



F No.13-14/2014-JS(P)
Department of Higher Education
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Technical Bureau

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated the 4th November, 2015

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: National launch of IMPRINT as a part of Visitors Conference on 5th November 2015 and details about funding the Projects

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IMPacting Research Innovation and Technology (**IMPRINT**) is a Pan-IIT and IISc joint initiative to develop a *Roadmap for Research* to solve major engineering and technology challenges in ten technology domains relevant to India. The programme is based on the suggestion of Hon PM to link the research done by institutions of national importance with that of the immediate requirements of the society at large. IMPRINT is being launched by H.E. President of India and Hon PM on 5th November as a part of the Visitor's conference.

Objectives of the programme


2. The following are the objectives of the programme:
 - a) To identify areas which have immediate relevance to the society requiring innovation.
 - b) To direct the scientific research into the identified areas.
 - c) To ensure higher funding support for research into these areas.
 - d) To measure the outcomes of the research effort with reference to impact on the standard of living in the rural/urban areas.

3. The following (10) themes constitute the focus of the IMPRINT initiative along with the coordinating IIT:
 1. Health care: IIT Kharagpur
 2. Computer Science and ICT: IIT Kharagpur
 3. Advance Materials: IIT Kanpur
 4. Water Resources and River systems: IIT Kanpur
 5. Sustainable Habitat: IIT Roorkee
 6. Security and Defence: IIT Madras
 7. Manufacturing: IIT Madras
 8. Nano-technology Hardware: IIT Bombay
 9. Environmental Science and Climate Change: IISc, Bangalore
 10. Energy Security: IIT Bombay

4. In order that the programme brings in positive results and there is assurance of funding the research projects in these domains, it is decided after due consultation with the Department of Science and Technology, that the projects under the domains identified under IMPRINT would be funded as **Joint MHRD-DST projects**, so that there could be more synergies between the Departments leading to higher investments and better outcomes. The projects proposed under this would be subject to the following protocol:

- i) Every IIT/NIT/IISER/IIIT may form Domain-specific, inter-disciplinary Centres for addressing the challenges listed under each domain. While setting up the Centres, the institutions may focus on the domains where they have got substantial strength. The Centre could be manned by research personnel drawn from relevant Departments for the purpose of specific research.
- ii) Each Centre may propose a set of research projects to be taken up each year in the DST format and submitted before **31st January** each year.
- iii) The Project Advisory Committee (PAC) formed in the DST is authorised to examine the proposals and make specific recommendations. MHRD will be represented in the PAC.
- iv) Each project would be funded jointly by MHRD and DST. For the year 2016-17, it is proposed that about Rs.1,000 Cr could be made available for the projects jointly by MHRD and DST. The funds would be released to the Institutions, who have to maintain a separate account for each research centre and submit UCs before claiming the next instalment.
- v) The PAC will undertake monitoring of the projects periodically. The research centres would have to prepare annual reports on the work done in a particular year and also prepare a project completion report.

5. The above may be intimated to all the departments of the institutions in the address entry so that the first set of projects can be received before 31st Jan 2016.


R. Subrahmanyam
Additional Secretary (TE)

Directors of

- i) All IITs**
- ii) All NITs**
- iii) All IIITs**
- iv) All IISERs**