Ph D Programme in Astrophysics 1997–98

The National Centre for Radio Astrophysics (NCRA) offers opportunities for front-line research in Radio Astronomy and Astrophysics. It operates the large cylindrical radio telescope at Ooty and is currently building the Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT) near Pune, which is almost operational. GMRT consists of 30 parabolic dishes, each of 45 metre diameter placed over a region of 25 km, and will be the world's largest radio telescope operating at metre wavelengths.

Areas of research at NCRA include studies of observational cosmology, quasars, radio galaxies, nearby galaxies, interstellar medium, pulsars, stars, solar system as well as techniques of synthesis imaging and image processing. Research scholars will be selected on the basis of a written test and interviews which will be conducted jointly with the Inter University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA) in early July 1997 in Pune. Selected candidates will receive Physics and Astronomy courses during the first year as a part of the Graduate School requirements. Satisfactory completion of the Graduate School is required before registration for a Ph D degree at University of Pune. Outstanding students may be absorbed as regular staff of NCRA after their Ph D.

Eligibility: First class in M Sc (Physics/Astronomy)/B E/B Tech (Electronics/Computer Science), with a strong background and interest in Physics. Candidates expecting to obtain their degree by July 1997 may also apply. Candidates with a motivation to pursue experimental research are particularly encouraged to apply.

Financial assistance: Research scholars will be paid a monthly honorarium of Rs 2,700/- which may be raised to Rs 3,000/- after the registration for Ph D. There is an annual contingency educational grant of Rs 7,500/- tenable up to 5 years. Based on periodic reviews, scholarships are renewed annually up to 5 years.

How to apply: Application forms for admission as Research Scholars can be obtained by writing to Administrative Officer, NCRA-TIFR, Post Bag No. 3, Ganeshkhind, Pune 411 007, along with a 24 cm × 11 cm stamped (Rs 2.0), self-addressed envelope. The last dates for receiving the request for application form and the completed application are March 25, 1997 and April 15, 1997, respectively. The candidates appearing for the written test and interview will be paid 1.33 times train fare each way by ordinary sleeper class and Rs 75/- per day as halting allowance for the days of the interviews.

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