



TATA INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
V.N. Purav Marg, Deonar, Mumbai 400 088
(A Deemed to be University under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956)
A Grant-in-aid Institute under Ministry of Education, GoI

Call for Applications: Research Associate and Research Assistant (One Position Each)

Project: Water Safety, Drowning Mitigation and Community Resilience in Climate Change in Maharashtra

A collaborative study between the University of East Anglia (UEA), UK and the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai

Participating Centres/Schools

- Centre for Health and Mental Health (CHMH), School of Social Work, TISS
- Centre for Community Organisation and Development Practice (CODP), School of Social Work, TISS
- Jamsetji Tata School of Disaster Studies (JTSDS), TISS

About the Project

This collaborative study examines the interlinkages between climate change, environmental hazards, and drowning risk in Maharashtra. The project adopts a participatory and community-based approach to risk assessment, planning, and local adaptation strategies, with the aim of informing evidence-based prevention and resilience-building measures.

Position 1: Research Associate

Location: Mumbai, with frequent field travel to Sindhudurg, Sangli, and Nagpur

Duration: 7 months (till December 2026), extendable up to December 2027

Remuneration: ₹75,000 per month (consolidated)

Joining: Immediate

Key Responsibilities

- Lead and contribute to qualitative and action research components of the project
- Conduct and supervise field-based data collection, including interviews, focus group discussions, and participatory methods in Nagpur, Sangli, and Sindhudurg
- Engage with community stakeholders, local governance institutions, and civil society organisations
- Support the design and facilitation of participatory workshops (Plan-Do – Study -Act cycles)
- Monitor the implementation to the Do-Study-Act phases in the three districts

- Analyse qualitative and quantitative data and contribute to report writing and documentation
- Prepare high-quality academic and policy-oriented outputs
- Coordinate with interdisciplinary teams at TISS and UEA

Essential Qualifications and Skills

- PhD in Social Work, Public Health, Environmental Sciences, Geography or a related discipline
- Demonstrated experience in qualitative and action research approaches
- Fluency in Marathi and English (both written and spoken)
- Excellent academic writing and analytical skills
- Experience working with communities and in field-based research settings
- Ability to work independently and within a collaborative research environment
- Willingness to travel extensively for fieldwork

Desirable

- Prior experience in research related to health, disasters, climate change, or community resilience
- Familiarity with participatory and community-based methodologies
- Experience in interdisciplinary research projects

Position 2: Research Assistant

Location: Mumbai, with field visits to Nagpur, Sangli, and Sindhudurg

Duration: 7 months (extendable based on performance and project requirements)

Remuneration: ₹50,000 - ₹55,000 per month depending on experience

Joining: Immediate

Key Responsibilities

- Conduct fieldwork in selected rural and coastal districts of Maharashtra, including remote locations
- Undertake qualitative data collection through interviews, focus group discussions, and participatory mapping
- Monitor the implementation to the Do-Study-Act phases in the three districts
- Support data transcription, translation (Marathi - English), and analysis
- Liaise with local authorities, community representatives, and partner organisations
- Assist in preparing reports, presentations, and dissemination materials

Essential Qualifications

- Master's degree in Social Work, Disaster Management, Public Health, Environmental Studies, Geography, or a related discipline
- Proficiency in written and spoken English
- Fluency in Marathi (reading, writing, and speaking) is essential
- Willingness to travel extensively for fieldwork

Desirable Skills and Experience

- Experience in community-based risk assessment, disaster risk reduction, or participatory planning
- Familiarity with climate change adaptation and environmental health–public health linkages
- Prior experience in qualitative research or participatory rural appraisal (PRA) methods
- Strong coordination and interpersonal skills
- Basic knowledge of GIS and remote sensing

Application Process

Interested candidates may send their CV (maximum 3 pages) and a brief statement of purpose/interest (up to 500 words) outlining relevant experience and motivation to:

brinelledsouza@tiss.ac.in, kamblemahesh@tiss.ac.in and r_mammen@tiss.ac.in

Subject line:

- Application – Research Associate (Climate Change and Water Safety Study in Maharashtra)
- Application – Research Assistant (Climate Change and Water Safety Study in Maharashtra)

Last Date to Apply: 30th May 2026

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview (online/offline)

This call offers an opportunity to engage with a dynamic, interdisciplinary research initiative that combines academic rigour with field-based engagement and policy relevance.