Swarnajayanti Fellowships 2005–06

The Govt of India had instituted a scheme ‘The Swarnajayanti Fellowships’ to commemorate India’s fiftieth year of Independence. Under this scheme a selected number of young scientists, with proven track record, are provided special assistance and support to enable them to pursue basic research in frontier areas of science and technology. The fellowships are scientist-specific and not institution-specific, very selective and have close academic monitoring.

NATURE OF SUPPORT
The support will cover all the requirements for performing the research and will include a fellowship of Rs 25,000 per month for five years, for those scientists who do not draw any salary from any other source. The fellowship would be limited to Rs 10,000 per month for those who draw salary from another source. In addition to fellowship, grants for equipment, computational and communication facilities, consumables, contingencies, administrative support, national and international travel and other special requirements will be covered. Scientists selected for the award will be allowed to pursue unfettered research with a freedom and flexibility in terms of expenditure as approved in the research plan.

DURATION
The duration of the fellowship will be for a period not exceeding five years.

ELIGIBILITY
The applicant should possess one of the following degrees or equivalent: Ph.D. in Science/Engineering, Masters in Engineering or Technology/M.D. in Medicine. Scientists should be active in the frontier areas of science and engineering with outstanding contributions, (research publications, peer recognition, etc.) in his areas of research. The fellowship is open to Indian Nationals residing in India or abroad. The scientists can choose to work at any S&T institution in India, however, he/she will have to submit a letter from Head of the institution at which they wish to pursue research, stating that administrative and basic infrastructural support to facilitate research will be provided. The institute should also undertake financial and other management responsibilities of the project throughout the five year term in case fellowship is awarded to the scientist. The fellowship is open to scientists between 30 to 40 years as on 31 December 2005.

SELECTION
The selection procedure will include consideration at various stages. An empowered committee will make the final selection based on the recommendation of expert committees. Scientists selected for the award should have accomplished innovative original research in frontier areas of science and technology.

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APPLICATION
Applications for the ‘Swarnajayanti Fellowships’ are invited from eligible candidates in the format given below. The candidates may be required to submit further additional information and or presentation before final selection. Only one copy of the application in the prescribed format along with the project document should be submitted to Sh. Neeraj Sharma, Scientist-F, Swarnajayanti Fellowships Cell, Department of Science and Technology, Technology Bhawan, New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi 110 016. The last date for submission of applications is 31 January 2006. Candidates who are applying from abroad may send their applications by 15 February 2006. Applications received after the prescribed date will not be considered.

This advertisement is also available on the Internet at: http://www.dst.gov.in

FORMAT FOR APPLICATION

1. Broad subject area (Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, Mathematical Sciences, Engineering Sciences)
2. Specialisation
3. Name of the candidate
4. Mailing Address (must indicate Telephone, Fax and e-mail address)
5. Date of birth
6. Educational qualification:
   (Starting from Bachelors degree onwards)

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7. (a) Details of professional training and research experience, specifying period.
   (b) List of significant publications during the last 5 years.
8. Details of employment.
9. Professional recognition, awards, fellowships received
10. Details of the proposed project to be undertaken during the fellowship period:
    (Also specify the work at present engaged in, future plan, prospects after the fellowship, how are these related to the strengthening of basic research in the country, etc.)
11. Detailed financial requirements for 5 years and phasing for each year
12. Name of the institution where project is to be implemented
13. Nomination/Recommendation

(This should be from Fellows of the National Academies, Directors of National Laboratories, Heads of S&T Department of GOI or Vice Chancellors and should indicate the candidate’s competence for the Fellowship and should be sent directly to DST in confidence. The nomination must clearly indicate the name of the scientist nominated, subject area and specialization.)