Applications are invited for 'Tata Innovation Fellowship' a highly competitive scheme instituted by the Department of Biotechnology to recognize and reward scientists with outstanding track record in biological sciences with, a deep commitment to find innovative solutions to major problems in agriculture, health care, veterinary sciences, energy, environment, industry and other areas related to life sciences and biotechnology. Applicants should have publications of the highest order and contributed to knowledge generation that has created significant impact in the field of translational possibilities for development of a process or product and show evidence of having done some specific work with high degree of innovation. The applicant should also highlight prestigious award(s) and other recognitions such as fellowship(s) of major academies. Applications duly forwarded by the host institute as per proforma may be sent to Dr Meenakshi Munshi, Joint Director, Department of Biotechnology, Block-2, 6–8th Floor, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi 110 003 latest by 31 July 2009 on the prescribed format (also available on DBT website: www.dbtindia.gov.in). e-mail: meenakshi29.dbt@nic.in

Objectives
The aim is to reward interdisciplinary work of high quality with emphasis on innovation.

Scope
All areas of life sciences and biotechnology including related areas in agriculture, health care, engineering, environment science, energy, veterinary sciences, etc. will be covered by this fellowship.

Eligibility
(i) The fellowship is open to Indian Nationals residing in India who are below the age of 60 years.
(ii) The applicant should possess a Ph.D. degree in Life Sciences, Agriculture, Veterinary Science or a Master’s degree in Medical Sciences, Engineering or an equivalent degree in Biotechnology related areas. The applicant must have adequate professional experience in the specific area.
(iii) The candidate must have a regular position in a University/Organization/Institute and should be engaged in research and development. If he/she is availing any other fellowship (national/ international), he/she will have to opt for only one of the fellowships (for example, J. C. Bose Fellowship, Welcome Trust, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, NIH Senior Fellowship, Howard Hughes Medical Institute Fellowship and others of similar nature).

About the fellowship
• The amount of the fellowship will be Rs 20,000 per month in addition to regular salary from the host institute.
• In addition, each fellow will receive a contingency grant of Rs 500,000 per annum for meeting the expenses on consumables, minor equipment, international and domestic travel, manpower and other contingent expenditure to be incurred in connection with the implementation of research project under the fellowship.

Host Institution
• The Institution where the candidate is working would provide the necessary infrastructure and administrative support for pursuing the research under this fellowship.
• The candidate will continue to work at the place of his/her employment.

Duration
The duration of the fellowship will be initially for three years, extendable further by two years on a fresh appraisal.