

Applications are invited for Six Project Intern positions at IISER Kolkata for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Research in Madhya Pradesh

We require Six Project Interns for a project on Monitoring Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services for Ecosystem Enhancement under the Green India Mission, funded by the government of Madhya Pradesh. We need 3 interns for research on **(a) Plant Diversity and Ecosystem Services**; 2 interns for **(b) Faunal Diversity** (Butterflies, Birds, and Mammals); and 1 intern for **(c) Soil and Plant Nutrient Estimation**, to be carried out in 11 forest divisions of Madhya Pradesh. The interns will also have to assist the JRFs in training the village-level Biodiversity Monitoring Committee members. The positions will be based at IISER Kolkata but will require **extensive time on fieldwork** in the forests of Madhya Pradesh, followed by landscape ecological analyses at IISER Kolkata.

Title of Project: Monitoring Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services for Ecosystem Enhancement under the Green India Mission: Phase 2

1. **Number of positions available:** Six
2. **Funding Agency:** Madhya Pradesh State Biodiversity Board, Bhopal
3. **Project PI:** Dr. Robert John Chandran, Associate Professor, Biological Sciences, IISER Kolkata
4. **Essential Qualifications:** Bachelor's degree in Botany/ Forestry/ Zoology/ Environmental Sciences/ Chemistry/ Ecology/ Wildlife Sciences/ Life Sciences as pertinent to the respective positions. A minimum of six months of field research experience (excluding dissertation or summer programmes) in the subject area of ecology or biodiversity is essential for all posts. The positions require full-time commitment and persons currently pursuing in any degree/diploma course are not eligible.
5. **Age limit:** Not more than 28 years on the last date of application. Age relaxation as per GOI rules.
6. **Desirable Qualifications:** Master's degree in the relevant subject, with aptitude for field ecological studies of plants/ birds/ butterflies. Prior experience of ecological research in central India and candidates based in central India would be preferred.
7. **Duration and Salary:** The employment will be for an initial period of 5 months, extendable to a maximum of 10 months. The selected candidates will be paid Rs. 15,000 monthly (consolidated). The travel, accommodation, and food costs during fieldwork will be borne under the project funds.
8. **How to Apply:** Interested candidates are requested to fill out a google form <https://forms.gle/BaxfZpHKxrgGDT6g6> and upload a detailed CV, scanned mark sheets, certificates, and proof of work experience.
9. **Last date and time for receiving applications:** 7 February 2023, till 11 pm,
10. **Interview:** Shortlisted Candidates will be called for online interaction with the project proponents for initial screening after which the candidates will be further shortlisted for a formal interview. The shortlisted candidates will receive a call letter mentioning the time and date of the interview/interaction via email. The candidates may send an email to tecollab.iiserk@gmail.com if they have any queries.

Terms and Conditions

- a) Selected candidates are expected to undertake exhaustive fieldwork for several months at a stretch.
- b) The project will commence in February 2023, and the selected candidates are expected to join immediately after selection.
- c) All posts are purely temporary and contractual in nature.
- d) The number of candidates to be called for the interview will be decided based on the applications received. Mere fulfilment of the eligibility criteria does not guarantee a call for an interview.
- e) The appointment of the candidate will be governed by the terms and conditions of the said project of the funding agency.