



OFFICE OF INDUSTRIAL CONSULTANCY AND SPONSORED RESEARCH
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MADRAS
CHENNAI – 600 036

Advertisement No.: ICSR/PR/Advt.6/2025 Dated: 15/01/2025

Applications are invited for the temporary post of **Junior Research Fellow (JRF) /Senior Research Fellow (SRF)** in the Center of Excellence in CoE in **Biodegradable Packaging Materials**, Department of **Chemical Engineering, IIT Madras**.

Co-ordinator: Prof. Ethayaraja Mani, Department of Chemical Engineering, IIT Madras.

Duration: Initially for one year, later extendable based on the performance.

Number of Vacancies: 08

S.No	Post	Qualification and Experience	Pay
1	Junior Research Fellow/Senior Research fellow	<p>Graduate or Post Graduate Degree in Biotechnology / Bioprocess Engineering/ Molecular Biology/ Polymer Chemistry / Organic Chemistry / Biochemical Engineering / Mechanical Engineering / Chemical Engineering/Polymer Science/ Polymer Processing/ Material Science and selected through a process described any one of the following,</p> <p>a) Scholars who are selected through NET and GATE</p> <p>b) The selection process through national level examinations conducted by central government Departments and their agencies and Institutions such as DST, DBT, DAE, DOS,DRDO, MoE, ICAR, ICMR, IIT, IISc, IISER, NISER etc.</p> <p>(Qualification prescribed for JRF with two years of research experience is the requirement for SRF)</p>	<p>Rs. 37,000 + 24% HRA pm for JRF/ Rs. 42,000 + 24% HRA pm for SRF</p>

Project Summary:

Packaging is a rapidly growing sector with potential growth opportunities, however, the environmental and health problems caused by the synthetic packaging materials need immediate attention. Over the past decade, India's packaging industry has emerged as one of the largest sectors of the Indian economy with a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of around 22-25%. This growth is driven by increasing consumer demand, urbanization, and the expansion of sectors such as food and beverage, pharmaceuticals, and e-commerce. The growing concern on the environmental impacts of the traditional packaging materials has necessitated the development of sustainable and biodegradable alternatives. Currently, the quality, sustainability, biodegradability regulatory compliance of packaging materials falls short of desired standards. Additionally, the market size of available sustainable

packaging materials remains significantly smaller than the demand, underscoring the pressing need for advancements in this sector.

To address these challenges, expertise from various fields is essential to ensure the solutions are economically viable, environmentally safe, and feasible. Given Indian Institute of Technology, Madras's renowned expertise in diverse engineering and technological domains, it is ideally positioned to provide comprehensive solutions with validated approaches. Therefore, we propose to establish a Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Biodegradable Packaging Solutions (BioPack) at IIT-Madras. The vision of the centre is to function as a global comprehensive hub, supporting all possible aspects of biodegradable packaging solutions through integrated research, enterprise incubation, networking, consultation, testing and training. By leveraging IIT-Madras's expertise in polymers, nanotechnology, and chemical engineering, the centre aims to drive significant advancements in biodegradable packaging technologies. The key themes of the centre include material innovation, biodegradable coating solutions, process development for packaging material production, scalability, and marketization.

The centre aims to achieve significant milestones such as establishing an industry-academia hub for translational research, developing human resources through training and skill-building programs, producing high-quality publications, patents, facilitating technology transfers through collaborative research. In addition, the centre will establish state-of-the-art pilot-scale facilities for manufacturing and testing of biodegradable packaging materials to support business incubators/consultations for research and development, product and process development, to facilitate the progression to higher technology readiness levels (TRLs), guidance on regulatory license and standard management certifications. Through a collaborative and multidisciplinary approach, the CoE will focus on addressing environmental challenges, and driving the market adoption of eco-friendly packaging solutions. This initiative aims to bring together stakeholders from different sectors and disciplines, including academic experts, industries, policymakers, and community representatives, to collectively work towards achieving a more sustainable future, emphasizing alignment with the global sustainability development goals to reduce plastic pollution and promote circular economy principles.

The last date for submission of online application is 29.01.2025.

General Instructions to the candidates

- 1) All the positions are on purely contract basis.
- 2) The completion of the period of contract will not confer any right for further extension, regularization, permanency at the Institute.
- 3) Candidates should apply online only in the website <https://careers.icsr.in/about.php> - **(Please check the advertisement number Advt. 6/2025 displayed and submit the application for the relevant position).**
- 4) Separate application has to be filled for each post.
- 5) The system will accept single application only with the registered login ID (email) for an advertisement, hence the candidate is requested to select the multiple positions (In case, the candidate wishes to apply for more than one position) before the submission of application.

- 6) The application cannot be edited, reverted once it is submitted.
- 7) Candidates should not attempt to apply twice for the same post. If multiple applications are received from a candidate for the same post, the candidature will liable to be rejected.
- 8) Candidates should follow the prescribed procedure for submission of online application.
- 9) Candidates are advised to fill their correct and active e-mail addresses in the online application as all correspondence will be made by the Institute through e-mail only.
- 10) The candidates applying for any post should ensure that they fulfil all the eligibility conditions for the post. Their admission to any stage of the selection process will be purely provisional subject to confirmation that they satisfy the prescribed eligibility conditions. Mere issue of registration certificate / call letter to the candidate will not imply that the candidature has been found eligible.
- 11) After successful online submission of application, a print out of the application form must be obtained and submitted when called for test. It will be required at the time of document verification/test/interview. Hard copy of the application is NOT to be sent to the Institute.
- 12) Candidates must be citizens of India. Persons who have migrated from Pakistan with the intention of permanently settling in India or subjects of Nepal are also eligible, but in their case a certificate of eligibility from the Government of India will be necessary for appointment. Such candidates should apply to the Government of India in the Ministry of Home Affairs for necessary certificate and furnish satisfactory proof of having so applied.
- 13) The prescribed qualifications are minimum and unless specified, they are required for consideration for the post, even if higher qualification has been acquired and the mere fact that a candidate possesses the same will not entitle them for being called for interview.
- 14) Relevant experience gained after the minimum qualifying degree will only be taken into consideration. Minimum requirements of qualifications and/or experience can be relaxed in respect of exceptionally outstanding candidates.
- 15) The experience required is relaxable at the discretion of the Institute in the case of candidates belonging to the Scheduled Caste / Scheduled Tribe, if at any stage of selection, the competent authority is of the opinion that sufficient number of candidates from these communities possessing the requisite experience are not likely to be available to fill up the vacancy reserved for them.
- 16) The Institute reserves the right to restrict the number of candidates for written / skill test / interview to a reasonable limit on the basis of qualifications, level and relevance of experience higher than the minimum prescribed in the advertisement and other academic achievements. The Institute also reserves the right of rejecting any or all the applications without assigning any reasons therefore.
- 17) Calling a candidate for test/interview merely indicates that it is felt that the candidate with others may be suitable for the post and conveys no assurance whatsoever that they will be recommended or selected or their conditions specified in the application will be accepted.
- 18) Candidates will be short-listed for Test/Interview on the basis of the information provided by them in their online applications. They must ensure that such information is true. If at any subsequent stage or at the time of

Test/Interview any information given by them or any claim made by them in their online applications is found to be false, their candidature will be liable to be rejected.

- 19) The Institute shall verify the antecedents or documents submitted by a candidate at any time at the time of appointment or during the tenure of the service. In case, it is detected that the documents submitted by the candidates are fake or the candidate has clandestine antecedents/background and has suppressed the said information, then their services shall be liable to be terminated.
- 20) In case of any inadvertent mistake in the process of selection which may be detected at any stage even after the issue of appointment letter, the Institute reserves the right to modify/ withdraw/ cancel any communication made to the candidates.
- 21) Applicants who are working in **any one of the Project at IIT Madras**, must apply through proper channel otherwise they will be required to produce No-Objection Certificate at the time of document verification/Test/Interview. Candidates without NOC will not be permitted to appear for Test/Interview.
- 22) Candidates may send testimonials from persons intimately acquainted with their work and character. If the applicant is in employment, the candidate should submit testimonials from the most recent employer or immediate superior as a referee.
- 23) The Institute has a right to decide the mode of screening and testing the applicant for short listing and selection.
- 24) The Institute solely reserves the right not to fill any advertised position without assigning any reason
- 25) Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.
- 26) No correspondence whatsoever will be entertained from candidates regarding conduct and result of test/interview and reasons for not being called for interview. Canvassing in any form will be a disqualification.
- 27) The crucial date for determining the eligibility criteria for all candidates in every respect shall be the prescribed closing date for submission of online application.
- 28) The Institute strives to have a workforce which reflects gender balance and women candidates are encouraged to apply.
- 29) Any corrigendum/clarifications on this advertisement, if necessary, shall be uploaded on website and no separate communication will be sent for this purpose.
- 30) If there is any issue to submit the application please send E-mail to : icsrrecruitment@icsrpis.iitm.ac.in / icsrrecruitment6@icsrpis.iitm.ac.in **Contact: 044- 2257 9796** on all working days from **9.00 AM to 05.30 PM (Monday to Friday – except National Holidays)**. (Please note, only technical issues will be accepted – No interim correspondence with reference to the selection process will be considered).
- 31) **Instructions to apply online:-**Eligible applicants would require to register and apply online through <https://icandsr.iitm.ac.in/recruitment/> and submit the application.

Sd/-

Head–HR
Office of IC&SR
IIT Madras.