



**Tata Institute of Social Sciences**  
**Office for International Affairs (OIA)**  
**V.N. Purav Marg, Deonar, Mumbai 400 088**

(A Deemed University under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956 and  
Grant-in Aid Institute under Ministry of Education, GoI)

**ADVT/TISS/PDF/SPARC/OCT/2024**

**Notification – Post Doctoral Fellow under SPARC (Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration) Project**

Applications are invited for the Post Doctoral Fellow position on a tenurable contract basis under the SPARC project. The Post Doctoral Fellow position requires a person with transdisciplinary research background with experience in social research methods and field data collections. This position offers the opportunity to work at the cutting edge of research in food systems, sustainability, and social change.

**About TISS**

The Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) was established in 1936 as the Sir Dorabji Tata Graduate School of Social Work. In 1944, it was renamed as the Tata Institute of Social Sciences. The year 1964 was an important landmark in the history of the Institute, when it was declared Deemed to be a University under Section 3 of the University Grants Commission Act (UGC), 1956. TISS has been to be an institution of excellence in higher education that continually responds to changing social realities through the development and application of knowledge, towards creating a people-centred, ecologically sustainable and just society that promotes and protects dignity, equality, social justice and human rights for all.

**About the Project**

This project aims to develop an innovative, evidence-based framework to address the growing global challenge of food sustainability, focusing on the emerging concept of food environments. The project explores how food environments mediate food production, availability, and consumption, impacting dietary choices, health outcomes, and the agriculture-food nexus. This project offers new pathways for seeking to inform strategies that either expand agricultural production or leverage policy changes to enhance the productivity and livelihoods of small-scale farmers.

**Key Responsibilities:**

- Conduct rigorous qualitative and quantitative research on food systems, sustainability, and their social impacts.
- Engage with stakeholders, including policymakers, communities, and NGOs, to translate research into practical, actionable solutions.
- Support teaching and contribute to ongoing research as part of the postdoctoral fellowship.
- Work closely with team members and maintain regular communication with the Principal Investigator (PI) and the broader project team.
- Identify and establish relationships with key informants and stakeholders to drive the research program forward.
- Conducted high-quality field research and collaborated with team members to gather relevant and robust data.
- Assist in coding and analysing project data, such as interviews, observations, and documentary analysis, using team-approved software and methodologies.
- Maintain precise data management practices to meet open-access commitments and engage in necessary training to uphold these standards.

- Keep thorough and accurate records of all project-related documentation, including meeting minutes and team communications.
- Publish research findings in peer-reviewed journals and present them at international conferences.
- Actively contribute to individual and collaborative research outputs, including publishing in leading journals, edited volumes, and other academic and public platforms.
- Provide support during field visits and assist with logistical aspects of the project as needed.
- Engage in continuous professional development by actively contributing to research and dissemination activities.

### **Educational Qualifications:**

- Ph.D. awarded in a relevant discipline such as Social Sciences, Food Systems, Sustainability Studies, Agricultural Economics, Environmental Studies, Public Policy, Anthropology, Geography, or a closely related field.
- The Ph.D. must be awarded on or after January 2023.
- The candidate has been awarded the PhD degree in the regular mode; the thesis has been evaluated by at least two external examiners, and the candidate has successfully undergone an open viva voce.
- If the candidate has obtained a Ph.D. degree from a foreign university or institution ranked among the top 500 in the World University Rankings at any time by any of the following organizations: (i) Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), (ii) Times Higher Education (THE).
- It is preferred that the candidate has published research papers, with at least one in a Scopus journal.
- It is preferred that the candidate has presented at least one paper based on their PhD work at conferences or seminars sponsored, funded, or supported by the UGC, ICSSR, CSIR, or any similar agency.

### **Research Experience**

- Strong track record of research in food systems, sustainability studies, food security, agroecology, or food policy.
- Experience in conducting interdisciplinary research that spans social, economic, and environmental dimensions of food systems.
- Proven ability to publish high-quality research in peer-reviewed journals.
- Familiarity with both quantitative and qualitative research methods.
- Experience in fieldwork or case study research related to food systems, agriculture, or sustainability.
- Strong knowledge of research methodologies in social sciences, including statistical analysis, qualitative data analysis (e.g., interviews, focus groups), and mixed-method approaches.

### **Monthly Remuneration**

This one-year tenure appointment offers a consolidated remuneration of ₹60000 to ₹65000 per month depends on research experience.

### **Application Fee**

Application Fee of Rs 500/- to be paid online. The application fee for SC/ST/PWD candidates will be Rs 250/-if they upload the required certificate to the Online Application Form. Women applicants are exempted from the application fee payment. The application will be valid only on receipt of the application fee for those required to pay. Once paid, the fee shall not be refunded under any circumstances.

## **Application Process**

Candidates are requested to apply online through the link (Apply now) provided along with this advertisement on the Institute website [www.tiss.edu](http://www.tiss.edu).

The closing date of application: **21-Oct-2024**

The shortlisted candidates will be communicated by e-mail to appear for a personal interview.

### **Other Conditions:**

- The Institute reserves the right not to fill the advertised vacancy and may invite individuals who have not applied through the standard procedure for an interview.
- Merely possessing the prescribed qualifications and requisite experience does not guarantee an interview, as applications received will be shortlisted.
- No queries or correspondence regarding the issuance of Call Letters for interviews or the selection process will be entertained at any stage. Canvassing in any form is strictly prohibited and will result in disqualification.
- Candidates are responsible for assessing their eligibility for the post according to their qualifications and experience. They must submit their complete application, along with the required information and documents as per the advertisement. Suppressing factual information, providing fake documents, giving false or misleading information, or canvassing in any form will result in disqualification. If it is discovered at any point in the future, even after the appointment, that the candidate was not eligible, the appointment will be terminated immediately as per this clause.
- In case of any ambiguity in the Recruitment Rules, particularly regarding eligibility, the decision of the Institute will be final.
- The Institute reserves the right to relax the qualifications required based on the candidate's work experience.
- No TA/DA will be paid to attend the interview if it is held at the Institute's premises.
- In case of any inadvertent errors in the advertisement or the recruitment process, detected at any stage, even after issuing the Appointment Letter, the Institute reserves the right to modify, withdraw, or cancel any communication made to the candidate(s).
- The post is purely contractual. The contract term is for three years, with potential extensions based on assessing the selected candidate's suitability and performance after the initial three-year tenure.