

Project Assistant

We are seeking motivated candidates for the Project Assistant/Fellow position in the Parasite Epigenetics Lab, Department of Developmental Biology and Genetics at the Indian Institute of Science (Bangalore) and at the Intracellular Parasite Education and Research Labs (iPEARL) at Birla Institute of Technology and Science Pilani (Campus Hyderabad) for a collaborative research project. We are interested in understanding small RNA-mediated epigenetic mechanisms underlying host-parasite interactions using *Toxoplasma gondii* as a model system.

We employ a range of techniques, including biochemical, molecular, and proteomics methods, as well as Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS). For more information about our research, please visit www.meetalilab.com. This is a collaborative project, funded jointly with Prof. Nishith Gupta (www.ipearl.org) at BITS, Pilani, Hyderabad. One of the candidates will primarily work at IISc and the other at BITS Pilani in active cooperation with each other. More details about Prof. Nishith Gupta can be found by visiting <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/hyderabad/prof-nishith-gupta>

Job Description

Position 1: Project assistant at Meetali's lab at IISc, Bangalore

Position 2: Project fellow at Gupta lab at BITS Pilani, Hyderabad

The candidate working at IISc is primarily expected to analyse data from large-scale next-generation sequencing (NGS) projects. The candidate will process, analyze, and interpret NGS datasets (e.g., RNA-seq, small RNA-seq, Ribo-seq), develop workflows, and collaborate with the team to deliver actionable insights. Key responsibilities include developing and maintaining reproducible workflows with Snakemake, Nextflow, or Bash/Conda environments; preparing data analysis reports/summaries; troubleshooting pipeline issues; and managing compute resources. Candidate is expected to collaborate with other team members on data integration, custom scripting, and project deliverables. In addition to a computational background for IISc position, a candidate with a strong molecular biology background will be selected for the project-related experimental workflow for BITS Pilani.

Qualifications

Four-year Bachelor's degree or Master's Degree in any branch of Life Science. Candidate should possess basic working skills for large-scale Next-generation sequencing analysis, as well as working knowledge of Bash scripting, R, and Python. Familiarity with the Linux command line and version control (Git). The candidate is expected to design and manage work independently, possess organisational skills,

and handle multiple tasks effectively. Previous experience in cell or parasite culture, molecular biology, and biochemistry will be an asset.

The candidate interested in joining iPEARL (Gupta Labs) must have a CSIR-NET-JRF and DBT-JRF qualification. There may be an opportunity to enroll in the PhD program offered by BITS Pilani, subject to eligibility.

We offer

The salary is as per institutional norms for one year initially and is extendable up to 3 years, subject to performance. The candidate will benefit from conceptual and experimental training and mentorship for career development, and they will have the freedom to shape their research project in addition to their assigned responsibilities. Both our Department and Institute have a very dynamic scientific community and state-of-the-art infrastructure.

How to apply

Send your cover letter with motivation to join the lab and a detailed CV as a single PDF to meetalilab.openings@gmail.com, with cc to ipearl@hyderabad.bits-pilani.ac.in, mentioning the position "Project Assistant". The last date to apply is **March 31st, 2026. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to an online interview. *Incomplete applications will not be entertained.***

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