



**MINUTES OF 76th MEETING OF THE RESEARCH COUNCIL (RC) OF CSB-CTR TI,
RANCHI HELD ON 7th JANUARY, 2026**

The 76th meeting of the Research Council (RC) of CSB-Central Tasar Research and Training Institute was convened on 7th January 2026 at the Institute, under the chairmanship of Dr. N. B. Chowdary, Director, CSB-CTR TI, 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 and 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 advised all the scientists to focus R&D on generating tangible impacts in the field to promote tasar culture and to improve the quality productivity. 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 75th R.C. meeting was circulated to the Scientists of the Institute and its Nested Units vide Email dated 16.10.2025. 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 the scientists to submit the pending report of concluded pilot studies to PMCE at the earliest.

Agenda No. 3: New concept notes for approval: 5 Nos.

1. Valorization of *Cordyceps militaris* through Vanya silkworm waste- Phase II [PI: Dr. MM Baig, Scientist-D]

PI presented the project proposal before RC. The committee gave following suggestions:

- Objective 2 should be removed from the project. First the project should complete successfully, later any company can take up incubation center for the same after receiving training from the institute.
- The PI should compare the quality of *Cordyceps* with the one available in the market.

The PI was further advised to incorporate the suggestions in the proposal and submit to RCS section, CO, Bengaluru.

[Action: PI: Dr. MM Baig, Scientist-D]

2. Formulation and Evaluation of Tasar Silk Protein–Based Skin and Hair care products [PI: Dr. MM Baig, Scientist-D]

PI presented the project proposal before RC and the same has not been considered as the R&D work in these lines has already been initiated in the By-product lab of this institute in collaboration with the Centurion University, Bhubaneswar. Further it is advised to propose a project on artificial diet for tasar silkworm rearing.

[Action: PI: Dr. MM Baig, Scientist-D]

3. Strengthening of Tasar sericulture through termination of pupal Diapause [PI: Dr. Divya Rajawat, Scientist-B]

The Principal Investigator (PI) presented the project proposal before the Research Council (RC). The project was not approved by the committee as similar project has already been presented by the PI in the 56th RAC held on 16.01.2025. The PI was advised to make corrections in the previously presented project and resubmit to RCS Section, Central Office, Bengaluru.

[Action: PI: Dr. Divya Rajawat, Scientist-B]

4. Arjun-Asan graft composites for improving leaf quality, yield and climate resilience of tasar host plants [PI: Dr. Deepika Kumar Umesh, Scientist-C]

The Principal Investigator (PI) presented the project proposal before the Research Council (RC). The committee approved the proposal and advised to submit the same to the RCS Section, Central Office, Bengaluru.

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

5. Developing methods to mitigate the defense response of Tasar host plants to feeding by *Antheraea mylitta*. Phase I: Elucidating effects of Tasar silkworm feeding on Phyllosphere microbiome and biochemical profile of foliage of *Terminalia* sp. [PI: Dr. Aparna K, Scientist-C]

The Principal Investigator (PI) presented the project proposal before the Research Council (RC). The project was not approved by the committee as the project didn't align with the thrust area of Tasar sericulture. PI was further advised to propose concept on thrust areas of tasar sericulture.

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

Agenda No. 4: Review on concluded projects Concluded Project/Pilot Study (1+4)

Projects: 1 No.

1.APR04015CN: Documentation and Validation of Indigenous Technical Knowledge (ITKs) in Tropical tasar Zone [PI: H. S. Gadad, Scientist-C]

Dr. Vishal Mittal, Scientist-D, presented the outcome of the project. Systematic repository of ITKs in tasar sericulture were recorded, serving as a ready reference for location-specific, low-cost

technologies. Committee suggested the PI to submit the concluded report to RCS Section, CO, Bengaluru at the earliest.

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

Pilot Study: 7 Nos.

1. **CSB-CTRTI/2024-25/SBG/01:** 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 was advised to submit the final report to PMCE.

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

2. **CSB-CTRTI/2024-25/PCT/01:** 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 [PI: Mr. Ashu Kumar, Scientist-B]

PI Presented the outcome of the study and was advised to submit the final report to PMCE.

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

3. **CSB-CTRTI/2025-26/PS/PP/01:** 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 findings of the pilot study and was advised to submit the final report to PMCE.

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

4. **CSB-CTRTI/2025-26/PS/SBG/04:** Heritability estimation in Daba ecorace of Tropical Tasar silkworm [PI: Dr. Nidhi Sukhija, Scientist-B]

Dr. Nidhi Sukhija, Scientist-B presented the findings of the pilot study and was advised to submit the final report to PMCE.

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

5. **CSB-CTRTI/2025-26/PS/SBG/05:** Development of an AI-Based Mobile Application for Automated Counting of Tasar Silkworm Eggs [PI: Dr. Nidhi Sukhija, Scientist-B]

PI presented the findings of the pilot study and was advised to submit the final report to PMCE.

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

6. **CSB-CTRTI/2025-26/PS/SBG/02:** 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 findings of the pilot study and was advised to submit the final report to PMCE.

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

7. **CSB-CTRTI/2025-26/PS/SBG/03:** 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 findings of the pilot study and was advised to submit the final report to PMCE.

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

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)

PI presented the progress and the committee observed that the progress 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 noted that the project is running as per the milestones.

[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 noted that the project is running as per the milestones.

[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 leaf 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. [PPA04031SIC] Development of High-Density Plantation of Tasar Host Plants and Exploration of Indoor Rearing for Tasar Silkworm Domestication (Oct., 2025 – Sep., 2030)

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

[Action: Dr. Divya Rajawat, Scientist-B & PI]

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

Dr. Nidhi Sukhija, Scientist-B presented the progress and committee took note of the progress.

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

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

Dr. Nidhi Sukhija, Scientist-B presented the progress of project and committee took note the progress.

[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)

Dr. S. Giri, Scientist-D presented the progress of project and committee observed that the progress is as per the milestone.

[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. S. Giri, Scientist-D presented the progress of project and committee observed that the progress is as per the 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.

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

13. [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.

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

14. [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.

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

16. [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

The Principal Investigator (PI) presented the progress of the project, which was duly noted by the committee.

[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.

[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: NIL

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 and In-charge, 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.

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

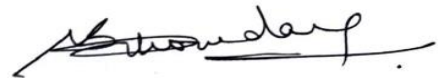
AGENDA NO. 10: DISCUSSION ON GENERAL COMMENTS / SUGGESTIONS OF RC/RAC

The Chairman advised all scientists to utilize project funds judiciously and to expedite the work in order to achieve the targets outlined in the Annual Action Plan for 2025–26.

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

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

Date: 28:01:2026



Dr. N. B. Chowdary

Director

Annexure-1

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS ATTENDED 76th MEETING OF THE RESEARCH COUNCIL (RC) OF CTR&TI RANCHI HELD ON 7th JANUARY, 2026

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