ISFSI NEWSLETTER – MAY 2025 EDITION

Empowering Education | Enabling Research | Engaging Society

Feature Article: Academic & Research Funding Opportunities

Introduction

To promote research culture and awareness on funding mechanisms among faculty and scholars, the Indigenous Society for Frugal Science Invention (ISFSI), in association with Centre for applied Sciences, Government Degree College for Men, Srikakulam brought to you a monthly newsletter on various topics with the motto of *Empowering Education | Enabling Research | Engaging Society.* As a part of it, the May 2025 newsletter comes up with a title **Academic & Research Funding Opportunities** where the ISFSI team providing awareness on various state and National level funding bodies that support research, infrastructure and science popularization to higher educational institutions like colleges, state and central universities, recognized societies and NGOs etc. The various funding agencies are described below.

1. Department of Science and Technology (DST): https://dst.gov.in/

(DST) promotes new areas of S&T in the country and connects S&T sector to different Government horizontals and verticals, academia, R&D and industry. DST provides the largest extramural research and development support in the country to strengthen national S&T capacity and capability through a competitive mode to scientists cutting across institutions and disciplines. This strategically important function mutually reinforces outcomes of our country's educational, scientific and industrial R&D initiatives and helps transform the S&T landscape of the country. The DST supports and encourages the whole gamut of S&T ecosystem from seeding and capacity building in the cutting-edge research areas; translational research; technology development and deployment; innovation and startup ecosystem; and international collaborations. This is achieved by supporting students, scientists, researchers in academic and R&D institutions across the country through fellowships, R&D projects, S&T infrastructure and other supports.

DST e-PMS portal: https://onlinedst.gov.in/

It facilitates the Scientists and Researchers of the country to submit their Project Proposals for various Schemes of Department of Science and Technology. The portal also provides facility to track the status of the submitted Project Proposals. The process of submitting the Project Proposals along with the Schemes and formats are available. For security reasons, IP address of the applicant's computer is being recorded during the usage. If any Principal Investigator is found to have furnished incorrect or misleading information at any stage, the Project Proposal shall be rejected. Few of the prominent schemes of DST are

DST FIST Scheme: The Scheme "Fund for Improvement of S&T Infrastructure (FIST)" is intended to provide basic infrastructure and enabling facilities for promoting R&D activities in new and emerging areas and attracting fresh talents in universities & other educational institutions. It is considered as complimentary support for enabling Departments/ Centres/ Schools/ Colleges to pursue research activities more effectively and efficiently. DST is restructuring the immensely successful FIST programme to orient it towards the goal of ***Atmanirbhar Bharat*** by creating R&D infrastructure not only for R&D activities in academic organizations but also for use by the start-ups/ manufacturing industries/ MSMEs. Appropriate mechanisms including use of the FIST facilities through multiple shifts have been communicated to the beneficiaries through a public notice to promote optimal utilization of these resources.

DST Inspire: https://online-inspire.gov.in/

"Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE)" is an innovative Programme sponsored and managed by the Department of Science & Technology for attraction of talent to Science. The basic objective of INSPIRE is to communicate to the youth of the country the excitements of creative pursuit of science, attract talent to the study of science at an early age and thus build the required critical human resource pool for strengthening and expanding the Science & Technology system and R & D base.
A striking feature of the Programme is that it does not believe in conducting competitive exams for identification

of talent at any level. It believes in and relies on the efficacy of the existing educational structure for identification of talent.

2. Department of Biotechnology (DBT): https://dbtindia.gov.in/

A separate Department of Biotechnology (DBT) was set up in February, 1986 and Dr S Ramachandran was the first Secretary with a vision that unless India created a separate Department for Biotechnology, within the Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India the country would not progress to the desired extent. This was because many of our macro-economic issues of growth were subsumed within that science's development. The prominent schemes of DBT are

DBT CTEP: https://www.dbtctep.gov.in/

To popularize Biotechnology activities in India, Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India provides financial assistance towards organizing Conference/ Seminar/ Symposium/ Workshop and Travel support to the researchers for presenting their papers in the conferences which are being organized outside the country. It also extends support for organizing DBT stalls in Exhibitions held within the country as well as outside the country. Financial supports are also provided for organizing Popular Lectures. The collective term for these four activities is CTEP (Conference, Travel, Exhibition and Popular Lectures).

DBT e-PROMISE: https://www.dbtepromis.nic.in/

The DBT e-Promise is an online system launched by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) in India to facilitate more efficient grant submission and management for biotechnology research. This system allows applicants to submit competitive research grant project proposals throughout the year without waiting for specific calls for proposals

3. Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF): https://www.anrfonline.in/ANRF/HomePage

ANRF was established through an Act of Parliament: ANRF Act, 2023, to provide high-level strategic directions for research, innovation, and entrepreneurship in the fields of natural sciences, including mathematical sciences, engineering and technology, environmental and earth sciences, health and agriculture, and scientific and technological interfaces of humanities and social sciences. ANRF has been established to promote research and development and foster a culture of research and innovation throughout India's Universities, Colleges, Research Institutions, and R&D laboratories. ANRF acts as an apex body to provide high-level strategic direction of scientific research in the country as per recommendations of the National Education Policy. ANRF forges collaborations among the industry, academia, and government departments and research institutions.

Seminars and Symposia scheme: https://www.anrfonline.in/ANRF/seminar_symposia

The Science and Technology Professional Bodies & Academes of Science and Engineering play an important role in creating cohesiveness amongst scientific community by organising technical meetings, seminars, conferences and workshops. They also bring out scientific journals, technical bulletins, proceedings of networking events and other publications to serve the cause of wider dissemination of scientific research output. Such events help scientific community to keep abreast of the latest developments in their respective scientific / technical areas and also provide a platform to establish connectivity with other individuals and research groups to exchange information not only limited to the event but on a regular basis. Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) extends partial financial support, on selective basis, for organising such events (National as well as International). Academic institutions, research laboratories, professional bodies and other non-profit organisations, engaged in promoting scientific research, are eligible for financial support under the scheme. The support is primarily given to encourage participation of young scientists and research professionals in such events along with nominal support for pre-operative expenses like announcements broachers etc. The primary focus of the scheme is to support events having strong orientation towards scientific research in the areas of basic sciences, engineering, technology, agriculture & medicines. Events dealing with social science, management and those

purely concerned with policy matters are generally not encouraged but may be considered as an exceptional case if there is a strong interface with mainstream areas of support. The scientific/technical contents of the events, thematic relevance, contextual impact and extent & level of participation are key components for deciding the support worthiness and quantum of support for individual events.

Prime Minister Early Career Research Grant: https://www.anrfonline.in/ANRF/ecrg_anrf?HomePage=New

Early career researchers are at the forefront of innovation and excellence, playing a vital role in the scientific and technological progress of the country. ANRF recognizes that early career researchers are committed to produce research of the highest quality, bringing in new skills, breakthrough ideas and the zest to explore new frontiers, thereby expanding the boundaries of knowledge. This commitment of the early career researchers will significantly contribute in driving the ambitions of ANRF in positioning the country as a global leader in science and technology as well as creating a vibrant research ecosystem. ANRF considers its responsibility to empower and support the early career researchers in their pursuit of research excellence, providing them with an enabling environment to effectively conduct research with ease and flexibility. Pursuant to this objective, ANRF is initiating the program, Prime Minister's Early Career Research Grant to assist researchers to initiate their research career in a new institution with a flexible budget and progressive initiatives for ease of doing research.

4. Department of Health Research (DHR): https://schemes.dhr.gov.in/

Department of Health Research (DHR) provides financial assistance to promote research in the field of medicine, public health and allied areas under its different schemes namely Human Resource Development for Health Research (HRD), Establishment of a network of Laboratories for managing epidemics and Natural Calamities (VRDLs), Grant-in-Aid (GIA) Scheme for Inter -Sectoral Convergence & Coordination for Promotion and Guidance on Health Research, Establishment of Model Rural Health Research Units (MRHRUs) in the States, Establishment of Multi-Disciplinary Research Units (MRUs) in Government Medical colleges - Research Institutions . DHR Electronic Project Management System (e-PMS) has been developed to provide user-friendly

system for online submission of project proposal and related documents and monitor the ongoing projects. This system facilitates to different stakeholders for the submission, retrieval and monitoring of the project related information.

HRD Scheme: https://schemes.dhr.gov.in/userLogin

The Human Resource Development Scheme of Department of Health Research is intended to create a pool of talented health research personnel in the country by upgrading skills of faculty of Medical Colleges/Institutes, mid - career Scientists, medical students, etc., by specialized training in priority areas of health research in leading national and international institutions, encourage and support the trainees to develop and take up research projects for addressing critical national and local health problems and financial assistance to Institutions for up- gradation of infrastructure to enable such Institutions to provide training with state of the art technologies.

5. Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR): https://www.csir.res.in/about-us/about-csir

The Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), known for its cutting-edge R&D knowledge base in diverse S&T areas, is a contemporary R&D organization. CSIR has a dynamic network of 37 national laboratories, 39 outreach centres, 1 Innovation Complexes, and three units with a pan-India presence. CSIR's R&D expertise and experience are embodied in about 3476 active Scientists supported by about 4000 technical and support personnel as of 31st March 2022. CSIR covers a wide spectrum of science and technology – from oceanography, geophysics, chemicals, drugs, genomics, biotechnology and nanotechnology to mining, aeronautics, instrumentation, environmental engineering and information technology. It provides significant technological intervention in many areas concerning societal efforts, which include environment, health, drinking water, food, housing, energy, farm and non-farm sectors. Further, CSIR's role in S&T human resource development is noteworthy. CSIR has pursued cutting edge science and advanced knowledge frontiers. In 2022, CSIR published around 5800 papers in SCI Journals with an average impact factor per paper of 4.9. CSIR envisages a vision of CSIR@2030 as to *"Enhance quality of life of the citizens of India through innovative Science and Technology,*

globally competitive R&D, by developing sustainable solutions and capacity building to fulfil dream of Atmanirbhar Bharat". This vision of CSIR is aligned to the Government of India's vision for the next 25 years 'Amrit Kal' when independent India becomes 100 years old.

Symposium Gran Scheme: https://csirhrdg.res.in/Home/Index/1/Default/2680/70

Under the Scheme, financial assistance is provided to Universities, Academic institutions, Colleges, Government Departments, registered societies to organise scientific events such as Symposia/ Seminars/ Conferences/ Workshops or any other similar scientific activity that provides platform/forum to professionals, scientists, research and educational institutions to share knowledge and experience in various fields of Science and Technology. The Scheme provides partial support towards expenses related to organising Scientific events such as Travel support, Registration Fee Waiver, Promotion (web site, brochures, proceedings), Secretarial assistance, Local hospitality, Venue charges. Capital expenses of any nature such as purchase of laptop, computer, printer, etc. and fees / honoraria to speakers are not covered under the scheme.

6. Indian Science Academies: https://www.ias.ac.in/Home/

The Indian Academy of Sciences was founded and registered as a society in 1934 with the aim of promoting the progress and upholding the cause of science, in both pure and applied branches. It strives to meet its objectives through promotion of original research and dissemination of scientific knowledge to the community via meetings, discussions, seminars, symposia and publications. Indian Academy of Sciences is now an autonomous institution under the Department of Science and Technology (DST) of the Government of India. It is fully funded by DST.

Science Education Programs: https://webjapps.ias.ac.in/SEP/index.jsp

In 1994, the Academy brought out a document on University Science Education containing several recommendations. The Council of the Academy then set up a Science Education Panel to organize a variety of programmes for teachers and students of science all over India, and to bring them into beneficial contacts with

the Fellowship of the Academy. Starting in the mid-1990s, the Indian Academy of Sciences had initiated several activities for the benefit of students and teachers of science all over the country. These included (a) Summer Research Fellowships for students and teachers to work with Fellows of the academy and other faculty in the country; (b) Refresher Courses of two-week duration for teachers; (c) Lecture Workshops of 2 or 3 days duration for students and teachers; (d) Inviting teachers to attend the Mid-Year and Annual Meetings of the Academy. Indian Academy of Sciences also started the publication of a monthly journal of science education – Resonance in January 1996. Now in its second decade of publication, Resonance carries articles in all areas of science and engineering. This journal is primarily directed at students and teachers at the undergraduate level, though some of the articles may go beyond this range. In January 2007, the Indian National Science Academy (New Delhi) and The National Academy of Sciences, India (Allahabad) joined with this Academy in conducting three of the programmes viz Summer Research Fellowships, Refresher Courses, and Lecture Workshops.

7. Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO): https://www.isro.gov.in/profile.html

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is the space agency of India. The organisation is involved in science, engineering and technology to harvest the benefits of outer space for India and the mankind. ISRO is a major constituent of the Department of Space (DOS), Government of India. The department executes the Indian Space Programme primarily through various Centres or units within ISRO. ISRO was previously the Indian National Committee for Space Research (INCOSPAR), set up by the Government of India in 1962, as envisioned by Dr. VikramA Sarabhai. ISRO was formed on August 15, 1969 and superseded INCOSPAR with an expanded role to harness space technology. DOS was set up and ISRO was brought under DOS in 1972. The prime objective of ISRO/DOS is the development and application of space technology for various national needs. To fulfil this objective, ISRO has established major space systems for communication, television broadcasting and meteorological services; resources monitoring and management; space-based navigation services. ISRO has developed satellite launch vehicles, PSLV and GSLV, to place the satellites in the required orbits.

Alongside its technological advancement, ISRO contributes to science and science education in the country. Various dedicated research centres and autonomous institutions for remote sensing, astronomy and astrophysics, atmospheric sciences and space sciences in general function under the aegis of Department of Space. ISRO's own Lunar and interplanetary missions along with other scientific projects encourage and promote science education, apart from providing valuable data to the scientific community which in turn enriches science. ISRO has its headquarters in Bengaluru. Its activities are spread across various centres and units. Launch Vehicles are built at Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), Thiruvananthapuram; Satellites are designed and developed at U R Rao Satellite Centre (URSC), Bengaluru; Integration and launching of satellites and launch vehicles are carried out from Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC), Srihari Kota; Development of liquid stages including cryogenic stage is carried out at Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC), Valiamala & Bengaluru; Sensors for Communication and Remote Sensing satellites and application aspects of the space technology are taken up at Space Applications Centre (SAC), Ahmedabad and Remote Sensing satellite data reception processing and dissemination is entrusted to National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), Hyderabad.

Conference Grants: https://www.isro.gov.in/Conference_Grants.html

Indian Space Research Programme (ISRO) encourages / supports, national/ international conferences focused on the space activities or connected to the ISRO’s missions/ programmes/ objectives, which are conducted by recognized universities/ Institutions/ Agencies /Industry on the themes of mutual interest.

8. Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR): http://ichr.ac.in/v3/

The Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Education, Government of India, It was established by the Ministry of Education & Social Welfare, Govt. of India (now, Ministry of Education) on 27th March 1972 on the recommendation of a Working Group set up by the Government of India in December 1971. The respective numbers of the committee were Professor R.S. Sharma, Patna University (Chairman): Professor Satish Chandra, Jawaharlal Nehru University: Professor Tapan Ray

Chaudhuri, Delhi University: Dr. S.N. Prasad, Director, National Archives: Shri J. Veeraraghvan, Director (Internal Finance), Ministry of Education & Social Welfare: and Smt. S. Doraiswamy, Deputy Education Adviser, Ministry of Education & Social Welfare. ICHR was registered under Societies Registration Act (Act xxi of 1860) being an Act for registration of Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies in India.

Seminars / Workshops / Conferences Grant: http://ichr.ac.in/v3/seminarworkshopconference-grant.php

The Research Projects Committee (RPC) may award grants for seminars, workshops or academic conferences concerned with specific themes of History to individual scholars as coordinators who apply in accordance with the proforma, the amount of grant in each case not to exceed Rupees Three lakh fifty thousand (Rs.3,50,000/-) and to be paid through the host institution deemed to be the institution of affiliation. An application received under sub-clause (a) may be directly placed before the Research Projects Committee; or it may first be referred to an Expert, in case the Member Secretary so decides, and then placed before the Research Projects Committee along with the recommendations of the Expert. No College/University Department/Individual can avail ICHR funding for more than once in a single financial year. Preference will be given to departments of History.

9. Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS): https://iksindia.org/

Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) is an innovative cell under Ministry of Education (MoE) at AICTE, New Delhi. It is established to promote interdisciplinary research on all aspects of IKS, preserve and disseminate IKS for further research and societal applications. It will actively engage for spreading the rich heritage of our country and traditional knowledge in the field of Arts and literature, Agriculture, Basic Sciences, Engineering & Technology, Architecture, Management, Economics, etc.

IKS Institutional Internship: https://iksindia.org/iks-institutional-internship.php

We are pleased to announce the IKS Institutional Internship Program, which is designed to encourage and enthuse youth to take up deeper study of various topics related to IKS in Bharatiya Bhashas

10. Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR): https://icssr.org/about-us

Social and human sciences research enhances our understanding of the social reality and the issues and problems that need to be solved. The actionable outcomes of research provide policy inputs and frameworks for socio-economic and all-round development and generate ideas, facts, insights and methodologies that can be used in policy framing, teaching and research. India has had a long, cumulative and rich tradition of thought production in social and human sciences since the *Rigveda* (1500 BCE). The intellectual tradition since Panini has reflected on the social and cultural meaning and evolved epistemologies of enquiry for the attainment knowledge based on observation, logical and rational thinking. Educational and research institutions such as Takshashila, Nalanda, Vikramashila, Vallabhi, Pushpagiri and Somapura flourished as global centres of learning in different parts of India, and produced great knowledge in diverse fields such as Ayurveda, Medicine and Surgery, Jurisprudence, Mathematics, Astronomy, Physics, Metallurgy, Civil Engineering, Architecture, Philosophy, Grammar, Agriculture, Economics, Commerce, Politics, Statecraft, Military Education, Literature, Craft etc. These institutions set very high standards of teaching, learning and research for scholars from across the world. This system of Indian education produced scholars of great stature such as Aryabhatta, Bhaskaracharya, Amarsimha, Chandrabardai, Banbhatta, Dandin, Jivaka Komarabhacca, Mahaviracharya, Charaka, Susruta, Baudhayan, Chanakya, Brahmagupta, Panini, Patanjali, Nagarjuna, Pingala, Gargi, Kanad, Varahamihira, Thiruvalluvar, Tolkappiyar and so on. After Independence, Bharat sought to regain its indigenous model of social and human sciences research that required decolonization of the education and research. As the country's development process threw up numerous and diverse challenges that required extensive research and analysis, the Government of India established a Committee for Social Science Research under the Chairmanship of Professor V.K.R.V. Rao in 1965 to review the social science research scenario in the country and make recommendations to accelerate its progress. This led to the establishment of the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) in 1969 to encourage, promote and fund social science research in the country. Since its inception, ICSSR has played a pivotal role in building the capacities of early career and senior researchers through grants and projects as well as

training in research methodologies with the objective to produce high-quality research usable for policy intervention and policy making. It has also made immense contribution to humanities and cultural research as way to decolonise the formations of self and society across the length and breadth of the nation. It has been recognised that the need of the hour is to shift from merely documenting the 'exceptionalism' of India to engaging with the diverse social realities of the country with a philosophical stance of inwardness, so as to be able to develop an original and fresh understanding of a larger variety of issues, generate new theories and perspectives and represent the multiple voices of varied people of India. In the 21st century, when the nation aims to become a Viksit Bharat by its centenary year of Independence, 2047, ICSSR seeks to establish a symmetry between social research and society. In line with the recommendation of the National Education Policy (2020), we seek make social research equitable, affordable, inclusive, socially sensitive and globally competitive. We are an autonomous body under the Ministry of Education, Government of India and a premier organisation with 24 Research Institutes (grant-in-aid), 17 Recognised Research Institutes and Six Regional Centres located in different parts of the country.

Training and Capacity Building Programs: https://icssr.org/training-and-capacity-building

A basic requirement for high quality research in Social Sciences is the training in the science and art of doing research. While the philosophical basis of Social Science research is common to social sciences generally, different subjects have evolved their own theoretical frameworks and procedures / techniques of research. However, scholars engaging themselves in interdisciplinary or multi-disciplinary research need to familiarize themselves with the research strategies of disciplines other than in which they are trained. Moreover, from the stage of research problem to the ultimate reporting and publication of the findings, there are several aspects in which a good researcher has to refine his skills. Therefore, the ICSSR funds and sponsors Research Methodology and Capacity Building Programmes in Universities and Research Institutes. The Training & Capacity Building Programme is divided into following two categories:

(A) Research Methodology Course (RMC): The aim of the course is to enhance the methodological and writing skills of the M Phil/Ph.D/PDF scholars and develop their potential as future academicians / social science researchers.

(B) Capacity Building Programme (CBP): The aim of this programme is to give an exposure to in service faculty preferably Lecturers/Assistant Professors in Social Science disciplines to the latest advances in their subjects, technological spin off etc. and/or to enhance their general methodological and writing skills.

National and International Seminars: https://icssr.org/organization-international-and-national-seminars-conferences-india

Sponsoring Seminars/Conferences in India is a major strategy of ICSSR to promote social science subjects. They provide opportunities to researchers and academicians to exchange views and opinions, address and debate research questions on policy relevant issues and generate academic research output on important social problems. While the Council itself organises a few seminars, most of its support is responsive in nature where partial financial assistance is provided to academic institutions for organising national and international seminars in all social science subjects. Seminar proposals may fall under the following three categories:

National Seminar: The proposals should be well-conceived on themes of significant social science concerns inviting broad, interdisciplinary and national level participation. Such seminars should involve participation of scholars from within India. Preference will be given to the themes of current national and international importance with significant policy implications.

International Conference: The proposal should be well-planned and justify the need for the international conference on research priorities and issues with an international perspective. It should involve confirmed participation of significant number of foreign scholars as resource persons and/or paper contributors.

Collaborative Seminar: ICSSR also considers proposals or pro-actively seeks collaborations for joint seminars on policy-oriented/socially relevant issues with government departments or reputed research organisations with social science research orientation.

11. All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE): https://www.aicte-india.org/about-us/overview

In accordance with the provisions of the AICTE Act (1987), for the first five years after its inception in 1988, the Minister for Human Resource Development, the Government of India, was the Chairman of the Council. The first full-time Chairman was appointed on July 2, 1993 and the Council was reconstituted in March 1994 with a term of three years. The Executive Committee was re-constituted on July 7, 1994 and All India Board of Studies and Advisory Boards were constituted in 1994-95. Regional Offices of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, the Government of India, located in Kolkata, Chennai, Kanpur, and Mumbai were transferred to AICTE and the staff working in these offices were also deputed to the Council on foreign service terms w.e.f. October 1, 1995. These offices functioned as secretariats of regional Committees in the four regions (North, East, West and South). Three new regional Committees in southwest, central, and northwest regions with their secretariats located in Bangalore, Bhopal, and Chandigarh, respectively, were also established on July 27, 1994. One more regional committee in South-Central region with its Secretariat in Hyderabad was notified on March 8, 2007.

Faculty Development Schemes: https://www.aicte-india.org/schemes/staff-development-schemes

In order to train the Inductee Teachers in AICTE approved / recognized institutions, faculty development schemes or National Initiative for Technical Teachers Training (for Inductee Teachers) has been launched. It imparts training to the Inductee Teachers in three phases. The first phase of the training Programme for the Inductee Teachers shall be conducted in Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) mode for eight modules on the SWAYAM platform through the NITTT portal www.nittt.ac.in followed by one-month industrial internship (second phase) and then mentor based training (third phase).

Research and Development Schemes: https://www.aicte-india.org/schemes/research-innovations-development-schemes

To provide research grant for young faculties recruited in different AICTE approved institutes so as to collaborate for research and build research community among Faculty, Regular faculty of Project institutions (focus and non-focus) & Premier institutions of the country.

Andhra Pradesh Council of Science and Technology (APCOST): http://www.apcost.ap.gov.in/

Recognizing the importance of Science & Technology for the overall Socio-economic development of State, during sixth five-year plan, the Government of India desired to establish the State Councils and the responsibility is vested with the Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India. Accordingly, the DST performed catalytic role in establishing State Science & Technology Councils. The Government of Andhra Pradesh established the Andhra Pradesh State Council of Science & Technology (APCOST) during the year 1986. APCOST is an autonomous body registered under Societies Registration Act 1350 Fasli, and working under the aegis of Environment, Forests, Science & Technology (EFS&T) Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh. It offers grants for various science popularization activities, research projects and support meritorious faculty with awards.

Conclusion:

India offers a wide array of funding opportunities to support research and academic development across disciplines. From government agencies such as DST, DBT, CSIR, DHR, ANRF and Science Academies aim to foster innovation, interdisciplinary research, and knowledge dissemination. Seminar and conference grants provided by DBT, ICSSR, and AICTE, among others, encourage academic exchange and capacity-building. By strategically leveraging these funding avenues, researchers can not only advance scientific knowledge but also contribute to national development goals. Awareness, timely application, and strong proposal writing are key to securing these competitive grants and maximizing their potential impact. This newsletter is a stepping stone in bridging the knowledge gap between researchers and funding agencies. ISFSI remains committed to fostering a

vibrant research ecosystem through such impactful outputs. By empowering faculty with information and mentorship, we envision a future where research flourishes across all tiers of higher education.

About the President of ISFSI: *Dr. Madhamanchi Pradeep is a distinguished faculty member in the Government Degree College system of Andhra Pradesh. With a Ph.D. and a track record of mentoring early-career researchers, he has been instrumental in developing the research landscape at the undergraduate level. His accolades include the State Best Teacher Award 2022, awarded for his contributions to science education and outreach.*

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