

Guidelines & Criteria for Recognition of Scientific & Industrial Research Organisations (SIROs)

The Department of Scientific & Industrial Research is operating a scheme of granting recognition to Scientific & Industrial Research Organizations operating on non-commercial basis. Functional SIROs having clearly stated objectives of undertaking scientific research, broad based Governing Council, Research Advisory Committee, research personnel, infrastructure facilities for research, well defined, time bound research programmes and clearly stated objectives of undertaking scientific research are considered eligible for recognition by DSIR.

Organisations eligible for recognition as SIRO by DSIR should be a registered society/Trust; a Company which has been incorporated under section-25 of the Companies Act, 1956; a University established or incorporated by or under a Central or State Act and includes an institution declared under section-3 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 (3 of 1956) to be a University for the purposes of the Act; and undertaking scientific research in the specific disciplines.

PROCEDURE:

Applicant organisations seeking recognition as a SIRO should apply to DSIR in the prescribed proforma. The proforma and other details of the scheme are provided to the interested organisations on request. The proforma and details of the scheme are also available at DSIR website (<http://www.dsir.gov.in>).

- The applications received are scrutinized for their completeness in the DSIR and are then circulated for comments to various departments/agencies such as CSIR, ICAR, ICMR, ICSSR, UGC and other organisations as per requirement).
- In order to obtain first hand information on R&D activities of the applicant organisations, discussions with the Head R&D of the organisation and other senior officials of the organisation are also held in DSIR in many cases. During the discussions outside experts are invited and their comments are sought.
- The organisations seeking recognition are visited, if need be, by expert teams comprising of representatives of DSIR as well as outside agencies, like, administrative Ministries, CSIR, NRDC, DBT, ICAR, ICMR, DRDO, DIT, DoT, IITs and local educational and Research Institutions as applicable, before they are taken up for consideration.
- The applications along with comments from outside agencies, visit reports and the Department's own evaluation are considered by an Inter-Departmental Screening Committee (SC) in DSIR with members from CSIR, ICMR, ICAR, ICSSR and UGC. The recommendations of the Screening Committee are put up for approval of Secretary, DSIR. The recognition is effective from the date of approval of the minutes of the meeting of the Screening Committee. Recognition with retrospective effect is not granted.
- Recognition granted to SIROs is for duration ranging from 2 to 3 years. There is no separate 'Registration for SIROs'; SIROs recognised by DSIR are issued certificate of registration, if they are found eligible.
- The SIROs are advised to apply for renewal of recognition well in advance (3 months prior to the date of expiry of recognition). Such applications received for renewal of recognition are examined by Research Review Group (RRG). Based on the evaluation made by the RRG, renewal of recognition is granted to the SIROs. Renewal of recognition is granted for periods ranging from 2 to 5 years

CRITERIA FOR RECOGNITION:

- SIROs should be functional, having broad based Governing Council,
- SIROs should have a broad based Research Advisory Committee,
- They should have full time research personnel and separate identifiable infrastructural facilities for carrying out R&D work.
- They should have well defined, time bound research programmes leading to development of innovative products and/or technology(ies) that are documented.
- The organisation should have clearly stated objectives of undertaking/supporting scientific research they should fund research programmes, at least provide fellowships to PG/Doctoral students (in case of Associations).
- Depending on the area of operation the organisations should have Ethics committee, Bio-safety committee or any such regulatory committees/mechanism, need based.
- The organisation should have research publications, collaborations with national & international institutional, wherever necessary.

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