

Applications are invited for one Junior Research Fellow (JRF) at IISER Kolkata for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Research in Madhya Pradesh

We require **one Junior Research Fellow** immediately for **Tropical Tree Diversity** research in a project on '**Monitoring Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services for Ecosystem Enhancement under the Green India Mission**', funded by the Government of Madhya Pradesh. The **JRF** will carry out field research and analysis on **Plant Diversity and Ecosystem Services for 11 Forest Divisions** of Madhya Pradesh. The JRF will be based at IISER Kolkata but will dedicate **extensive time to 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:** 1
- 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:** Master's degree in Botany/ Forestry/ Environmental Sciences/ Ecology/ Life Sciences with a strong knowledge and orientation in plant ecology or field taxonomy. A minimum of one year of field research experience (excluding MSc/MTech dissertation) in ecology or biodiversity is highly desirable. The ability for field taxonomy of plants and field work will be critical for the implementation of this project and so these qualities are deemed most important.
- 5. Desirable Qualifications:** Experience in field ecological research over multiple years in multiple sites is desirable. Applicants who have qualified CSIR/UGC NET-LS and/or GATE will be preferred.
- 6. Duration and Salary:** The employment will be for a period of **9 months**. The selected candidates will be paid **Rs. 31,000 monthly (consolidated)**. The travel, accommodation, and food costs during fieldwork will be borne by the project.
- 7. Age limit:** Not more than 32 years on the last date of application. Age relaxation will be as per GOI rules. Relaxation in age may be considered in the case of exceptionally meritorious candidates.
- 8. How to Apply:** Interested candidates are requested to send by email CV with personal and professional details, and which includes a statement of suitability for the position. Please also include scanned mark sheets, certificates, and proof of work experience. The email address is tecollab.iiserk@gmail.com. Include the subject line "**Plant Biodiversity JRF**"
- 9. Last date and time for receiving applications:** 7th November 2023, 11:59 pm
- 10. Interview:** Shortlisted candidates will first be called for an 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 formal interview will be conducted online or on site at IISER Kolkata campus, depending on the preference of the candidate. No TA/DA will be provided to the candidate for the interview.

Terms and Conditions

- a) Selected candidates are expected to undertake exhaustive fieldwork for several months at a stretch.
- b) The project is on-going 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 shortlisted will be decided on the basis of 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.