

प्राथमिकता समायोजन, अनुवीक्षण और मूल्यांकन प्रकोष्ठ  
भा.कृ.अनु.प.- भारतीय कृषि अनुसन्धान संस्थान  
नई दिल्ली - 110012

सं०: 8-1/2017- पी. एम.ई - II ( योजना )

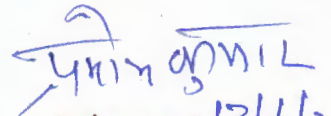
दिनांक 13/06/2025

पृष्ठांकन

**विषय:** Clearance of study/research schemes involving foreigners/ foreign collaboration from security/sensitivity angle-compliance of Cabinet Secretariat Guidelines- के सम्बन्ध में Revised Checklist.

उपरोक्त विषय पर विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय, विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी विभाग, अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग संभाग से प्राप्त कार्यालय ज्ञापन, दिनांक 09.06.2025 संख्या DST/INT/ MISC/2020 की प्रति निम्नलिखित को सूचना हेतु प्रेषित की जाती है:-

- 1 पी पी एस, संयुक्त निदेशक (अनुसन्धान), भा. कृ. अनु. सं. ।
- 2 सभी संभागाध्यक्ष / क्षेत्रीय स्टेशन / इकाइयां, भा कृ.अनु.सं ।
- 3 प्रभारी, ए. के. एम. यू. से अनुरोध है की कृपया इसे भा. कृ. अनु. सं की वेबसाइट पर अपलोड करे ।

  
(प्रमोद कुमार) 13/6/25  
इंचार्ज, पी.एम.ई. प्रकोष्ठ

संलग्नक : उपरोक्त वर्णित

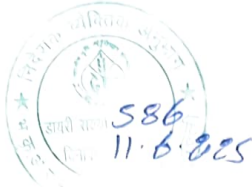
प्रतिलिपि सूचना हेतू : उपरोक्तानुसार ।

File.no. DST/INT/MISC/2020  
 Government of India  
 Ministry of Science & Technology  
 Department of Science and Technology  
 (International Cooperation Division)

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Technology Bhawan, New Mehrauli Road  
 New Delhi – 110016

Dated: ...09.06.2025...



**OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

**Subject: Clearance of study/research schemes involving foreigners / foreign Collaboration from security/sensitivity angle-Compliance of cabinet Secretariat Guidelines. – reg.**

As you may be aware that the Cabinet Secretariat has been issuing detailed guidelines on the above subject from time to time. The guidelines of 1978 were got revised in 1999 (No. 1/116/5/98-TS dated December 15, 1999) and subsequently by DST in 2006 (DST/INT/HLC/2006 dated August 14, 2006). According to these guidelines, all studies/research proposals involving Foreigner collaborations are required to be scrutinized/viewed on the basis of the check list/check points attached with the guidelines and cleared by the High Level Committee of Secretaries (HLCS) before sanction.

2. The checklist as indicated in the Cabinet Secretariat OM dated 15.12.1999 and DST OM dated 14.08.2006 pertaining to security and sensitivity clearances to international collaborative projects is revised to cover all aspects pertaining to biosafety and biosecurity (Ref Cabinet Secretariat ID note 281/1/1/2020-TS (Vol II) dated 16.01.2024). Revised Checklist is given at Annex attached.

3. It is, therefore, reiterated that the procedure laid down in the Cabinet Secretariat and Department of Science and Technology revised guidelines on the above subject may be strictly complied by all Departments/Ministries and Autonomous Bodies and Institutions and Agencies under their administrative control before sanctioning activities which involve participation of foreigners, foreign agencies or transfer of equipment/data/material or funds or any kind.

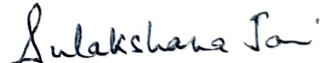
Encl : As above.

*Sulakshana Jain*  
 (Sulakshana Jain)  
 Scientist –F, IC-Division

J. D(A)  
 — apm

**Copy to:**

1. Cabinet Secretariat  
(Smt. Sweta Mohanty, Director)  
Rastrapati Bhawan, New Delhi
2. Intelligence Bureau  
(Shri Avi Prakash, Joint Director)  
35, SP Marg, New Delhi
3. Cabinet Secretariat (R&AW)  
(Shri Sahil Sharma, Director)  
Pt. Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan,  
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi
4. Ministry of Home Affairs  
(Shri Amrit Singh Purty, Dy. Director General (S))  
Room No.1. North Block, New Delhi
5. All Ministries/Departments of Government of India
6. Joint Centres funded by DST on behalf of Gov. of India
7. Divisional Heads of DST

  
(Sulakshana Jain)  
Scientist –F, IC-Division

SECRET

Annexure

CHECK LIST

1. Title of the Project
2. Initiating Institute of project.
  - 2.1 i) Government/ Non-Government
  - ii) Name **and Role** of Indian PIs.
  - iii) Contact Details of PIs
    - Address
    - Landline No
    - Mobile No
    - Email ID
  - iv) **Whether the inclusion of any other entity during the course of research is proposed.**
3. Funding/Sponsoring Agency/Ministry
4. Total cost of the project
  - Nature and Quantum of foreign collaboration sought
    - i) Financial support
    - ii) Equipment support
    - iii) Technical support
    - iv) Manpower training
    - v) Miscellaneous (**Consultancy and Material for R & D**)
5. Is there any possibility, however remote of use of data, information of result of the work which may impinge on India's national security? If yes, the nature of such a use may be indicated **and a duly signed data sharing agreement be submitted along with the proposal.** (In case the concerned scrutinizing Ministry do not have clear answer, the matter should be referred to the Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Defence (Defence Research and Development Organization) for comments).
6. If the proposal is foreign-originated, what is the background of the foreign agency or organization which is **funding/sponsoring** the project? The past



collaborations by the foreign agency with any Indian institutions **if any, should be explicitly mentioned with details.**

7. Are the foreign/ Indian agency, organization and scientists concerned, known to have taken up **any sensitive project of significance to national security** in the past or known to be associated with any military/**security** organization or project?

(If the above information is not known or if there is definite information that there is no such association, these should be clearly indicated).

8. Is the proposer (Indian) known to the foreign collaborator and his group for some time and has this emerged naturally from the **previous or present research** work done by the two sides?
9. Is the foreign source known to have funded research into sensitive and national security areas in its own country or in other countries?
10. Are there reasons to believe that the foreign source in a cover name for some other sponsor?
11. Give a list of the likely places of visit within the country planned by the foreign collaborator. Also give a list of the institutions which the collaborator is likely to visit.
12. Will any sensitive source material be referred to during the course of the research?
13. Does the collaboration involve
- a) Transfer of biological material(s), (Type, nature & **quantity** of biological material proposed for exportation). **If so, provide signed or proposed Material Transfer Agreement (MTA).**
    - i) **Whether the quantity for export(s) falls within the 10% ambit, as per guidelines?**
    - ii) **Whether the foreign entity proposes to transfer the biological materials to any other entity(s) for end use.**
  - b) Use of radioactive materials.
  - c) Use of environmentally or otherwise hazardous material(s). (If yes then, Type of Material, LD 50, Type of Hazard is to be mentioned)
  - d) Use of Genetically Modified Organisms.
  - e) **Use of Recombinant DNA.**
  - f) **Use of Genetic manipulation technology.**
  - g) Field trials or testing **planned / conducted.**

- h) Ethical issues and clearance by **Institutional Ethical Committees (IEC)**.
  - i) Issues related to Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) **including details- Which entity will hold primary and preferential Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) to the results of the research.**
14. If answer to any section of question 13 is yes, **submit the relevant clearance. Also,**
- i) **Has the proposal been examined in detail by the concerned committee of the Nodal Ministry or Department?**
  - ii) Are the investigators/proposers aware of the *relevant regulations* and have they agreed to abide by them?
15. Will the research be conducted in accordance not only with the country's **own requisite** ethical, environmental and **biosafety / biosecurity standard**, but with international standards as well?

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SECURITY PARAMETERS

(to be used for vetting Foreign Research Proposals)

1. Legal status of the foreign and Indian parties.
2. Any known criminal charges against parties to the proposal, which could impinge on India's national security?
3. Have any of the parties been involved with sensitive organizations such as security/defence-related entities?
4. Intelligence on any previous research of both parties that had implications for national security.
5. Is the funding for the research project in the form of FDI or FCRA or other?
6. Do the foreign collaborating agencies figure in MHA's Prior Approval Category (PAC) list?
7. Does the research pose potential risk to the health of humans, animals, or plants, either directly through infection or indirectly through damage to the environment?
8. Does the research involve potential gain of function experiments which enhances virulence and transmissibility of pathogens?
9. Does the project involve micro-organisms which fall under Risk group 3 and above? If yes, do the collaborating labs in India have BSL-3 and above certification by RCGM?
10. Does the project involve visit of foreigners to areas within 50 kms of the international border or to sensitive installations?
11. Details about any past or present direct/ indirect linkages of foreign entity involved in the project with elements/ countries of concern, if any.

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