



# India Science Research Fellowship 2021

## Why in News

**Forty scholars from six countries** have been recommended for award of **Indian Science Research Fellowship (ISRF) 2021**.

- This fellowship is a **platform to establish research cooperation with neighbouring countries** of India, which is **one of the mandates of DST's** ([Department of Science and Technology](#)) **International Science and Technology Cooperation**.

## Key Points

- **About India Science Research Fellowship (ISRF):**
  - As part of India's initiatives to **engage with neighbouring countries to develop S&T partnerships**, the **Department of Science and Technology (DST) has launched** ISRF Programme.
  - This fellowship is for scholars from the neighbouring countries - **Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand**.
  - ISRF programme has provided an opportunity to the young researchers from neighbouring countries to get **access to the state of art facilities** available in the Indian institutes/universities.
  - ISRF has been implemented **since 2015**.
- **Significance of the Fellowship:**
  - **Science Diplomacy:** Enlarging India's pursuit of influence in global arena/platforms and mainstreaming Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) into international diplomacy and foreign relation.
  - **Technological Advancement** in the **South Asia region**.

## International Science and Technology Cooperation

- **About:** The International S&T Cooperation (IC) Division of DST has the mandated responsibility of
  - negotiating, concluding and implementing **Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Agreements** between India and other countries, and
  - providing interventions on STI aspects in international forums.
- **Significance:**
  - In showcasing and projecting India's scientific excellence in the global research landscape,
  - Leveraging foreign alliances and partnerships to accelerate key priorities and programs devoted to strengthening India's national science and technology (S&T)/ Research and Development (R&D) competencies-capabilities-access to technologies in synergies with national flagship programs.
- IC Division is partnering in the following International programs-
  - [International Solar Alliance](#),

- [Mission Innovation](#),
- [International AIDS Vaccine Initiative](#),
- [The Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory \(LIGO\)](#), etc.

**[Source: PIB](#)**

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