

PANDIT JAWAHARLAL NEHRU COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE
(A Government of Puducherry Institution affiliated to Pondicherry University and accredited by ICAR and NAAC)
KARAIKAL – 609 603.

No. PJN/DBT-SCS/II AC meeting/Proceedings/2025/16

19.08.2025

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF
DBT – GOI SPONSORED STAR COLLEGE SCHEME THROUGH VIDEO
CONFERENCING HELD ON 18.08.2025 BETWEEN 3.00 PM AND 5.15 PM**

(Meeting link – <https://meet.google.com/sky-feuc-uir>)

Present

Chairman

1. Dr. R. Sankar, Dean_{i/c}, PAJANCOA&RI

External Experts (Joined online)

2. Dr. M. Raveendran, Director of Research, TNAU, Coimbatore
3. Dr. V. Balasubramani, COE and Professor (Entomology), TNAU, Coimbatore

DBT Representatives (Joined online)

4. Dr. Garima Gupta, Scientist 'F', DBT (Ministry of S&T), New Delhi

Internal Members

5. Dr. C. Jeyalakshmi, Professor and Head (Plant Pathology), PAJANCOA&RI
6. Dr. R. Poonguzhalan, Professor (Agronomy), PAJANCOA&RI
7. Dr. M. Kandibane, Professor (Agricultural Entomology), PAJANCOA&RI
8. Dr. M.S. Marichamy, Assistant Professor (Horticulture), PAJANCOA&RI

Member Secretary

9. Dr. V. Sundaram, Professor (Horticulture) and Coordinator (SCS)

Heads of Participating Departments

10. Dr. A. Shanthi, Professor and Head (Horticulture), PAJANCOA&RI
11. Dr. S. Mala, Professor and Head (Agronomy), PAJANCOA&RI and

Department coordinators

12. Dr. R. Tamilselvan, Assistant Professor (Agricultural Entomology)
 13. Dr. P. Pushpakanth, Assistant Professor – C (Agricultural Microbiology)
- and 13 other faculties** of the participating Department

The Advisory Committee meeting through video conferencing commenced with a welcome note by the Scheme Coordinator cum Member Secretary of the Advisory committee and was followed by the Chairman's address by the Dean of PAJANCOA&RI, Karaikal Dr. R. Sankar, who has recorded his gratitude to the DBT for sanctioning the grant under Star College Scheme (SCS) to the Institute. He has extended warm welcome to the DBT representatives and the external experts from TNAU, Coimbatore. He has also appreciated the efforts of the Department Coordinators from the participating Department for their effort in

booking almost the entire grant released and also recorded his appreciation to the former Dean Dr. A. Pouchepparadjou, Professor of Agricultural Economics, who was instrumental in getting the project to the Institute.

2. The remarks of the chairman was followed by a brief presentation on the overview of the scheme by the Scheme Coordinator, which focused on the budget release and expenditure booked in detail since the sanctioning of the scheme on 24.02.2022 till date along with salient achievements and adherence to the project guidelines as well as instructions related to the scheme received from the DBT then and there. He also expressed his gratitude on behalf of the PAJANCOA society to Dr. Garima Gupta and Mr. Pratyush Sinha of DBT for their continuous support in smooth functioning of the scheme and PFMS related accounting formalities. He has also recalled that the task force members in the third review meeting of SCS held in Coimbatore during February 2024 has given 'Grade A' to the Institute and has recommended for further continuance of the scheme support to PAJANCOA&RI, Karaikal.

3. Subsequently the coordinators from the participating Departments viz., i. Agronomy, ii. Horticulture and iii. Agricultural Entomology, Plant Pathology and Agricultural Microbiology had given a detailed presentation on the purchase effected with regard to Recurring and Non-Recurring grant with depicted photographs as well as other educational activities / industrial visits / outreach activities / faculty upgradation performed utilising the financial support of the scheme over the last three and a half years period. The presentations of each Department were supported with brief video clips from the participating students.

4. A video film covering the equipments / instruments purchased under the scheme was also projected.

5. By the end of the presentations, the following suggestions were given by the external experts from the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore.

- a. The Director of Research, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Dr. M. Raveendran, while appreciating the efforts of the entire team in timely completion of the financial and physical targets as well as the works performed under the scheme funding from each Department, he has suggested to furnish details on how best the scheme activities were beneficial to the students on improving their skill and employability as well as on its impact in motivation of students for higher education.
- b. The Controller of Examination and Professor of Agricultural Entomology Dr, V, Balasubramani of TNAU, Coimbatore while congratulating the team for the activities implemented through the scheme has suggested for indicating the increase

in number of elective courses / students' taking up an elective course with the infrastructural improvements made through the scheme.

- c. Dr. Garima Gupta, Scientist 'F' representing DBT had expressed her happiness and satisfaction over the array of good activities undertaken by the participating Departments and recorded that the activities are very relevant to the mandate of the scheme and also complimented the excellent presentation of the scheme activities during the III review meeting held in February 2024 in Coimbatore by the Scheme Coordinator. She had commended the coordinated effort of the team and informed to well utilise the facilities created, as the Institute is offering many courses of greater relevance to the ecosystem. She had appreciated the narration of how best the autoclave and the multiple units of microscope purchased is helping the students in laboratory learning and commended that this way the prime aim of the scheme has been fulfilled by the Institute.

She had also suggested that the Institute has performed the SCS activities to the satisfaction of the funding agency and hence informed the faculties to apply for other supportive schemes of the DBT in organising National Conferences and International Congress as well as popular lectures. The credibility established by the Institute would help in mobilising funds for performing still more activities in the interest of students and faculties.

She had also informed that on completion of all formalities related to the first phase of the scheme (strengthening component) a cooling period of two years is must and then the Institute can apply for the Star Status Stage (Phase II) of the scheme.

The Advisory committee meeting was concluded with the concluding remark and expression of thanks to the participants by the Scheme Coordinator (SCS), PAJANCOA&RI.

R S O O O O O
K18

DEAN AND
CHAIRMAN OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SCS)

DEAN

To – Through Telegram Communication

All the members of the Advisory Committee
HODs', Department Coordinators and faculties of the participating Department
TPO to the Dean

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru College of
Agriculture & Research Institute,
Karaikal - 609 603,
U.T. of Pondicherry.

Copy submitted to

Dr. Garima Gupta, Scientist F, Unit Head and In-charge, Department of Biotechnology,
Ministry of science and Technology, Room No. 510, Block 3, CGO Complex
Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110 003.

