



Date: 20.08.2026

**ADVERTISEMENT NO. PAT 54/2026**

**Engagement to the position of Senior Project Associate-I**

CSIR – Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysuru, a constituent National Laboratory of Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), desires to engage qualified candidate as Senior Project Associate-I **purely on temporary contractual basis** for the project entitled **“Understanding the molecular basis for the utilization of non-fructosylated  $\alpha$ -GOS (manninotriose and verbascotetraose) in human gut probiotics”** with project number **FIR070407**. The engagement is initially for a period up to SIX months and may be extendable up to March 2028 based on the requirement or till the end of the project duration, whichever is earlier at CSIR-CFTRI, Mysuru, Karnataka. The details are as follows:

| Post Code | Name of Position & Level   | No of Position(s) | Age Limit | Stipend & HRA        |
|-----------|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------|----------------------|
| FIR070407 | Senior Project Associate-I | 01                | 40        | Rs. 42000/- Plus HRA |

The minimum essential qualification, experience, etc. for the above temporary position are as under:

| Name of Position & Level                              | Essential Qualification                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Job Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Senior Project Associate-I<br>(SPA-I)<br>(1 Position) | <p>Master's Degree in Natural Sciences or equivalent from recognized University</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>3 years' experience in Research and Development in Industrial and Academic Institutions or Science &amp; Technology Organisations and Scientific activities and Services</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>M.E/M. Tech in Biotechnology or equivalent from a recognized University</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>Doctoral Degree in Natural Sciences from a recognized University or equivalent</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>2 years' experience in R &amp; D in industrial and Academic Institutions or S&amp;T Organisations and Scientific activities and services</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hands-on expertise in molecular biology including DNA/RNA isolation, PCR/RT-PCR/qPCR, cloning, recombinant DNA techniques, gene expression analysis, gene deletion/knockout, gene disruption, and functional validation in bacterial/probiotic strains.</li> <li>• Experience with homologous recombination/allelic exchange, mutant construction, complementation/overexpression, and phenotypic characterization will be desirable.</li> <li>• Knowledge of carbohydrate-utilization gene clusters and pathways, including CAZymes, carbohydrate transporters, and regulatory proteins, supported by genomics, transcriptomics, genome annotation, comparative genomics, and bioinformatics.</li> <li>• Practical experience in enzyme assays, enzyme kinetics, purification and characterization of enzymes</li> <li>• Experience in oligosaccharide identification, structural elucidation and quantification using advanced analytical techniques.</li> </ul> |

**Desirable Qualification/Experience:** Experience in microbial carbohydrate utilization, familiarity with homologous recombination/allelic exchange, mutant construction, complementation, and functional genomics in probiotic or gut-associated bacteria; knowledge of genomic, transcriptomic, and bio-informatics analyses to decipher metabolic pathways involved in oligosaccharide utilization, experience in enzyme purification, characterization and kinetic analysis; expertise in oligosaccharide identification and structural characterization using HPLC, LC-MS/MS, GC-MS, NMR, FTIR, or related techniques; familiarity with protein structure prediction, molecular docking, molecular dynamics simulations, and other computational approaches for studying enzyme–substrate interactions; and ability to integrate microbiological, genetic, enzymatic, analytical, and computational approaches to elucidate carbohydrate-utilization mechanisms.

Note: As per CSIR OM No. 5-1(342)/2017-PD dated 02.09.2024, engagement of Project Staff shall be co-terminus with the term of the Project subject to the condition that the total period of the engagement of a Project Staff in different projects either in the same Lab/Instt. or different Lab/Instt. of CSIR taken together shall not exceed 6 years in any case. Hence, the applicants who have completed the total tenure of 6 years in any of the CSIR Lab/Instt. as Project Staff are NOT ELIGIBLE to apply for the aforesaid positions.

#### **Terms and Conditions:**

- a) Candidates should not have exceeded **40** years of age as on the last date of receiving the applications i.e **06.09.2026**
- b) Only those candidates who have already acquired the essential qualification & their results have been declared are eligible to apply. Result awaited /Final semester appeared or appearing are not eligible to apply for any post.
- c) The period of experience in a discipline / area of work, wherever prescribed, shall be counted after the date of acquiring the minimum prescribed educational qualifications prescribed for that post.
- d) The applicants will be subjected to shortlisting by designated committee according to the current requirement and the candidate's shortlisted for interview will be displayed on CSIR- CFTRI website. No TA/DA will be given to the candidates for attending the interview.
- e) In the event of large number of applications, the duly constituted committee will adopt its own criteria for short-listing the candidates to restrict the number of candidates to be called for interview to a reasonable number by any one or more of the following methods:
  - i) On the basis of percentage of marks obtained in the Essential Qualification.
  - ii) On the basis of higher educational qualifications than the minimum prescribed in the advertisement.
  - iii) On the basis of desirable Qualification/ experience.
  - iv) Any other methodology as deemed fit by the Committee
- f) Based upon the performance of candidates in the interview, result of selected candidates against the number of post available in the project for each post code, will be declared and posted on CFTRI website. Selection for engagement, panel of waitlisted candidates and its validity will be as per CSIR rules vide OM No. 5-1(342)/2017-PD dated 02.09.2024 amended from time to time.
- g) Relaxation in age limit for the candidates belonging to the category of SC/ST/PwBD/Women and the category of OBC shall be 05 years and 03 years respectively.
- h) The Engagement under any of the above position(s) shall be on behalf of the sponsoring agency and shall be temporary and co-terminus with the tenure of the Project or 06 years whichever is earlier. Further, such engagement, directly or indirectly, shall not provide any right/claim for regularization for a permanent post of CSIR-CFTRI/CSIR, against any post or otherwise under any legal conditions or precedent. If already the candidate is working in CSIR/CSIR-CFTRI a "NOC" from the current PI is mandatory for applying for the aforementioned project. In a case, if selected, Engagement under this project would be made only after submission of 'No Dues Certificate' and resignation from the previous project.

- i) The engagement shall be initially for a short duration based on availability of funds which may be extended or curtailed based on the conduct and the performance of the incumbent as well as requirement of the institute which may be extended further based on the recommendations of the Review Committee. However, the engagement will not be beyond the tenure of the project and shall expire automatically on the expiry of project tenure, in which candidate has been selected. Please note that mere engagement as project personnel shall not confer any such personnel the right to register for higher degrees or permanent employment in CSIR-CFTRI or CSIR or its Laboratories/Institutes.
- j) The maximum duration, for which Project staff could be engaged in different projects taken together, will be 6 years. Candidates who have already served CSIR-CFTRI or any other lab/ institute of CSIR as Project Staff at any level in CSIR projects (including NMITLI projects, OLP/MLP, Contract R&D and non-CSIR funded projects) for a total period of 6 years or more are not eligible for these engagements.
- k) The posts advertised are provisional and subject to ascertaining the availability of funds under the respective project before the declaration of results and issue of engagement letter.
- l) The performance of the Project Staff would be reviewed periodically so that any one not found up to the mark, could be terminated. The engagement may be terminated at any time by the office without assigning any reasons.
- m) CSIR-CFTRI reserves the right to cancel or withdraw the offer of engagement in case of any discrepancy found, in the candidature of any empanelled candidate at any stage.
- n) Candidates who are applying for any of the above post shall ensure that they fulfil the essential qualifications/experience. If they apply without fulfilling the essential qualifications, then it will be considered that they are giving wrong/misleading information. The ONUS OF THIS ACTION WILL BE ON THE CANDIDATE and not on the Institute. In case they are found not fulfilling the essential criteria or that they have provided misleading information, then their candidature for the post may be rejected at any stage of selection or after selection.
- o) Other terms and conditions will be governed as per guidelines issued by CSIR/funding agency for the engagement of above project staff as amended from time to time.
- p) The Director, CSIR-CFTRI has a right to amend, delete and add Terms & Conditions to this notification and also reserves the right to cancel the advertisement without assigning any reason thereof or reserves the right not to fill up the posts, if required. The number of vacancies indicated above may vary i.e. it may increase or decrease at the time of actual selection.
- q) CANVASSING IN ANY FORM AND/OR BRINGING ANY INFLUENCE POLITICAL OR OTHERWISE WILL BE TREATED AS A DISQUALIFICATION FOR THE POST.

### **How to Apply:**

Eligible candidates may submit online application only at <https://patcell.cftri.res.in> along with necessary attachments of the certificates in support of date of birth, caste, qualification/experience etc. on or before **06.09.2026**. No other mode of application will be accepted. Applications received after the due date **06.09.2026** will not be considered.

Candidates are advised to check the official CFTRI website <https://cftri.res.in/> regularly for addendum/corrigendum and updated information regarding this. Therefore, candidates are advised to keep visiting regularly the website of CSIR-CFTRI.

The short-listed candidates will be informed about the date of interview through e-mail to the email address mentioned by the candidate in the online application form. No interim Enquiry or Correspondence will be entertained.

**Sd/-**  
**Administrative Officer**