

Research Assistant position for ICSSR Project (Special Call for Short-term Empirical Research 2023-24)

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With campuses at Mumbai (Main) and off-campus at Tuljapur, Guwahati and Hyderabad, TISS offers over 50 Post Graduate programmes, 18 Doctoral programmes, and 4 Under Graduate programmes in a range of socially relevant inter-disciplinary and applied social science disciplines, and over 30 B.Voc. programmes.

Freedom and autonomy shape the positive work ethos and culture of the Institute and facilitate strong linkages between teaching, research, field action and policy engagement. The Institute encourages and supports researchers to engage in foundational, applied, field and action oriented research, and it also nurtures research collaborations nationally and internationally, with a commitment to creating a just society through education, generation of knowledge and field action initiatives.

The ICSSR Project on **‘Exploring the Potential of Cultivating Millets in Talasari Block, Palghar District in Maharashtra’** invites interested candidates to apply for the position to be filled on contract for a **period of five months**.

About the Project

The proposed study aims to understand drought stress impacts on how households acquire food and hence reshape patterns of nutritional vulnerability. The interest is in how these stress percolate to aggravate existing forms of social disadvantage; in other words, what types of households are most impacted by climate stress (landless; female-headed; tribal community), through what pathways (own-provisioning, wage-labour, smallholder farming, etc), and how this has altered calorific adequacy and dietary health. Climate stress is triggering multi-dimensional change to how disadvantaged rural population are acquiring food, with resultant effects on their diets and health. Palghar district of Maharashtra is one of the newest districts and predominantly a tribal area, where agriculture provides the primary source of livelihood. Malnutrition and associated child mortality rate recorded amongst the tribal communities is often a cause of serious concern. In the year 2015, the state of Maharashtra had reported 1274 child deaths due to malnutrition, out of which almost 32% were from Palghar district. The study will explore the potential of cultivating millets in the Talasari block due to their climate resilience and dense nutritional content. Taking best practices from different states on cultivating and forming self-help groups in mobilising and sustaining the cultivation, and consumption of millets, the study will try to explore millets which are the answer for addressing both nutritional deficiency and crop failure due to climate stress in Talasari block.

Designation: Research Assistant

Number of Positions: One (1)
The position is for five months.

Key Roles and Responsibility:

The main responsibilities of Research Assistant are:

- Field work – household survey and interviews with key informants in Palghar District, Maharashtra.
- Translation of interviews with key informants with the help of local investigator.
- Data entry and cleaning in Excel.

Monthly remuneration: Rs. 32,000/- (Thirty-two thousand only)

Essential Qualification – Post graduate in social science discipline with minimum 55%.

Desired Qualification:

- Experience in coordinating and collecting data (quantitative and qualitative) and research processes in Maharashtra.
- Knowledge about learning technologies like Excel.
- Speaking Marathi language is essential.

Last Date of Application: 23.10.2023

Conditions

(a) Since applications received will be short listed, merely possessing the prescribed qualifications and the requisite experience would not entitle a person to be called for interview.

(b) The position is unreserved, but candidates belonging to reserved category are encouraged to apply.

(c) It shall be the responsibility of the candidate to assess his/her own eligibility for the post, for which he/she is applying in accordance with the prescribed qualifications, experience etc, and send his/her CV and certificates to the email id (mentioned-below) as per the advertisement. Suppression of factual information, supply of fake documents, providing false or misleading information or canvassing in any manner on the part of the candidates shall lead to disqualification. In case it is detected at any point of time in future, even after appointment, that the candidate was not eligible, his/her appointment shall be liable to be terminated forthwith as per this clause.

(d) In case of any ambiguity in the Recruitment Rules in general and eligibility in particular for any post, the decision of the Institute shall be final.

(e) In case of any inadvertent error in the advertisement and in the process of recruitment, which may be detected at any stage, even after issue of appointment order, the Institute reserves the right to modify/withdraw/cancel any communication made to the candidate(s).

(f) The post is purely contractual and the term of the Contract Position will be five months.

Application Process and Interview:

(a) Candidates are requested to send their CVs and relevant certificates and documents at **mansi.awasthi@tiss.edu** on or before 23.10.2023.

(b) Only the shortlisted candidates will be communicated by e-mail or mobile phone to appear for the interview to be conducted in virtual mode via Zoom.

(c) TISS reserves the right to modify the Selection Process with intimation to short-listed candidates.

Note: The selected candidate is expected to join the position immediately.

Project Leader
(Project: Exploring the Potential of Cultivating Millets in Talasari Block, Palghar
District, Maharashtra)