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

42nd Meeting of the Executive Committee of KSCSTE held on 29.06.2015

Members Present:

1. Dr. Suresh Das, Executive Vice President
2. Dr. M. Radhakrishna Pillai
3. Prof. G. C. Gopala Pillai
4. Prof. Oommen V. Oommen
5. Dr. B. G. Sreedevi, Director, NATPAC
6. Dr. P. G. Latha, Director, JNTBGTRI
7. Smt. Valsala. C, Addl. Secretary, Planning & Economic Affairs, GoK
8. Prof. George Varghese, Member Secretary (i/c)

The Executive Committee Meeting started at 3.00 pm at the chamber of Executive Vice President, KSCSTE. The Chairman declared that the meeting was in order and initiated the meeting with welcome remarks. EVP introduced the new Member Secretary (i/c), Prof George Varghese, to the members.

42.01 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF 40TH & 41ST EC

The minutes of the sub-committee constituted by 41st EC was placed. The sub-committee recommended that all the agenda items and decisions taken in 38th, 39th and 40th EC meetings should be re-examined in the forthcoming EC.

Decision:

The EC decided to include the agenda items of 38, 39 & 40 as additional agenda for this meeting and confirmed the minutes of the 41st EC meeting.

42.02 ACTION TAKEN REPORT ON THE DECISIONS OF THE 41ST MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The confirmation of the minutes of 41st EC meeting was made as per 42.01

Decision:

The action taken report to be presented in the next meeting.

42.03 MAJOR CHANGES SINCE LAST EC AT HQS

The tenure of Dr. K. K Ramachandran as Member Secretary was over on 1.6.2015. A search
committee was constituted by the Government to recommend names to be considered for appointing as Member Secretary to the Council for the next term. Until the new incumbent is posted, Prof. George Varghese, Director at KSCSTE HQS has been given additional charge as Member Secretary to KSCSTE.

Government has transferred the Controller of Administration, Sri. P Radhakrishnan (Addl. Secretary to Government), to JNTBGRI as its Registrar and posted Sri. K.P Sreekumar (Addl. Secretary to Government) as CoA.

Decision:

The Executive Committee noted the changes and placed on record its appreciation on the services rendered by the outgoing Member Secretary Dr. K. K. Ramachandran and the Controller of Administration, Sri. P. Radhakrishnan. The decisions may be communicated to both of them on behalf of the EC.

42.04 KSCSTE - PLAN AND NON-PLAN ALLOCATION FOR THE YEAR 2015-16 – REVISED

Government letter No. 3568/A1/2015/S&TD dated 05.06.2015 has requested to meet the Plan, Non-Plan expenditure for the year 2015-16 in respect of the newly created R&D Centre, Malabar Botanical Garden and Institute for Plant sciences from the funds allotted to the Council in the budget 2015-16 (meant for the R&D Centres). Accordingly the Plan and Non-Plan allocation to all R&D Centres of KSCSTE for the year 2015-16 is revised as (amount in lakhs)

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<th>Plan H/a 3425-60-200-71.36</th>
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<tr>
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<td>25.00</td>
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<td>25.00</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td>25.00</td>
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</table>
Total | 5650.00
---|---
Spl. Asst. to CWRDM | 25.00 | 25.00
Grand Total | 5675.00 | 5675.00 | 4412.00 | 4412.00

**Decision:**

*The Executive Committee approved the revised Plan and Non-Plan allocation to all R&D Centres of KSCSTE for the year 2015-16 as above*

**42.05 KSCSTE - REVISED BUDGET ESTIMATE 2015-16**

Subsequent to the changes admitted in agenda item 42.04 above the Budget Estimate 2015-16 is revised and placed as Annexure-I.

**Decision:**

*The Executive Committee approved the revised Budget Estimate for 2015-16*

**42.06 BRINGING MS SWAMINATHAN RESEARCH FOUNDATION (MSSRF) AS A GRANT-IN-AID INSTI. UNDER KSCSTE**

MS Swaminathan Research Foundation’s Community Agro-biodiversity Centre (CAbC) in Kerala was established by Prof. M. S. Swaminathan in 1997 to work in the area of Agro-biodiversity in close partnership with the local tribal communities. MSSRF (CAbC), Wayanad has requested KSCSTE to be considered as a Grant in Aid institution under KSCSTE.

**Decision:**

Considering the importance of the centre and the reputation they have achieved, the EC approved the proposal for bringing MSSRF under KSCSTE as a Grant-in-aid Institution of KSCSTE.

**42.07 KSCSTE- ENHANCING THE HONORARIUM**

Executive committee noticed that rate of honorarium given to subject experts and of committee members in Council as well as in R & D Centres is still Rs.1000/- per day and the amount is too low when considering the services rendered by the experts and on comparison with that paid by other agencies.

**Decision:**

*For meetings of the Council and R&D centres in the normal cases - Rs. 2000/- will be the Honorarium for external members. If such distinguished members are equivalent to Scientist in Grade G and above, the Honorarium will be Rs. 5000/- (A UGC grade professor will be*
42.08 KSCSTE - MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR SCIENTISTS

EC noted that Scientific staff working in KSCSTE and its R&D Centre’s is not getting sufficient Management skills, before they are promoted to administrative positions. Such training will improve their performance and facilitate good governance in the institutions. Hence the scheme for providing management training was considered.

Decision:

EC approved the scheme of imparting management training to skills to scientific staff in the Council Headquarters as well as those working in R & D institutions and to implement the programme through IIM Kozhikode. The personnel attending the programme may be asked to provide a feedback which will be reviewed by the Council HQ.

42.09 KSCSTE - IMPLEMENTATION OF “SCIENCE RESEARCH AND INVENTIONS IN SCHOOLS FOR TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATIONS (SRISHTI)” SCHEME FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS.

The Patent Information Centre - Kerala (PIC-K) proposed a scheme titled “Science Research and Inventions in Schools for Technological Innovations (SRISHTI)” for the school students for encouraging and promoting the inventions and creations from them. The expenses will be met from the head of accounts for PIC-K for the time being (Rs. 25 lakh).

Decision:

The Executive Committee approved the implementation of the new scheme ‘SRISHTI’.

42.10 PUBLICATION OF ‘JOURNAL OF TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE & FOLK PRACTICES’ JOINTLY BY PIC-K & JAWAHARLAL NEHRU TROPICAL BOTANICAL GARDEN AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE

A proposal for publishing Journal of ‘Traditional Knowledge & Folk Practices’ jointly by KSCSTE, PIC-Kerala and JNTBGRI was considered. The expenses will be met from the head of accounts for PIC-K.

Decision:

Approved the proposal. The estimate may be worked out. The possibility of getting funds from Dept. of AYUSH, Govt should be explored. Journal should be bi-annual.
42.11 PROPOSAL FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME JOINTLY WITH KITCO

The proposal to collaborate with KITCO in implementing Entrepreneurship Development programme was considered.

Decision:

Decided not to consider for the time being.

42.12 QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE POST OF SCIENTIST B

Examined the rules for recruitment of Scientific/Technical staff, the qualification for Scientist B grade. In order to give openings to a wider class of professionally qualified persons more disciplines may also be included in the list.

Decision:

EC decided to fix the Qualifications for the post of Scientist B as:

First class Degree in MTech/ME/MCA/MBBS/MVSc./MLi.Sc. or PhD with First class MSc.

42.13 FILLING UP OF PERMANENT POSITION & REGULARIZATION OF THE POSTS OF EXISTING STAFF IN COUNCIL HQ

A statement regarding the current staff position in the Council is placed Annexure II.

Decision:

Noted that the staff positing in the Council and its R & D centres should be thoroughly examined. MS & CoA shall examine the matter in detail, and submit a report to the next EC.

42.14 CREATION OF POSTS UNDER SCRIPT

The proposal for creating permanent positions under SCRIPT was examined.

Decision:

The following posts may be created on temporary basis to run the scheme.

Project Scientist: 1 & Project Fellow- 1.

This is for a period of one year and for specific projects implemented by SCRIPT.

42.15 REPRESENTATION FROM CWRDM EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION REGARDING DENIAL OF PRIVILEGES OF TECHNICAL STAFF IN CSIR CATEGORY IN CWRDM

Examined the proposal for extending the benefits granted under CSIR scales of pay to Technical Staff who are in CSIR scale of pay, to CWRDM employees.

Decision:

The matter should be studied in detail with all implications affecting any other employees at the various centres and submit the details s to the next EC, signed by the CoA and vetted by the
42.16 GRANT OF EDUCATION ALLOWANCE TO THE PARENTS OF PHYSICALLY/MENTALLY CHALLENGED CHILDREN.

Proposed to grant Education allowance to affected Employees towards their handicapped Children as per provisions in the 9th pay revision.

Decision:

Executive Committee agreed to implement Education allowance to the affected employees having physically/mentally challenge children, as per the provisions of 9th pay revision.

42.17 REQUEST OF MR. KABEER A, TECHNICAL ASSISTANT GRADE V FOR CONSIDERATION OF LWOS TOWARDS ASSESSMENT PROMOTION.

Considered the matter of counting leave without salary (LWOS) in the case of Mr. Kabeer, an employee of CWRDM, from 7-3-95 to 17-11-96.

Decision:

Executive Committee deferred the agenda.

42.18 CREATION OF POSTS IN SRIBS.

Considered the proposal of creating permanent as well as project posts in SRIBS and filling the same for the function of the Institute.

Decision:

Appointments to be made against the posts as and when sanctioned.

For joint research programmes with RGCB, Research Fellows & Research Associates may be engaged on project mode. The posts of Technical Officers (8 Nos) & Technical Assistants (8 Nos) for which applications were invited and processed may be submitted to the Govt. for approval.

42.19 REPORTING OF THE ASSESSMENT PROMOTION OF THE SCIENTIFIC STAFF OF HEADQUARTERS

Reported that Assessment promotion has been recommended for the following Scientific staffs of KSCSTE Headquarters as per Council Order No.64/2015/KSCSTE dated 12.06.2015.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Present Designation</th>
<th>Present Grade</th>
<th>Promoted Grade</th>
<th>Effective Date of Promotion</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Dr. C. Anilkumar</td>
<td>Scientific Officer</td>
<td>Scientist E1</td>
<td>Scientist E2</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Dr. P. Harinarayanan</td>
<td>Scientific Officer</td>
<td>Scientist C</td>
<td>Scientist E1</td>
<td>15.12.2011</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. Smt. Binuja Thomas  Scientific Officer  Scientist C  Scientist E1  03.12.2011  
5. Sri. E. S. Anilkumar  Scientist B  Scientist B  Scientist C  17.06.2012  
6. Dr. Geetha. B.S  Scientist B  Scientist B  Scientist C  03.08.2014  

Decision:  

Ratified as per rules.  

42.20 EXTENSION OF TENURE OF MEDIA CONSULTANT, KSCSTE  

Considered the extension of the tenure of contract of Media Consultant Sri. A. Prabhakaran, from 29.6.2015 onwards.  

Decision:  

The Executive Committee decided to extent the appointment of Media Consultant for one year w.e.f 29.6.15.  

42.21 DISBURSEMENT OF SALARY ARREARS TO SRI. ARJUN PRASAD, SCIENTIFIC OFFICER  

Sri. Arjun Prasad, who was appointed as Scientific Officer (Scientist B) in the KSCSTE HQs for a period of one year with effect from 11.7.2013 in the pay band of Rs.15600-39100 GP Rs.5400/-. He continued and served in the same post even after the said period, awaiting the government decision for regularization. As per order, GO (Rt.) No 66/2014/S&TD dt. 22.08.2014, Government has given sanction for shifting a post from KFRI and to accommodate Sri. Arjun Prasad to the said post. He joined in the permanent post on 22.10.2014. However, for the period from 11.7.2014 to 22.10.2014 his salary was not released.  

Decision:  

The Executive Committee decided to disburse the salary due to Sri. Arjun Prasad during the period where he worked, i.e., from 11.7.2014 to 21.10.2014, in the Council on temporary basis. This will not be counted as his permanent service period.  

42.22 ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE VACANT POSTS IN JNTBGRI  

Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanic Garden & Research Institute has reported 19 vacancies: (Scientist B-11, Scientist C-5, Scientist E1-2; Librarian-1) and submitted the notification to be issued for filling up the vacancies.  

Decision:  

Approval granted to issue the notification with following modifications and permitted to initiate further actions as per rules.  

1. Basic Qualifications for all posts shall be First Class Post graduate degree with PhD in the
subject's concerned.

2. For Post 17 the Specialization is Ethnomedicine, and qualification as MBBS/BAMS with 10 years R&D/teaching experience in the field of Ethnomedicinal Research. He/She should have proficiency in Sanskrit, English, Hindi, Malayalam, Tamil.

42.23 ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE VACANT POSTS IN KFRI

Kerala Forest Research Institute (KFRI) reported 25 vacancies for scientists under different categories. (Scientist -B-20, Scientist-E1-5)

Decision:

Approved notification and permitted to initiate the actions as per rules.

Basic Qualifications for all posts shall be First Class Post graduate degree with PhD in the subject's concerned.

42.24 IMPLEMENTATION OF STATE MEDICAL REIMBURSEMENT RULE TO KSCSTE EMPLOYEES

Government by order G.O. (P) No. 144/2013/H & FWD dated 22.4.2013, have recognized and empaneled few hospitals, under Allopathy, Ayurveda and Ophthalmology for treatment and to facilitate the medical reimbursement benefits to State Government Servants.

Decision:

The Executive Committee decided to the implementation of the above rule to the Council and its R & D centres.

42.25 EXTENSION OF THE TERM OF STANDING COUNSEL, KSCSTE

The term Adv. George Zachariah, who is representing KSCSTE in the High court and other courts since 2011, was over on 27-06-2015.

Decision:

The Executive Committee decided to appoint Adv. George Zachariah for one more year w.e.f 28-06-2015.

42.26 ENHANCEMENT OF EMOLUMENTS TO PROJECT STAFF FOR ETP SCHEME

The emoluments of Project Fellows having professional qualifications such as I Class B.E./B. Tech. or Equivalent or with M.E./M. Tech with I Class in B.E/B. Tech. Proposal for enhancing the fellowship as:
### Project Fellow
(Rs. 16,000/ p.m in the first two years and Rs. 18,000/ p.m. after two years)  
+ 10% HRA  
OR  
(Rs. 20,000/ p.m in the first two years and Rs. 22,000/ p.m after two years)  
+ 10% HRA

### Eligible Qualifications
I Class B.E./B. Tech. or Equivalent  
M.E./M. Tech with I Class in B.E/B. Tech

### Technical Assistant
(Rs. 10,000 p.m.) + 10% HRA

I Class Diploma in Engineering

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**Decision:**

The Executive Committee approved the enhancement of emoluments for the Project staff for ETP Scheme of the Council, as suggested above.

**42.27 APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CWRDM**

The Hon’ble High court has directed KSCSTE to take action within one month for filling the vacancy of Director, CDRWM disposing a writ petition (24214/2013) filed by Dr. C. Tankaraj. The President of the Council also has approved certain modifications made in the qualifications prescribed for the post and directed to reissue the notification. A notification to this effect has been issued on 22.06.2015.

**Decision:**

The Executive Committee ratified the action taken in this regard.

**42.28 APPOINTING A FULL TIME LEGAL CONSULTANT TO COUNCIL**

The Council is facing number of litigations and arbitrations in Courts, and in other judicial forums as well as RTI related complaints. Its number is going up every year, causing it difficult to handle without the service of a full time legal expert. A competent person may be posted on contract basis with the permission of Government, with monthly salary of Rs. 40,000, will serve the purpose.

**Decision:**

The Executive Committee approved the proposal of posting a full time legal consultant to the council with monthly salary of Rs. 40,000 on contract basis.

**42.29 PANEL OF EXPERTS FOR ASSESSMENT PROMOTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL STAFF OF KFRI**

Two experts are to be nominated from a list approved by the Executive Committee for
assessment of Administrative and Technical Staff in KFRI

The panel of experts was recommended by the 27th meeting of the MC of KFRI.

I. Administrative Staff

1. Shri. P. Radhakrishnan, Registrar, JNTBGRI, Palode, Thiruvananthapuram.
2. Shri. T.P. Vijayakumar, Addl. Secretary and State Protocol Officer, Govt. of Kerala, TVM.
3. Shri. P. Sudeep, Chief Manager, National Centre for Earth Science Studies, Thiruvananthapuram.
4. Dr. Joseph Mathew, Registrar, Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Mannuthy.

II. Technical Staff

1. Mrs. Jessie Ann Francis, Dy. Director, Kerala Engineering Research Institute, Peechi, Thrissur.
2. Prof. B. Anil, Principal, Barton Hill Engineering College, Thiruvananthapuram.
3. Dr. V. Ajit Prabhu, Jt. Director, Kerala State Council for Science, Technology & Environment, Thiruvananthapuram.
4. Dr. B. Jayanand, Professor, Dept. of Electrical & Electronics, Govt. Engineering College, Thrissur.

Decision:

Executive Committee approved the above panel of experts for the Assessment promotion/recruitment of Administrative and Technical Staff in KFRI, with Shri. P. Radhakrishnan, Registrar, JNTBGRI instead of Shri. P.V. Manoj.

42.30 FILLING UP THE POST OF OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT AT KFRI

As per the decision of the Executive Committee of erstwhile KFRI held on 5.12.1992 a post of Fair Copy Superintendent is created which is the promotion post for typists having not less than 15 years of service. This post is re-designated as Office Superintendent without changing the feeder post. This post is vacant since 31.07.2011 on account of superannuation of Shri. V. Asokan.

Decision:

The Executive Committee decided that the issue may be re-examined.

42.31 REGULARIZATION OF HELPERS ENGAGED ON CONTRACT BASIS IN KFRI

As per the decision of the Management Committee held on 15.03.2012, four daily wage workers
were appointed on contract basis who had been working in the Institute for more than 10 years. When such decision was taken one Mr. T.S. Suresh was not considered even though he had been working in KFRI since 1993 for various projects. Considering their long service and the technical skill acquired over the years in the field and laboratory, a proposal is considered for regularizing the following 5 contract employees in KFRI.

- Sri K.K. Suresh On Contract employment
- Sri K.K. Muraly On Contract employment
- Smt. T.A. Valsa On Contract employment
- Sri M.M. Roy On Contract employment
- Sri T.S. Suresh Engaged since 1993

Decision:

The Executive Committee decided to refer the matter to Govt. for necessary consideration.

42.32 REGULARIZING THE SERVICE OF SMT. SUGATHA DEVI

The 25th meeting of the Management Committee of KFRI recommended that Smt. Sugatha Devi has been working in KFRI since 1991 may be regularized.

Decision:

The Executive Committee decided to refer the matter to Govt. for necessary consideration.

42.33 REGULARIZATION OF SERVICE OF SHRI P.S. Sudeesh, GUEST RELATION ASSISTANT, KFRI

The Managing Committee of KFRI reviewed the length of service of Shri P. S. Sudeesh and recommended to regularize his service against one of the existing vacancies of Assistants in KFRI.

Decision:

The Executive Committee decided to refer the matter to Govt. for necessary consideration.

42.34 ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE POST OF DIRECTOR, KFRI

The Advisement for the post of Director, KFRI is examined.

Decision:

The Qualification & experience of Director in all R&D centres should be comparable to each other. Hence necessary changes may be made in the notification and get the approval of the EC members by circulation before issuing the notification.

42.35 ONE DAY ATTACHMENT PROGRAMME FOR TEACHERS & STUDENTS SUBMITTED BY C-SIS, CUSAT

The proposal for creating awareness among school students and teachers was considered. The
main objective of the programme is to motivate school science teachers to teach the children with class level science models and gadgets. About 100 students and 10 teachers from each school are expected to participate in the programme. As per the proposal, such 100 schools are expected to be part of this programme. This will be conducted at CSIS-CUSAT

Decision:
The programme and budget approved. The amount may be met from the Schemes CREST under Schemes & Programmes of KSCSTE.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA

The Executive Committee considered the following matters as additional agenda.

42. 36 COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (KCZMA)
The EC reviewed the functions of Coastal Zone Management Authority. Since its establishment, it is attached to the S & T department and it functions under the aegis of KSCSTE, utilising its manpower as well as budgetary resources. The Principal Secretary to S & T department is its Chairman and Member Secretary of KSCSTE is its Secretary. Considering, the huge volume of applications received for clearance from CZMA, it has become a heavy burden for the Council to manage the authority activities along with the functions of KSCSTE.

Decision
The EC resolved to request Govt. to make KCZMA as a separate entity under S&T Dept. with a Member Secretary of its own and provide additional man power to manage the establishment.

42.37 RULE BOOK AMENDMENT
Executive Committee discussed the matter of amending the existing rule book of KSCSTE in tune with the modified CSIR rules and in view of the changes happened in the Council since its establishment in 2003

Decision
The EC Constitutes a committee with Dr. G.C Gopala Pillai as the Chairman and the following Members.

1. Member Secretary, KSCSTE
2. Director, JNTBGRI
3. Director, NATPAC
4. Dr. R. Asokan Registrar, RGCB
5. Sri. Rajan Panicker, Special Officer, SRIBS

The committee to submit its report before 16th August 2015.

42.38 DIRECTOR POSTING TO MBGIPS

MBGIPS is a full-fledged R&D institutions of the Council as per the Cabinet decision. A Govt. order was also issued to post Dr. R Prakash Kumar as Director of MBGIPS while retaining his position in the HQs.

Decision:

The EC decided to post Dr. R Prakash Kumar as Director to MBGIPS for a period of Five years with full charge and additional charge at Council HQs

42.39 STATE COUNCIL MEETING

Decision:

The EC decided to recommend the President to give permission to convene the next State Council meeting towards the end of August 2015.

42.40 AGENDA ITEMS AND MINUTES OF 38TH, 39TH & 40TH EC MEETINGS

In view of the sub-committee report, EC examined the whole agenda items and decisions taken thereon in 38th, 39th & 40th EC meetings.

EC re-confirmed the minutes of the 38th & 39th EC meeting held on 19/08/2014 & 17/10/2014 and noted the action taken thereon and decided to make it part of the current minutes.

EC, however, noticed that confusion persists in the conduct of the 40th EC meeting held on 19/11/2014. Hence, the EC decided to take up all relevant agenda items included in the 40th meeting for appropriate decisions.

42.41 REVISED NON-PLAN BUDGET FOR 2014-15- BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR 2015-16

The Non-Plan allotted by the Government during the current year and previous years were far below the actual requirement of the R&D Centres and hence the R&D Institutions under the Council were forced to divert funds from externally funded projects to meet the deficit of non-plan expenditure. In effect the R&D Centres were constrained to fulfill their project work in time. The total RE under the Non-Plan for the year 2014-15 is Rs. 4548.83 lakh and the total
Non-Plan requirement of the Council for the year 2015-16 for meeting the salary and other inevitable minimum administrative and establishment expenses workout to Rs.10376.4 lakh. Therefore it is requested that the total RE of Non-Plan for the year 2014-15 for Rs.5534.02 lakh and the total BE of Non-Plan for the year 2015-16 for Rs.10376.4 lakh may please be allotted in full as in grant-in-aid to the Council. The revised budget estimate for 2014-15 as prepared has been confirmed.

42.42 EXTENSION OF THE TERM OF SRI. RAJAN PANICKER, SPECIAL OFFICER, SRIBS

A Special Officer (Shri M. Rajan Panicker IA &AS (Retd.)) was appointed for SRIBS for a period of one year from 18.12.2013. He completed his term on 17.12.2014. the EC appreciated the progress of SRIBS under the administrative leadership of Sri. Rajan Panicker and resolved to extend the term of Sri. Rajan Panicker, Special Officer, SRIBS for a further period of 1 year with effect from 18/12/2014, under the existing terms & conditions.

42.43 SELECTION OF ARCHITECTURAL FIRMS FOR SRIBS

The SRIBS Building Committee evaluated the technical and financial bids of the following prequalified Architectural firms.

M/s.R.K.Ramesh Architects, Corporation Office Road, Calicut-673032
M/s.Pithavadian and Partners, Architects, Engineers and Planners, 14, College Road, Chennai – 600006
M/s.Wadia Techno Engineering Services Ltd., Flat No.4-B, 81, Valluvarkottam High Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai – 600 034

The 10 member Committee has recommended the appointment of M/s. Vasthusilpalaya Consultancy Pvt. Ltd., Trivandrum, who got the highest marks in the evaluation.

The EC approved the recommendation of the building committee and resolved to engage M/s. Vasthusilpalaya Consultancy Pvt. Ltd., Trivandrum as architect for SRIBS, Pambady, Kottayam.

42.44 RECRUITMENT FOR THE VARIOUS PLAN AND NON-PLAN POSITIONS LYING VACANT IN THE COUNCIL

A number of Non-plan positions of Scientists, technical staff and administrative positions have been lying vacant in the various Research and Development Institutes under the Council for several years. The non-plan allocation from the Government is grossly insufficient to meet the salary expenditure of the permanent staff in the various R&D Centres. Every year, the Council is
proposing additional non-plan allocation to the various R&D Institutes. However, no additional non-plan allocation is coming from the Government. For the 4 new Institutes, Srinivasa Ramanujan Institute of Basic Sciences (SRIBS), Critical Minerals Research Institute (CMRI), State-Centre Resource Institute for Partnership in Technologies (SCRIPT) and the Kerala State Centre for Assistive Technologies (KSCAT), plan allocation have been made. For the SRIBS, SCRIPT, CMRI and KSCAT Special Officer/Coordinator level positions under plan have been approved by the Executive Committee and Special Working Group. For the functioning of these four new institutes a minimum number of permanent core-staff is required.

**Decision**

Considering these situations, the EC recommended to the Government, at least 30% enhancement of the non-plan allocation to all R&D institutions and to the Council and also recommend creation of the following minimum staff positions for the new Institutions, including Malabar Botanic Garden. The MC of the respective centres may evolve appropriate procedure for the appointment as well as fix their qualifications.

**SRIBS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heads of Divisions (Scientist F level)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientist C &amp; B</td>
<td>10 (5+5)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SCRIPT**

<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
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<td>Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heads of Divisions (Scientist F level)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientist C &amp; B</td>
<td>3 (1+2)</td>
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**CMRI**

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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heads of Division (Scientist F level)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientist C &amp; B</td>
<td>3 (1+2)</td>
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**KSCAT**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientist F</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientist B</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Officer</td>
<td>2</td>
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</table>

**MBG**

<table>
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<th>Required</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientist F</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientist B</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Officer</td>
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</table>

**Administrative Positions for all the new Institutes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Required</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Officer</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance officer</td>
<td>5 (1 each)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section Officer</td>
<td>5 (1 each)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Assistants</td>
<td>10 (2 each)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**42.45 COLLABORATION WITH IISER-T FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE 8TH ASIAN PHOTOCHEMISTRY**
CONFERENCE

The Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Thiruvananthapuram National Institute of Interdisciplinary Sciences and Technology (NIIST), Thiruvananthapuram are jointly hosting 8th Asian Photochemistry Conference at Thiruvananthapuram. About 600 delegates from different countries are participating in the conference. A large number of Scientists from Kerala and research scholars of KSCSTE will be benefitted by participation in the conference. The organisers have requested sponsorship of this conference from KSCSTE.

Decision

EC approved the request and decided to collaborate with IISER -T for the said programme by providing a financial assistance of Rs. 5 lakhs to the conference.

42.46 KERALA STATE CENTRE FOR ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGIES (KSCAT)- MOU WITH ENABLE INDIA FOR TRAINING IN 5 CENTRES IN THE STATE.

The Centre has expressed its intention for signing a Memorandum of Understanding with Enable India for implementing training in information and communication technology for the blind. Enable India is an organization working for the welfare of differently abled people who provided employment opportunities for more than 2450 people all over the country. The training cover Communicative English, typing skill, Screen Reader knowledge, computer concepts such as Word, Excel, Power point, Internet, mobility training, soft skills, real world experience such as swipe and some basic sports etc.

Decision

The Executive Committee noted the activities and resolved to accept the training plans, limiting the expenditure to the allocated and approved amount in the plan budget.

42.47 KSCSTE- EXCESS EXPENDITURE TOWARDS EMPLOYER'S CONTRIBUTION TO EPF

Government in Finance Department has issued Circular No. 41/2010/Fin. dated 19.05.2010 pointing out certain irregularities related to the payment of EPF contribution which has been noticed by Accountant General during its Audit. The Government in S&T Department has also given direction in this regard. A proposal was placed before the 38th Executive Committee meeting of KSCSTE regarding continuing /discontinuing the present system of remitting Employer's share of contribution. The Executive Committee then deferred for want of details from the Committee constituted for the pension purpose.
Decision

The Executive Committee decided to constitute a committee to examine the matter and report to the EC

42.48 TRANSFER OF POSTS TO MBG FROM KSCSTE.

The Executive Committee at its meeting held on 19.08.2014 approved a proposal for utilizing the posts which were available for RGCBC by the new institutes under KSCSTE (Agenda Item No.38.57). The Executive Committee has directed the respective management and research councils of the new institutions to put up detailed proposals for the utilisation of these posts in the subsequent meetings of the committee.

42.49 FINANCIAL INSPECTION WING REPORT AND ACTION TAKEN

The then Chairman, Prof VN Rajasekharan Pillai presented the details of the financial inspection wing report and the replies furnished through the President of the Council. It was informed that no further information in this regard was received. The then Chairman also informed that the President of the council after examining a representation has directed him not to take adverse steps which will in turn affect the appointments of some of the staff members in the Council. The Chairman placed the Chief Minsters’ order before the committee.

The EC examined the FIW report and the reply filed thereon by the EVP in detail and decided to endorse the reply submitted by the Executive Vice President. The Committee observed that there were no financial irregularities in the course of action taken by the Executive Vice President, as indicated in the report. The appointment of Prof. George Varghese, Director, Council HQs, Dr. P.G Latha, Director, JNTBGRI, Dr. C. Arunan, Principal Scientific Officer, Dr. Arjun Prasad, Scientist, Dr. Sarika, Scientist, Smt. Sherin, Scientist, were made against permanent vacancies through a very transparent and open selection procedure adhering to the rules of the Council and with approval of the President of the Council. The EC resolved not to take up any action on the basis of FIW report. The EC also resolved to request the President of the Council to bestow special attention to solve this issue and protect the interest of the Council.

The Committee concluded at 6.45 pm, thanking the Chairman

Prof. Dr. George Varghese
Member Secretary (i/c)

Kerala State Council for Science, Technology & Environment, Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram

Dr. Suresh Das
Executive Vice President
Kerala State Council for Science,
Technology & Environment
Sasthra Bhavan, Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram-4