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**News:** VAIBHAV Scheme

## **Vaishvik Bhartiya Vaigyanik (VAIBHAV) Scheme**

- The Government of India has introduced a new fellowship programme called Vaishvik Bhartiya Vaigyanik (VAIBHAV) to **facilitate collaboration between the Indian diaspora in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine (STEMM) and Indian academic and research institutions.**
- The VAIBHAV Fellowship aims at **improving the research ecosystem of India's Higher Educational and Scientific Institutions by facilitating academic and research collaborations between Indian Institutions and the best institutions in the world through mobility of faculty/researchers from overseas institutions to India.**
- It is **implemented by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Ministry of Science and Technology.**

**Features**

- **Knowledge Verticals:** The programme will focus on 18 identified knowledge verticals, including quantum technology, health, pharmaceuticals, electronics, agriculture, energy, computer sciences, and material sciences, among others.
- **Eligibility:** The fellowship is open to outstanding scientists and technologists of Indian origin (Non-resident Indians (NRI) / Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) / Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) who are actively engaged in research activities in their respective countries.
- **Collaboration Duration:** Selected fellows will have the opportunity to work in collaboration with Indian Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs), universities, and public-funded scientific institutions.
- They may spend up to two months per year, for a maximum of three years, at an Indian institution of their choice.
- **Fellowship Grant:** VAIBHAV fellows will receive a monthly fellowship grant of INR 4, 00,000, which will support their research activities during the collaboration period.
- **Travel, Accommodation and Contingencies:** The fellowship will cover international and domestic travel expenses, accommodation, and contingencies, ensuring a conducive research environment for the fellows.
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