

No. 14/1/2014-Metal IV
Government of India
Ministry of Mines
(Metal IV Section)

New Delhi, dated the 6th April 2018

To,

1. All Editors of various Scientific Journals
(as per list enclosed)
2. Heads of sponsoring organizations (as per list enclosed)

Subject: Announcement inviting Science & Technology Project Proposals.

Sir,

The Science & Technology Programme scheme of Ministry of Mines is a continuing scheme initiated in 1978 with a vision to promote research in applied geosciences, mineral exploration, mining and allied areas, mineral processing, optimum utilization and conservation of the mineral resources of the country, for the benefit of the nation and its people. It provides for grant-in-aid to suitable S&T (R&D) projects to various research institutes/ organizations in the country, for research under the thrust area of the scheme.

2. Every year, an announcement is made by Ministry of Mines, Government of India through its S&T Division to invite the project proposals under the S&T Scheme from research and development institutions, laboratories, PSUs and academic institutions for up to 3 years duration in thrust areas having direct bearing on mineral sector, applied and sustainable aspect of mining and industrial applications. The received project proposals have to pass through a 3-tier process which includes (i) scrutiny of project proposals by a Scrutiny Committee, (ii) presentation of project proposals before Project Evaluation and Review Committee (PERC) and (iii) approval by Standing Scientific Advisory Group (SSAG). This year also, this Ministry desires to make the 'Announcement' inviting Science and Technology project proposals, which is enclosed. The last date of receipt of project proposals in this Ministry is 15th May 2018.

3. It is requested that the enclosed 'Announcement' may be given wide circulation and publicity.

Yours faithfully,


(Amit Saran)
Director

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ANNOUNCEMENT

**Government of India
Ministry of Mines**

Invites Science and Technology Project Proposals

Projects are invited from Academic Institutions, Universities, National Institutes and R&D Institution recognized by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Government of India, for upto 3 years duration in the following thrust areas which have direct bearing on mineral sector, applied and sustainable aspect of mining and industrial applications:

2. THRUST AREAS OF RESEARCH IN MINES

The broad thrust areas for supporting Research in Mining are given below:

- i) Prospecting/exploration for strategic rare and rare earth minerals.
- ii) Development of new technology for mineral exploration and mining on land and deep sea to locate and exploit new mineral resources.
- iii) Research in mining methods. This includes rock mechanics, mine designing, mining equipments, energy conservation, environmental protection and mine safety.
- iv) Improve efficiency in process, operations, recovery of by-products and reduction in specification and consumption norms.
- v) Research in metallurgy and mineral beneficiation techniques to utilize lower grade and finer size ores.
- vi) Extraction of value added products from mine waste, plant tailings etc.
- vii) Development of new alloys and metal related products, etc.
- viii) Evolve low capital and energy saving processing systems.
- ix) Production of materials of high purity.
- x) Cooperative research among organizations associated with the mineral sector.

3. Scientific and Technical Merit and relevance to Industry

All organization should follow the instructions given below before submitting the project proposals to the Ministry:-

- a) the proposal should be relevant to the overall mandate of mining, exploration, minerals, metals value addition, waste and environmental impact of mining and metallurgical processing
- (b) industry inputs and participation
- c) Originality in terms of concept, method, innovation, or in application;
- d) development of new methods, synthesis of advanced materials,
- e) process improvements and innovation,
- f) design of apparatus and other research tools,
- g) process development for waste/secondary/low grade materials recovery,

- h) zero waste mining, large data analysis and simulation modeling etc.
- i) nature of study as experimental, modeling/simulation and both
- j) There must be a clear enunciation of objectives and deliverable in the proposal
- k) detailing of research methodology, design of experiments, chosen methods of analysis appropriate and valid.
- l) intended/potential application area has to be made clear in the proposal, industry relevance, industry participation if appropriate
- m) potential scalability to pilot plant and later on plant levels
- n) what are the techno economic benefits (at least rough estimates).

Science & Technology (S&T) projects are funded through grant-in-aid by the Ministry of Mines through the process of project evaluation by Project Evaluation and Review Committee (PERC) and recommended projects are approved by the Standing Scientific Advisory Group (SSAG) constituted by the Ministry.

The details of terms and conditions and the prescribed proforma are available at the website www.mines.nic.in under "Science & Technology"-> **GUIDELINES FOR SUPPORT TO MINING RESEARCH** or can be downloaded from the link: <http://mines.gov.in/writereaddata/UploadFile/GUIDELINES%20FOR%20SUPPORT%20TO%20MINING%20RESEARCH.pdf>.

Project proposals can be submitted to the **Section Officer, (Metal-IV section), Room No. 15A, F-Wing, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001** (in the prescribed proforma) by **15th May 2018 (5 copies)** **alongwith soft copy of the project proposal in MS word format (not more than 3 MB)** to the E-mail: vikas.raj@nic.in. Those projects, which are shortlisted shall be directed to present their proposal either in Delhi or any other city. The tentative timelines are as under :

Details	Date
Last date of receipt of proposals	15 th May 2018
Scrutiny of proposals	By 15 th June 2018
Conduct of PERC Meeting	By 31 st July 2018
Conduct of SSAG Meeting	By 31 st August 2018

The Grants-in-aid will be governed by Government of India terms and conditions as amended from time to time. The head of the institute may please ensure that no utilization certificate under any project under the S&T Programme Scheme of Ministry of Mines being implemented by their institute is pending for more than 2 years, for consideration of their project proposal.