

**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change**

## Call for Proposals 2018–2019

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change invites proposals from various institutions or organizations who can act as Coordinating Centre, Collaborating Units or Principal Investigator for undertaking advance taxonomic research under the All India Coordinated Project on Capacity Building in Taxonomy (AICOPTAX) in the following identified thematic areas.

**Thrust areas for research:** (1) Plant and animal viruses. (2) Pathogenic and non-pathogenic bacteria. (3) Fresh water and marine algae. (4) Fresh water and marine phytoplankton and zooplankton (including euglenoids/ciliates/rhizopods/Ostracods/Cladocerans). (5) Pathogenic and non-pathogenic fungi. (6) Crustacea. (7) Insects: Coleoptera, Plectoptera, Lepidoptera, Diptera, Aphids, Miscellaneous Insects, Phthireptera, Arachnida, Tettigonida and lesser known flora and fauna. (8) Oomycetes, cellular slime moulds, phytoplasma. (9) Protozoa and Sporozoa. (10) Annelida, Meiofauna. (11) Lichens, Bryophytes, Pteridophytes and high altitude Gymnosperms. (12) Medicinal and aromatic plants, legumes, palms and canes, Orchids, grasses and bamboos, and aquatic plants. (13) Molecular and biochemical techniques in taxonomy. (14) Pollinators and seed dispersers. (15) Training centres: (i) Research in animal biosystematics and advanced training in taxonomy; (ii) Research in plant biosystematics and advanced training in taxonomy.

**The broad objectives are:** (1) Understanding of plant, animal and microbes interactions. (2) Setting-up of training centre for animal and plant taxonomy. (3) Documentation of fauna and flora in bio-geographic zones (Deccan Peninsula, Semi-Arid, Coast and North East) eco-sensitive zones, Saltmarsh biodiversity, High altitude biodiversity, Canopy biodiversity, Biodiversity of plateau, and extremophiles. (4) Documentation and assessment of endemic and threatened *Biota*. (5) Field assessment of trees of India for conservation. (6) Taxonomic studies on the common groups of *Biota* with economic importance and general floristics and faunistics. (7) Research in plant biosystematics and advanced training in taxonomy. (8) Research in animal biosystematics and advanced training in taxonomy. (9) Capacity building in taxonomic groups requiring conservation and sustainable utilization. (10) Application of modern tools and techniques in taxonomy. (11) Enhancing abilities for facing challenges of urbanization, development, commercial needs, natural disasters, pollution and climate change.

**Who are eligible to apply?**

Academic institutions, universities, national institutes, recognized R&D institutions, scientists, and technologists working in them (NGOs, voluntary bodies and private organizations including industry have to be registered as a research institution with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Government of India). PI should have capacity to register 1 or 2 Ph.D. scholar on taxonomy project as per the sanctioned strength, proven record as a taxonomist is desirable.

**How to apply?**

Proposal should be made in the prescribed application format given in the Guidelines of Support to Environmental Research, 2012. Proposals prepared by the Principal Investigator (PI) should be forwarded by the Head of Institution. If the project is a joint venture then it should be explicitly mentioned. The complete 'Guideline for Support to Environmental Research – 2012' which *inter-alia* provides details on the scope and coverage of research grants, concept of public private partnership in R&D project, procedure for invitation, submission, appraisal, monitoring and review of research projects along with norms of funds, terms and conditions governing research grants and various prescribed proforma are available on the website of the Ministry at

[http://envfor.nic.in/sites/default/files/re\\_guidelines\\_f\\_indd.pdf](http://envfor.nic.in/sites/default/files/re_guidelines_f_indd.pdf)

Steering Committee may also invite proposals on specific issues.

**Submission of the proposal:** Ten hard copies of application in the prescribed format and a softcopy through e-mail at aicoptaxproposals2018@gmail.com are required to be submitted. The application complete in all respects should be sent by Registered/Speed Post to **Scientist in-charge (Technical)**, Botanical Survey of India (HQ), CGO Complex, 3rd MSO Building, Block F (5th and 6th Floor), DF Block, Sector 1, Salt Lake City, Kolkata 700 064, Phone no.: 033-2321 8992.

In addition, a softcopy of the proposal should also be e-mailed at: mbiswas.17@gov.in along with one hard and softcopy to **Ms Madhumita Biswas**, Adviser/Scientist-G, CS/TAX, 2nd Floor, Vayu Wing Room No. 202, Ministry of Environment Forest, and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jorbagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi 110 003.

**Last date of submitting the proposal: 31 March 2019.** However, the proposals will be assessed periodically during the current financial year for consideration of funding.

**For further details, please contact: Dr Sandeep Kumar Chauhan**, Scientist 'D', Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, 5th Floor, Agni Wing, Jorbagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi 110 003, Tetelax: 011246 95240, e-mail: chauhan.sandeep@gov.in.