



File no 22 /ISTAD/IC-2/DS-2024

Dated: 25th April 2025

CIRCULAR

Subject: Political clearance from MEA for visit of foreign nationals to CSIR Labs/Instts for various S&T cooperation purposes.

The undersigned is directed to inform that the Ministry of External Affairs, Govt of India has launched an online portal (conference.epolclearance.gov.in) to facilitate grant of political clearances to foreign nationals to attend/participate in conference/seminar/workshops/sports etc events being organized in India. In this regard, all the CSIR Labs/Instts are requested to kindly visit the link below for registration to apply for the political clearance from the Ministry of External Affairs for visit of any foreign nationals to CSIR Labs/Instts for various purposes:

[https://conference.epolclearance.gov.in/](http://conference.epolclearance.gov.in/)

In case of any query, please contact the following:

a) For event related queries: Coordination Section at:

Tel No. 011-23088129

Email: socoord@mea.gov.in; socoord1@mea.gov.in; socoord2@mea.gov.in

b) For technical queries: Technical Cell at :

Tel No. 011-23088371

Email: egov.eqt@mea.gov.in

Accordingly, henceforth all CSIR Labs/Instts are required to apply to the MEA directly as per procedure mentioned above, for seeking the political clearance from the MEA in case of:

- i. visit of all foreigners/Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) to CSIR Labs/ Instts for various S&T cooperation purposes; and
- ii. visit of all foreign participants/delegates/experts etc to CSIR Labs/Instts in connection with any International Conference/Symposium/Workshop/Seminar/Summit/Conclave or any such International event being hosted/organised by CSIR Labs/Instts.

Prior approval of the competent authority should be obtained separately from CSIR Headquarters(HQ) through ISTAD before the aforementioned foreign nationals/OCI are allowed to visit CSIR labs/Instts. Likewise, in the case of International Conference/Symposium/Workshop/Seminar /Summit/Conclave or any such International event being hosted/organised by CSIR Labs/Instts, separate and prior approval of the competent authority at CSIR HQ is to be sought mandatorily by the concerned CSIR lab apart from political clearance from the MEA. In case of any difficulty/doubts in applying for political clearance from the MEA, necessary assistance can be sought from ISTAD, CSIR HQ.

This issues with the approval of the Head ISTAD.


(VANDANA DIGVIJAY SINGH)
Deputy Secretary (ISTAD)

Copy to:

1. Directors of all National Labs/Instts of CSIR/Heads of CSIR HQ/complex/Centres/Units.
2. IT Division- with the request to host this circular on the CSIR Website under "Notifications."
3. Notice Boards
4. Office Copy