



To  
Alumni and Friends of the Max Planck Society

**2009 call for Applications for  
"Max Planck Partner Groups" & "Max Planck India Fellowships"**

Dear Alumni and Friends of the Max Planck Society,

I take pleasure in informing you of the 2009 call for the two very successful programmes of the Max Planck Society for "Max Planck Partner Groups" & "Max Planck India Fellowships" which has been issued jointly by the Max Planck Society and the Department of Science & Technology. Please refer to the website of DST (<http://dst.gov.in/> and click "what is new")

I would highly appreciate your support in ensuring that this information is disseminated widely at your research institution.

At present 15 Max Planck Partner Groups are working in India, as many as in no other country. Partner Groups are led by former Indian guest researchers of Max Planck Institutes of proven scientific excellence, who have returned to their institutions in India and continue their research activities in close co-operation with their former hosts. The work of each of the Partner Groups is supported for five years, with € 20K p.a. allowing the returnees to build up their own Research Groups in India and to remain in close research interaction with a Max Planck Institute. Applications from all areas of research including social sciences and humanities are welcome. DST provides matching to the funds provided through the Max Planck Society (excluding social sciences and humanities)

In addition, the Max Planck Society with its „Max Planck India Fellowships“ has developed a new and India-specific programme, with the goal of linking young Indian top researchers to Max Planck Institutes. In 2009 25 young Indian scientists hold a "Max Planck India Fellowship". The fellowship (€ 3,000 p.a.) gives young Indian researchers the opportunity to spend minimum one month every year at a Max Planck Institute for a period of up to four years. In addition travel to third countries for research purposes is possible.



It may interest you to learn that India is a special focus of the Max Planck Society in its international collaborations. This correlates to the steadily rising number of internationally acknowledged Indian institutes that are working in scientific fields, in which Max Planck Institutes also look for partners worldwide. In the year 2008 for example, 557 young visiting scientists at Max Planck Institutes came from India, an increase of over 80% over the past five years, which makes India the most important partner for international exchange of young scientists together with China. Many of them are enrolled in the International Max Planck Research Schools which, traditionally, prove to be extremely attractive to Indian doctoral students.

I thank you for your interest and support and remain,

With best regards,

Felix Kahle

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