KERALA STATE COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT
(KSCSTE)

MINUTES OF THE 38th MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Date/Time: 19th August 2014/ 2.00 pm to 6.00 pm

Venue: Sasthra Bhavan, Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram.

Present:

1. Prof. V. N. Rajasekharan Pillai, EVP, KSCSTE : Chairman
2. Prof. Oommen V. Oommen, Chairman, Kerala Biodiversity Board : Member
3. Prof. M. Radhakrishna Pillai, Director, RGCB : Member
4. Prof. Paul Sebastian, Director, RCC : Member
5. Prof. K. K. Muhammed Yusuff, CUSAT : Member
6. Sri. S. Ramnath, CMD, KINFRA : Member
7. Er. B. G. Sreedevi, Director, NATPAC : Member
8. Dr. P. G. Latha, Director, JNTBGRI : Member
9. Prof. A. M. Mathai, Director, CMSS, State Council Member : Invitee
10. Prof. George Varghese, Director, KSCSTE : Invitee
11. Sri. P. Radhakrishnan, Additional Secretary to GoK & CoA : Invitee
12. Sri. Rajan Panicker, IA & AS (Retd), Spl officer, SRIBS : Invitee

Secretary, DST, GoI, Secretary, Finance, GoK, Secretary, Planning & Economic Affairs, GoK, and the Member Secretary, Dr. K. K. Ramachandran could not attend the meeting.
The Chairman welcomed the members of the reconstituted Executive Committee, Prof. A. M. Mathai, the Member of the reconstituted State Council and other invitees who are present in the meeting. The Chairman appreciated the significant contributions made by the outgoing members of the Executive Committee, Prof. E.D. Jemmis, Dr. G. C. Gopala Pillai, Prof. J. Srinivasan, Dr. N. P. Kurian and Dr. Narasimha Prasad. Chairman informed that the State Council had also been reconstituted with five nationally renowned scientists/technocrats of eminence, Dr. G. C. Gopala Pillai, Prof. V. P. N. Nampoori, Prof. P. R. Sudhakaran, Dr. Das Gupta and Prof. A.M. Mathai in addition to the Executive Committee members and ex-officio members. The Chairman sought proactive interventions and inputs from all the members for the growth of the KSCSTE, the R & D institutions under it, and the Science & Technology Sector in the State. Subsequently the agenda items were taken up. Chairman informed that there are 69 regular agenda items and 1 tabled item before this Executive Committee meeting.

ITEM - 38.01: CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 37th MEETING HELD ON 30th JUNE 2014 AND THE ACTION-TAKEN REPORT.

The Executive Committee perused the circulated draft minutes of the 37th Meeting of the Executive Committee and the suggestions received on it. The suggestions and additional points raised in the meeting were also incorporated and the final draft of the Minutes was approved (ENCL. 1). It was also informed that the confirmed minutes of the Executive Committee will be put in the Council Website. The Executive Committee noted that the practice of putting the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting in the Council Website was started from 2014. The Executive Committee appreciated this move and desired to continue this practice promptly. The Executive Committee noted the Tabled Action Taken Report (ENCL. 2).
ITEM - 38.02: FIXATION OF A QUOTA FOR QUALIFIED INTERNAL CANDIDATES IN THE OPEN RECRUITMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF.

Executive Committee resolved to constitute a 5-member committee consisting of two Directors of R & D Centres under the Council, Er. B. G. Sreedevi, Director, NATPAC, Dr. P. G. Latha, Director, JNTBGRI, Prof. George Varghese, Director, KSCSTE Hqrs, Shri. Yohannan, Regisrtar, CWRDM and Shri. P. Radhakrishnan, Controller of Administration, KSCSTE. The Convenor of the Committee shall be the Controller of Administration. The Committee may be advised to submit the report within a month. The report may be placed in the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

ITEM - 38.03: BRINGING MALABAR BOTANICAL GARDEN (MBG), KOZHIKODE, A GRANT-IN-AID INSTITUTION UNDER THE KSCSTE, AS A FULL-FLEDGED R & D CENTRE UNDER THE KSCSTE.

The Executive Committee considered the Report of the 4-member committee consisting of Prof. M. Radhakrishna Pillai, Director, Rajiv Gandhi Centre of Biotechnology (RGCB), -Chairman -, Dr. Bindu Dey, Senior Advisor, DBT, GoI, New Delhi, Dr. P. G. Latha, Director, JNTBGRI, Thiruvananthapuram, and Dr. R. Prakashkumar, Director-in-Charge, MBG and resolved to accept the recommendation of the Committee to upgrade MBG as a full-fledged constituent R & D Centre under the Council. The Executive Committee further resolved (i) to forward the Report to the President of the Council, the Chief Minister of Kerala, for further necessary action; (ii) to initiate steps for dissolving the existing Malabar Botanical Garden Society, as per rules, and to transfer the assets and liabilities of the Society to the KSCSTE; and (iii) to appoint Dr. R. Prakashkumar, Scientist F & Joint Director in KSCSTE, now in additional charge of the Malabar
Botanical Garden, as Director of the Malabar Botanical Garden. The Report of the Committee is annexed as (ENCL. 3).

**ITEM - 38.04: STORE PURCHASE RULES AND KSCSTE PURCHASE PROCEDURES - PROPOSAL FROM KFRI.**

The Executive Committee noted that this item had been taken up in the 37th Meeting of the KSCSTE. The decision therein shall stand.

**ITEM - 38.05: PROPOSAL FOR APPROVAL OF KERALA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AS A GRANT-IN-AID INSTITUTION OF THE KSCSTE.**

Considered the proposal of the Kerala Academy of Sciences for its approval as a Grant-in-Aid institution of the KSCSTE. The Executive Committee noted that the Kerala Academy of Sciences is an institution started in 1989 and is engaged in promotion of quality and excellence in science in the State of Kerala, in line with the activities of the National Academies and Academies of Science in other States. The Executive Committee also noted that as of now KSCSTE has three Grant-in-Aid institutions under it, viz. Sophisticated Testing and Instrumentation Centre (STIC), CUSAT Campus, Kochi; Malabar Botanical Garden (MBG), Kozhikode; and the Integrated Rural Technology Centre (IRTC), Palakkad. There is a token provision of ₹ 5 lakhs in the 2014-15 budget of the Council for new Grant-in-Aid institutions. The Kerala Academy of Sciences has also requested for provision of a suitable office accommodation.

The Executive Committee resolved to recommend to the Government to bring the Kerala Academy of Sciences, Thiruvananthapuram, as a Grant-in-Aid institution of the KSCSTE, with an annual grant allocation of ₹ 25 lakhs from the next financial year onwards. For the current financial year, the academic activities of the Kerala Academy of Sciences will be supported including them in the project activities of the Council, for
which specific proposals may be submitted. The support for this year will be limited to ₹3 lakhs, including provisions for a rented office space for the Academy.

ITEM - 38.06: HONORARIUM FOR EXPERTS AND INVITEES FOR MEETINGS, SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES - IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CSIR RATES.

Considered the CSIR Letter No. 33/M/PPD-2014 dated 9th April 2014 and resolved to fix the honorarium/sitting fee for experts/members of committees as ₹2,000/- per day. For external (outside the Council or Council institutions) experts, external executive committee/state council members, experts for selection committee members of scientists and senior officers, award committee members, endowment lecturers, renowned invited scientists, a special honorarium of ₹5,000/ per day shall be paid, as in other national establishments, with a case-to-case, considered approval from the Executive Vice President.

ITEM - 38.07: ENHANCEMENT OF DAILY WAGES OF EMPLOYEES.

The Executive Committee resolved to accept the proposal of enhancing the daily wages of helpers, typists and binders in the KSCSTE Hqrs and the R & D Centres from the present rate of ₹350/- to ₹400/- per day w.e.f from 1st August 2014.

ITEM - 38.08: APPOINTMENT OF LIBRARY ASSISTANT IN KSCSTE HQRS.

The Executive Committee noted that this proposal had been taken up in the 36th Meeting of the Executive Committee held on 31st March 2014 and resolved to defer the item. The decision shall stand.
ITEM-38.09: REGULARISATION OF 5 OFFICE ATTENDANTS AND ONE CLERICAL ASSISTANT IN KSCSTE HEAD QUARTERS.

As per Council (M) Order No.17/2014/KSCSTE dated 04.03.2014 and Council (M) Order No. 85/14/KSCSTE dated 22.05.2014, 5 office attendants and one clerical assistant, as per list below, who were engaged on temporary basis, have been regularised. The Executive Committee noted that they are appointed against the existing vacancies in the Council and against 2 posts of office attendants shifted from the erstwhile Centre for Earth Science Studies, considering the increased workload in the Hqrs. Executive Committee also noted that there was no additional financial commitment or requirement of additional post creation in this regard. Accordingly Executive Committee ratified the regularisation of the following temporary employees:

1. Smt. Prasannakumari. C. S. - Office Attendant
2. Smt. Selin. N. S. - Office Attendant
3. Smt. Savithry R. - Office Attendant
4. Smt. Suma A. R. - Office Attendant
5. Sri. Joshi K. Varghese - Office Attendant
6. Smt. Chandri C. P. - Clerical Assistant

ITEM - 38.10: EXTENSION OF APPOINTMENT OF ER. SREEKANTH P. KRISHNAN AS HONORARY TECHNICAL CONSULTANT IN KSCSTE

Er. Sreekanth P. Krishnan has been engaged as Honorary Technical Consultant in KSCSTE for the last two years. His tenure of appointment expired on 11.04.2014. The President of the Council, the Hon’ble Chief Minister, has approved the proposal of extending his term of appointment. The Executive Committee resolved to ratify the action taken by the President of the Council and resolved to extend the term by one more year w.e.f. 11.04.2014, under the existing terms and conditions. The EC also
resolved that a brief report of the outcome of the project(s) undertaken by the Consultants shall be placed before the EC when extension is proposed, in this and similar cases.

ITEM - 38.11: EXTENSION OF APPOINTMENT AND ENHANCEMENT OF HONORARIUM OF PROF (Dr.) K.G. NARAYANA PILLAI, AS HONORARY ADVISOR AND CHIEF COORDINATOR OF THE KARAMANA RIVER ECO-RESTORATION PROJECT

Dr. K. G. Narayana Pillai, former Principal of MG College, and former Director of College Developmental Council, MG University, has been working in a Plan Project on Karamana Eco-restoration, as honorary advisor and Chief Coordinator since 15.05.2013. This plan project is continuing. The President of the Council, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has approved the proposal of extending his term for another one year w.e.f. 15.05.2014. Prof. Narayana Pillai has requested to enhance his monthly honorarium to ₹ 35,000/- p.m. on par with other technical consultants in the Council. The Executive Committee ratified the extension of term by one more year and also resolved to enhance the honorarium to ₹ 35,000/-p.m., subject to provisions and budget allocation in the sanctioned project for this purpose. The EC also resolved that a critical review of this project and a report of this shall be presented in the next meeting of the EC.

ITEM-38.12: HONORARIUM FOR SPECIAL OFFICER (ADMINISTRATION), MUNNAR BOTANICAL GARDEN PROJECT

Sri. P Radhakrishnan, Controller of Administration (Additional Secretary to Govt. on deputation) has been given additional charge of special officer (Administration) until a technically qualified and experienced regular special officer is appointed. In the 36th meeting of the Executive Committee, it was also resolved to sanction a suitable
honorarium to Sri. P. Radhakrishnan for the additional work entrusted to him. The Executive Committee resolved to sanction an honorarium Rs.5000/- per month.

ITEM-38.13: MUNNAR BOTANICAL GARDEN PROJECT - IMPLEMENTATION.
The Executive Committee considered report of the workshop held on 29th April 2014 for evolving guidelines for the Munnar Botanical Garden Project. The Executive Committee resolved to accept the report and implement the recommendations without conflicting the objectives of JNTBGRI and MBG. The Executive Committee further proposed to explore the possibility of taking up this project as a joint venture of the KSCSTE, Kerala State Biodiversity Board and the District Tourism Promotion Council.

ITEM - 38.14: PRIZE MONEY FOR SASTHRAPURASKARAM AND SCIENCE LITERATURE AWARD - ENHANCEMENT OF.
The Executive Committee considered the proposal of enhancing the prize money for Kerala Sasthra Puraskaram and Science Literature awards. The Executive Committee noted that Kerala Sasthra Puraskaram is the highest science award conferred by the State Government to honour internationally distinguished scientists of Kerala origin for his/her lifelong contributions in Science. The Executive Committee also noted that the prize carries a cash award of Rs. 1 Lakh. Considering the significance of award and comparing it with similar awards in the literary fields like the Ezhuthachan Puraskaram, the prize money does not commensurate with the status of the award. Similarly, the prize money for the prestigious Science Literature award has been Rs. 25,000/- for the last several years. It was also noted that the proposal is well within the approved budget of the scheme. The Executive Committee resolved to enhance
the prize money for Kerala Sasthra Puraskaram from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 2 lakhs and for the Science Literature award from Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 50,000/- w.e.f. 2014.

ITEM - 38.15: REDESIGNATION OF THE POST OF SYSTEM ANALYST AS SYSTEM MANAGER

Considered the issue of redesignation of the post of System Analyst as System Manager. The EC noted that Sri. K. Sabarish is Scientist E2 in KSCSTE and therefore there is no need for redesignating him as System Manager. If there is a post of System Manager in the KSCSTE, appropriate steps can be taken for fixing the qualifications and recruitment rules for the posts. Sri. K. Sabarish can also put in an application for the post.

ITEM - 38.16: FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PLAN (CZMP)

Considered the proposal submitted by Dr. K. V. Thomas, Scientist G and Group Head, NCESS for sanctioning Rs. 299.75 lakhs for the preparation of CZMP. The Executive Committee also noted that Rs. 45 lakhs has already been released for this project. The submitted proposal did not have the detailed estimates. Dr. K. Kokkal, Division Head, and Dr. K. K. Ramachandran, the Member Secretary, KCZMA were also not available for providing inputs for the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee resolved to authorize the Executive Vice President to take appropriate decision after discussion with the concerned division head and after obtaining the necessary details, with justification of the amount. The KCZMA may also be advised to get additional grant from the Govt. to meet this expenditure. The Executive Committee noted that there is no budget provision in the KSCSTE to meet this expenditure. The Executive Committee authorized the Chairman/EVP, KSCSTE
to write to the Govt. Dept. of Finance to provide additional allocation for this purpose, from the revenue generated by the KCZMA.

**ITEM - 38.17: TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR THE TRAINEE SCIENTIST PROGRAM**

The Executive Committee considered draft terms and conditions provided by the division and resolved to authorize the Chairman to place this before an Expert committee. The possibility of combining this with the PDF scheme may also be considered. The final recommendation may be placed in the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

**ITEM - 38.18: EXTENSION OF THE SASTHRAPOSHINI SCHEME TO AIDED SCHOOLS**

The Executive Committee considered the proposal of extending the Sasthraposhini scheme to private aided schools in the State also. Presently, only Govt. schools are eligible for these projects. Other schemes and programs of the Council are available to both Government and aided schools. The Executive Committee resolved to extend the scheme to aided schools also, limiting the expenditure for the aided schools to one-third of the total budget allocation, for this purpose.

**ITEM - 38.19: INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF CRYSTALLOGRAPHY PROGRAMS**

The Executive Committee noted that UNESCO has declared the year 2014 as the International Year of Crystallography (IYCr). The main idea (as defined by the UN) is to have rapid outreach of the subject in very small places. IYCr is being celebrated worldwide through various programmes. The IUCr-India Chapter is keen on associating with KSCSTE to coordinate the activities in Kerala. The Royal Society of Chemistry
(RSC) has agreed to offer prizes for various events in the form of RSC sponsorships for online educational resources to students and teachers, apart from a cash contribution of around GBP 500 for various activities. IUCR/DST has agreed to provide financial assistance of one lakh rupees towards the general expenditure connected with the programmes. An expert committee has recommended a set of activities across the State (ENCL 4). The Executive Committee resolved to accept the recommendations of the expert committee and approved the activities within a total budget of Rs. 9,11,000/- (Rupees nine lakhs and eleven thousand), with specific administrative and financial approvals, as per rules.

ITEM - 38.20: ENGAGEMENT OF STANDING COUNSEL FOR LOK AYUKTA, AND IN OTHER COURTS, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Executive Committee considered proposal of the extension of the tenure of Adv. V. K. Raju as Standing Counsel for Lok Ayukta and other courts in Thiruvananthapuram. The Executive Committee also considered the request of Adv. Raju to enhance the monthly retainer fee from Rs. 3500 to Rs. 10,000/-. The Executive Committee resolved to extend the tenure of Adv. V. K. Raju for one more year with the existing retainer fee.

ITEM - 38.21: SCIENCE SERIAL IN COLLABORATION WITH DOORADARSAN KENDRA, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Executive Committee considered the proposal of launching a Science Serial in collaboration with Dooradarsan Kendra, Thiruvananthapuram. The Executive Committee also noted that Dooradarsan had taken up such collaborative telecasts with other organizations like Kudumbasree and NRHM. There is budgetary provision for such
activities under the Science media support scheme of the KSCSTE. The Executive Committee resolved to accept this proposal limiting the expenditure to Rs. 24 lakhs, following due administrative and financial processes.

**ITEM - 38.22: STARTING A COMMUNITY RADIO SERVICE BY KSCSTE.**

The Executive Committee considered the proposal for launching a community radio by KSCSTE securing license from Prasarbharati Corporation, Govt. of India. The Executive Committee also noted that there is provision in the budget for meeting the estimated expenditure of Rs.50 lakhs for this project. The Executive Committee lauded this initiative and resolved to approve the community radio project in KSCSTE. The financial expenditure for this project shall be incurred following due administrative and financial procedures.

**ITEM - 38.23: COLLABORATION OF KSCSTE WITH STATE INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGES FOR THE SCIENCE LITERATURE FEST AND INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR - 2014**

The Executive Committee considered the proposal of organizing a Science Literature Fest and International Book Fair in collaboration with the State Institute of Languages, Kerala, in November 2014 at Thiruvananthapuram. The EC resolved to accept the proposal limiting the expenditure from KSCSTE to Rs. 5 lakhs, within the allocated budgetary provisions for the scheme/division.
ITEM - 38.24: CREATING SCIENCE TALENT (CREST) THROUGH VIRTUAL CLASSROOM STRATEGIES

The Executive Committee considered the proposal of establishing a virtual class room facility in KSCSTE for motivating scientific talent. The Executive Committee resolved to accept the proposal and authorized the Chairman to get a detailed project report and concrete details, with timeframe, for implementation and to launch the project within a month.

ITEM - 38.25: SCIENCE LITERATURE AWARDS - ENHANCEMENT OF CASH PRIZE

The Executive Committee noted that decision in this regard has been taken along with item.38.14 in this meeting.

ITEM - 38.26: REVISED GUIDELINES FOR THE SEMINAR, SYMPOSIA AND WORKSHOPS (SSW) SCHEME.

The Executive Committee considered the recommendations of the expert committee constituted to revise the guidelines for financial assistance for seminars, symposia and workshops. The EC noted that these revisions were necessary, particularly in view of the tags of 'national' and 'international' for the various types of activities. The Executive Committee reiterated the necessity of stipulating specific guidelines for classifications of different types of activities under the SSW scheme. The EC resolved to accept the recommendations of the expert committee and to implement the same w.e.f. 2014-15 financial year.
ITEM - 38.27: KSCSTE - EXCESS EXPENDITURE TOWARDS EMPLOYERS CONTRIBUTION TO EPF

Item is deferred for want of details from the committee constituted for the Pension matter. Resolved to take up in the next meeting with specific inputs from the Secretary, Finance Department, GoK.


The Executive Committee considered the proposal and resolved to sanction the enhanced fellowships from the date of issue of order as in other divisions. The Executive Committee further resolved to include M.B.B.S (medical) graduates under the category “(a) ii – professional courses” for the Back-to-Lab program.

ITEM - 38.29: KFRI - REGULARISATION OF HELPERS ON CONTRACT BASIS

The Executive Committee considered the proposal for regularizing 5 helpers as permanent employees in the KFRI. The Executive Committee noted that the proposal lacks specific details of the posts like scale of pay, qualifications, vacancies and mode of regularization. The Executive Committee resolved to request the KFRI administration to provide these details for consideration in the next meeting of the Executive Committee.
ITEM - 38.30: SRIBS - HIRING OF OFFICE ACCOMODATION FOR SRINIVASA RAMANUJAN INSTITUTE FOR BASIC SCIENCES (SRIBS) AT PAMPADY, KOTTAYAM

The Executive Committee considered the proposal from SRIBS for fixing the monthly rent for the new building it proposes to rent out in Kottayam. The Executive Committee approved the recommendations of the committee fixing a monthly rent of Rs. 65,000/-, w.e.f. the date of occupation and meeting the expenditure from the budgetary provisions of the Institute.

ITEM - 38.31: ALLOCATION OF POSTS FOR SRIBS FROM THE COUNCIL

The Executive Committee considered the proposal to reallocate the scientific and administrative posts resting with the KSCSTE consequent to take-over of CESS and RGCB by the GoI. The Executive Committee also noted that the 36th meeting of the Executive Committee had approved the Budget of the KSCSTE with non-plan allocation and distribution of posts of CESS among the new institutions under the Council. The Executive Committee resolved to approve the proposal without any additional financial commitment or additional post creation for the Council by the government.

ITEM - 38.32: ESTABLISHMENT OF SRIBS UNDER AN ACT OF LEGISLATURE

The Executive Committee noted that in the 2012 Governor’s address to the Assembly the establishment of Srinivasa Ramanujan Institute for Basic Sciences (SRIBS) was declared as one of the flagship activities of the Department of Science and Technology, Government of Kerala. The State Cabinet at its meeting held on 10.10.2013 approved the establishment of the Institute. It was also decided to transfer 10 acres of land...
from the RIT Campus, Pampady, Kottayam for the Institute. On the basis of the decision of the Special Working Group meeting, administrative sanction was issued vide G.O.(MS)No.08/2013/S&T dated 18.10.2013 sanctioning an amount of Rs.25 Crores for the setting up of the Institute within a period of three years. The combined meeting of the Advisory Board and Programme Advisory Committee of the Institute, presided over by the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Kerala, held at Kottayam on 01.06.2014, recommended the setting up of SRIBS as an autonomous body under the Science and Technology Department through an Act of Legislature. The proposal was examined by the Law Department. The Law Department has concurred the proposal for enactment of the SRIBS BILL. The Law Department has also suggested that the proposed BILL should be examined by the State Science and Technology Department considering the administrative angles and give its recommendations. Hon’ble Chief Minister has directed the Science and Technology Department to take further action. The Science and Technology Department has examined the proposal in detail and the department has recommended the presentation of the BILL in the Legislature. The draft BILL was submitted to the Hon’ble Chief Minister on 07.08.2014, by the Department of Science and Technology. The EC approved the steps toward the Establishment of SRIBS under an Act of Kerala Legislature.

**ITEM - 38.33: KSCSTE - GRANTING HIGHER PAY SCALE TO THE ASSISTANT HOLDING THE POST OF CASHIER.**

The Executive Committee resolved to make appointment against this post following recruitment rules, as it is a separate, new post. Till the appointment is made, a special allowance, allowable for cash-transacting assistant/ officer, can be paid to the assistant handling this seat. Executive Vice President is authorised to fix this allowance in consultation with the Finance Department.
ITEM - 38.34: REGULARISATION OF DIJEEISH R.S., DRIVER ON DAILY AGAINST A PERMANENT POST OF DRIVER

The Executive Committee noted that as per Council (M) Order No. 154/2013/KSCSTE dated 23.11.2013, Sri. Dijeeish R. S., was appointed as Driver-Cum-Peon on daily wage basis @ Rs.400/- per day w.e.f. 12.11.2013. The Honorable Chief Minister, as President of the Council, has ordered to place the proposal for regularization before the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee resolved to regularize Sri. Dijeeish R. S. against the existing vacancy of driver following procedure, and without any post creation or additional financial commitment.

ITEM - 38.35: DECLARATION OF PROBATION OF PROF. GEORGE VARGHESE, DIRECTOR, KSCSTE.

The Executive Committee noted that as per Council (M) Order No. 86/2013/KSCSTE dated 16.07.2013, Dr. George Varghese, Professor, Department of Physics, University of Calicut has been working as Director, KSCSTE Headquarters, in the Pay Band Rs.37,400 - 67,000/- + Grade Pay Rs.10,000/-, in the Grade of Scientist ‘G’ for a period of 5 years or till the retirement or superannuation whichever is earlier. He has completed one year of service in the KSCSTE. The Executive Committee considered his request for declaration of probation and approved the same.

ITEM - 38.36: REQUEST FOR PROMOTION OF POST OF ASSISTANT CASHIER

The Executive Committee noted that this item has been taken up under 38.33.

ITEM - 38.37: ASSESSMENT PROMOTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF TO NEXT GRADE - RATIFICATION

Based on the decision of the 36th Executive Committee (item No.36.54), a duly constituted Committee conducted the Assessment Promotion of three members of the
Administrative Staff (Smt. T. Lakshmi, Assistant, Smt. O. Ushakumari, Receptionist –cum - Telephone Operator and Sri. A. Rajeev, Driver) on 24th June 2014. As per the Council (M) Order No. 120/2014/KSCSTE dated 05.07.2014 they were promoted to the next grade subject to ratification by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee considered the ratification proposal and resolved to ratify the promotions.

ITEM - 38.38: NATPAC - RECRUITMENT OF SCIENTIST E1 TO E2 - CHANGE IN RESIDENCY PERIOD

Executive Committee considered the proposal and resolved to advise NATPAC to fill the vacant posts against the substantive positions strictly following existing recruitment and promotion rules.

ITEM - 38.39: CONCURRENCE FOR THE NINTH PAY REVISION SCALE FOR THE POST OF GARDEN MAISTRY IN JNTBGRI.

The Executive Committee considered the proposal from JNTBGRI for sanctioning ninth Pay Revision to the promotion posts of Garden Maistry. The EC also noted that these posts are not included in the approved posts of the Council or the JNTBGRI. Hence it was resolved to refer the matter to the Govt.

ITEM - 38.40: CONSTITUTION OF RULES REVISION COMMITTEE FOR MODIFICATION OF SERVICE RULES OF KSCSTE

The Executive Committee considered the proposal and resolved to authorise the Chairman to engage an approved service consultant for revising the service rules.

ITEM - 38.41: SELF-SUSTAINABLE AND SELF FINANCING PENSION SCHEME FOR KSCSTE AND ITS R & D CENTRES
Council Vide GO(MS) 1/2014/S&TD dated 01.02.2014 have approved a Self-Sustainable and Self Financing Pension Scheme to the Staff of Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment (KSCSTE) and its Constituent Research and Development Centres.

The pensioners, who have retired from the services of Council and various centres, had requested to include them also in the proposed Pension Scheme. The Government Order issued in the matter is only for those employees who were in service on 31.03.2013. The pensioners have approached Government for a sympathetic consideration of their request. A Committee under the chairmanship of Controller of Administration, KSCSTE was constituted for this purpose. The Executive Committee noted the deliberations of the committee and resolved to advise the Council to expedite the matter.

**ITEM NO.38.42: SELECTION OF SPECIAL OFFICER FOR SCRIPT, KSCSTE.**

The Executive Committee considered the recommendations of search-cum-seletion committee for appointment of a special officer for the State-Centre Resource Institute for Partnerships in Technology (SCRIPT). The Executive Committee resolved to the accept the recommendations (ENCL 5) of the committee to appoint Dr. Sathish Mundayoor, Scientist G and Dean, Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology, Thiruvananthapuram for a period of three years. The Executive Committee also resolved to protect his salary as per rules.

**ITEM - 38.43: PRIZE MONEY FOR DR. S. VASUDEV AWARD**

The Executive Committee considered the proposal to fix the cash prize for the Dr. Vasudev Award as Rs. 1 lakh from 2014 onwards, and resolved to accept the same.
ITEM - 38.44: ASSESSMENT PROMOTION OF SCIENTISTS (F GRADE) IN THE 
CENTRE OF EARTH SCIENCE STUDIES (CESS) DUE FOR THE PRE-TAKE-OVER 
PERIOD - SCREENING COMMITTEE REPORT-

The Director-in-Charge of the National Centre of Earth Science Studies (NCESS) has 
requested the KSCSTE administration to take up the matter of processing the 
assessment promotion of Scientists, whose promotions were due before 1.1.2014. The 
Council agreed to conduct this as per Council Rules, without incurring any financial 
expenditure for the conduct of the interviews as well as for the additional salary 
requirements arising as a result of promotion. A screening expert committee was 
constituted with the Director, KSCSTE, as the Convenor. Report of the Screening 
Committee is enclosed (ENCL). The screening committee has recommended the 
assessment of the following 7 Scientists under the Category F, by a duly constituted 
committee, as per promotion rules: 1) Dr. E. J. Zachariah, 2) Dr. G. Mohankumar, 3) 
Dr. V. N. Neelakantan, 4) Dr. G. R. Ravindrakumar, 5) Dr. G. Sankar, 6) Dr. T. N. 
Prakash, and 7) Dr. T. S. Shahul Hameed. The following scientists were not found 
eligible, for the reasons noted. The enclosed letter from the Registrar, NCESS, may be 
seen (ENCL.6).

1) Dr. K. K. Ramachandran (Scientist F on deputation as Member Secretary to KSCSTE 
since July 2011) - Annual Assessment Reports (AAR) have not been submitted since 
2008.

2) Dr. S. Muralidas (Not eligible for assessment on completion of five years).

3) Dr. N. Narayanasamy (Not eligible for assessment on completion of fifth year; not 
screened for subsequent years as AARs were not submitted).

4) Dr. Narendrababu (AARs for residency period were incomplete)
5) Dr. B. Sukumar (Not eligible for assessment on completion of 7th year, before retirement)

6) Dr. C. M. Harish (Not eligible, as AARs for residency period were incomplete)
   The Executive Committee considered the screening committee report and the letter from the Registrar, CESS, and resolved to advise the Council administration to: (i) expedite the steps for completing the assessment process, on behalf of NCESS, in the case of the 7 eligible Scientists; (ii) seek explanation from the CESS administration as to how the increments were sanctioned to the scientists who have not submitted AARs for the last several years, since 2008. Arising out of this the Executive Committee directed the administration in the Council Hqrs and in the R & D Centres to see to it that the AARs and Work Reports of all scientists are received and reviewed on time, strictly as per the Council rules. A report on the status of annual assessment of scientists and other staff in the Council and the R&D Centres shall be placed before the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

ITEM - 38.45: KFRI - ENHANCEMENT OF WAGES FOR DAILY WAGE MAZDOORS

The Director, KFRI forwarded a proposal to implement the decision of 25th MC meeting of KFRI to enhance the daily wages of Mazdoors from Rs. 325/- to Rs. 400/- with effect from 01.05.2014. The decision of the MC was to implement the minimum wages as per the Minimum Wages Act, payable to the labourers in Forest areas.

The Executive Committee considered the proposal of ratifying the enhancement of daily wages for mazdoors from Rs.325/- to Rs.400/- w.e.f. 1.5.2014. The Executive Committee ratified the action taken and resolved to extend this benefit to daily wage mazdoors in other Centres, as per the Minimum Wages Act.
ITEM - 38.46: REGULARISATION OF SERVICE OF SRI. P. S. SUDEESH, GUEST RELATION ASSISTANT (TEMPORARY), KFRI.

Executive Committee considered proposal from the Registrar, KFRI for regularisation of the temporary employment Sri. P. S. Sudeesh, Guest Relation Assistant, submitted through the President of the Council, the Honourable Chief Minister. The Executive Committee resolved to regularise Sri. P. S. Sudeesh against one of the four existing vacancies of Office Assistants in KFRI, without any additional financial commitment from Govt. and without conflict to seniority/claim of any existing staff in KFRI.

ITEM - 38.47: ADVERTORIAL OF JNTBGRI IN “BUSINESS LINE”

The Director, JNTBGRI had forwarded a proposal seeking permission for publishing an advertorial with “Special Focus on JNTBGRI” in Business Line, Kerala editions, on a discount price of Rs. 1 lakh. The EC noted the proposal and advised the Director, JNTBGRI to go ahead with the proposal, as per rules and budgetary provisions of the institute.

ITEM - 38.48: MOU OF KERALA SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS (KSoM) WITH DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DAE)

The Executive Committee considered the proposal of KSoM to approve the renewal of MoU with DAE, Govt. of India. The EC approved the proposal without any financial commitment from the KSCSTE and Govt. of Kerala.


The Executive Committee considered the budget and detailed set of recommendations and approved the same, subject to administrative and financial rules of the KSCSTE.
ITEM - 38.50: PROPOSAL FOR FINANCIAL & TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR THE TRAINING PROGRAMME IN INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED STUDENTS - IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MOU SIGNED BETWEEN KERALA CENTRE FOR ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGIES AND FAROOK COLLEGE

The EC considered the proposal for financial and technical support from the Centre for Assistive Technologies and the MoU signed with Farook college for starting the training. The EC resolved to approve the proposal within the budgetary sanctions. (ENCL. 7). It was also resolved to advise the institution to execute the purchase following purchase rules. The mention of a particular brand in the proposal should be avoided.

ITEM - 38.51: SUMMER SCHOOL AND WINTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS OF KSCSTE - GUIDELINES

The Executive Committee considered the guidelines of the scheme and resolved to accept the same for implementation w.e.f 2014-15 financial year. (ENCL. 8).

ITEM-38.52: EVALUATION OF ANNUAL ASSESSMENT REPORTS (AARs) OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL STAFF

The Executive Committee noted the negligence of the staff in the matter of submission of AARs. The Executive Committee insisted that the submission and review of AARs and work reports take place strictly on time and as per the rules of the Council. The report should be submitted and renewed before 31st March every year and sanction of annual increments should be linked with this.

ITEM - 38.53: REQUEST FROM SMT. A. LATHEEFA FOR GRANTING SCALE OF PAY OF ACCOUNTANT IN KSCSTE
The Executive Committee considered the request from Smt. A. Latheefa, Accountant, for granting the pay scale of Accountant to the Assistant handling the accounts in KSCSTE. The Executive Committee resolved to accept the proposal, subject to concurrence from the administrative department in the Govt.

**ITEM - 38.54: REGULARISATION OF SMT. BEENA.C.N, PROJECT ASSISTANT, CWRDM SUB-CENTRE KOTTAYAM AS OFFICE ASSISTANT**

The Executive Committee resolved to ratify the action taken by the President of the KSCSTE in regularizing Smt. C.N. Beena, who has been working in CWRDM Sub-Centre, Kottayam as a Project Assistant. The Executive Committee further resolved that this regularization shall be against one of the 8 vacancies of office assistants lying vacant in CWRDM. The Executive Committee noted that the regularisation ordered by the President of the Council, Hon’ble Chief Minister, does not involve any additional financial commitment or post creation.

**ITEM - 38.55: REGULARIZATION OF SMT. KALA. R.G, ASSISTANT, KBC AS OFFICE ASSISTANT IN KSCSTE.**

The Executive Committee resolved to approve the proposal of regularizing Smt. R.G. Kala against one of the vacant or shifted posts of office assistants in the Council or R&D Centres, without additional financial commitment or post creation.

**ITEM - 38.56: EXTENSION OF TERM OF SRI. A. PRABHAKARAN, MEDIA CONSULTANT - RATIFICATION**

The EC resolved to ratify the extension of the term of Shri. A. Prabhakaran, Media Consultant for a period of one year under the existing terms and conditions. The EC also resolved to direct the Media Division to present a brief report on the impact of the activities in the next meeting of the EC.
ITEM - 38.57: SHIFTING OF POSTS TO SRIBS, SCRIPT, CMRI, KBC AND KSCAT FROM RAJIV GANDHI CENTRE FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY (RGCB)

Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology (RGCB), an erstwhile KSCSTE institute, was transferred to Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Govt. of India with effect from April 01, 2007. The final act of transfer happened in 2011. The entire financial responsibility plan and non-plan of RGCB now is with the Central Government. At the time of transfer, KSCSTE had sanctioned positions in RGCB. These approved positions are part of KSCSTE consequent to merging of RGCB Society to KSCSTE in 2007. The Plan and Non-Plan positions of RGCB originally with KSCSTE are remaining vacant in KSCSTE. Since RGCB is no longer in the KSCSTE fold, these sanctioned positions are currently available with KSCSTE. These positions can now be utilized for the new institutes under KSCSTE, including SRIBS, SCRIPT, CMRI, KSCAT and Kerala Biotechnology Commission. There is no additional financial commitment to KSCSTE or to the Govt. of Kerala since the positions already exist in KSCSTE and are under the budgetary provisions of Govt. of Kerala. The details of such positions originally available for RGCB are attached (ENCL.9). The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Kerala and the President, KSCSTE has approved this proposal. The Chief Minister has ordered to place the matter before the Executive Committee of KSCSTE.

The Executive Committee considered the proposal and resolved to approve the same without any additional post creation or additional financial commitment from the Govt. The redistribution of these positions and fixation of qualifications and experience for these posts need to be taken up by the respective management and Research Councils of the new Intuitions. These recommendations shall be placed before the Executive Committee subsequently.
ITEM - 38.58: KARAMANA RIVER SCIENTIFIC MANAGEMENT (KRSM) (PILOT)
PROJECT – PROGRESS

The Executive Committee noted the progress of the Project and resolved to advise the Council to expedite the project implementation. It was also noted that the utilisation last year was much below the allocation.

ITEM - 38.59: KSCSTE – SANCTIONING THE POST AND SCALE OF PAY OF ASSISTANT CASHIER

The EC noted that this item is a repetition of 38.33. The item is withdrawn.

ITEM - 38.60: REQUEST OF DR. P.A. JOSE, SCIENTIST, JNTBGRI FOR ABSORPTION IN THE SERVICES OF KFRI

The Executive Committee resolved to agree to the proposal of transfer subject to his absorption in an existing vacancy in KFRI.

ITEM - 38.61: KSCSTE- REQUEST FOR ENHANCEMENT FOR NON-PLAN GRANT TO THE R & D CENTRES OF KSCSTE – PROPOSALS TO THE GOVT.

The Executive Committee recommended these proposals for favourable consideration by the Govt. of Kerala. The EC also recommended allocation of non-plan grants for the new institutes, SCRIPT, SRIBS, CMRI, KSCAT and the KSCSTE Hqrs. The recommended amounts are:

CWRDM: 337 Lakhs; NATPAC: 247 Lakhs; JNTBGRI: 300 Lakhs; SCRIPT: 300 Lakhs; SRIBS: 250 Lakhs; CMRI: 150 Lakhs; KFRI: 350 Lakhs; KSCAT: 100 Lakhs; KSoM: 100 Lakhs

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The EC resolved to advise the Council Administration to put up the proposals to the Govt. after getting detailed justifications from the concerned Centres. The EC authorised the Directors of NATPAC and JNTBGRI and the CoA to prepare the proposal and submit the same to the Govt.

ITEM - 38.62: JNTBGRI – GRIEVANCE OF SMT. V. KUMARI GIRIJA, SWEEPER, JNTBGRI

The Executive committee resolved to advise the Director JNTBGRI to constitute a committee for redressal of grievances, in this regard, and for all such purposes.

ITEM - 38.63: KFRI – CONSTITUTION OF A COMMITTEE FOR PRESCRIBING QUOTA FOR INTERNAL CANDIDATES IN THE APPOINTMENT OF HIGHER POSTS

The EC noted that this proposal has been considered under item no 38.02

ITEM - 38.64: JNTBGRI – PROPOSAL FOR CONVERSION OF POSTS OF 4 TYPISTS, 1 STENOGRAPHER AND 1 PAINTER TO OFFICE ASSISTANT POSTS

The Executive Committee resolved to recommend these conversions to the Government.

ITEM - 38.65: MEDICAL REIMBURSEMENT OF SRI. V. C. CHANDRAN, DRIVER

The Executive Committee approved the sanction of the medical reimbursement claim of Sri. V.C. Chandran, as per rules.

ITEM - 38.66: RECRUITMENT OF TWO STENOGRAPHERS FROM THE DIVISIONAL EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE OFFICE – CONSTITUTION OF A COMMITTEE
The Executive Committee authorised the Chairman, to constitute a committee, as per rules.

ITEM - 38.67: SELECTION OF A SPECIAL OFFICER FOR CRITICAL MINERALS RESEARCH INSTITUTE (CMRI)

A Search-cum-Selection Committee had been constituted for identifying a qualified and experienced Senior Scientist as a Special Officer for the newly created Critical Minerals Research Institute, under the KSCSTE. The starting of this institute was based on the 12th Plan Recommendation of the State Planning Board, approved by the Executive Committee, and the State Cabinet. The post, which is a contract assignment, was notified in 3 dailies. Applications were screened by a technical committee and a 4-member expert committee consisting of a Member of the Planning Board and three other experts from DAE, Govt. of India, selected one candidate. The Executive Committee considered the attached (ENCL. 10) recommendations of the search-cum-selection committee and resolved to appoint Dr. V. R. Nair, former General Manager, R & D, Rare Earths Division, Indian Rare Earths for a period of 3 years, under reemployment (superannuation) rules.


The EC resolved to approve the proposal, endorsed by the Hon’ble Chief Minister and recommended by the Expert Committee, of bringing CMSS as a Grant-in-Aid institution of KSCSTE. The Executive Committee also approved the MoU (ENCL. 11) between CMSS and KFRI for the temporary location of the institute. This is without any financial commitment or conflict of interest with the KFRI functions. The grant allocation to CMSS will be decided by a committee and recommended to Govt. For this financial
year Rs. 1 lakh is sanctioned as a token grant, claimable through submission of a proposal, as per rules of the KSCSTE.

ITEM - 38.69: PROTECTION OF PAY OF DR. P. BALAKRISHNAN, SCIENTIST C, JNTBGRI

Dr. P. Balakrishnan jointed as Scientist C in an open-recruitment in JNTBGRI in May 2013. At the time of appointment he was drawing a salary of Rs. 20,370+GP 6,000/-plus allowance in the Collegiate Education service as an Assistant Professor in one of the affiliated aided colleges. He could produce the last pay certificate which is necessary for fixing the pay as per rules only on 22.02.2014 from the Deputy Director, Collegiate Education, Kozhikode. Since there was some delay, the Scientist represented the matter to the Chief Minister, the President of the Council. With the Chief Minister’s endorsement, Dr. Balakrishnan, has submitted the representation to the Council. Executive Committee noted that pay protection for officers/teachers from Govt. or aided institution is a routine administrative procedure, once the Governing Bodies/Executive Committee of the institution approve the same. The Executive Committee considered the proposal and resolved to fix the pay as per Government rules of pay fixation.

ITEM - 38.70 (TABLED ITEM): APPOINTMENT OF PROF. G.M. NAIR AS DIRECTOR, KERALA BIOTECHNOLOGY COMMISSION

The proposal of appointing Prof. G.M. Nair as Director, Kerala Biotechnology Commission has been approved by the President of the Council for placing before the Cabinet, since it is a reappointment (superannuation) matter. The proposal was considered by the Executive Committee and resolved to recommend to the Govt. for appointment for 3 years. (ENCL. 12).
ITEM - 38.71 (TABLED ITEM): JNTBGRI - EXTENSION OF SERVICE BENEFITS TO 44 STAFF MEMBERS WITH RETROSPECTIVE EFFECT FROM 26.8.2000- ENGAGEMENT OF M/S GUIDE CONSULTANTS

Considered the proposal from the Director, JNTBGRI of extending the service benefits to 40 members of the staff with retrospective effect from 26.8.2000. Since this is a matter involving financial commitment and probably affecting the seniority among the staff, it was resolved to engage M/s. Guide Consultants to study the proposal in detail and submit a report to the EC for consideration. The engagement of the consultant shall be made following Government rules.

The meeting concluded at 6.00 pm.

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[Signature]

[Stamp]

Prof. V. N. RAJASEKHARAN PILLAI
Executive Vice President
KSCSTE, Peithan
Thiruvananthapuram
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List of Enclosures

1. Encl. 1 : Confirmed Minutes of the 37th Meeting
2. Encl. 2 : Action-Taken-Report on 37th EC Minutes
3. Encl. 3 : MBG Committee Report
4. Encl. 4 : IYCr Activities
5. Encl. 5 : SCRIPT Search Committee Report
6. Encl. 6 : Letter from Registrar, NCESS
7. Encl. 7 : KSCAT – Farook College MoU and Proposal
8. Encl. 8 : Summer School & Winter School Schemes
9. Encl. 9 : List of Positions of Scientific, Technological and Administrative Staff absorbed from the RGCB on take-over by GoI
10. Encl. 10 : CMRI Search Committee Report
11. Encl. 11 : CMSS-KFRI MoU
12. Encl. 12 : CV of Prof. G.M. Nair