



Terrestrial Ecology Laboratory @ IISER Kolkata

Mohanpur - 741246, District Nadia, West Bengal, INDIA

(<https://www.iiserkol.ac.in/web/en/people/faculty/dbs/robert-john/>)

Applications are invited for one **Field Assistant** for field work and laboratory analyses under an **ANRF project** at IISER Kolkata on the Terai-Duar Savanna and Grasslands Ecoregion

We invite one **Field Assistant** for plant biodiversity assessment in a project on “**Recent decadal-scale changes in land use/land cover in the Terai-Duar Savanna and Grasslands Ecoregion: Implications for terrestrial carbon cycling and plant biodiversity**”, funded by the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF), Government of India.

The Field Assistant will primarily support ecological fieldwork and labwork for sites in the Terai-Duar Savanna and Grasslands ecoregion, focusing on sites across the ecoregion. The work will involve soil carbon and above-ground biomass assessments. This position will provide an excellent opportunity for hands-on training in ecological field methods and biodiversity monitoring.

1. Number of positions available: 1 (one)

2. Funding Agency: ANRF, Government of India, New Delhi

3. Project PI: Dr Robert John Chandran, Professor, Department of Biological Sciences

4. Essential Qualifications: Master’s Degree in Botany/Ecology/Environmental Science/Life Science or a 4-year Bachelor’s Degree in Forestry. The candidate should be highly motivated to carry out field research with the relevant skills in field botany of both woody and herbaceous plant species. A strong interest in biodiversity and ecosystem research, along with the ability to contribute effectively as part of a team in conducting intensive fieldwork is essential.

5. Desirable Qualifications: Prior experience in plant identification, woody vegetation and grassland surveys, insect (particularly ant) sampling will be given preference. Familiarity with standard ecological field methods, data collection, and sample handling will be an advantage. Candidates with strong motivation, adaptability, and the ability to work effectively in collaborative field teams will be preferred.

6. Duration and Salary: The employment will be for a period of **SIX MONTHS**. The monthly salary is **Rs. 24,800/- (Rs. 20,000 + 4,800 HRA)**.

7. Age limit: Age limit and age relaxation will be as per GOI rules.

8. How to Apply: Interested candidates are requested to send their CV by email, including full personal and professional details, the names of at least two referees, and a brief statement of suitability for the position. Please also attach scanned mark sheets and **proof of prior field experience (if available)**, compiled into a **single PDF file**. The email address is **tecollab.iiserk@gmail.com**. Include the subject line “**TDSG FIELD ASSISTANT**”.

9. Last date and time for receiving applications: March 28, 2026.

10. Interview: Shortlisted candidates will be called for an online screening interaction followed by a formal online interview.

Terms and Conditions

- The project is on-going, and the selected candidates are expected to join immediately after selection.
- Only highly suitable candidates will be shortlisted for the interviews.