

Guidelines for CSIR-800 Project for AcSIR Ph.D. students

The major objective of the CSIR-800 project is to create and nurture a sense of social consciousness and responsibility by participation in Science & Technology activities relevant to the nation.

Background:

The objective of the Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research (AcSIR) is to disseminate advanced knowledge in science and technology, particularly in emerging inter-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary areas to create socially conscious, highest quality personnel. The ultimate aim is to create human resources who will promote research in science and technology having a bearing on social economic, cultural, intellectual and academic welfare of the people of our nation. Keeping this in view AcSIR has mandated that students aspiring to obtain a Ph.D. degree from the academy undertake a 6-8 weeks project concerned with societal/ rural issues under the CSIR-800 Programs (4 credits). CSIR-800 has been launched by CSIR with the aspiration of inclusive growth and improved quality of lives of 800 million fellow Indians through S&T interventions that are socially and economically relevant.

CSIR 800 focus areas:

The two major focus areas of CSIR-800 are to enhance income and to improve the quality of life of the 800 million people of India. Some typical examples are as the following:

Enhancing Income of the downtrodden

- ◆ Value added Agriculture
- ◆ Waste to Wealth
- ◆ Energy efficiency

To Improve Quality of Life

- ◆ Low cost housing
- ◆ Affordable health care
- ◆ Potable Water supply
- ◆ Sustainable energy
- ◆ Means of protecting environment

Guidelines for CSIR-800 linked AcSIR projects:

- Students shall select a scientific topic of social relevance and aligned with the focus areas of CSIR-800 and studying the problem in detail.
- Students shall try to find out solutions which are techno-commercially viable and have the potential to be scaled up to reach out to uplift the life of millions.
- It shall not be a mandatory requirement to live and work in the targeted areas, however, the ultimate objective of addressing societal problems shall not be compromised.

- The students shall select the project and the target area in consultation with his/ her DAC members.
- Students can participate in a CSIR-800 project either in his/ her Institute or any other CSIR Institute.
- In case the student wants to do the project in any other CSIR Institute, he/she should send a request to the coordinator of his/ her laboratory forwarded through the thesis supervisor well in advance. The coordinator in turn shall forward the request after taking the approval of the Director to the coordinator of the laboratory where the project is intended to be undertaken.
- The coordinator of the laboratory where the project will be undertaken shall obtain an approval from the Director of the laboratory which shall then be communicated to the student through the coordinator of the students parent Institute.
- The Institute where the project is to be undertaken shall provide all necessary infrastructural facilities and extend all possible help and cooperation to facilitate the student to complete the project.
- After carrying out the project, the student should submit a report and give a presentation highlighting the observations/results of the project and provide recommendations (if any). This will be reviewed by the Doctoral Advisory Committee (DAC) and the thesis supervisor (who is a member of DAC).
- In case the project was undertaken in other Institutes, the supervisor with whom the project was undertaken shall also be a member of the committee reviewing the project.
- The DAC can approve or ask for modification, if they are not satisfied with the report or Presentation. The committee may recommend re-submission of the project at most once after incorporating the suggestions made by the committee for evaluation.
- It is encouraged that the student prepares a shorter version of the report for societal usage highlighting the objectives of the project, observations and recommendations (if any). Such reports may be sent to the relevant officers (District magistrate/ BDO's etc) of the target area for information if felt necessary only after the approval of the Director(s) of the student's host Institute and where the student has undertaken the project work. Host Institute is expected to translate the short report into different regional languages that are spoken locally.