

Celebrating successful journey of African Research Scholars in India

C V Raman International Fellowship for African Researchers, an Indo-African Science & Technology partnership programme

New Delhi, January 18th, 2018: In partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) launched the Coffee Table Book on the **C V Raman International Fellowship for African Researchers** highlighting the successful journey of the programme so far. The fellowship scheme was introduced under the India-Africa Forum Summit (IAFS) to promote scientific cooperation between India and Africa.

The fellowship provides opportunities for African researchers to undertake research and training spanning between 1 to 6 months at Academic and Research Institutions in India. Since its inception, close to 500 scientists and researchers from African countries have undertaken R&D work in host institution in India.

Following the announcement made by the Prime Minister of India in the India Africa Forum Summit III, the number of C V Raman Fellowships has been doubled from 100 to 200 fellowships every year.

The programme has helped to take the footprint of Indian science to 40 countries across the African continent and thereby helping to nurture and build scientific connect with hundreds of top Researchers in Africa.

The Coffee Table Book on the CV Raman Fellowship was launched by **Prof. Ashutosh Sharma, Secretary, DST** in presence of several African Ambassadors and High Commissioners including researchers from India and Africa. Speaking on the occasion, **Prof. Sharma** stated that the “C V Raman International Fellowship for African Researchers is one of the most prestigious programme of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), GoI and we are proud to see the pan India and Africa reach with our commitment to double up the number of fellowships”. He also thanked the African partner nations for their overwhelming support in making the programme a great success and strengthening the bond of partnership through scientific and technological linkages.

The African scholars are able to nurture their research ideas under the guidance and mentorship of leading Indian scientists and academicians and benefit from access to advanced scientific facilities in premiere educational institutes and research laboratories in India. Welcoming the guests, **Mr. Nirankar Saxena, Deputy Secretary General, FICCI** accordingly remarked “India’s C V Raman International Fellowship programme helps build capacity of African Researchers to scale research and cull out innovations that will shape the future of Africa and India”.

Dr. Arabinda Mitra, Adviser, International Cooperation, DST who instrumented the scheme said, “The C V Raman International Fellowship is a unique programme to strengthen the

bonds of scientific collaboration between India and Africa through supporting human capacity building which will enable long term partnerships in research and development”.

Around 139 R&D institutions & laboratories, universities & colleges from across 70 cities in India have hosted the African researchers under this programme over last seven years. For majority of the Fellows, the programme has contributed immensely to their career and helped them develop new research ideas in science and technology after returning to their home country.

The scheme has got overwhelming response from pan Africa and going forward, the partners expect to raise the number of research fellows to 1000 and continue strengthening the bond by creating a bridge of knowledge between Indian research expertise and African scholars.

For further details contact:

Mr.Santosh Tiwari, Senior Director

M: 9811994305.