

10/11/2010-P&C
Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
Government of India

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) invites applications, in prescribed proforma (available in MNRE website www.mnre.gov.in) under its newly launched '**National Solar Sciences Fellows Programme**' from scientists of India or of Indian origin desirous of participating in cutting-edge research on critical issues related to solar energy in collaboration with leading institutes and scientists. The details of the fellowship is as follows:

- (a) The Fellow will be designated as 'National Solar Science Fellow'.
- (b) The total number of 'National Solar Science Fellows' at any time will be 10 (ten) in number.
- (c) The tenure of the fellowship of a Fellow will be three years extendable to another two years on year to year basis based on performance.
- (d) Each Fellow will receive a total annual grant of Rs 32 lakh as follows:
 - (i) Fellowship Rs 1,200,000 (@Rs 100,000 per month excluding tax (if applicable))
 - (ii) Contingencies up to Rs 500,000
 - (iii) Research grant up to Rs 1,500,000
- (e) The applicant should be between 35 and 45 years age group. However the upper age limit can be relaxed for deserving candidates based on the merit of their proposal.
- (f) An applicant in the age group of 35–45, may have a mentor in the host institution with expertise in related subject. The proposal should clearly indicate the name and credentials of the proposed mentor if available.
- (g) The Fellow may be of any field of engineering and science and the proposal may include subject of any related fields such as thermal heat transfer, chemical and mechanical aspects of associated science and engineering leading to harnessing of solar energy for various applications.
- (h) Those who are already employed can also apply subject to the condition that their organization is willing to spare them for three years. During this period they can continue to get their salary, etc. from parent organization if that organization allows, provided he/she is allowed to work full time on fellowship programme.
- (i) The host institutions will also be empanelled based on their capacity to provide necessary infrastructure support to the Fellow. An MoU with the Fellow and Institute will be signed by the Ministry.

The detailed advertisement giving proforma, thrust areas for research and an indicative list of host institutions is available in the MNRE website (www.mnre.gov.in).

This Fellowship Programme is targeting people with unique ideas and capacity to think out of the box. Therefore, applicants are strongly encouraged to submit proposals on any new challenges/issues outside of the thrust areas but relating to the current energy scenario of the country/world, along with innovative, cost-effective, practicable and implementable solutions to challenges being faced by the country in energy sector. While it is not mandatory, it would be desirable if the applicant has already carried out at least 10–20% of the research work proposed to be undertaken under the Fellowship Programme.

The application has to be submitted in the prescribed proforma and has to be accompanied by a short paper (not exceeding 3 pages-typed in A4 size) on the applicant's proposed research proposal clearly identifying the new knowledge that it will help to generate along with a summary of work already carried out by the applicant in the area. Short-listed candidates shall be invited for an interactive discussion with the Fellowship Management Committee constituted by the Ministry under the 'National Solar Science Fellowship Programme'. The application complete in all respects should be sent by Registered/Speed Post only (not by courier service or in person) in a confidential sealed envelope by **31 October 2011** to the following address:

The Joint Secretary (SS)
Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
Block 14, CGO Complex
Lodi Road, New Delhi 110 003

Please write on the envelope, '**Application for National Solar Science Fellows**'. The Ministry will not be responsible for any postal delay.