



Government of India  
Ministry of Communications and Information Technology  
Department of Electronics and Information Technology, New Delhi



## Vishvesvaraya PhD Scheme for Electronics & IT

Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY), Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Government of India has initiated a new scheme “Visvesvaraya PhD Scheme for Electronics and IT” in year 2014 with an objective to enhance the number of PhDs in Electronics System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) and IT/IT Enabled Services (IT/ITES) sectors in the country.

Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved the scheme with a total estimated cost of Rupees Four Hundred One Crores (Rs. 401 Crores) over a period of nine years.

### Salient Features of the Visvesvaraya PhD Scheme:

- ❖ Give thrust to R&D, Create innovative ecosystem and Enhance India’s competitiveness in these knowledge intensive sectors.
- ❖ To help in the fulfillment of the commitments made in National Policy on Electronics (NPE) 2012 and National Policy on Information Technology (NPIT) 2012.
- ❖ Support to 1500 PhD students in each of ESDM and IT/ITES sectors (Total: 3000 PhDs).
- ❖ Out of the above, 500 PhDs in each of ESDM and IT/ITES sectors would be from full-time PhD candidates. The other 1000 PhDs in each of ESDM and IT/ITES sectors would be from part-time PhD candidates.
- ❖ The scheme will also support 200 Young Faculty Research Fellowships in the area of ESDM and IT/ITES with the objective to attract and retain young faculty members. This is expected to help in the recognition and encouragement of young Faculty members involved in research and technology development in these areas.
- ❖ Infrastructural grant to Academic Institutions for creation/upgradation of laboratories. Grant up to Rs. 5 lakh for every Full-Time PhD Candidate supported under the scheme may be provided to an Academic Institution.

One of the key goals of the Visvesvaraya PhD Scheme is to encourage working professionals and non-PhD faculty members to pursue PhD in the ESDM & IT/ITES sectors as part-time candidates. It is envisioned that having part-time PhD students is likely to encourage the Industry-Academia interaction, help in the alignment of the R&D efforts between them and bring value to the country.

## **Grant Modality under the Scheme**

The grant modality under this scheme is different from other PhD fellowship schemes (e.g., UGC/CSIR) of the Government of India. Here the support is provided to an academic institution in the form of a project grant by DeitY. PhD fellowship is one of the components of this project grant; other key components of the project support to institutions are the Infrastructure grant and the young faculty research fellowships. The grant is not provided directly to individual PhD students or the faculty members by DeitY.

## **Duration of the Scheme:**

The duration of scheme is for a period of five years for the purpose of selection of the PhD students. However, the funding would continue till 9<sup>th</sup> year for the commitments already made during the scheme period.

## **Eligibility Criteria for Institutions for Participation in the Scheme**

The minimum requirement for the Institutions/Universities, Research Centers etc. for being eligible to receive grants under the scheme is compliance to the “UGC’s minimum standards and procedures for award of M.Phil./PhD Degree, Regulation, 2009 (ref. The Gazette of India July11, 2009 Part III sec 4) as amended time to time.

All institutions falling in the following seven categories are eligible to participate in the scheme and receive grants:

- 1) Indian Institutes of Technologies (IITs)
- 2) National Institutes of Technologies (NITs)
- 3) Indian Institute of Science (IISc)
- 4) Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISERs)
- 5) Central Universities
- 6) Deemed Universities under Central Government
- 7) Colleges/Institutions of National Importance

Institutions falling into the following six categories also

- 1) Universities created under a Provincial Act/State Act
- 2) State Universities
- 3) Private Universities
- 4) Private Deemed to be Universities
- 5) Colleges that are allowed to offer PhDs
- 6) Other academic and R&D institutions

are eligible to participate in the scheme subject to meeting the additional eligibility criteria as mentioned below:

- The Institution should have existing post graduate stream in ESDM/IT/ITES and have produced PhDs in these areas for the last 3 years. The PhD student(s) under this scheme to be admitted as per UGC admission norms
- The Institution should be recognized by AICTE and NBA (National Board of Accreditation) accredited with respect to ESDM & IT/ITES Programmes.

Or

- The Institution should be accredited by NAAC (National Assessment and Accreditation Council of UGC).

Such an institution would be required to furnish a copy of documents in support of meeting the above mentioned eligibility criteria to the PhD Cell, DeitY.

### **Additional Information:**

Additional information on the scheme, such as, fellowship related information, terms and conditions for participation in the scheme are available on the website of the Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY) under the “Important Links” section:

**[http://deity.gov.in/sites/upload\\_files/dit/files/PhD%20Scheme.pdf](http://deity.gov.in/sites/upload_files/dit/files/PhD%20Scheme.pdf)**

### **Application Procedure**

In order to participate in the scheme, an eligible academic institution is expected to submit a proposal to the PhD Cell, DeitY. The proposal should be submitted in the prescribed format available from the Phd Cell, DeitY. The proposal should clearly mention how many full-time and/or part-time PhD candidates are expected to be supported under the scheme in a particular academic year at the applicant institute.

Once submitted, the proposal goes through a review and approval cycle. PhD Cell, DeitY may request for additional information from the institute for the processing of the proposal.

After approval, an institute becomes eligible to admit the approved number of PhD students (full-time as well as part-time), receive infrastructural grants and apply for young faculty research fellowships for its eligible faculty members.

### **\* Important Note for working professionals**

Working professionals who want to peruse PhD on part-time basis may approach one of the eligible academic institutions to get registered under the Visvesvaraya PhD scheme.

Please Note:

- a) The proposal should be submitted by Academic Institutions only.
- b) The PhD Cell, DeitY interacts with Academic Institutions only; potential PhD candidates would need to contact a supported Academic Institution to avail the benefits of the scheme.

- c) The Institute also needs to nominate a nodal officer to interact with the PhD Cell on behalf of the institution.
- d) The proposal should be sent at the communication address provided below. An early softcopy of the proposal from an academic institution over e-mail would help in expediting the approval process.

### **Contact Details:**

Please contact the PhD Cell, DeitY at the following address for further clarifications and/or information:

PhD Cell  
Room No. 2084/3089,  
Department of Electronics & IT, Electronics Niketan,  
6, CGO Complex, New Delhi-110003  
E-mail: phdscheme@medialabasia.in  
Phone No: 011- 24301284 / 24301389

### **Media Lab Asia**

Media Lab Asia, a not-for-profit organization of Department of Electronics & Information Technology, Government of India is providing the implementation support to the scheme. Media Lab Asia is working in the field of Information & Communication Technology for common man.