

TISS – BSDMA RESEARCH PROJECT

Advertisement for Research Associate

The Jamsetji Tata School for Disaster Studies, Mumbai, invites candidates for the position of Research Associates (05) for the Bihar State Disaster Management Authority (BSDMA) – TISS project

Project Name: Bihar State Disaster Management Authority (BSDMA) project

Project Duration: 06 months

About the project

The state of Bihar experiences multiple hazards in the form of floods, drowning, lightning, fire, road accidents, erosion, drought, etc. Given the population density and the extent of poverty among the (predominantly rural) populace, a large section of the – vulnerable – population are exposed to these hazards. As a result, the state of Bihar faces high disaster risk. Since its establishment, the BSDMA has undertaken multiple activities, from formulations of plans, road maps and guidelines to engaging in training and capacity building across various stakeholders with the overall aim of Disaster Risk Reduction and Building Resilience.

The JTSDS, TISS started its journey, with the Centre for Disaster Management in TISS, in 2006, with a generous grant from the Jamsetji Tata Trust. The Centre consolidated nearly sixty years of TISS's committed work in disaster situations and introduced a full-time, taught Masters' programme in Disaster Management in 2007. Apart from academic programmes, the centre/school's key domains of work have been transdisciplinary field action, research and training addressing a wide spectrum of issues cutting across technical, natural and social science disciplines. Currently, the School offers several programmes, including a PhD, although the Masters' programme - MA/MSc in Disaster Management remains the flagship programme with more than 30 students enrolled each year.

To bridge the gap between academia and governance, the Bihar State Disaster Management Authority (BSDMA) and Jamsetji Tata School for Disaster Studies, TISS signed an MoU in Oct 2024 to work on specific areas of joint engagement as agreed upon by the two esteemed institutions. The project proposes to evaluate two flagship programmes of the BSDMA: the Mukhyamantri School Safety Program (MSSP) and the Road Safety Programme. The Training Needs and Competency Assessment will be undertaken across multiple state government levels. This component will identify the disaster training needs and relevant competencies that are essential to become competent public sector professionals in the field of Disaster Management. The research component of the project proposes two vulnerability assessments for Bihar. Research is proposed to conduct a social vulnerability analysis in a select district to develop a multi-scalar, multi-dimensional, comprehensive and contextualized social vulnerability framework using integrated methodologies. The second research component in the project is the Study of Disaster Social Vulnerability and Psycho-Social Well-Being Interface.

Number of vacancies: 05 Research Associates

TOR of Research Associates

- Support the implementation of the Training Needs and Competency Assessment
- Assist in the completion of the Social vulnerability analysis of the selected district
- Assist in studying Disaster Social Vulnerability and Psycho-Social Well-Being Interface in selected districts.
- Assist in the Mukhyamantri School Safety Programme (MSSP) evaluation
- Support the Bihar Road Safety programme evaluation
- Undertake fieldwork and data collection for the project activities.
- Research, data compilation, documentation and reporting
- Support project planning activities, timelines, and implementation of project activities.
- Coordinate with local government officials and stakeholders for the project.
- Project-related administrative task
- Any other task assigned by the Project Director and the Senior Programme Manager

Qualifications:

- Postgraduate degree in disaster management, social work, social sciences, or any other related discipline.
- Student completing their postgraduate degree in disaster management, social work, social sciences can also apply (only students completing the last semester of their master's degree)
- Ability to undertake in-depth research on the given topic, report writing and documentation skills are preferred.
- Ability to undertake fieldwork, data collection and collation of information.
- Ability to undertake project-related administrative tasks.
- Demonstrate good written and spoken communication skills to work with local authorities.
- Knowledge of local languages in Bihar is desirable

Position: 05

Duration: 06 months

Remuneration: 35000/- per month

Location: 05 Research Associates, Bihar

Interested candidates can apply on the given link within a week (7 days) of the advertisement.

<https://forms.gle/gYTHhwrEhwxWKXq8>