Applications are invited for Six Project Intern positions at IISER Kolkata for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Research in Madhya Pradesh

We require Six Project Interns for a project on Monitoring Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services for Ecosystem Enhancement under the Green India Mission, funded by the government of Madhya Pradesh. We need 3 interns for research on (a) Plant Diversity and Ecosystem Services; 2 interns for (b) Faunal Diversity (Butterflies, Birds, and Mammals); and 1 intern for (c) Soil and Plant Nutrient Estimation, to be carried out in 11 forest divisions of Madhya Pradesh. The interns will also have to assist the JRFs in training the village-level Biodiversity Monitoring Committee members. The positions will be based at IISER Kolkata but will require extensive time on fieldwork in the forests of Madhya Pradesh, followed by landscape ecological analyses at IISER Kolkata.

Title of Project: Monitoring Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services for Ecosystem Enhancement under the Green India Mission: Phase 2

- 1. Number of positions available: Six
- 2. **Funding Agency:** Madhya Pradesh State Biodiversity Board, Bhopal
- 3. Project PI: Dr. Robert John Chandran, Associate Professor, Biological Sciences, IISER Kolkata
- 4. **Essential Qualifications:** Bachelor's degree in Botany/ Forestry/ Zoology/ Environmental Sciences/ Chemistry/ Ecology/ Wildlife Sciences/ Life Sciences as pertinent to the respective positions. A minimum of six months of field research experience (excluding dissertation or summer programmes) in the subject area of ecology or biodiversity is essential for all posts. The positions require full-time commitment and persons currently pursuing in any degree/diploma course are not eligible.
- 5. **Age limit:** Not more than 28 years on the last date of application. Age relaxation as per GOI rules.
- 6. **Desirable Qualifications:** Master's degree in the relevant subject, with aptitude for field ecological studies of plants/ birds/ butterflies. Prior experience of ecological research in central India and candidates based in central India would be preferred.
- 7. **Duration and Salary:** The employment will be for an initial period of 5 months, extendable to a maximum of 10 months. The selected candidates will be paid Rs. 15,000 monthly (consolidated). The travel, accommodation, and food costs during fieldwork will be borne under the project funds.
- 8. **How to Apply:** Interested candidates are requested to fill out a google form https://forms.gle/BaxfZpHKxrgGDT6g6 and upload a detailed CV, scanned mark sheets, certificates, and proof of work experience.
- 9. Last date and time for receiving applications: 7 February 2023, till 11 pm,
- 10. **Interview:** Shortlisted Candidates will be called for online interaction with the project proponents for initial screening after which the candidates will be further shortlisted for a formal interview. The shortlisted candidates will receive a call letter mentioning the time and date of the interview/interaction via email. The candidates may send an email to tecollab.iiserk@gmail.com if they have any queries.

Terms and Conditions

- a) Selected candidates are expected to undertake exhaustive fieldwork for several months at a stretch.
- b) The project will commence in February 2023, and the selected candidates are expected to join immediately after selection.
- c) All posts are purely temporary and contractual in nature.
- d) The number of candidates to be called for the interview will be decided based on the applications received. Mere fulfilment of the eligibility criteria does not guarantee a call for an interview.
- e) The appointment of the candidate will be governed by the terms and conditions of the said project of the funding agency.