



**MINUTES OF 74th MEETING OF THE RESEARCH COUNCIL (RC) OF CSB-CTRTI,
RANCHI HELD ON 26th June, 2025**

The 74th meeting of the Research Council (RC) of CSB-Central Tasar Research and Training Institute was convened on 26th June 2025 at the Institute, under the chairmanship of Dr. N. B. Chowdary, Director, CSB-CTRTI, Ranchi. The meeting aimed to evaluate new project proposals and review ongoing and completed projects, along with Technology Transfer (TOT), Capacity Building Training (CBT), and Extension Communication Programme (ECP) activities.

At the outset, Dr. Deepika Kumar Umesh, Scientist-C & In-charge, PMCE Division, warmly welcomed Dr. N. B. Chowdary, Chairman, Research Council, along with the scientists from the Institute and its Nested Units. The list of participants is enclosed in *Annexure-1*.

In his inaugural address, Dr. N. B. Chowdary welcomed all the scientists and highlighted the importance of generating tangible impacts in the field to promote tasar culture. Following his remarks, the proceedings continued as per the agenda, facilitated by Dr. Deepika Kumar Umesh, Scientist-C & In-charge, PMCE Division.

Agenda No.1: Confirmation of the previous RC Meeting Minutes

The Minutes of 73rd R.C. meeting was circulated to the Scientists of the Institute and its Nested Units vide Email dated 26.03.2025. Since no comments/suggestions have been received so far, the Minutes may be confirmed.

Agenda No. 2: Review of Action Taken of the recommendation / decisions of the previous RC meeting

The follow-up action taken on the decisions/recommendations of the previous meetings were presented by Dr. Deepika Kumar Umesh, Scientist-C & In-charge PMCE Division. While approving the action taken report, the Chairman instructed all the scientist to submit the reports of concluded pilot studies to PMCE division and pending concept notes to CO at the earliest.

Agenda No. 3: New concept notes for approval: (2+5)

Projects (2):

1. Identification and Application of Semiochemicals in Tasar Silk Moth Ecoraces for Population Monitoring [PI: Dr. H.S. Gadad, Scientist-C]

Chairman suggested PI to submit the proposal for DBT/DST funding.

[**Action:** PI: Dr. H.S. Gadad, Scientist-C]

2. Establishing the Pangenomic repository of Indian silkworms [PI: Dr. Nidhi Sukhija, Scientist-B]
Chairman suggested PI to submit the proposal for DBT/DST funding.

[**Action:** PI: Dr. Nidhi Sukhija, Scientist-B]

Pilot Studies (5):

1. Feasibility of floriculture-Based Integrated Farming System in Tasar Sericulture [PI: Dr. Shreenath Y S, Scientist-B]

Dr. Shreenath Y S, Scientist-B presented the pilot study proposal. Committee approved the proposal and suggested PI to submit the pilot study proposal to PMCE division for coding.

[**Action:** Dr. Shreenath Y S, Scientist-B]

2. Heritability estimation in Daba ecorace of Tropical Tasar silkworm [PI: Dr. Nidhi Sukhija, Scientist-B]

Dr. Nidhi Sukhija, Scientist-B presented the proposal for pilot study. Committee approved the proposal and suggested PI to submit the same to PMCE division for further needfulaction.

[**Action:** Dr. Nidhi Sukhija, Scientist-B]

3. Development of an AI-Based Mobile Application for Automated Counting of Tasar Silkworm Eggs [PI: Dr. Nidhi Sukhija, Scientist-B]

PI presented the pilot study proposal. Committee approved the proposal and instructed to submit the same for coding.

[**Action:** PI: Dr. Nidhi Sukhija, Scientist-B]

4. Crossing and Selection Between the Tropical Tasar Silkworm and Various Sericigenous Species in India [PI: Dr. D. I. G. Prabhu, Scientist-D]

Dr. Dr. D. I. G. Prabhu, Scientist-D presented the proposal. Committee approved the proposal and suggested PI to submit the same for coding.

[**Action:** PI: Dr. D. I. G. Prabhu, Scientist-D]

5. DNA Barcoding and Taxonomic Assessment of Indian Sericigenous Insects [PI: Dr. D. I. G. Prabhu, Scientist-D]

Dr. Dr. D. I. G. Prabhu, Scientist-D presented the proposal. Committee approved the proposal and suggested PI to submit the same for coding.

[**Action:** PI: Dr. D. I. G. Prabhu, Scientist-D]

Agenda No. 4: Review on concluded projects Concluded Project (0+3)

Projects: NIL

Pilot Study (3):

1. CSB-CTRTI/2024-25/HP/04: Assessment of different irrigation methods in tasar host plants (*T. arjuna*). Dec., 2024 to Feb., 2025 (3 months)

Committee reviewed the work and it was found after initiation the study could not be continued because High Density Plantation was recommended in that plot as per HMOT suggestions. Committee suggested that the study could be taken up in future when suitable arrangements are made for the work and can be concluded at present.

[PI: Dr. Harendra Yadav, Scientist-D]

2. CSB-CTRTI/2024-25/HP/03: Utilizing Tasar Host Plant Wood Waste for Cellulose Production: A Green Approach. (6 months)

PI presented the results of the concluded pilot study. Committee found the results promising and suggested the PI to submit the final report to PMCE and further take it in project mode through DBT/DST.

[PI: Mr. Haragopal Dutta, Scientist B]

3. CSB-CTRTI/2024-25SP/01: Evaluation of Efficacy of Commercial Drug Formulations against Pebrine in Tasar Silkworm (*Antheraea mylitta*) [Nov., 2024- Feb., 2025]

CI presented the results of the concluded pilot study. Committee suggested to submit the final report to PMCE.

[PI: Dr. Sruthy K S, Scientist-B]

Agenda No. 5: Progress of Ongoing projects (22 + 6)

Ongoing Projects as PI (21):

1. **[PIB 04009 SI]** Evaluation of identified hybrids of *Terminalia arjuna* x *T. tomentosa* and drought tolerant *T. arjuna* for their suitability in different tropical tasar silkworm rearing regions. (October 2021 - September 2026)

Dr. Aparna Kopparapu, Scientist-C presented the progress and committee took note of the progress.

[Action: Dr. Aparna Kopparapu, Scientist-C & PI]

2. **[ARP 04012 SI]** Developing ectomycorrhizal bio-inoculants for improving survival and leaf yield of *Terminalia arjuna* and *T. tomentosa*. (Feb. 2022- Jan.2026)

Dr. Aparna Kopparapu, Scientist-C presented the progress which was as per the mile stone.

[Action: Dr. Aparna K., Scientist-C & PI]

3. **[PPS04031SIC]** Exploration of C sequestration potential of *Terminalia* spp. and ways to increase the soil organic C stock (April 2025 - March 2028)

Dr. Aparna Kopparapu, Scientist-C presented the progress and committee took note of the progress.

[Action: Dr. Aparna Kopparapu, Scientist-C & PI]

4. **[SIP 04022 SIC]** Impact of weather change on tasar food plants and silkworm (March, 2024 February, 2027).

Dr. Deepika Kumar Umesh, Scientist-C presented the progress and committee suggested to expedite purchase of equipment under the project.

[Action: Dr. Deepika Kumar Umesh, Scientist-C & PI]

5. **[PPA 04023 SIC]** Identification of suitable package of practices for establishment of *Lagerstroemia speciosa* (Jarul) for quality leaf production (March, 2024 – February, 2029).

PI presented the progress and committee took note of the progress.

[Action: Smt. Susmita Das, Scientist-D]

6. [PPA 04024SIC] Effect of different plant spacing and pruning heights on chawki lea productivity of tasar host plants (*Terminalia arjuna*, *T. Tomentosa* and *Lagerstroemi speciosa*) and chawki silkworm rearing. (March 2024 – February, 2027)

Dr. Harendra Yadav, Scientist-C presented the progress and committee took note the progress.

[Action: Dr. Harendra Yadav, Scientist-C]

7. [APR 04015CN] Documentation and Validation of Indigenous Technical Knowledg (ITKs) inn Tropical tasar Zone (December-2022 to November-2025)

Dr. Hanamant Gadad, Scientist-C & PI of project presented the progress and committee took note the progress.

[Action: Dr. Hanamant Gadad, Scientist-C & PI]

8. [ARP04016M1] Tasar Silkworm Disease Monitoring and Management in North an Central states of India (March, 2023-Feb, 2028)

Dr. Dr. Shantakar Giri, Scientist-D & PI of the project presented the progress and committee took note the progress.

[Action: PI: Dr. Shantakar Giri, Scientist-D & PI]

9. [A1B04017MI] Recurrent Selection and Multiplication of Thermo-Tolerant Line (s) of Tropical Tasar Silkworm (March, 2023-Feb, 2026)

PI presented the progress of project and committee suggested PI to ensure project running as per milestone. Further PI requested to add Dr. Nidhi Sukhija, Sc-B as CI in the project which was approved by the committee and was suggested to communicate the same to CO.

[Action: Dr. I. G. Prabhu. Scientist-D & PI]

10. [AIB 04018 MI]: In situ Conservation of Modal Ecorace of Tasar Silkworm in Odisha (March, 2023-Dec, 2027)

PI presented the progress of project and committee suggested PI to ensure project running as per milestone. Further PI requested to add Dr. Nidhi Sukhija, Sc-B as CI in the project which was approved by the committee and was suggested to communicate the same to CO.

[Action: Dr. I. G. Prabhu, Scientist-D & PI]

11. [AIB 04019 MI]: In situ Conservation of Raily Ecorace of Tasar Silkworm in Chhattisgarh (March, 2023-Dec, 2027)

Dr. H.S. Gadad, Scientist-C presented the progress of project and committee suggested PI to ensure project running as per milestone.

[Action: Dr. H.S.Gadad, Scientist-C & PI]

12. [AIB 04020 MI]: In situ Conservation of Sarihan Ecorace of Tasar Silkworm in Jharkhand (March, 2023-Dec, 2027)

PI presented the progress of project and committee suggested PI to ensure project running as per milestone.

13. [Action: Dr. S. Giri, Scientist-D & PI]

[CEM 04021 MNC]: Evaluation of technologies and machines developed in tasar post cocoon technology (March 2024 – February, 2026).

Shri. Ashu Kumar, Scientist-B presented the progress and committee took note of the progress.

14. [Action: Shri Ashu Kumar, Scientist-B & PI]

[BPC 04025 SNC] Management of type II diabetic (T2D) condition through tasar sericin (March 2024 – September, 2026).

Dr. K. Jena, Scientist-D & PI of the project presented the progress and committee took note of the progress.

[Action: Dr. K. Jena, Scientist-D & PI]

15. [BPS 04026 SNC] Studies on nutraceutical properties of silkworm pupae oil and development of a low-cost combination of vanya and mulberry pupae meal based feed for carp broodstock, and cultivable aquatic species (March 2024 – February, 2026)

Dr. K. Jena, Scientist-D & PI of the project presented the progress and committee took note of the progress.

16. [Action: Dr. K.Jena, Scientist-D & PI]

[AIT 04026 SIE] Development of KASP Based SNP Barcoding System for the Molecular Identification of Tropical Tasar Silkworm Ecoraces

PI presented the progress of the project and the Committee noted the progress.

[Action: Dr. I. G. Prabhu, Scientist-D & PI]

17. [AIT04028SNE] Inflatable mucoadhesive vaginal tablet coin (VTC) for instant spermicidal action as local vaginal contraceptive and microbicide

Dr. K. Jena, Scientist-D & PI of the project presented the progress and committee took note of the progress.

[Action: Dr. K.Jena, Scientist-D & PI]

18. [PIG04033MIC]: Development of Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for tasar host plant gene bank and maintenance of the gene bank using cultural package of practices

PI of the project presented the progress and committee took note of the progress.

[Action: Mr. Haragopal Dutta, Scientist-B & PI]

19. [PRP04032SIC]: Identification of pathogens associated with Tasar host plant diseases and their integrated management

CI of the project presented the progress and committee took note of the progress.

[Action: Dr. Shreenath Y S, Scientist-B & PI]

20. [SRP04030SIC]: Evaluation of the efficacy of identified formulations for the management of Cytoplasmic Polyhedrosis Virus in *Antheraea mylitta*

CI of the project presented the progress and committee took note of the progress.

[Action: Dr. Shreenath Y S, Scientist-B & PI]

21. [MTS04029MIC]: Study on lab to land gaps in adoption & effectiveness of tasar technologies: Constraints and recommendations in major tasar growing areas

Dr. Vishal Mittal, Scientist-D & PI of the project presented the progress and committee took note of the progress. PI requested to include Dr. P. C. Gedam, Sc-D, BSM&TC, Bhandara and new scientists as CI in the project due to transfer of 3 CIs in the on-going project. Committee approved to add new CIs and inform the same to CO.

[Action: Dr. Vishal Mittal, Scientist-D & PI]

Ongoing Projects as Co-PI (1):

[SRP08012MNC] Development of a Rapid Antigen Test Kit for Diagnosis of Cytoplasmic Polyhedrosis in Vanay Silkworms (*Antheraea assamensis*, *A. mylitta* and *A. proylei*) (Collaboration with SBRL) (February 2024- January 2026)

Dr. H.S. Gadad, Scientist-C presented the progress and committee took note of the progress.

[Action: Dr. H.S. Gadad, Scientist-C & PI]

Ongoing Pilot Studies (6):

1. Metabolite profiling of tasar food plants and silkworms to study their potential impact on silk production. [PI: Dr. Nidhi Sukhija, Scientist -B]

Dr. Nidhi Sukhija, Scientist -B presented the findings of the pilot study and requested for 6 months extension. Committee approved the study to be extended.

[Action: Dr. Nidhi Sukhija, Scientist -B]

2. [CTRTI/BP/PS/39] [CTRT&TI/BSMTC/PS/40] Studies on standardizing techniques for preservation of Diapausing nucleus Seed cocoons and Egg production in basic seed grainage. [PI: K. S. Prakash, Scientist-D, BSMTC, R.C Varam, AP]

Co-I Presented the progress of the project and committee took note the progress.

[Action: K. S. Prakash, Scientist-D, BSMTC, R.C Varam, AP]

3. CTR&TI/BT/PS/37: [CSB-CTRTI/2024-25HP/PS/02] Design & Development of Conveyor Belt for Tasar Silkworm Pebrine Identification System (October 2024 –March, 2025) [PI: Ms. Susmita Das, Scientist -D]

PI presented the progress of the project and requested for extension. Committee took note the progress and approved extension.

[Action: Ms. Susmita Das, Scientist -D]

4. [CSB-CTRTI/2024-25HP/PS/01] Development of a counting machine for tasar cocoons (October 2024 –March, 2025) [PI: Ms. Susmita Das, Scientist -D]

PI presented the progress of the project and requested for extension. Committee took note the progress and approved extension.

[Action: Ms. Susmita Das, Scientist -D]

5. CTRTI/PCT/PS-33: Comparative Analysis of physical and chemical properties of Oak Tasar, Korean Tasar, Muga and Tropical Tasar Silk: A Study on Colour, Strength, Fineness, and Durability (15 January to 15 April 2025) [PI: Mr. Ashu Kumar, Scientist-B]

PI Presented the progress of the project and committee took note the progress. PI also requested for extension and committee approved for 3 months extension.

[Action: Mr. Ashu Kumar, Scientist-B]

6. CTR&TI/BT/PS/37: Possibilities of Indoor Rearing in Tropical Tasar Silkworm *Antheraea mylitta*

PI Presented the progress of the project and committee took note the progress. PI also requested for extension and committee approved for extension.

[Action: Mr. Divya Rajawat, Scientist-B]

B. On-going Programme of Work (of continuous nature)

[CTR&TI/HPP/POW-02] Farm Management & Developmental works

Dr. Harendra Yadav, Scientist-C presented the progress of farm management and committee took note the progress.

[Action: Dr. H. Yadav, Scientist-C]

AGENDA NO. 7: TRIAL OF TECHNOLOGIES (OSTs/ OFTs)

Dr. Shantakar Giri, Scientist-D of SEEM Division presented the progress of TOTs. Committee took note of the progress. The progress was found to be satisfactory.

[Action: Dr. Shantakar Giri, Scientist-D]

AGENDA NO. 8: EXTENSION (ECP) AND OTHER PROGRAMMES

Dr. Shantakar Giri, SEEM Division presented the progress of ECPs. The council took note of the progress. The progress was found to be satisfactory.

[Action: Dr. Shantakar Giri, Scientist-D]

AGENDA NO. 9: TRAINING (CBT) AND OTHER PROGRAMMES

Dr. Vishal Mittal, Scientist-D and Head Training Division presented the progress of CBT. The committee took note of the progress. It was advised to expedite the establishment of new SRC as per the set milestones.

[Action: Dr. Vishal Mittal, Scientist-D]

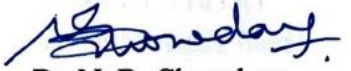
**AGENDA NO. 10: DISCUSSION ON GENERAL COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS OF RC/
RAC**

Chairman suggested all scientists to complete work as per approved Annual Action Plan 2024-25.

AGENDA NO. 11: ANY OTHER POINT WITH PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.

Date: 12.08.2025


Dr. N. B. Chowdary,

Director

Annexure-1

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS ATTENDED 74th MEETING OF THE RESEARCH COUNCIL (RC) OF CTR&TI RANCHI HELD ON 26th JUNE, 2025

1. Dr. N. B. Chowdary, Director, CSB-CTR&TI, Ranchi (Chairman)
2. Dr. Shantakar Giri, Scientist-D, CSB-CTR&TI, Ranchi
3. Dr. Shushmita Das, Scientist-D, CSB-CTR&TI, Ranchi
4. Dr. K. Jena, Scientist-D, CSB-CTR&TI, Ranchi
5. Dr. Vishal Mittal, Scientist-D, CSB-CTR&TI, Ranchi
6. Dr. Harendra Yadav, Scientist-C, CSB-CTR&TI, Ranchi
7. Dr. H.S. Gadad, Scientist-C, CSB-CTR&TI, Ranchi
8. Dr. Aparna K., Scientist-C, CSB-CTR&TI, Ranchi
9. Dr. Deepika K.U., Scientist-C, CSB-CTR&TI, Ranchi
10. Mr. Ashu Kumar, Scientist-B, CSB-CTR&TI, Ranchi
11. Ms. Divya Rajawat, Scientist-B, CSB-CTR&TI, Ranchi
12. Mr. Haragopal Dutta, Scientist-B, CSB-CTR&TI, Ranchi
13. Dr. Nidhi Sukhija, Scientist-B, CSB-CTR&TI, Ranchi
14. Dr. Shreenath YS, Scientist-B, CSB-CTR&TI, Ranchi