

ORGANISATION
AFRICAINNE-ASIATIQUE POUR LE
DEVELOPPEMENT RURAL

AFRICAN-ASIAN
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ORGANIZATION

المنظمة
الأفريقية الآسيوية
للتنمية الريفية

Cooperation for Sustainable Development

OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY GENERAL

مكتب
الأمين العام

No. IEC/Scholarship /IIT-KGP/2024

29 August 2024

H.E. the Minister of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources and Fisheries
Government of Republic of Tunisia
Tunis, TUNISIA

**Subject: AARDO- IIT Kharagpur Scholarship for Master of Science (MS) by Research
in Kharagpur, West Bengal, India-Starting January 2025**

Excellency,

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that, following AARDO's MoU with the Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur (IITKGP), the African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO), is providing scholarship opportunities to highly promising and qualified officers/students from member countries to pursue a two-year full-time Master's Degree Programme at IIT Kharagpur, West Bengal, India.

This scholarship program commenced in July 2022. A total of 10 students have been enrolled in the program. Out of these, five students have successfully completed, and five are currently pursuing their Master of Science (MS) program at IIT Kharagpur. Positive feedback from the students, systematically recorded, are certifying the success and achievement of the program.

As Your Excellency would recall the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur (IITKGP) is a premier institute of India, established in 1951 to train engineers and researchers. It is the first IIT of India and has been recognized as an institute of international eminence with prestigious departments, centers, schools and specialized departments creating technology-based solutions for sustainable development, such as Agricultural and Food Engineering Departments and Centres for Rural Development, Innovation and Sustainable Technologies (CRDIST).

I have the pleasure to inform Your Excellency that the third cohort of our scholarship programme will commence in January 2025. Excellency, the Master of Science (MS) by Research, offered by AARDO and IITKG is a research-intensive programme that emphasizes the use of logical, analytical, experimental, and intuitive thinking skills in the pursuit of research. It is a program targeting young officers/students inclined towards research careers, R&D, design and conceptualization. The degree program can be completed within two years-four semesters; (one academic year consists of two semesters).

Your Excellency may wish to note that, keeping in view the need for highly qualified specialists, the selection process could be rigid, stringent, and rigorous involving various steps, including a written test/interview for final selection.

I hope that your's esteemed government will find the above-mentioned scholarship programme useful and would consider nominating suitable candidates for the scholarship programme.

(An autonomous inter-governmental organization established in 1982)

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Nominees must satisfy the following:

Essential Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in engineering/technology/architecture from a recognized Institute or University for a minimum of four years duration with at least 60% marks or a CGPA 6.5/10
or
- MSc. Degree in appropriate Sciences or a relevant discipline from a recognized Institute or University for a minimum 3 + 2 years duration with at least 60% marks or a CGPA 6.5/10 in Science subjects or 55% marks or CGPA 6.0/10 in the case of Humanities/Social Science subjects;
- The maximum age of the candidate shall be below 35 years on 1st January 2025 However, the age limit can be relaxed to 45 years for candidates who have extensive experience in the field.
- Proficiency in spoken and written English as the medium of instructions would be English only and translation facilities into any other language would not be available.
- Must be in good health both physically and mentally to undergo scholarship programme.

Excellency will appreciate that this scholarship has expenditure inclusions and exclusions as highlighted in the following table:

S. No	Inclusions (Covered jointly by AARDO & IITKGP)	Exclusions (to be covered by Candidate's nominating Country/Institution)
1	One-time admission fee	Pre -Scholarship expenses: Passport, Visa Fee, Vaccination, Airport Taxes etc. Travel, Health Insurance Premium and Medical Expenses
2	International student tuition fee	Telephone Calls, Laundry
3	Hostel fee (Room rent only)	Extra Baggage Allowances (Above that provided by the Airline)
4	Monthly living allowance equivalent to the stipend given to domestic students.	Mess food charges for complete duration of the programme
5	Return Air Ticket by economy class (from Capital City)*	Post -Scholarship expenses: any other expense after the event

* Air fare will be provided for only regular membership contribution-paying countries

Excellency's esteemed Government may wish to provide some allowances to their candidate, especially to meet the expenses which are excluded under this scholarship programme. It is strongly recommended for Participants to carry valid travel health insurance cover.

The application process for the IITKGP AARDO Admission is being conducted online through the website (<https://aardo.org/IITK.php>), and the deadline for application submission is set for the 26 September 2024. Enclosed herewith, Your Excellency will find a comprehensive e-brochure, outlining the scholarship details, along with feedback of beneficiaries of this scholarship programme. Nomination received after the closing date or received incomplete in any respect or without a copy of a valid passport is likely not to be considered.

Keeping in view the availability of slots and response from member countries, preference would be given to the candidates from countries that regularly pay their AARDO membership contributions.

Kindly accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely

Dr. Manoj Nardeosingh
Secretary General

Encl : As Above