

**Minutes of 58th Meeting of Research Council
(11th November 2021 at CSRTI-Berhampore, West Bengal)**

58th Research Council meeting of CSRTI-Berhampore was held on 11th November, 2021 under the Chairmanship of Dr. C. M. Kishor Kumar, Director, CSRTI-Berhampore.

At the outset, Dr. Dipesh Pandit, Scientist-D, PMCE welcomed Chairperson-RC, Scientists and other participants. Later, agenda-wise items were discussed. List of participants is appended in **Annexure - I**.

ITEM NO.1: Confirmation of the minutes of 57th meeting of Research Council (RC) held on 27th July, 2021 at CSRTI-Berhampore

As no comments were received from any of the members, the minutes were confirmed.

ITEM NO.2: Review of follow-up action taken on the recommendations / decisions of 57th meeting of Research Council (RC) held on 27th July 2021.

Follow-up action have been presented by the concerned during their presentation and found satisfactory.

ITEM NO.3: Approval of New Research Projects/Concepts for CSB Funding

The following concept note was presented and critically reviewed by the house. The decisions are as follows:

1. Title: Improvement of seed crop productivity in West Bengal

Observation/Suggestion: The concept is approved with modifications suggested by the House as a networking project with DoS and NSSO; PI is advised to prepare a full length proposal as per the prescribed format and submit the same to CO, Bangalore at the earliest.

[Action: Dr. Satadal Chackrabarty, Sci-D, Farm Management]

ITEM NO. 4: Review of progress of on-going projects, pilot study, programs & other continuous research activities

Following on-going projects / pilot studies / TOT / other R&D activities of the main institute were discussed and the suggestions are:

PIB 02007 SI: Improvement of mulberry leaf longevity in E & NE states of India

The progress of the project was as per the milestones. PI was advised to test senescence response under simulated conditions with respect to abiotic stress. It was also advised to record maximum number of days the senescence can be delayed. Purchase of equipment may be hastened for the proper utilization of budget

OST: Evaluation of high yielding & bacterial leaf spot resistant genotype C7 with C-2038 as check variety

The progress of the project was as per milestones; however possibilities may be explored to keep a region specific local check along with test varieties for better interpretation of the test result.

[Action: Dr. Deepika Kumar Umesh, Sci-B, MBG]

PPA02005SI: Optimization of spacing and nutrient dose for the newly developed high yielding mulberry variety (C2038) under irrigated condition

PI was advised to reassess the yield data and analyze the same consulting with the senior scientists of CSRTI-Mysore; also advised to refer the previous research reports of CSRTI, Mysore.

OST: Low cost drip fertigation for mulberry

The PI is advised to follow up with test centers to hasten the installation of Low cost drip fertigation system where it hasn't been installed yet. Further it was also advised to present the result with respect to control as farmers practice. Number of crops data to be taken for the trial at RSRS, Kalimpong may be finalized with the Scientist-D, RSRS-Kalimpong.

Final Yield Trial of newly identified mulberry genotypes

Progress found was as per the milestones. Since the reminders have already been sent to CO, Bangalore PI may wait for the response.

[Action: Mr. Yallappa Harijan, Sci-B, MBG]

PIE13001MI: All India Co-ordinated Experimental Trial for Mulberry Varieties (AICEM): Phase IV

Progress found was as per the milestones. AICEM facilitators of Ambarifalakata, DoS-Boswa and Jorhat are advised to be proactive or they may send advise /suggestion letters to the respective centers through respective Director for completion of activities on time. Further the facilitators may plan to visits with PI to the respective centers in between crops for smooth functioning of the activities and record observations and submit the report of the same. PI is advised to plan visit to AICEM centers consisting group of scientists as suggested by MVAC

[Action: Concern Facilitators and Dr. Suresh K., Sci-C, MBG]

PIE 02002SI: Evaluation of performance of mulberry genotypes C-9 under red and laterite soils

Progress of the project was as per milestones. PI was advised to review the leaf yield data from REC, Bhandara

OST: Evaluation of high yielding and low temperature stress tolerant genotypes (C-1 & C-11)

Progress of the project was found as per milestones

OFT: Popularization of newly authorized mulberry variety C-2038 and others

Progress found was as per the milestones. However, performance of the Tr-23 may also be tested afresh wherever applicable

PRP08002MI: Identification of candidate genes based powdery mildew resistance for utilization in disease resistance breeding in mulberry [Coll. of SBRL, Kodathi]

Progress found was as per the milestones.

Development of Mulberry crop schedule for optimal silk productivity in WB

The PI was advised to present comprehensive pooled data for all nine crops including temperature, relative humidity details in each crop season and reeling parameters to draw suitable/logical inference/conclusion of the study

[Action: Dr. K. Suresh, Sci-C, MBG]

OFT: Popularization of Bio-Control Agents (BCA) for the management of mulberry pests

Progress of the programme was as per milestones

Routine Programme: (1) Survey & Surveillance of mulberry pest in the Eastern & N-E India and (2) Forewarning of of mulberry diseases in the Eastern & N-E India]

Regular data collection on mulberry diseases and pests at the institute plots may be considered to have a true representation. PI was further advised to communicate officially to all the nested units for regular time bound data submission.

[Action: Mr. Khasru Alam, Sci-B, Mulberry Crop Protection].

AIB02009MI: Authorization trials silkworm hybrid, 12Y x BFC1 in E & NE India [Coll. Project with NSSO & CSTRl-Bengaluru

Progress was found as per milestones. The PI was advised to make the presentation precise and clear.

AIB01009MI: Evaluation of New Bv Double Hybrid, TT21 X TT56 at Farmers Level for Authorization for Commercial Exploitation (Coll. with CSRTI, Mysore)

Progress was found as per milestones

AIE 06002MI: Evaluation of Bivoltine Silkworm Genetic Resources for Tolerance to Abiotic Stress in Selected Hotspots (CSGRC-Hosur)

Progress was found as per milestones

[Action: Dr. N. Chandrakantha, Sci-C, SBG]

AIB02006MI: Improvement of Nistari lines for survival and silk productivity

The progress was as per milestones. The PI was advised to collect a control data for all seasons to compare with the selected or improved lines; also advised to reassess the survival data against diseases in Nistari lines and reeling parameters for the LLD lines should be performed.

[Action: Dr. Ranjita Devi, Sci-B, SBG]

OFT: Evaluation of double hybrid. BHP-DH (3.2x8.9) in E&NE Region

The progress was found as per milestones. The PI was suggested to chalk out a plan to develop sex-limited breeds specific to cocoon colour

[Action: Dr. V. Lakshmanan, Sci-D, SBG]

AIT08005MI: Development and evaluation of Bidsenovirus resistant silkworm hybrids developed from marker assisted breeding lines-Phase-II (Coll. of SBRL, Kodathi)

Progress was as per milestones

OST: Validation of new eco-friendly bed disinfectant (SERIWIN)

The programme has been initiated and was running as per milestones

OFT: Demonstration of SAMPOORNA for improved cocoon quality

The programme has been initiated. However, clear cut guidelines on its usage and applicability needs to be given by the PI along with the samples.

Silkworm disease monitoring of seed and commercial crop rearing of Eastern & North Eastern states

The programme found was as per milestones. However, number of samples in disease incidence data should be indicated; also advised to keep contact with nested units for obtaining regular data.

Pilot study: Extraction of pharmaceutical grade sodium copper chlorophyllin using silkworm feculae

As per advice of one of the referee a Pilot study was taken up and the same was presented by the PI. The study was approved by the house and the PI was advised to initiate immediately.

[Action: Dr. M. Rabha, Sci-B, SWP]

AIC02004CN: Molecular characterization and assessment of the efficacy of low molecular weight peptides isolated from mulberry leaf against flacherie disease of silkworm (in coll. with UNB Siliguri)

PI was advised to hasten the analysis of LMW peptide(s) to complete the project milestones on time

AIT 02012CI: Characterization of mulberry silkworm, *Bombyx mori* L. mutants for tolerance to flacherie syndrome through genome editing tools (DST-JSPS project)

The project has just been initiated.

[Action: Dr. Pooja Makwana, Sci-C, Biotech]

AIT02008 SI: Identification of high humidity tolerant silkworm breeds/hybrids for Eastern & North-Eastern India

The progress was found as per milestones. PI was advised to take personal care to procure the proposed equipment under the project.

[Action: Dr. Raviraj V.S., Sci-B, Biotech]

OFT: Demonstration of modified charka (Suvarna) + Souroneer

The entrepreneur, supplied prototype of Suvarna & Souroneer, is now not ready to supply/install the units at farmers' house for demonstration. The matter was discussed with the entrepreneur. Moreover, the Scientist having specialization in R&S was retired in last year. However, possibilities will be explored in future.

[Action: Dr. S. Sarker, Sci-D, Training]

The routine activities of R&S section was as per milestone.

[Action: Dr. Lakshmanan, Sci-D, SBG]

MOE02011EF: Development of Seri-Entrepreneurship in Chawki rearing (MDB-WB) (NABARD funded)

The progress of the project was found satisfactory. The PI was advised to show component wise chawki expenditure; also suggested to obtain referees comment for the project and submit the same to CO, Bangalore.

OFT: Popularization of chawki rearing

Progress was as per milestones

OFT: Popularization of Collapsible Plastic Mountages & shoot feeding (shelf rearing)

Progress was as per milestones

[Action: Dr. Shafi Afroj, Sci-C, SEEM]

Training Division

Progress of the activities of Training Division was presented and was found as per milestones.

Action: Dr. Parmeswar J., Sc-B, Training]

Development of Integrated Farming System Model for Livelihood Security of Farmers in the hilly regions of Kalimpong District

PI was advised to submit the full length project at the earliest incorporating the suggestions of CO, Bangalore.

[Action: Dr. S. Harish Babu, Sci-B, RSRS-Kalimpong]

Follow-up action of RSRS-Kalimpong: Wherever applicable the rearing of the germplasm stock may be stopped followed by the evaluation of the rearing data. A demonstration plot of the improved mulberry variety may be established in the RSRS farm for dissemination of the information to the farmers.

[Dr. Zakir Hussain, Scientist-D, RSRS-Kalimpong]

Follow-up action of RSRS-Koraput: The rearing of the germplasm stock particularly with reference to the Kora pure breeds may be stopped followed by the evaluation of the rearing data wherever applicable. A demonstration plot of the improved mulberry variety may be established in the RSRS, farm for on farm demonstration and dissemination of the information to the farmers. An action plan for Eri seed production and supply may be submitted.


[Action: Dr. Dip Kumar Gogoi, Scientist-D, RSRS-Koraput]

**Any other matter with the permission of the Chair :
Change of PI/CI due to transfer/ retirement etc.**

#	Projects/ Activity	Scientists transferred/ retire		Scientists assigned	
		PI	CI	PI	CI
1	PPA 02005SI: Optimization of spacing and nutrient dose for the newly developed high yielding mulberry variety (C 2038) under irrigated condition.	Dr. R. Mahesh, Sci-C (upto May, 2021)	Dr. V. Vijay, Sci-C (upto May, 2021)	Dr. Yallappa H., Sci-B	Dr. K. Suresh, Sci-C & Dr. Deepika U., Sci-B
2	OST: Low cost drip fertigation for mulberry	Dr. R. Mahesh, Sci-C (upto May, 2021)	Incharges of 7 centers	Dr. Yallappa H., Sci-B	Incharges of 7 centers
3	OST : Evaluation of high yielding & bacterial leaf spot resistant genotype C7 with C-2038 as check variety	Dr. Soumen Chattopadhyay, Sci-D (upto July, 2021)	Incharges of 5 centers	Dr. Deepika U., Sci-B	Incharges of 5 centers
4.	AIT 02008 SI: Identification of high humidity tolerant silkworm breeds/hybrids for Eastern & North-Eastern India	V. S. Raviraj, Sci-B	G. Mitra, Sci-D; (upto Nov. 2020) V. Lakshamanan, Sci-D; N.Chandrakanth, Sci-C	V. S. Raviraj	A.R. Pradeep, Sci-D; P. Makwana, Sci-C; Zakir Hossain, Sci-D; Harish Babu, Sci-B

The meeting ended with vote of thanks.

Date: 25.11.2021


(Dr. Kishor Kumar C.M.)
Director & Chairperson
Research Council

Annexure-1

#	Name of Participants	Designation	Address
1.	Dr. C.M. Kishor Kumar	Director	CSR&TI-Berhampore, WB
2.	Dr. Lakshmanan V.	Scientist-D	-do-
3.	Dr. Srinivas G.	-do-	-do-
4.	Dr. Pradeep A.R.	-do-	-do-
5.	Dr. Dipesh Pandit	-do-	-do-
6.	Dr. Satadal Chakraborty	-do-	-do-
7.	Dr. Zakir Hossain	Scientist-D	RSRS-Kalimpong
8.	Dr. Deep Kumar Gogoi	-do-	RSRS-Koraput
9.	Dr. Harishbabu	Scientist-B	RSRS-Kalimpong
10.	Dr. Shafi Afroz	Scientist-C	CSR&TI-Berhampore, WB
11.	Dr. Suresh K.	-do-	-do-
12.	Dr. Puja Makwana	-do-	-do-
13.	Dr. Chandrakanth	-do-	-do-
14.	Dr. V.S. Raviraj	Scientist-B	-do-
15.	Dr. Deepika U.K	-do-	-do-
16.	Dr. Yalappa Harijan	-do-	-do-
17.	Mr. Khasru Alam	-do-	-do-
18.	Dr. Parmeswar Naik	-do-	-do-
19.	Dr. Mihir Rabha	-do-	-do-
20.	Dr. Ranjita Devi	-do-	-do-