Ministry of Science & Technology
Department of Science & Technology

Fund for Improvement of S&T Infrastructure in Universities and Higher Educational Institutions (FIST).

Proposals are invited for consideration of support under the Scheme "Fund for Improvement of S&T Infrastructure (FIST)" of the Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India. The Scheme 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.

Nature of Support: The Scheme will provide optimal infrastructure facilities for post-graduate teaching and research, such as, renovation of laboratory space (no fresh constructions) and cold room, modernization of laboratories involved in PG teaching and research, acquisition of essential equipment and up-gradation of existing facilities, databases, scientific books (no journals) etc.. The facilities provided under the Program are intended to support the efforts of the Department as a whole or a number of faculty members in the Department. Proposal towards individual R&D support would not be accepted under this Scheme.

Duration: The duration of support for each Department will be for a period not exceeding 5 years.

Eligibility: All Science (including Medical & Agriculture) and Engineering Departments/ Centres having strong post-graduate teaching and research programs which have existed for at least 3 years or more in universities and other higher educational institutions are eligible. The Department/ Centre/ School already supported under FIST Program may submit fresh proposal after completion of the ongoing project or likely to be completed by 31.03.2008. Progress of ongoing project of the Department/ Centre/ School will be monitored as per monitoring schedule of the Program and any additional requirements will be considered as a part of that exercise. In case of **departments from self-financed & private Colleges/ Institutes**, support shall be considered **only for research,** having **National Level Test (NET/GATE) qualified post-graduate students (more than 50 %)** and such department would need **to contribute 50 % of total recommended budget**.

Type of Support:

(A) *Level – I*: Proposals from relatively small but active Department (minimum five faculty members with PhD degree) requiring moderate funding (upper limit - Rs 5 crores) for improving quality of teaching & research through modernization of laboratories, for augmenting library and networking & computational facilities.

(B) *Level – II*: Proposals from well established Department (minimum eight faculty members with PhD degree) requiring substantial funding (upper limit – Rs 10 crores) for acquiring state-of-the-art equipment and setting up laboratories for conducting internationally competitive research including networking & computational facilities.

Selection: The selection will be through a peer review mechanism and visit to the laboratories, if necessary. An Advisory Board of Experts will assist the DST in making final selection.

Application: Applications are invited from eligible Departments in the universities and other higher educational institutions in the prescribed format given below. The Departments may be required to submit additional information and/or presentation. **One copy of application complete in all respect along with a CD with proper labeling should reach the following address on or before 31ˢᵗ January 2007.** Sending proposal through e-mail shall be avoided as far as possible.

A Summary Sheet in a separate page containing Level, Subject Area, Name of Department/ Centre & University/ Institute, Year of Establishment, Status of Institute/ University/ College, complete Postal Address for correspondence including name of Head/ Contact Person, Pin Number, State/ UT, Telephone no., Fax & E-mail and the total budget may also be attached. **Please note that incomplete Proposal, Proposal not in the prescribed format and Proposal received after the due date would summarily be rejected and no correspondence with Department would be made in this respect.** The name of the successful departments shall be displayed in the Website after completion of the process.

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The envelope should mention on top No **"PROPOSAL UNDER FIST in Subject Area -----------".**
[e.g. Life Science, Physical Science, Chemical Science, Engineering Science, Earth & Atmospheric Science & Mathematical Science]