



GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

VISION GROUP ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Karnataka Science and Technology Promotion Society

**Department of Electronics, Information Technology, Biotechnology and
Science & Technology**

CALL FOR PROPOSALS UNDER VGST FOR FY 2020-21

Proposals are invited online through software for the following schemes under VGST to provide grants for the Faculty, Scientists, Higher Educational Institutions (HEI) and R&D organizations (R&D O) of the State for various research and promotional schemes in Science and Technology for the FY 2020-21.

- 1) Centre of Excellence in Science, Engineering and Medicine (CESEM).
- 2) Centre of Innovative Science, Engineering and Education (CISEE).
- 3) Karnataka Fund grants for Infrastructure Strengthening in Science & Technology in HEI (K-FIST L₁ & L₂).
- 4) Research Grants for Scientist / Faculty in HEI/R&D O (RGS/F).
- 5) Award for Research Publications in HEI/R&D O (ARP).
- 6) Faculty Development Programme for Engineering College (FDP-Engineering).

To obtain details regarding the schemes:

- Objectives of CESEM, CISEE, K-FIST, RGS/F, ARP & FDP- Engineering.
- Details of VGST grants 2020-21.
- Guidelines, Terms & Conditions for the Utilization of VGST grants

- i) Last date to receive proposals by online is 21st February, 2021.
- ii) VGST grant should be utilized only for the purpose for which it is granted.
- iii) The Principal Investigator (PI) or Co-Principal Investigator (Co-PI) of the ongoing Project of VGST Schemes is not eligible to apply for any additional project except for ARP scheme.
- iv) The earlier ARP awardees are not eligible to apply once again for ARP scheme.
- v) Applicant should apply to only one of the VGST schemes with only one project title.
- vi) Principal Investigator (PI) or Co-Principal Investigator (Co-PI) can apply for ARP and FDP if he is already applied for any of the schemes namely CESEM, CISEE, K-FIST (L1 & L2), RGS/F.
- vii) For all schemes age limit is 56 years but for RGS/F below 40 years of age.
- viii) For any clarifications, please contact **VGST Office** either through e-mail: (visiongroup.st@gmail.com) or Phone: (080-2203 2013).

OBJECTIVES OF THE VGST PROGRAMMES

1) Centre of Excellence in Science, Engineering and Medicine (CESEM):-

- To encourage research activities in the field of Science, Engineering and Medicine, and to promote innovation in research.
- To promote research in newly emerging and frontier areas of Science, Engineering and Medicine including multidisciplinary fields.
- To strengthen existing Institutions having a cluster of scientists who could make common use of a research facility.
- To promote general research capability of relevance to Science, Engineering and/or Medicine, taking into account the capabilities of the host Institution.

2) Centres of Innovative Science, Engineering and Education (CISEE):-

The programme is intended to strengthen infrastructural facilities, particularly in selected Science and Engineering colleges and University Departments in the State, towards achieving:

- Growth of innovation culture
- Promotion of quality teaching
- Skill development
- New Teaching methodologies
- Promotion of research on local problems

3) Karnataka Fund for Infrastructure Strengthening in Science & Technology (K-FIST): -

The K-FIST programme aims at developing and strengthening Science and Technology Infrastructure including Laboratory Facilities required by HEIs for enhancing the quality of teaching and for pursuing research activities, particularly in HEIs offering postgraduate courses in the State. The HEI selected under the K-FIST programme will be provided with

grants to improve and strengthen infrastructure that would help the institution in achieving higher academic standards both in teaching and research. This programme is for improvement and strengthening of infrastructure facilities in an identified beneficiary Department as a whole, and not solely for carrying out research by any individual Faculty/Researcher.

4) Research Grants for Scientists /Faculty (RGS/F)

The broad purpose of the scheme is to promote research activity among young scientists/Faculty in the State to take-up challenging R&D projects. This grant is provided to faculty members who have innovative ideas to carry out research and build scientific careers in their field of interest at a younger age.

5) Award for Research Publications (Published) by Faculty (ARP):-

This award is given to encourage and reward Science, Engineering and Medical faculty members in Colleges, Universities and research organizations/ Institutes in the State, who have published quality research publications in reputed National & International journals.

6) FDP-Engineering: Faculty Development Programme for Engineering College Teachers.

This Programme aims to impart knowledge in advanced and frontier technologies for Engineering college teachers through organizing four-day workshops in association with relevant nearby Industries.

DETAILS OF VGST GRANTS 2020-21

Sl. No.	Details of the Scheme	Allocated Number of Projects	Period of Project (In years)
1	CESEM (Each of Rs.40 lakhs for 2 years)	3	2
2	CISEE (Each of Rs.30 lakhs for 2 years)	6	2
3	K-FIST(L1) (Each of Rs.15 lakhs for 2 years)	20	2
4	K-FIST(L2) (Each of Rs.20 lakhs for 2 years)	10	2
5	RGS/F (Each of Rs.3 lakhs for 1 year)	40	1
6	ARP (Each of Rs.25,000/- Award for One Time Grant)	20	-
7	FDP (Each of Rs.2 lakhs for Two days Workshop)	10	-
TOTAL		109	----

GUIDELINES, TERMS & CONDITIONS (for the utilization of VGST grant)

- 1)** VGST grant released under various schemes are primarily for strengthening Science and Technology infrastructure facilities to enhance quality of teaching and research in higher educational institutions. Approval of the Research proposal and the grant released would be for the specific project proposal and grant should be exclusively spent on the project for which it has been sanctioned within the stipulated time.
- 2)** VGST grant shall not be utilized for the below purposes namely: a) Construction of buildings b) Procurement & services of any vehicle or equipments such as computers, printers, scanners, UPS, unless approved by the VGST. c) Appointment of support staff and related expenditures.
- 3)** VGST grant will be released only after the submission of “Memorandum of Agreement (MoA)” duly signed by the Head of the Institution, Principal Investigator and Co-Principal Investigator.
- 4)** Faculty member who applies for VGST grant will be considered as the “Principal Investigator” for the CESEM/ CISEE/ K-FIST L1 & L2/ RGS/F programme and FDP. There is a mandatory Co-Principal Investigator for these VGST schemes.
- 5)** VGST project grantees have to submit PART-A of Grant Related Document (GRD) to VGST for approval of the Budget Estimate (both Non-Recurring & Recurring) only once in a financial year.
- 6)** Grantee institution has to constitute a “Purchase Committee” which includes Head of the Institution as Chairman with other 5 members as indicated in Annexure-2 of Grant Related Document. The Purchase Committee is authorized to procure only VGST approved equipment/ items as indicated in the Budget Estimate as per the KTPP Act.
- 7)** Grantee Institution shall procure only those equipment/ items for which VGST’s approval is accorded in the Budget Estimate (both Non-Recurring & Recurring) (PART-A of Grant Related Document). Any deviation from this will lead to withdrawal of VGST Grant and further grant will not be released.
- 8)** All issues, matters & procedures related to the procurement of equipment/ items etc. shall be recorded in the “Proceedings of the Purchase Committee” (Annexure-3) duly signed by all the 6 members of the purchase committee & there shall not be any deviation in procurement of Equipment’s/ items of Cost and as per technical Specification as approved by VGST.
- 9)** Principal Investigator/ Grantee Institution is strictly prohibited from utilizing/re-appropriating recurring grants for procuring items indicated under Non-Recurring grants.

- 10)** To facilitate hassle free procurement of equipment by the Grantee Institution, VGST desires to be flexible by permitting "Package Approval" instead of "Item-wise Approval" in procurement procedure under Non-Recurring grants. Yet, the total Non-Recurring Expenditure shall not exceed specified percentage (90%) of the VGST annual grant. The re-appropriation of the cost/ price of single item shall not exceed 15% of the approved cost.
- 11)** VGST grant shall not be utilized for organizing and attending Workshops/Seminars/ Conferences/ Orientation & Training programmes, etc. However, grants sanctioned under FDP-Engg., is the only approved scheme for organizing faculty development program for engineering institution.
- 12)** It is mandatory for the grantee Institution to purchase all the equipment as indicated under non-recurring grant. The Head of the Institution shall take the responsibility of handling and maintenance of finance/accounts as per the prevailing Government norms within the approved budget.
- 13)** Grants released under the VGST schemes need to be maintained separately in savings bank account or institution account. There has to be provision to calculate actual accrued interest on the VGST grant, which needs to be reflected in Financial Status Proforma annually (Annexure-4).
- 14)** Grantee institution shall abide to follow the percentage of expenditure sanctioned and approved by VGST - Non-Recurring expenditures such as Equipment's, Software's etc (90%) and Recurring expenditures (10%) such as Contingency, Books, Journals etc.
- 15)** Any payment towards Non-recurring and Recurring for Rs. 1,000/- and above shall be paid only through A/c payee cheque / Demand Draft (DD) / online Money Transfer (RTGS)/NEFT.
- 16)** Interest amount earned from the VGST grants at the end of each instalment shall not be utilized for any purpose and same shall be returned to VGST.
- 17)** All the assets acquired from the VGST grants will be the property of VGST/KSTePS/DST. A register of the permanent/semi-permanent assets acquired wholly or partly out of this grant shall be maintained and the copy of the same shall be furnished to VGST while submitting the consolidated project report.
- 18)** In order to give visibility to VGST schemes, the respective bonafide Department should acknowledge and display the name board as: Catalysed and Supported by Vision Group on Science and Technology (VGST), Karnataka Science and Technology Promotion Society (KSTePS), Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of Karnataka, Name of the Scheme and Sanctioned Year.

- 19) After VGST grant utilization, the Grantee Institution shall furnish PART-B & PART - C of Grant Related Documents accompanied with Annexures- 5 to 7 to VGST, DST, GoK.
- 20) Unutilized grant after completion of First year from the date of grant releases shall be carried forward if the program is continued or to be refunded.
- 21) The next instalment grants shall be released only after the submission of Utilization Certificate, Statement of Expenditure, updated Bank Statement related to project and progress report in prescribed format to VGST and will be completely based on the recommendation of the review committee.
- 22) The institution shall submit audited utilization certificate and Statement of Expenditure for each instalment issued by the AG empanelled Chartered Accountant and counter signed by both the Principal Investigator and Head of the Institution to VGST.
- 23) DST/VGST/KSTePS auditors and Auditor General of Karnataka, at their discretion shall have the right to access to the book of accounts and ledgers of the VGST Schemes. DST, GoK may also nominate a CAG empanelled Auditor for the Audit of account of the VGST programme.
- 24) After the completion of the VGST programme/project, the unspent grant with accrued interest amount if any shall be returned to VGST by Cheque or DD (payable at Bengaluru) in favour of "Managing Director, KSTePS".
- 25) The Progress of the project will be monitored at regular intervals by Expert Committee of VGST. The Programme Progress Evaluation Committee (PPEC) will visit the institution/ Department for final review & inspection of the completed project supported by VGST.
- 26) Any enquiries / clarifications by the Principal Investigator/ Grantee institution with respect to implementation of VGST scheme shall be sought only through email (visiongroup.st@gmail.com) and letters.
- 27) The Grantee institution, PI and Co-PI undertakes the responsibility of implementing the sanctioned VGST-programme completely within the duration fixed by VGST. If the project is not successfully completed the institution shall refund/ return the left-over grant to VGST through crossed cheque or DD in favour of "Managing Director, KSTePS (Payable at Bengaluru)".
- 28) In case the Principal Investigator (PI) of the project leaves the institution for any reason, Co-PI will automatically be the PI of the project and it is his responsibility to complete it. The institution shall inform VGST office regarding the same.
- 29) The Grant Related Document Number (GRD) shall be mentioned for the quick follow up action by VGST.

- 30)** The Principal Investigator shall commence his / her research work soon after receiving the cheque and approval of Part-A by VGST.
- 31)** If any deviation or violation from the approved items/ cost and procurement procedures are found, VGST Review Committee reserves the right to cancel the release of next instalment of grants / ordering for recovery of grants.
- 32)** The Institution shall fulfil the timely formalities of VGST and satisfactorily respond to their queries and also take all the necessary steps to complete the project by fulfilling all the formalities.
