

OFFICE OF INDUSTRIAL CONSULTANCY AND SPONSORED RESEARCH
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MADRAS
CHENNAI – 600 036



Advertisement No.: ICSR/PR/Advt.08/2026 Dated: 19/01/2026

Applications are invited for the temporary post of **Project Manager**, Department of **Electrical Engineering**, **IIT Madras**.

Co-ordinator: Prof. Anil Prabhakar, Department of Electrical Engineering.

Duration: Initially for six months, later extendable based on the performance.

Number of Vacancies: 01

S. No	Post	Qualification and Experience	Pay
1	Project Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bachelor's or Master's degree in engineering, Physics, Applied Sciences, or a related technical discipline.• Minimum 3 – 5 years of experience in project management of large-scale R&D, telecom, networking, or communication systems.• Demonstrated experience in managing multi-institutional or government-funded technology projects.	Rs. 1,25,000/- per month

Job Description:

The Project Manager will be responsible for end-to-end coordination, execution, and timely delivery of QuILA with an immediate focus on 550 km Bengaluru–Chennai QKD testbed. The role involves technical procurement coordination, multi-institutional scheduling, integration oversight, infrastructure upkeep, and progress reporting to the QuILA consortium. The position requires close interaction with technical teams, integration partners, and administrative units to ensure adherence to specifications, timelines, and quality benchmarks.

Key Responsibilities:

Project Planning & Execution

- Maintain detailed project schedules, milestones, and dependencies using project management tools.
- Proactively identify risks, delays, and bottlenecks, and coordinate mitigation actions.

Procurement & Vendor Coordination:

- Coordinate with IIT Madras technical teams to prepare detailed technical specifications for chassis components, subsystems, and lab infrastructure.
- Liaise with IIT Madras purchase and stores departments for PO placement, compliance with institute procurement procedures, and vendor follow-ups.

- Track procurement progress during lead times and ensure timely receipt and verification of all components.

System Integration & Deployment:

- Oversee QKD node integration and deployment by designated integration team as per technical specifications.
- Coordinate acceptance testing, documentation, and handover activities.

Multi-Institutional Coordination:

Coordinate technical timelines and deliverables across:

- CDAC Thiruvananthapuram (SDN, QKD control and management layers)
- CDAC Bengaluru (system integration, network maintenance, electronics, QKD attacks, applications)
- SETS Chennai (key distillation engines and security aspects)
- Other QuILA partner institutions

Operations, Maintenance & Scale-Up:

- Coordinate the setup of a Bengaluru–Chennai link maintenance, debugging, and upkeep team by CDAC Bengaluru.
- Plan and execute the scale-up of Chennai MAQAN from 5 nodes to 7 nodes in coordination with technical teams.
- Ensure proper upkeep of the QuILA research laboratory, equipment, and infrastructure at IIT Madras.

Reporting & Governance:

- Provide structured weekly progress updates to the QuILA consortium on assigned tasks and evolving project requirements.
- Plan project review meetings with follow up documentation.

Technology Road Mapping Support:

In coordination with technical leads, assist in planning future upgrades toward:

- New and advanced QKD protocols and attacks.
- Electronic + Photonic integrated chips (EPICs)
- AI/ML performance optimization techniques
- Classical system upgrades
- QKD use cases and applications

Location: IIT Madras, Chennai (With frequent coordination with CDAC Bengaluru, CDAC Thiruvananthapuram, SETS Chennai, and field sites along the Bengaluru–Chennai corridor)

Project Overview:

QuILA (Quantum Internet with Local Access), under the National Quantum Mission's Quantum Communication Hub at IIT Madras, aims to establish a 2000 km long-distance Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) network with

intermediate secure nodes and metro-area quantum access networks (MAQANs) at Chennai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Indore. As part of this initiative, a 550 km Bengaluru–Chennai QKD testbed with multiple intermediate nodes is being developed to serve as a dedicated long-distance quantum-secure communication testbed of India.

Desired Skills & Experience:

- Familiarity with optical communication systems, networking, or quantum communication (QKD knowledge preferred but not mandatory).
- Experience with technical procurement, vendor coordination, and purchase processes.
- Strong organizational, documentation, and stakeholder management skills.
- Proficiency with project management tools (e.g., MS Project, Jira, Zoho Projects, Redmine or equivalent).
- Ability to coordinate across geographically distributed teams.

Soft Skills:

- Strong communication and coordination abilities.
- Proactive problem-solving and risk management mindset.
- Ability to work effectively in a research-driven, multi-stakeholder environment.
- Attention to detail with a focus on timelines, quality, and compliance.

The last date for submission of online application is 09.02.2026.

General Instructions to the candidates

- 1) All the positions are on purely contract basis.
- 2) The completion of the period of contract will not confer any right for further extension, regularization, permanency at the Institute.
- 3) Candidates should apply online only in the website https://icsrstaff.iitm.ac.in/careers/current_openings.php - **(Please check the advertisement number Advt.08/2026 displayed and submit the application for the relevant position).**
- 4) Separate application has to be filled for each post.
- 5) The system will accept single application only with the registered login ID (email) for an advertisement, hence the candidate is requested to select the multiple positions (In case, the candidate wishes to apply for more than one position) before the submission of application.
- 6) The application cannot be edited, reverted once it is submitted.
- 7) Candidates should not attempt to apply twice for the same post. If multiple applications are received from a candidate for the same post, the candidature will liable to be rejected.
- 8) Candidates should follow the prescribed procedure for submission of online application.
- 9) Candidates are advised to fill their correct and active e-mail addresses in the online application as all correspondence will be made by the Institute through e-mail only.

- 10) The candidates applying for any post should ensure that they fulfil all the eligibility conditions for the post. Their admission to any stage of the selection process will be purely provisional subject to confirmation that they satisfy the prescribed eligibility conditions. Mere issue of registration certificate / call letter to the candidate will not imply that the candidature has been found eligible.
- 11) After successful online submission of application, a print out of the application form must be obtained and submitted when called for test. It will be required at the time of document verification/test/interview. Hard copy of the application is NOT to be sent to the Institute.
- 12) Candidates must be citizens of India. Persons who have migrated from Pakistan with the intention of permanently settling in India or subjects of Nepal are also eligible, but in their case a certificate of eligibility from the Government of India will be necessary for appointment. Such candidates should apply to the Government of India in the Ministry of Home Affairs for necessary certificate and furnish satisfactory proof of having so applied.
- 13) The prescribed qualifications are minimum and unless specified, they are required for consideration for the post, even if higher qualification has been acquired and the mere fact that a candidate possesses the same will not entitle them for being called for interview.
- 14) Relevant experience gained after the minimum qualifying degree will only be taken into consideration. Minimum requirements of qualifications and/or experience can be relaxed in respect of exceptionally outstanding candidates.
- 15) The experience required is relaxable at the discretion of the Institute in the case of candidates belonging to the Scheduled Caste / Scheduled Tribe, if at any stage of selection, the competent authority is of the opinion that sufficient number of candidates from these communities possessing the requisite experience are not likely to be available to fill up the vacancy reserved for them.
- 16) The Institute reserves the right to restrict the number of candidates for written / skill test / interview to a reasonable limit on the basis of qualifications, level and relevance of experience higher than the minimum prescribed in the advertisement and other academic achievements. The Institute also reserves the right of rejecting any or all the applications without assigning any reasons therefore.
- 17) Calling a candidate for test/interview merely indicates that it is felt that the candidate with others may be suitable for the post and conveys no assurance whatsoever that they will be recommended or selected or their conditions specified in the application will be accepted.
- 18) Candidates will be short-listed for Test/Interview on the basis of the information provided by them in their online applications. They must ensure that such information is true. If at any subsequent stage or at the time of Test/Interview any information given by them or any claim made by them in their online applications is found to be false, their candidature will be liable to be rejected.
- 19) The Institute shall verify the antecedents or documents submitted by a candidate at any time at the time of appointment or during the tenure of the service. In case, it is detected that the documents submitted by the candidates are fake or the candidate has clandestine antecedents/background and has suppressed the said information, then their services shall be liable to be terminated.

- 20) In case of any inadvertent mistake in the process of selection which may be detected at any stage even after the issue of appointment letter, the Institute reserves the right to modify/ withdraw/ cancel any communication made to the candidates.
- 21) Applicants who are working in **any one of the Project at IIT Madras**, must apply through proper channel otherwise they will be required to produce No-Objection Certificate at the time of document verification/Test/Interview. Candidates without NOC will not be permitted to appear for Test/Interview.
- 22) Candidates may send testimonials from persons intimately acquainted with their work and character. If the applicant is in employment, the candidate should submit testimonials from the most recent employer or immediate superior as a referee.
- 23) The Institute has a right to decide the mode of screening and testing the applicant for short listing and selection.
- 24) The Institute solely reserves the right not to fill any advertised position without assigning any reason
- 25) Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.
- 26) No correspondence whatsoever will be entertained from candidates regarding conduct and result of test/interview and reasons for not being called for interview. Canvassing in any form will be a disqualification.
- 27) The crucial date for determining the eligibility criteria for all candidates in every respect shall be the prescribed closing date for submission of online application.
- 28) The Institute strives to have a workforce which reflects gender balance and women candidates are encouraged to apply.
- 29) Any corrigendum/clarifications on this advertisement, if necessary, shall be uploaded on website and no separate communication will be sent for this purpose.
- 30) If there is any issue to submit the application please send E-mail to : icsrrecruitment6@icsrpis.iitm.ac.in / icsrrecruitment@icsrpis.iitm.ac.in **Contact: 044- 2257 8843** on all working days from **9.00 AM to 05.30 PM (Monday to Friday – except National Holidays)**. (Please note, only technical issues will be accepted – No interim correspondence with reference to the selection process will be considered).
- 31) **Instructions to apply online:-** Eligible applicants would require to register and apply online through https://icsrstaff.iitm.ac.in/careers/current_openings.php and submit the application.

Sd/-

Head –HR
Office of IC&SR
IIT Madras