referred to an independent Advisory Panel thereafter for rating in terms of the criteria set out in paragraph (e) below.
- b. Applications that attain a positive rating will be eligible to be considered for funding
- c. A Joint Committee comprising representative of the implementing Agencies will, upon a consideration of the rating, determine which proposals will receive funding. Such a decision will subject to availability of funds.
- d. Decisions made by the Joint Committee shall be final.

- e. The criteria that will be taken into consideration for rating are the following-
 - i. Conformity of the project objectives with national policy
 - ii. State of scientific research capacity
 - iii. Rationale for cooperation
 - iv. Novelty of scientific research and engineering
 - v. Benefits of project including:
 - a. Industrial development
 - b. Technology capacity building
 - c. Science and technology human resource development
 - d. Possible commercialization of research results
 - vi. Intellectual property: usage and ownership
 - vii. Budget requested
 - viii. Approval and support by host institutions
 - ix. Feasibility of project; and
 - x. Profile of Team Leaders

4. When an Application is selected for funding support, the respective Implementing Agencies will notify the Team Leader of the project, accordingly.

5. Contact Details:

The following may be connected for further details and clarifications, if any-

<u>For Sri Lanka:</u>	<u>For India:</u>
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