**Guidelines**

**and**

**General Information**

for Submission of Proposals

under

National Council for Science & Technology Communication

(NCSTC)

 **June** **2023**



National Council for Science & Technology Communication (NCSTC)

Department of Science & Technology

Ministry of Science & Technology

Technology Bhawan, New Mehrauli Road

New Delhi-110016

**PREAMBLE**

The National Council for Science & Technology Communication (NCSTC), Department of Science & Technology is mandated for communicating and popularizing science and technology (S&T), stimulating scientific temper, and coordinating and facilitating such initiatives throughout the country.

NCSTC seeks to raise public awareness, understanding, and communication about advances in science and technology in order to facilitate informed decision-making and promote scientific thinking in the community. It disseminates S&T to a wide range of audiences and promotes intelligent debate on S&T-related topics. The NCSTC is involved in a variety of ongoing developmental/welfare, national/international activities to promote effective S&T communication.

Beneficiaries of the NCSTC Programme include Children, Youth, Women, Students, Researchers, Teachers/Educators, Science Communicators, Media Professionals, Policy Makers, Planners, Panchayati Raj Institutions, Central & State Government Ministries and Departments, S&T Councils in States and Union Territories, Institutions of Higher Learning in Public and Private, Universities, Academic Institutions, Research Laboratories, Radio and Television Channels, Non- Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and other S&T setups in the country, apart from the general public.

NCSTC also establishes links, fosters cooperation, and forges alliances at the local, regional, national, and international levels with appropriate organizations, groups, agencies, and institutions in order to carry out its mandate.

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# Objectives and Scope

National Council for Science and Technology Communication (NCSTC), Department of Science & Technology (DST) has been primarily created to fulfil the national goal of scientific awareness and scientific temper for all, enshrined in the Constitution of India as one of the fundamental duties of our citizens.

NCSTC, DST, since early 1980s, has been actively involved in S&T communication and popularisation. NCSTC's programmes and schemes are primarily focused at popularizing science and technology (S&T) among the general public, encouraging greater understanding and awareness of science and technology, and stimulating scientific temper among them.

While striving to reach the unreached, NCSTC aims to popularize science by creating an interactive and joyful experience relevant for people with diverse age groups. This is because simple principles of science must find appreciation in thinking, behaviour and mindset of our countrymen. It builds programmes with the help of different media in local dialects, regional and national languages, which percolate to every nook and corner of the country.

Initiatives undertaken by NCSTC also focus on enhancing informed decision-making capacity. Disseminating knowledge in interesting, informative and innovative formats thus form the key component of its activities.

NCSTC shall continue to act as a nodal agency to support and coordinate celebration of National Science Day (centrally also), National Mathematics Day by State S&T Councils, and observation/ celebration of important S&T days and so on, by giving grants to State ST Councils/Departments for organization of lectures, quizzes, open houses, etc. and support for celebration of Scientific Days.

As the programme continues, NCSTC shall build upon the successes and consequences of erstwhile activities like STEMM India, Hands-on Science & Demos, Mission Eco Next, Outreach in States especially through National Science Day and National Mathematics Day, Flagship programmes like Children’s Science Congress, etc. Furthermore, the management of beneficiary data from all of the programmes will be advanced.

Thematic outreach on high-priority topics such as boosting creativity and an innovative mindset, as well as concerns such as ICT and science communication, would be among the new dimensions. We also need to foster engagement with institutions of higher learning and research, as well as lab discoveries, as we move forward. Reaching the unreached will also receive a boost.

The thrust and expected outcome shall be on promoting science communication and popularization at the local and grassroots levels with a goal of reaching students and general public. The programmes of NCSTC shall focus on outreach activities to popularize science; training in science communication; development, production and dissemination of S&T Content Products; field-based projects; research in sci-com and sci-media, international co-operation and so on. NCSTC has also instituted awards & incentives to recognize the best efforts in this challenging domain.

This strategy aims to keep elements of relevance and a futuristic view in NCSTC endeavours while also preparing individuals for unforeseen obstacles linked with scientific and technological advancements. This would also prepare S&T institutions, scientists, society, and other stakeholders on many aspects of Scientific Social Responsibility (SSR), such as a culture shift in the pursuit of science towards the development of a self-sufficient nation (Atma Nirbhar Bharat).

# Stakeholders

NCSTC Programme interacts with diverse stakeholders including children, youth, women, students, researchers, scientists, engineers, doctors, teachers/educators, science communicators, media professionals, policy makers and planners, panchayati raj institutions, central & state government ministries and departments, S&T councils in states and union territories, institutions of higher learning in public and private, universities, academic institutions, research laboratories, radio and television channels, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), various S&T based setups, and other private establishments/enterprises, apart from public at large.

# Subject Domains & Support for Activities

The broad subject domains are as under-

* 1. Content Development
	2. Professional Development
	3. Scientific Literacies & Scientific Temper
	4. Hands-on Science
	5. Cooperation in Science Communication
	6. Science Communication (Sci-Com) for Sustainable Future

Specifically, the contemporary programmes/initiatives have focused upon:

* Research efforts, Capacity Development of Human Resources, and development of replicable/scalable field models in science communication with diverse stakeholders
* Establishing creative and cross-disciplinary processes, and mechanisms in science communication and popularization through field projects in
	+ STEMM Demonstrations, Traditional & Novel Methods in S&T Communication for Grass Roots including Science Media/Digital Applications, etc.
	+ Thematic initiatives for Sustainable Futures; Risk Communication, Health & Science Communication, Promotion of Innovation Culture, Scientific Literacies in non-conventional, multi disciplinary domains, national challenges like pollution, climate, health, renewable energy, emerging issues, etc.
* Offering platforms like National Children’s Science Congress, and National

Science Day & National Mathematics Day celebrations through State S&T Councils

* Recognition of Outstanding Efforts in S&T Communication by way of Awards .
* Operational and financial contribution for UNESCO Kalinga Awards

*Detailed description of the concerned subject domains/initiatives may be seen under* ***Technical Information*** *section of this document and also under NCSTC Division section at website* [*www.dst.gov.in.*](http://www.dst.gov.in.)

1. **Open Call for Proposals:**

Extramural Project Support, based on Terms & Conditions given under **“General Terms & Conditions”** section of this document, shall be available in the above subject areas for undertaking diverse activities vide open Call for Proposals (CFP) **at** [www.onlinedst.gov.in](http://www.onlinedst.gov.in) under categories indicated as follows but not limited to :

## Field Programmes including Popularisation & Demonstrations in STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics & Medicine), Science fairs, Exhibitions (mobile or otherwise), Campaigns including Jathas/yatra, etc.

## ii) Training Programmes (Traditional & Novel Methods including Low Cost Teaching Aids)

## iii) Research in S&T Communication & Science Media (including S&T Communication Software/Content Development)

## iv. National Children’s Science Congress (NCSC), and National Science Day celebrations and National Mathematics Day (through State S&T Councils)

**Note: The subject areas and activities suggested above are indicative and not exhaustive, proposals in other related areas are also welcome. NCSTC issues calls for proposals from time to time under select priority areas related to the above subject domains at** [www.onlinedst.gov.in](http://www.onlinedst.gov.in).

1. **Areas Not Supported**

Project Proposals largely relating to other Ministries and Departments like Ministry of Rural Development and CAPART, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Ministry of Information Technology, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Women & Child Development and Ministry of Tribal Affairs, etc. which do not have the clearly mentioned goals of science communication, science popularization or dissemination of scientific temper would not be considered by NCSTC.

Further, it may also be ensured that the proposals submitted for consideration of NCSTC do not propose any basic or fundamental research, application/field trial of research outcomes, or creation of any structure or infrastructure.

# Who can submit a proposal

Organizations/institutes eligible for receiving grant-in-aid under the NCSTC programme have to fulfill the criteria as per General Financial Rules (GFR) of the Government of India and have to follow standard procedures of the government.

A Non-Government Organization (NGO) should be registered under Societies Registration Act or other appropriate Act for at least three years before it can apply for grants. It should also be registered on NGO Darpan portal of NITI Ayog. The Memorandum of Association of NGOs should clearly state the aims & objectives relating to educational, spreading awareness and communication goals in sync with the NCSTC mandate.

# When & Where to submit the proposal

The proposal can be submitted as per timeline for online submission at [www.onlinedst.gov.in](http://www.onlinedst.gov.in/) as announced at the portal from time to time (generally under two project submission cycles in a year).

**Contact Address:**

**The Head**

**National Council for Science & Technology Communication (NCSTC) Department of Science and Technology, Government of India Technology Bhawan, New Mehrauli Road**

**New Delhi – 110016**

**Telephone : 011-6590367**

**E-mail** namrata.pathak@gov.in

**VIII Processing of the Proposals Received**

RECEIPT OF THE PROPOSAL ON E-PMS PORTAL

[(www.onlinedst.gov.in](http://www.onlinedst.gov.in/) )

**Initial Screening**

**Accepted for evaluation Rejected/Transferred**

**to other DST Divisions (if appropriate)**

**Evaluation by Experts Committee(s)**

Not Recommended

Recommended

Deferred

**IX Processing of Recommended Proposal**

**Budgetary Approval by IFD**

**Sanctioning of grant subject to terms & conditions**

**Monitoring & Evaluation**

**Mid-course correction, if any**

**Submission of UC, SE and feedback**

**Release of IInd/ Next Installment**

 **Receipt & Evaluation of PCR by**

 **the Expert Committee/DST/NCSTC**

 **and Release of Final Installment**

**Project Completion**

# x. General Terms & Conditions

* The project proposals should clearly focus on any of the areas listed in this document and further detailed under section for NCSTC Division on DST website ([www.dst.gov.in](http://www.dst.gov.in/)) and should be in conformity with the scope of the scheme.
* The agencies/organizations should submit application in the prescribed format.
* The proposal should be routed through the Head of the Institute and should be submitted in the prescribed format given in this document at any time during the year.
* The scheme does not provide funds for infrastructure like purchase of vehicles, buildings, etc. However, if any dedicated equipment is exclusively required for the project work can be considered on case to case basis.
* The institution where the project is proposed to be implemented shall assume financial accounting, audit and administrative responsibilities of the project.
* The manpower recruited for the project should be paid as per the rules of the institute and guidelines of DST/Government of India.
* The proposals are evaluated by experts and if required, the Principal Investigator will be invited to make a presentation to the experts.
* The Grant-in Aid would be released in the name of the proposer’s institution (implementing institution) having NGO Darpan ID assigned to it.
* The 1st installment of project support shall be restricted upto a maximum of 80% of total project cost.
* Selected entity will open a ZBSA account in order to receive funds and follow the CNA system of accounting or as notified by DST from time to time
* No part of the grant will be given by the grantee to another society/ institute/ body, except in cases where such payments have prior approval, with in the scope of the sanctioned proposal.
* Grant under a major head shall not be utilized for a purpose other than that for

which it is intended without prior approval.

* The review of ongoing projects shall be carried out as per advice of concerned/ programme wise designated committee(s) or subgroups, and extended suitably from time to time to help carry out on- site assessment of randomly selected projects.
* NCSTC reserves the right to terminate support to the project at any stage, if it is convinced that the grant is not being utilized properly or that appropriate progress in the project work is not being made. Further the project can also be terminated in absence of relevant information to be provided by the PI/organizing institution at any stage of processing.
* Where support has been provided by NCSTC under specific conditions accepted by a society /institution, it shall, if it does not comply with these conditions, be liable to refund the grant along with the interest accrued already received in such manner as may be required by the Govt. & no further NCSTC/DST grant will be allowed to such a society/institution.
* The comptroller and auditor general of the Govt. of India shall have the discretion and right of access to the books and accounts of the society/institute/body pertaining to the grant(s) received from the Govt. DST can order a special internal audit of the accounts of the project at any point of time on the directions of Secretary DST.
* Any unspent balance of NCSTC grant during a year is to be either

refunded, or specific concurrence has to be obtained for its being carried forward for utilization during the next year.

* The grantee society/ institute/body shall maintain separate audited accounts for the projects, to be furnished within the six months of the close of the last budgeted activity in the project or of the financial year in which the last installment of the grant is sanctioned, which ever earlier. The Institute will maintain separate audited account for the project and keep whole of the grant in a bank account earning interest. The interest earned and other earnings, against released Grant shall be remitted to Consolidated Fund of India (through Non-Tax Receipt Portal (NTRP), i.e., [www.Bharatkosh.gov.in](http://www.bharatkosh.gov.in/)) or else it will have to be returned to NCSTC along with the unspent balance of the amount sanctioned for the project.
* A Utilization Certificate, in the Form GFR-12A, to the effect that the grant has been actually spent for the purpose for which it has been sanctioned should reach the sanctioning authority within three months of the close of the last project activity or of the financial year, which ever is earlier.
* The institute shall submit to DST the necessary expenditure statement, Audited Statement of Accounts, Utilization Certificate in respect of the funds released in connection with the implementation of the projects.
* For a project of more than one year duration, the PI shall furnish annual progress report to DST indicating the achievements/ progress as well as the problems faced by them if any as per the format of the Project Completion Report/Project Progress Report.
* The project completion report has to be submitted by the PI/Organization within three months of completion of actual work approved as per order of sanction.
* The following must be submitted to NCSTC by the PI/Organization as soon as they are ready as per the time-frame envisaged in the project, but not later than 30 days after the date of the completion of the project.
	1. 10 copies of each printed document (such as book, magazine, proceedings, report, finalized recommendations, poster, etc.) or kits prepared under the project.
	2. Two sets of each software items (such as film, video, slide- set, audio disk/cassette, computer-floppy etc.) prepared under the project.
* All the assets acquired or created out of the grant including any information collected/compiled in the course of and for the project will be the sole property of the NCSTC/DST, Govt. of India and should not be disposed off, or divulged or encumbered or utilized for purposed other than those necessitated by the implementation of the project without the prior approval of NCSTC/DST. All such tangible assets should be actually labeled as such (i.e. Property of DST/Govt. of India).
* At the conclusion of the project, NCSTC /DST will be free to sell or dispose off (by any appropriate means) the assets/information acquired for the implementation of the project. The grantee society/institution body shall render to NCSTC/DST (Govt. of India) necessary facilities for arranging such disposals of the aforementioned assets/information.
* For all the software developed/produced under the project supported, unless approved specifically otherwise, acknowledgment of NCSTC support must be explicitly made in a manner to be specified/mutually agreed in all copies of the software. (Software here implies a manuscript, a script, or a publication, a film or a video programme, a slide-set, cassette, a disc or a floppy, e-content, or the like).
* Acknowledgment of the support received from NCSTC must be projected appropriately (in a manner to be specified/mutually agreed) in all public communications, pamphlets or other publicity materials, if any, produced or issued during the course of the implementation of the project. Unless, agreed to or specified otherwise, the form of acknowledgement to be used would be: ***“Catalyzed and supported by the National Council for Science & Technology Communication, Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India"***
* An undertaking as to submission or pendency of UC & SE should be clearly given at the time of submission of any fresh project proposal.
* The project will become operative with effect from the date on which the grant is sanctioned. If the PI to whom for a project has been sanctioned wishes to leave the Institute where the project is based, the Institute/investigator will inform the same to the DST and in consultation with DST, the Institute shall evolve with DST, steps to ensure successful completion of the project before relieving the PI. Association of a Co- Investigator would normally be desirable.

# XI. Documents required at the time of submission of project proposal

Please submit authenticated copies of the documents as per following checklist along with requisite certificates along with the Proposal for support:

* 1. Registration Certificate
	2. Memorandum of Association
	3. Rules, regulations and bye laws
	4. Endorsement from the Head of the proposer agency as per prescribed format on letter Head.
	5. Certificate from the Principal Coordinator/Principal Investigator and Co- coordinator/Co-Investigator of the project duly signed as per prescribed format.
	6. Detailed Bio-Data of Principal Coordinator/Principal Investigator and Co- coordinator/CO-Investigator and Associated Scientist(s).
	7. Latest audited statement of accounts for the last three years.
	8. Copy of the Annual Reports for the last three year.
	9. Unique Id number obtained from NGO Darpan Portal of NITI Aayog.
	10. List of Resource persons along with Bio-data associated with the project.
	11. List of names and addresses of experts/institutions to be involved with the project
	12. Details of existing registration (if any) with Public Financial Management System (PFMS).
	13. Signed Conflict-of-Interest-Document as given at DST website

Note:- May please clearly mention in the proposal the Status of the Institute (in case of Registered bodies, Registration Certificate voluntary agencies, non-profitable charitable institutions, consulting organizations etc.)

**XII. Specimen of Certificates to be Submitted along with the Proposal**

It is certified that

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

1. The organisation/Institute has been registered on NGO Darpan portal of NITI Aayog. The PAN card of the organisation and the PAN cards & AADHAR card details of the members (at least three functionaries) are available on NGO Darpan portal. The unique ID of the agency/Institute on NGO Darpan Portal is ………………” (a copy of NGO Darpan Portal registration must be enclosed).
2. Society/Agency or any of its functionaries is not and has never been involved/ implicated in any corrupt practices.
3. The organization/Institute is not black listed.
4. There is no pending Statement of Expenditure, Utilization Certificate and Project Completion Report for any of the completed NCSTC projects.
5. Organisation/Institute is enrolled under PUBLIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM- PFMS at [www.cga.nic.in](http://www.cga.nic.in/) (a copy of PFMS registration must be enclosed).
6. Organisation/Institute shall follow all the relevant procedure & guidelines of DoE/DST such as following the CNA system and Fund Flow requirements as updated from time to time.
7. Bank account is an interest bearing bank account in nationalized bank.
8. The Institute will maintain separate audited account for the project and keep whole of the grant in a bank account earning interest. The interest earned and other earnings, against released Grant shall be remitted to Consolidated Fund of India (through Non-Tax Receipt Portal (NTRP), i.e., [www.Bharatkosh.gov.in](http://www.bharatkosh.gov.in/))
9. The equipment proposed is not already available with the Organization/Institute. *(Please strike off if not applicable)*
10. The organisation/Institute/Principal Investigator/Principal Coordinator has not obtained financial assistance from any other department of the Central/State Governments for this project or a similar project.

Signature of the Head of the Institute/ Principal Investigator with seal/stamp

Place:

Date:

CERTIFICATE FROM THE INVESTIGATORS/CO-ORDINATOR(S) OF THE PROJECT

Project Title:

1. I/We have gone through and agree to abide by the terms and conditions of the RVPSP/DST grant.
2. I/We have not submitted, nor do I/ We intend to submit this, or a similar project proposal, to any other agency for financial or other support.
3. I/We have explored and insured that hardware and basic facilities will actually be available from our organization as and when required for the purpose of this

project no financial support under this project will be requested or utilized for these items.

1. I/We undertake to summit progress report, statements(s) of accounts, utilization certificates etc., periodically and at the end of each financial year.
2. I/We have enclosed the following materials.

Name(s) & Signature(s) of Principal Investigator/Principal Coordinator, Co Investigator/Co- coordinator

Place: Date:

ENDORSEMENT FROM THE HEAD OF THE PROPOSER AGENCY

(ON LETTER HEAD)

Project Title:

1. Certified that our agency welcomes participation of Dr./Shri/Smt.

----------------------------------- as the Principal Investigator/Coordinator and Dr./Shri/Smt.

 - as the Co Investigator/Co-Coordinator of the project mentioned above. The Co Investigator/ Co-coordinator will assume the responsibility of fruitful completion of the project if the

Principal Investigator/ Coordinator is unable to do so (with due intimation to NCSTC, DST.)

1. Certified that the hardware, other basic facilities and such other administrative support required as per terms and condition of the grant, will be extended to the coordinator(s) throughout the duration of the project.
2. Our agency will undertake the financial and other management responsibilities of the project and will ensure compliance with the terms and conditions laid down, in case the project is sanctioned.

Name, Signature and Seal of the Head of Agency

Place: Date:

PROFORMA FOR BIODATA OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR/ COORDINATOR &

Co INVESTIGATOR/CO-COORDINATOR

A.) Name:

B.) Date of Birth:

C.) Institution with Full Address:

D.) Whether belongs to SC/ST:

E.) Academic and Professional Career: Academic Career:

Professional Career:

F.) Award/Prize/Certificates etc. won by the Coordinator: G.) Publication (Number & Titles Only):

Books:

Research papers, Reports:

General Articles:

Patents:

Others (please Specify):

H.) List of Completed and on going projects (during the last three years):

S. No. Title of the Project Duration Total Cost Funding Agency From To

I.) List of Projects submitted (during the last three years):

S. No. Title of the Project Name of Organization Status

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| **XIII. Writing the Proposal** |
| FORMAT FOR WRITING THE PROPOSAL*As per Guidelines & General Information for Submitting Proposals to NCSTC June 2023* |
| 101 | Title |  |  |  |
| 102 | Details of Principal Investigator/Principal Coordinator |  |
|  | Name |  |  |  |
|  | Date of birth |  |  Gender (Male/Female) Whether Gen/OBC/SC/ST  |
| Designation & Organization |
| Complete address with Pin code |
|  | Valid email address |  |  |  |
| Telephone, Mobile No |
| 103 | Details of Co-Investigator/Co-Coordinator |  |  |
|  | Name |  |  |  |
|  | Date of birth |  | Gender (Male/Female)Whether Gen/OBC/SC/ST |
| Designation & Organization |
| Complete address with Pin code |
|  | Valid email address |  |  |  |
| Telephone, Mobile No |
| 104 | Name & address of the Proposer Agency/Institution, Website url (if any) |
| 105 | Organization/Institution’s Registration number & Year, NGO Darpan Unique Id,PFMS Unique ID, & Bank Details as follows: |
|  | Agency Name in Bank | Bank Name |
|  | Bank A/c No (attach cancelled cheque also) | IFSC Code |
| 106 | Name & Designation of the Head of the Proposer Agency & authorized & verifiablesignatory from the Proposer Agency (In case, other than the Head) |
| 107 | Name, address, registration number, website url (if any) of the Collaborating Agency/ Institution (If any); whether Lead/Supporting partner & verifiable signatory from theCollaborating Agency |
| 108 | Target Area/Place of activity : District | State |  |
| 109 | **Objectives of the project** |  |  |
| 110 | **Project Activities proposed** |  |  |
| 111 | **Languages to be employed** (for carrying out project activities) |
| 112 | **Project Duration** |  |  |  |
| 113 | **Total Cost** | Recurring cost |  | Non Recurring (Capital) cost |
| 114 | **Background & Justification for undertaking the proposed project w.r.t. goals of****NSCTC** |
| 115 | **Target group(s), direct & indirect beneficiaries:** | (Whether Gen/OBC/SC/ST) |
| 116 | **Approach and Methodology/Workplan** |  |  |
| 117 | **Time schedule giving milestones** |  |  |
| 118 | **Organization’s experience along with activities in the area of science****communication, list of on-going & completed projects** |
| 119 | **Project Management with clear description of roles and responsibilities** |
| 120 | **Monitoring, Evaluation, Lesson Learning and Beneficiary Feedback**  | 17 |
| 121 | **The deliverables/ desired benefits to target groups/expected outcomes, & their utilization** |
| 122 | **Detailed budgetary requirement, both recurring and non-recurring (capital), along with justification budget head wise & give account of self generated****resources** |
| 123 | **MANDATORY DECLARATION:** Whether submitted all required enclosures &certificate(s) as per list attached (Yes/No or state whichever is not submitted)  |

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|  **124 INSTRUCTIONS/ADVISORY WITH EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR**  **FORMULATING THE PROJECT PROPOSAL & CHECKLIST**  |
|  | **Advisory Item**  | **Whether RESPONDED in proposal** (Yes/No/NA) |
| 1 | **Objectives of the project** *– state briefly, clearly and specifically itemized*. | Yes/No/NA |
| 2 | **Background & Justification** *- What specific problem will the project address; how was it identified; how will it be addressed; how does it fit with one or more of the objectives, mandate & goals of NCSTC? How the capacity will be built as a result of the project?* | Yes/No/NA |
| 3 | **Description of the target area, target group (s) along with their beneficiaries***How was the target group identified? Why were they selected? What consultation has been undertaken with the target group in designing the project?* | Yes/No/NA |
| 4 | **Who are the direct beneficiaries & indirect ones? How many people are they and how have you determined this number?** *Please specify how the project beneficiaries will be involved in the implementation, management and monitoring of the project?* | Yes/No/NA |
| 5 | **NGO Darpan Unique Id is to be generated in case of an NGO being the proposer agency by its registration at the portal** [**http://ngo.india.gov.in/**](http://ngo.india.gov.in/) | Yes/No/NA |
| 6 | **Organization’s experience in the area of science communication:** Pl also indicate*category of the organization (NGO/Science Based Institution/Academic Institution/Others) based on references in support, not self-categorization.* | Yes/No/NA |
| 7 | **Whether submitted a proposal to NCSTC during last 5 yrs?** *(State reference numbers, year when submitted, titles, and result of previous proposals & sanctioned projects including whether settlement of accounts done)* | Yes/No/NA18 |
| 8 | **Experience, in relation to issues targeted in the proposal and in the proposed geographical region, with respect to expertise and work already going on in the organization**  | Yes/No/NA |
| 9 | **Funding history with NCSTC & other organizations** *(brief summary of proposer’s experience with projects of this size and scope)* | Yes/No/NA |
| 10 | **Collaborating organization’s track record & competence** *(Pl give similar details, as applicable, and also specify their experience in relation their role and responsibility in the project including the technical issues and relevant geographical coverage.)* | Yes/No/NA |
| 11 | **The expected outcome & its utilization** - *Please also specify what are the other agencies, including Government, who are involved in the areas where this initiative will take place and how will you work with them? How will the project address gaps, complement other initiatives and avoid duplication? What are the prospects for the benefits of the projects being sustained after the funding stops? If it aims to provide services, then how will they continue at the end of the project? How the time frame of the project is sufficient to reach objectives & support sustainability? Who will be empowered & how?* | Yes/No/NA |
| 12 | **Project Management** - *Outline the project implementation & management arrangements for the project with clear description of the roles and responsibilities of each of the partners. Pl attach appendix for organogram of the project staff showing which staff are part of which partner organization and how the partners relate to each other.* | Yes/No/NA |
| 13 | **Monitoring, Evaluation, Lesson Learning and Beneficiary Feedback -** *How the beneficiaries and other stakeholders will be involved in monitoring and evaluation? How will the performance of the project be monitored? How will the progress be demonstrated in terms of interim indicators or milestones? How the impact will be assessed? How the beneficiary feedback will be gathered and utilized?* | Yes/No/NA |
| 14 | **Budgetary requirement, both recurring and non-recurring under separate heads**. *Please give justification for each, one of them of the budget and indicate how arrived at. Estimate gives unit cost as well as consolidated. Pl also give on a single sheet a summary of the budget outlay.* | Yes/No/NA |
| 15 | **Account of self generated resources** *Please state the self generated resources and means, BOTH* *IN CASH AND KIND, such as cash collected, use of equipment on the loan, manpower, free publicity etc. Mode of utilization and accounting of these resources for implementing this project.* | Yes/No/NA19 |

**TECHNICAL INFORMATION**

NCSTC Programmes address the needs of Children, Youth, Women, Students, Researchers, Teachers/Educators, Science Communicators, Media Professionals, Policy Makers, Planners, Panchayati Raj Institutions, Central & State Government Ministries and Departments, S&T Councils in States and Union Territories,Institutions of Higher Learning in Public and Private, Universities, Academic Institutions, Research Laboratories, Radio and Television Channels, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and other S&T Setups In The Country, apart from masses at large. NCSTC also creates linkages, fosters cooperation and alliances at local, regional, national and international levels with appropriate organizations, groups, agencies, institutions, and so on towards fulfilment of its mandate.

**Some of the Important Successful Initiatives Over the Years:**

* The campaigns over the Year of Scientific Awareness, Year of Physics, Year of Astronomy, Year of Mathematics, observation of the National Science Day and National Mathematics Day, the National Children’s Science Congress, National Teacher’s Science Congress, and Science Express etc.
* **National Science Day**

Every year on February 28, is celebrated as the National Science Day.  The programme was initiated by department to trigger science popularization activities throughout the country and to disseminate scientific education about the current issues of science and technology amongst the citizens of the country.  The programmes starts around the national science day and activities like lectures, quiz, radio, television shows, open houses and debate etc. are organized around a central theme. These programmes are organized nationwide through the state S&T Councils, science and Technology Departments.

* **Science Express**
* **National Teacher’s Science Congress**

Initiated by NCSTC, the NTSC provides a forum to teachers of the country to enhance their level of scientific awareness. The first national event was held in 2003. Presently it has become a biennial activity of NCSTC. Besides teachers educators of vocational/open schools/teachers educators/DIET faculty/B.Ed and university researchers, scientists, technologists and activists are also eligible to submit their papers.

* **Initiative for Research and Innovation in Science (IRIS)**
* **India Innovation Initiative-i3**

India Innovation Initiative - i3 has been a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) initiative of NCSTC. Each year hundreds of innovations were received from across the country contributors include students, industry professionals, individual and grassroots innovators in various fields such as Life Sciences, Electronics & Communication, IT, Energy and Engineering Technologies. It was a national level competition for promoting the spirit of science & technology in the country. Students enrolled in AICTE approved institutions and others were eligible.

* **Mission Enlighten**
* **Mission eco NEXT**

Effective science communication can change ways of community learning, peoples’ access to knowledge & resources, and societal paradigms. The science behind management of ecological resources, habitat & ecosystems services is central to our well being and ability to work. It thus addresses critical life cycle needs and complexities

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of social, economic and ecological nature. In today’s fast-paced world, role of media, both in printed and electronic forms, is critical in leveraging furthering these goals. The initiatives would support a direct and purposeful communicative paradigm, as Science Media & Eco Next Youth leadership and promoting informed choices and decision making. The Eco Media & Eco Next initiatives focus upon promoting real-time responsiveness and eco-media leverage for promoting integrated efforts for conservation of natural resources, specifically aimed at –

1. Developing models in public guidance systems based on science communication, like location specific innovative initiatives for actionable learning and building field capacity for adopting scientific & best practices in knowledge critical domains.
2. Knowledge led motivation of youth for leadership and improvement of quality of life of specific target groups based on scientific approaches of *‘Being- on- their -Own’*and ‘C*ollective response’*to challenges and location specific problems.
3. Serving national priorities of Government of India like Swachh Bharat, Access to Safe Water, Ecological Health of Rivers, etc.)
* **National Children’s Science Congress**

This is an opportunity for brilliant young scientists (10 -17 years of age group), started since 1993 to popularize the method of science with following steps:

* work in teams under a guide on an identified theme
* select a problem from the neighborhood
* develop a hypothesis and conduct field research
* see patterns in data and prepare a report
* present findings before peer group in one's own language.
* Innovative projects are selected for district congress, state congress and national convention. Each state also sends two delegates to the annual session of the Indian Science Congress.
The NCSC has been organized in almost all districts every year with more and more schools joining the activity. Developing an activity book, training workshops for guide teachers, evaluating the research projects and coordinating the district and state level conventions are enriching experiences for a number of organizations. More than 10 lakh children are participating actively throughout the country. The national events with the themes selected for the past years are shown below:
* **S&T Awareness for conservation of Resources & Sustainable development- STARS**

Nationwide training cum awareness programmes on understanding weather, climate change and disaster preparedness for sustainable development;

**Grameen Vigyan Jagriti** A programme on rational use of pesticides, fertilizers, demystification and awareness generation about malpractices like female feticides, food safety, genetically modified crops, Biodiversity awareness related programmes.

* **Mathematics Awareness Resources & Initiatives (MARI)**

Various initiatives are encouraged to enthuse, motivate and inculcate, a positive attitude to learn mathematics in the younger generation ranging from identification and introduction of best teaching practices and resource persons; Capacity building of in-service teachers & students through training/ camps in Mathematics; Development, production & Dissemination of teaching learning materials (TLMs) like posters, Mathematics kits,  resource manuals, booklets, models,  etc. for Mathematics and research in related areas. Every year since 2012, birthday of Srinivasa Ramanujan, a great mathematician is celebrated as “National Mathematics Day” with the help of state S&T Councils, throughout the country.

* **Explaining Science behind Miracles**

There is exposure on the training module aiming at providing basic skills in performing & investigating such miracles and based on science behind it. Miracles are performed by so called Godmen who want to mislead the gullible, but fact is that all miracles are based on various principles of science.

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* **Motivational Programme**

To encourage bright students to select careers in science it is imperative to sensitize them about science & technology related work going on various laboratories, universities and scientific institutions in the country.

To encourage bright students to select careers in science, the National Council for Science & Technology Communication, New Delhi invites proposals from research laboratories, universities, Aided institutions of the Department of Science & Technology, GOI, New Delhi, State S&T Councils and other interested scientific institutions for hosting motivational programmes in their institutions.

**Focus:**The main objective is to kindle interest of the students in taking up pure sciences as academic and career option, students are sensitized about the science & technology related work going on with an exposure of various sophisticated instruments, facilities in S&T laboratories;

**Duration:** Duration of the programme is one week; which can also include a one day open house for the parents and other target groups, the programme will be highly interactive and preferably residential.

**Target:** Students of X & XI th standard with science background (for one week program), teachers and parents  ( for a day long interaction only)

* [**Thrust Areas in STEM Demonstration**](http://www.dst.gov.in/sites/default/files/STEMDemonstration.pdf#_blank)
* **Audio/Radio Programmes**

Science based radio serials on various topics are produced and broadcasted by119 stations of All India radio (AIR) and through community radio. Some of the popular serials are: “Jeevan Ek-Roop Anek”, Rahiye matwaley, “Ankon ke Khiladi”, Radio Mathematics (on community radio).

* **Video Programmes**

Video programmes were made and telecast on DD. They are Challenge Chatani, “Utthan”, Ignited Minds I-II, Hum Honge Kamyab, Fossil Memoirs etc. Video CD’s on achievements of S&T in India were also developed and telecast.

* **Web based programmes**

Interactive Web Portals on Mathematics; Web Portal on Planet Earth)

* **Ganit Yatra in the state of Maharashtra**
A state level campaign in the tribal districts of Maharashtra was undertaken as “Ganit Yatra”, a regional jatha Supported by NCSTC. Resource material in terms of dramas, CDs, ganit geet, booklets, calender etc. were brought out.
* **Training Manuals & Kits Developed**
Mathematics kit, Weather Kit, Simple Tasks - Great Concepts, LASER kit for Students, Parakhi, Module on Microorganisms, Vermi-Composting, Astronomy kit, Biodiversity kit etc. are made and disseminated among the children

**Augmenting Writing Skills for Articulating Research (AWSAR)**
AWSAR is an initiative that aims to disseminate Indian research stories among the masses in an easy to understand and interesting format to a common man. Under this initiative, PhD Scholars and Post-Doctoral Fellows (PDFs) in Science and Technology (S&T) streams would be encouraged to write at least one popular science article during the tenancy of their fellowship, and to participate in a national competition. **Following are the objectives under AWSAR:**

* Encourage youth pursuing higher studies to submit at least one story/article based on their research work

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* Foster, strengthen and create scientific temper through popular science writing and creating a culture of science communication/popularisation among the scholars
* Recognize the initiative and output of researchers on the specific aspects of natural, physical, mathematical and information sciences, applied science, technology, engineering, and multi-disciplinary science.
* Conduct training workshops for Early Career Researchers (PhD Scholars and PDFs) in popular science writing

* **Awards and Recognitions**

National awards for science communications are presented every year to recognize outstanding achievements of individuals and institutions. Each award comprises an attractive cash prize, a memento and a scroll, presented every year at the national function on 28th February, the National Science Day.

Nominations for the awards are invited at Rashtriya Awards Portal in the following categories:

* Outstanding Effort in Science & Technology Communication     - (Rupees Two Lakhs)
* Outstanding Effort in S&T Communication through Books  & Magazines - (Rupees Two Lakh)
* Outstanding Effort in S&T Popularization among Children          - (Rupees Two Lakh)
* Outstanding Effort in Translation of Popular S&T Literature        - (Rupees Two Lakh)
* Outstanding Effort in S&T Communication in the Print Medium    - (Rupees Two Lakh)
* Outstanding Effort in S&T Communication in Electronic Medium  - (Rupees Two Lakh)
* **UNESCO Kalinga Awards**

The UNESCO Kalinga Prize for the Popularization of Science is an award given by UNESCO for exceptional skill in presenting scientific ideas to lay people. It was created in 1951, following a donation from Hon’ble Shri Biju Patnaik, Chief Minister of Orissa and Founder President of the Kalinga Foundation Trust, Bhubaneswar. Candidates shall have made a significant contribution to the popularization of science. Till to date, sixty-five individuals, from twenty-four countries have received this award. Six of whom have also been Nobel-Prize winners.)

* **Regional innovation Science Hubs for Innovators (RISHI)**
* **Health and Nutrition through Community Radio**
* **Academic/Training courses in S& T communication**

**Current Subject Domains & Activities For Support**

# Objectives and Scope

National Council for Science and Technology Communication (NCSTC), Department of Science & Technology (DST) has been primarily created to fulfil the national goal of scientific awareness and scientific temper for all, enshrined in the Constitution of India as one of the fundamental duties of our citizens.

NCSTC, DST has been continuously engaged in S&T Communication and Popularisation since

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early 80’s. The programmes and schemes of NCSTC are largely aimed at communicating and

popularizing science and technology (S&T) to masses, promoting greater understanding and awareness of science and technology, and stimulating scientific temper amongst them.

While striving to reach the unreached in the domain of science popularization, NCSTC endeavours for creating an interactive and joyful experience relevant for diverse age groups and sections of society. This is because simple principles of science must find appreciation in thinking, behaviour and mindset of our countrymen. It builds programmes with help of different media in local dialects, regional and national languages, which percolate to every nook and corner of the country.

The initiatives undertaken by NCSTC also endeavour to build capacity for informed decision making. The dissemination of knowledge in interesting, informative and innovative formats thus form the key component of its activities.

With continuation of the programme, NCSTC shall build upon the successes and consequences of existing activities like STEMM India, Hands-on Science & Demos, Mission Eco Next, Outreach in States especially through National Science Day and National Mathematics Day, Flagship programmes like Children’s Science Congress, etc.. In addition the management of beneficiary data available from all the programmes shall be taken forward.

NCSTC shall continue to act as a nodal agency to support and coordinate celebration of National Science Day (centrally also), National Mathematics Day by State S&T Councils, and observation/ celebration of important S&T days and so on, by giving grants to State ST Councils/Departments for organization of lectures, quizzes, open houses, etc. and support for Celebration of Scientific Days.

Thematic outreach with high priority themes like promoting creativity and innovative mind-set, issues like ICT and science communication, etc. would be amongst the new dimensions. While moving forward with this we also need to promote engagement with institutions of higher learningand research, lab’s discoveries, etc. A renewed thrust shall also be provided on reaching the unreached.

The thrust and expected outcome shall be the promotion of Science Communication and Popularization at the grassroots and local levels with an aim to cover students and general masses.

The programmes of NCSTC focus on outreach activities to popularize science; training in science communication; development, production and dissemination of S&T Content Products; field based projects; research in sci-com and sci-media, international co-operation and so on. NCSTC has also instituted awards & incentives to recognize the best efforts in this challenging domain.

This approach is aimed at maintaining elements of relevance and bring in futuristic outlook in NCSTC endeavours while also preparing the people for unforeseen challenges associated with strides of science & technology advancement. **This shall also prepare the S&T institutions, scientists, society and other stakeholders about various dimensions of Scientific Social Responsibility (SSR) including a cultural change in the pursuit of science towards building a self-reliant nation (Atma Nirbhar Bharat).**

1. **Stakeholders**

NCSTC Programme addresses the needs of Children, Youth, Women, Students, Researchers,

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Scientists, Engineers, Doctors, Teachers/Educators, Science Communicators, Media Professionals, Policy Makers and Planners, Panchayati Raj Institutions, Central & State Government Ministries and Departments, S&T Councils in States and Union Territories,Institutions of Higher Learning in Public and Private, Universities, Academic Institutions, Research Laboratories, Radio and Television Channels, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), various S&T based setups, and other private establishments/enterprises, apart from public at large.

**Current Subject Domains & Activities for Support**

1. Content Development ­
2. Professional Development
3. Scientific Literacy & Scientific Temper
4. Hands-on Science
5. Cooperation in Science Communication
6. Science Communication (Sci-Com) for Sustainable Future

**i) Content Development** In order to leverage the efforts to fulfil the overarching goals of promote diverse scientific literacies and building scientific temper, the content/software development shall be promoted through support to activities on science communication using different media, modes and means, and subsuming the existing initiatives such as TV & Internet Science Channel, Development of S&T Content on Wikipedia in Indian Languages, Science News & Feature Services, apart from support for novel applications in Databases, Virtual Modes, Science Media programmes/web series, etc. and their dissemination.

­**ii)** **Professional Development**

Professional Development shall be furthered by means of a range of strategic initiatives. Existing initiatives like Augmenting Writing Skills through Articulating Research (AWSAR), etc. shall be further advanced. Science communication training and research workshops would be strengthened by harnessing emerging science media trends like ICT and Digital Science Media, Green Media, Eco Media, Geo Media, Computational Media, Animation, Gamification, Science Fiction, etc., with a focus on thrust areas such as Agricultural Sciences, Biosciences, Environmental Sciences, Public Health Sciences and Medicine, Food, Energy, S&T Information Sciences, etc.

Building science communicators through Traditional and Novel modes of Training cum Demonstrations viz. folk media and low cost teaching aids, addressing misconceptions, demystification of S and T, etc., Capacity Building & Research in Science Communication and Science Media & Social Media, Development of Science Commentators/ Narrators, Science Communicators’ Meet, etc. in Science Communication, continuing with the National Awards for Science Popularization and Communication under present six categories and UNESCO Kalinga Award for Science Popularization (Biennial), etc.

 **iii) Scientific Literacy & Scientific Temper**

Promotion of a gamut of multidisciplinary Scientific Literacies, like Genetics Literacy, Health Science Literacy, Environment Science Literacy, Geo Science Literacy, Materials Literacy, ICT/Digital Science Literacy, Energy Literacy, and so on, as a dynamic and evolving process, would be aligned with the thrust domains like Content Development, Professional Development, Hands-

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on Science activities, Cooperation, and Science communication on contemporary and emerging areas including Risk Science Communication, along with associated ongoing/existing and upcoming activities.

It is pertinent to mention that NCSTC continues to promote scientific literacies through support and coordination of National Science Day celebrations (Centre and State levels) and National Mathematics Day through State S&T Councils, apart from project support to promote S&T solution seeking behaviour, informed decision making, communicating innovative practices aligned with Sustainable Development Goals.

**iv) Hands-on Science**

The endeavours would be focussed on outreach activities, popularisation, demonstration of science and would synergise with other domains like Promotion of Scientific Literacy & Scientific Temper, Professional Development and Content Development. Thematic outreach with high priority themes like promoting creativity and innovative mind-set, issues like ICT for science communication, etc. shall be the new dimensions for Static & Mobile science exhibitions, virtual science exhibitions, science media, Hands-on STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics & Medicine) camps for students and field immersion, while possibility of other innovative techniques & tools shall also be explored and recognition of achievement, award prizes to excite participants shall be encouraged.

However, existing activities with renewed focus shall continue under National Children’s Science Congress (NCSC), Initiative for Research & Innovation in Science (IRIS) science fair for budding scientists in India, Science Exhibitions, Mela/Fairs, Mobile Science Exhibitions (Buses, Bikes, Boats, Ships, etc.), Low cost teaching/learning aids, various grassroots level hands – on activities like, puppetry, nukkad natak, science- jathas/ campaigns, skits and street plays, folk songs, dances, etc., script a dialogue, Origami, Mathematical games/activities, and other innovative activities etc. and would be serving many more students, teachers, farmers, masses.

**v) Cooperation in Science Communication:**

NCSTC shall workoutCooperation with national agencies working in Science Communication involving Inter -Ministerial/Departmental, Organizational, Public-Private Cooperation, and other Networks apart from International Cooperation, etc.

**vi) Science Communication (Sci-Com) for Sustainable Future**

NCSTC shall endeavour to promote science communication in emerging areas through science & technology communication on highlights of Lab’s discoveries through media in effective manner and timely and brief communications to media on science breakthroughs. Groups of science communicators shall be promoted to communicate to the media and local population. Capacity building initiatives shall be supported to handle issues of misinformation, fake news in science, etc.; and communicating science through social media platforms, using blogs, #tag, etc. In addition, NCSTC shall enter priority emerging areas viz. Risk Communication (Awareness programmes on risks involving existing and emerging technologies i.e. nuclear, GMOs, AI, etc.), emerging washing stone sciences and ecosystems sciences, and Research Communication, etc.

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*Support shall be available in the above subject areas for undertaking diverse activities under categories indicated as follows but not limited to :*

## *Field Programmes including Popularisation & Demonstrations in STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics & Medicine), Science fairs, Exhibitions (mobile or otherwise), Campaigns including Jathas/yatra, etc.*

## *ii) Training Programmes (Traditional & Novel Methods including Low Cost Teaching Aids)*

## *iii) Research in S&T Communication & Science Media (including S&T Communication Software/Content Development)*

## *iv. National Children’s Science Congress (NCSC), and National Science Day celebrations and National Mathematics Day (through State S&T Councils)*

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