

India-Belarus Joint Research Programme

CLOSING DATE – 15th SEPTEMBER 2022

Call for Proposals 2022-2024

The Department of Science & Technology (DST), Govt. of India and the State Committee of Scientific Research of Belarus invite joint R&D project proposals from scientists & technologists from India and Belarus:

The DST and the State Committee (hereinafter referred to as the “Implementing Agencies”) hereby invite Indian and Belarusian scientists/researchers to submit proposals for Joint Research Projects in following areas:

- (1) Information and Communication Technologies with focus on Artificial Intelligence, Internet of Things, Machine Learning, Cloud Services**
- (2) Biotechnology including Medicine and Pharmacy**
- (3) New Materials with particular focus on (i) Additive Manufacturing (AM) (ii) Powder production for AM and Powder Metallurgy Components (iii) Nanostructured Materials (iv) Ceramic Materials (v) Functional coatings and thin films for various applications**

[A] APPLICATIONS

(1) An Application shall -

- a) be for a Joint Research Project.
- b) be made simultaneously by a counterpart team in each country as hereinafter provided.
- c) 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.
- d) be in English and shall be in the form prescribed by the relevant Implementing Agency.
- e) be required to be submitted by the dates set out below.
- f) Both Implementing Agencies will conduct parallel review of the applications respectively based on the agreed criteria. Implementing Agencies will make joint decisions based on the review results.
- g) List of selected projects will be posted on website www.dst.gov.in sometime in January 2023.
- h) Successful Indian team leaders would be expected to complete various governmental requirements before commencement of the project.
- i) Expected Starting of Project: March 2023
- j) Project leaders are required to submit Statement of Expenditure / Utilisation Certificate along with Project Technical report immediately after completion 1st and 2nd financial year.
- k) The funding for the selected projects will be provided in annual instalments. The second instalment for each project will be provided after receipt of financial documents, mentioned above, and on evaluation of intermediate technical reports, submitted by Indian and Belarus researchers respectively to DST and the State Committee of Scientific Research of Belarus and only if both reports are evaluated positively.

- (2) Applications are required to be submitted as follows -
The Indian researchers can download the proposal formats from websites www.dst.gov.in / www.onlinedst.gov.in and should submit completed application form and all relevant information by **15th September 2022**. Proposals must be submitted to DST through the e-application system provided at www.onlinedst.gov.in. Indian Applicants also requested to send **two hard copies** (1 original + 2 copies) to DST by 20th September 2022 through proper channel. It should be ensured that application with identical title has been submitted by his / her Belarusian counterpart by due date.

In the case of Belarusian Applications - for on line submission may please see :

- **Russian version** - <http://www.gknt.gov.by/deyatelnost/konkurs-belorussko-indijskikh-nauchno-tekhnicheskikh-proektov-na-2022-2023-gody.php>

- (3) An Application shall be rejected if –
- (a) the Applications required to be submitted through online portal and the hard copies thereof are not received by the respective Implementing Agency by the dates set out in paragraph 2 above;
 - (b) it is not in the format prescribed by the relevant Implementing Agency on both sides; or
 - (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) Funding sought is not as per prescribed norms of the call

Please note that on the Indian side applicant already implementing two projects funded by the International Division of DST is not eligible to submit the project against this call.

(B) JOINT RESEARCH PROJECTS

(1) *Requirements of Research Projects*

- a) Research Projects should be carried out jointly by research teams from both countries.
- b) 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.
- c) The duration of each project should be two years
- d) After the completion of this period, an application for additional six months *may* be considered on the merit of the progress.

(Scientists are advised to submit only one project against this Call.)

(2) *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 -

- (a) **Research expenses / contingency** : Limited Expenditure by the project team in their country in respect of consumables can be considered and will be borne by the respective country, if details of item proposed and proper justification have been given. On the Indian side maximum Rs. 1 lakh towards consumables and Rs. 50,000 towards contingency can be considered.

- (b) **Support for Exchange visit component:** The sending side would provide return international airfare, accommodation, per diem, etc. For the approved visit of Indian scientists to Belarus, following expenditure are agreed:
- international fare (from nearest airport to destination city by economy excursion class),
 - cash allowance @ US \$ 50 per day for visit less than a week and US \$ 40 per day for longer visit;
 - accommodation upto US \$ 100 per night,
 - local transport upto US \$ 25 (subject to receipt) and
 - overseas medical insurance by silver class for visit duration.
- (c) Entire expenditure on visit of Belarusian researchers to India would be borne by the Belarus side.
- (d) No financial support towards equipment or manpower will be considered. **Application will be rejected, in case above guidelines not followed by the applicant.**

[C] ASSESSMENT OF APPLICATIONS

(1) 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 representatives of the Implementing Agencies (the "Joint Committee") will, upon a consideration of the rating, determine which proposals will receive funding. Such a decision will also take into account the funding available.
- (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 resources 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 Principal Investigators

(2) Where an Application is selected for funding support, the respective Implementing Agencies will notify the Team Leader of the project, accordingly.

The following may be contacted for further details and clarifications, if any –

For India	For Belarus
<p>Dr Rajiv Kumar Scientist `E`, International Division Department of Science & Technology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Technology Bhavan, New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi – 110 016., India</p> <p>Fax: +91-11-26862418 E-mail: rajivarc@nic.in URL: www.dst.gov.in</p>	<p>Sergei Siniukovich State Committee on Science and Technology of the Republic of Belarus Head, Unit on Cooperation with non-CIS Countries Dept. of International STI Cooperation 1 Akademitcheskaya str. Minsk Postcode: 220072 Tel.: +375 17 3790314 E-mail: sinukovich@gknt.gov.by http://www.gknt.gov.by/en/</p>

Belarus Scientists are requested to see detailed guidelines, as applicable to them at
Russian version - <http://www.gknt.gov.by/deyatelnost/konkurs-belorusko-indijskikh-nauchno-tekhnicheskikh-proektov-na-2022-2023-gody.php>

**INDIA-BELARUS PROGRAMME OF CO-OPERATION
IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
(Proforma for Application for Joint Research Project)**

A. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

1. Title of the Project:
2. Duration of the Project in months:
Expected date of commencement:
3. Field of Science & Technology covered by the proposal:
4. Key words qualifying the scope of the proposal:

5. Project Investigators (PI) & Collaborating Institutions

	<u>Indian</u>	<u>Belarus</u>
Name of PI Designation Date of Birth Institute Contact Address Telephone No. : Office Residence Fax No. e-mail		
Name of the Co-Investigator(s) Designation Date of Birth Institute Contact Address Telephone No. : Office Residence Fax No. e-mail		

B. TECHNICAL INFORMATION

1. Objectives of the Project (up to 200 words)
2. Justification for collaboration & brief information about national and international scenario in the proposed area of research (up to 200 words)
3. Scientific & technical description of the project including methodology (up to 400 words)
4. Plan of work

Time Schedule	Indian Responsibilities	Belarus Responsibilities
1st Year		
2nd Year		
3rd Year		

5. Number of exchange visit required to achieve the Project Objectives (Year wise)

Period	India to Belarus		Belarus to India	
	Number	Duration	Number	Duration
1st Year	Number of person	Days	Number of person	Days
2nd Year	Number of person	Days	Number of person	Days
3rd Year	Number of person	Days	Number of person	Days

6. Expected results of this cooperation (e.g. joint publications, patents etc.)
Are any of the expected results like to have commercial value? How do you propose to share it? (up to 100 words)
7. Bio-data of Indian and Belarus investigators to appended in about 2 pages each. [The description should highlight the expertise of the PI(s) in the proposed field of work supported by citing relevant publications only].

C. ADMINISTRATIVE & FINANCIAL INFORMATION

1. Project Cost

Year	Consumables#	Contingency	Exchange visits	Total
1st Year				
2nd Year				
3rd Year				
Total				

(#) Minor support towards consumables (max Rs. 1 lakh per year) could be considered, if details of item proposed and proper justification have been given.

2. Signatures of the Project Investigators & Co-investigators

INDIAN

BELARUS

3. Declaration from the Heads of the Collaborating Institutions:

It is certified that :

- i) The Institutions agree to participate in this Joint Research Project;
- ii) The Institutions shall provide infrastructure & necessary facilities for implementing the joint project;
- iii) The Institutions assume to undertake financial & other management responsibility for the part of the project work to be carried out at their institution; and
- iv) the back-up funding for manpower, consumable etc. is available to this project.

Signature & Seal of the Head of the Institutions

INDIAN

BELARUS

Attachments required

1. A consent of Belarus counterpart to pursue proposed joint work.
2. No objection / Forwarding letter of Institute.
2. Bio-data of Project Coordinators Both Indian and Belarus (max: (2 pages) including date of superannuation / completion tenure, field of specialization, current research interests, significant accomplishments during last 5 years.