



**ACADEMY OF SCIENTIFIC AND INNOVATIVE RESEARCH  
(AcSIR)**

***Proceedings of the 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Senate***

The 26<sup>th</sup> meeting of Senate of Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research (AcSIR) was held on January 22, 2020 at 16:30 hrs. at CSIR - North East Institute of Science and Technology (CSIR-NEIST), Jorhat. The meeting was attended by the following members of the Senate:

Sl. No.	Name of Participants	Mode of Participation
1	<b>Prof. Rajender S. Sangwan</b> , Director, AcSIR, Chairman	In Person
2	<b>Prof. K. Ravikumar</b> , Associate Director, AcSIR, Member	In Person
3	<b>Prof. Ajay Dhar</b> , Associate Director, AcSIR, Member	In Person
4	<b>Prof. G. Narahari Sastry</b> , CSIR-NEIST, Member	In Person
5	<b>Prof. Amitabha Chattopadhyay</b> , CSIR-CCMB, Member	In Person
6	<b>Prof. Shantanu Sengupta</b> , Dean, Biological Sciences, CSIR-IGIB, Member	In Person
7	<b>Prof. V. Subramanian</b> , Dean, Chemical Sciences, CSIR-CLRI, Member	In Person
8	<b>Dr. Ramanuj Narayan</b> , Asso. Dean, Chemical Sciences, CSIR-IICT, Member	In Person
9	<b>Prof. Chetan Gadgil</b> , Asso. Dean, Engg. Sciences, CSIR-NCL, Member	In Person
10	<b>Prof. GK Patra</b> , Asso. Dean, Math. & Info. Sc., CSIR-4PI, Member	In Person
11	<b>Dr. S. Venkata Mohan</b> , CSIR-IICT, Member	In Person
12	<b>Dr. Prosenjit Das</b> , CSIR-CMERI, Member	In Person
13	<b>Prof. Partha Pratim Chakraborty</b> , IIT Kharagpur, Member	VC
14	<b>Prof. Santosh Kapuria</b> , CSIR-SERC, Member	VC
15	<b>Prof. A. Ajayaghosh</b> , CSIR-NIIST, Member	VC
16	<b>Prof. Suman Kumari Mishra</b> , Dean, Engg. Sciences, CSIR-NML, Member	VC
-	<b>Ms. Arpita Sengupta</b> , Sr. Manager, AcSIR, Non Member Secretary	In Person

\* The members participating through electronic media (VC) could participate in discussion and deliberations of the meeting with clarity.

Prof. Paramjit Khurana, Prof. Sharada Srinivasan, Prof. Rakesh Mishra, Prof. Sunil Kumar Singh, Prof. L. Venkatakrishnan, Prof. Danda Srinivas Rao and Dr. Divya Agrawal could not attend the meeting due to their other engagements.

The quorum of the meeting was fulfilled.



## **INITIATION OF THE MEETING**

**Item No. 1: Welcome address and update of major activities by the Chairman of the Senate:** Prof. Rajender S. Sangwan, the Chairman, Senate extended a warm welcome to all the members of the Senate. He thanked Prof. G. Narahari Sastry, Director, CSIR-NEIST, Jorhat, for hosting the 26<sup>th</sup> meeting of the AcSIR Senate at CSIR- North East Institute of Science and Technology (CSIR-NEIST), Jorhat.

The Chairman, Senate gave a brief overview on the recent activities of AcSIR. He was happy to inform that the AcSIR Board of Governors had been recently reconstituted and that the meeting of the BoG would be scheduled soon. He updated the Senate about AcSIR's submission of application for NIRF 2020 ranking for which the result is expected in a few months. The Senate was also informed about the conduct of the 5<sup>th</sup> Convocation of AcSIR on November 12, 2019, where 210 students received their degrees in person and the 'Awards and Investiture Ceremony' on November 13, 2019, where Dr. Harsh Vardhan, the Hon'ble Minister for Science & Technology, Govt. of India, conferred the Academy Professorships and also gave away the AcSIR Best Thesis Awards (2018) to the winners. The Senate was also informed that the "Emoluments and Terminal benefits including Travel and Leave Rules – 2019 (ETTL Rules, 2019)" for the AcSIR employees have been implemented with appropriate approvals.

**Item No. 2: Confirmation of the minutes of the 25<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Senate:** The proceedings of the 25<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Senate, held on November 11, 2019 were communicated to the members for which no comments were received. The Chairman, invited comments from the members, if any, then and there at the meeting. No comments were made by any member and the Senate confirmed the proceedings of the 25<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Senate.

**Item No. 3: Action Taken Report (ATR) on the recommendations of the 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Senate:** The Senate members were updated about the actions taken with respect to the decisions and suggestions on each of the Agenda items of the 25<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Senate. Members were also updated about the extent of completion/progress of tasks in this regard. Detailed discussions were held on those items where there were some issues in full implementation:

- (i) **Item No. 8: Maximum tenure of PhD for students of 2011 and 2012 Batches:** It was suggested by the Senate to track regular conduct of DAC meetings through shared databases by Associate Dean/ Dean of concerned Faculty of Study. The Senate was informed that the modalities for creation of shared databases were being looked into for its early implementation.
- (ii) **Item No. 24: Proposal for introduction of new Faculties of Study (a) Pharmaceutical Sciences and (b) Agricultural Sciences:** The Chairman informed that possible members for the Committee to review the introduction of new Faculty of Agricultural Sciences were being



considered, to which, the members suggested that the Deans/Associate Deans of the concerned faculty and a few other subject experts who are AcSIR faculty, and/or external experts may be included in the Committee. It was also suggested that the Dean/Associate Dean of Engineering Sciences should also be included since Agricultural Sciences also have Agricultural Engineering as a subject.

The Committees would analyze the pros and cons for introduction of such separate Faculty of study w.r.t. faculty and R&D and submit their reports to the Senate for consideration.

Regarding Pharmaceutical Sciences, it was decided that at first the requirement of a separate Faculty of study would be assessed in terms of number of CSIR institutes who would be interested in and the extent of interest. Since it is the interface of Chemical and Biological Sciences, Dean Biological Sciences and Dean/Associate Dean Chemical Sciences may submit a feedback-based as well as pros and cons analysis-based report, before further necessary action may be taken.

- (iii) **Item No. 13: M.Tech Program proposed by CSIR-CMERI:** The Senate was informed that since CSIR-CMERI could not initiate the three MTech Programs in (i) Mechatronics, (ii) Farm Machinery and Power Engineering (FMPE), and (iii) Design of Machinery and Equipment (DME) from January 2020 semester, it is expected that it would commence the MTech programs from August 2020 session.

## **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

**Item No. 4: Change of faculty/discipline of study of AcSIR students:** Senate noted changes in Faculties by the AcSIR students as detailed below:

CSIR-Lab	Name of Student	Faculty	Enrollment No.	Changed Faculty	Revised Enrollment
CSIR-CDRI	Vijaya Shukla	Biological Sciences	10BB19J04046	Chemical Sciences	10BC19J04046

**Item No. 5: Students availing Academic Break:** The Senate noted the cases of 06 students who had been granted One Time Academic Break or extension of Break period, as the case may be, following AcSIR rules, as detailed below:

Student	Registration No.	Lab	Faculty	Leave from	Leave upto
Sandip Laxman Kadam	10CC17J26051	CSIR-NCL	Chemical Sc	06.08.2019	30.12.2020
Priyanka Dhaka	10BB17J33001	CSIR-IHBT	Biological Science	01.06.2019 Extension of break	05.09.2019
Arjun Singh	10PP18J32004	CSIR-NPL	Physical Sciences	05.12.2019	04.12.2021
Amit Kumar	10CC17J19002	CSIR-IIP	Chemical Sciences	21.12.2019	20.12.2021
Ravikant	10PP15A32004	CSIR-NPL	Physical Sciences	17.12.2019	16.02.2020
Pooja Sikarwar	10BB15J25004	CSIR-NBRI	Biological Sciences	16.12.2019	15.12.2021



**Item No. 6: Maximum tenure of PhD for students of 2013 Batch:**

The Senate took note of the decision of the Chairman, Senate that the Ph.D students belonging to the batches of January 2013 and August 2013 sessions would be given a chance to submit their thesis by the extended dates as detailed below:

Batch	Final date for submission of PhD Thesis
January 2013	7 <sup>th</sup> January 2020
August 2013	7 <sup>th</sup> August 2020

If despite this notice, any of the students of above batches fail to submit his/ her PhD thesis by the mentioned date, his/ her registration in PhD in AcSIR would be considered for cancellation. Nevertheless, students whose registration in Ph.D. gets cancelled as a consequence of non-submission of thesis by the mentioned dates, would be free to seek fresh Ph.D. admission in AcSIR on a competitive basis and, if admitted again, credits and grades of course-work successfully completed earlier, would be considered for transfer as per extant AcSIR rules.

**Item No. 7: Updated information on strength and status of faculty members of AcSIR:**

The Senate noted the updates in the list of faculty members of AcSIR based on the information received from 23 CSIR Labs due to recruitments, promotions, superannuation, resignations etc. of CSIR Scientists since the 24<sup>th</sup> Senate Meeting. It was also appraised that, the information had been updated on the AcSIR website, with approval of the Chairman, Senate.

The Senate was further informed by the Chairman that currently (as on January 22, 2020), there were a total of 2365 scientists, who had been recognized as AcSIR Faculty, as detailed below:

- (a) Assistant Professor – 1323; (b) Associate Professor – 527; (c) Professor – 464;
- (d) Outstanding Professor – 26; (e) Emeritus Professor – 25.

The Senate took note of the above information.

**Item No. 8: Inclusion of AcSIR within ambit of 'Institution of Repute' in Faculty Recruitment Process at IITs / NITs:** The Senate was apprised of the recent instances where the applications of AcSIR Ph.D students for faculty positions of NITs/IITs were being screened out during short-listing citing the reason that AcSIR does not fall under NIRF ranked institution OR Centrally Funded Technical Institutes/Central Institutions and so called 'Institutions of Repute'. The Senate was apprised of the steps being taken by the AcSIR to address the issue including letters written by Director AcSIR to the Directors and Registrars of IITs & NITs to consider AcSIR as an 'Institution of Repute' like IITs and NITs, letters to higher officials at Department of Higher Education, MHRD and visit to MHRD to raise the issue with higher officials there. The Senate was informed that the Director General, CSIR has also separately written to the Secretary, MHRD and the Chairman, AICTE for inclusion of AcSIR within ambit of 'Institution of Repute' in Faculty Recruitment Process at IITs / NITs.

The Senate was informed that the Directors of a few IITs and NITs have responded in positive in response to the communication from the Director, AcSIR.





The Senate highly appreciated the efforts of AcSIR and the strength of logical communication by it to Directors of NITs and IITs. In this respect Senate desired this appreciation to be recorded in the proceedings of the Senate.

### **ITEMS FOR RATIFICATION**

**Item No. 9: Students selected and admitted for PhD programs of AcSIR for January 2020 session:** The Senate ratified the selection of **652** students for PhD program (**569** students for PhD-Science and **76** students for PhD-Engineering) and **07** in **Integrated Dual Degree (MTech-PhD) Program (IDDP)** at **31** CSIR Labs and one Associate Centre (BSIP, Lucknow) in the January semester of 2020.

The Senate was informed that out of the **652** students selected, **510** students had confirmed their admission in PhD program under the five Faculties of study. The data on Faculty-wise selection and acceptance of offer of admission by the selected students are tabulated below:

Sl. No.	Faculty	No. of candidates selected	Confirmation of joining
1.	Biological Sciences	314	253
2.	Chemical Sciences	181	137
3.	Physical Sciences	60	41
4.	Engineering Sciences	76 PhD+7 IDDP	67
5.	Mathematical & Information Sciences	14	12
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>652</b>	<b>510</b>

**Item No. 10: Results and award of PhD Degrees in Science and Engineering:** The Senate ratified the result of **90** students (since the 25<sup>th</sup> meeting held on November 11, 2019) who had completed all the academic requirements for the award of PhD degree, including the successful completion of the viva voce examination.

The Senate was informed that since inception, **2024 PhD Degrees had been awarded** by AcSIR (till January 15, 2020) and that the Final Degree Certificates for all awardees upto January 15, 2020 are ready.

**Item No. 11: Course Related Items: New and Modifications:** The Senate ratified the proposed new and modified courses of CSIR-NIO, Goa as detailed under:

Faculty	Lab Name	New Courses (Course No.)	Modification of Courses (Course No.)
Physical	CSIR-NIO	PHY-NIO:2-4256 Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics	PHY-NIO:3-4228 Quaternary Climatology
		PHY-NIO:2-4257 Advanced Analytical Techniques	

**Item No. 12: Budget: RE for FY 2019-20 and BE for 2020-21:** The Senate ratified the RE budget for the FY 2019-20 and the Budget Estimate (BE) for the FY 2020-21.



**Item No. 13: Agreement with Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences, Lucknow as Associate Centre of AcSIR:** The Senate ratified signing of the Agreement by AcSIR with Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences (BSIP), Lucknow, on January 13, 2020 at Lucknow. Through the Agreement, AcSIR recognizes BSIP as its Associate Academic Center whereby AcSIR would accept students from BSIP for its different program like Ph.D and Masters' Degree. The Senate was informed by the Chairman, Senate that 8 students of BSIP (6 in the faculty of Physical Sciences and 2 in the faculty of Biological Sciences) had taken admission in the January 2020 session.

### **ITEMS FOR APPROVAL**

**Item No. 14: Proposals / Expression of Interest (Eoi) of some research institutes for Recognition as Associate Academic Centres of AcSIR:**

The Senate was informed that AcSIR had received proposals/ Expression of Interest from the following Institutes regarding collaborative Ph.D. program:

- ICMR-National Institute of Malaria Research, New Delhi
- ICMR-National Institute for Research in Environmental Health, Bhopal
- Institute of Nano Science & Technology, Mohali
- Indian Oil Corporation R&D Centre, Faridabad
- Institute of Advanced Studies in Science & Technology, Guwahati
- Tata Consultancy Services – Research & Innovation

There was a consensus that eminence of many Central Government research institutions warrants automatic affiliation while for others an evaluative process may be desired. Nevertheless, it was decided that it would be better to evolve a Standard Operating Procedure (SoP), because AcSIR is now receiving substantial number of expression of interests from non-CSIR institutes for academic affiliation. Therefore, it was decided that for each forthcoming institute to be considered for academic affiliation, there would be a Standing Committee comprising of at least one of the Dean of the relevant Faculty, Associate Director(s) of AcSIR and Subject Expert(s) nominated by Director, AcSIR. The Committee would submit its report to the Director, AcSIR, who would take a decision in consideration of the report of the Committee.

In case of the above proposals received, the Senate approved, in-principle, the academic affiliation of AcSIR with (i) Institute of Nano Science & Technology, Mohali; (ii) Indian Oil Corporation R&D Centre, Faridabad; (iii) Institute of Advanced Studies in Science & Technology, Guwahati; and (iv) Tata Consultancy Services – Research & Innovation.

Further, it was decided that w.r.t. the requests received from ICMR-National Institute of Malaria Research, New Delhi a committee comprising of Dean, Biological Sciences and Associate Directors of AcSIR may visit the Institute and submit its report to the Director, AcSIR. For ICMR-National Institute for Research in Environmental Health, Bhopal, Director, AcSIR may constitute the Standing Committee (as per the SoP above) which would submit its recommendations to the Director, AcSIR.

**Item No. 15: Introduction of course on Research and Publication Ethics (RPE):** The Senate reviewed the recommendation of the UGC (543<sup>rd</sup> meeting held on 09.08.2019) and approved inclusion of the compulsory 2 credit courses on "Research and Publication Ethics (RPE)" for all Ph.D students



course work. The Course work proposed by UGC was adopted. The Senate agreed that the course work for Research Methodology and for Research and Publication Ethics should be taught by experienced researcher and experienced teacher for quality maintenance. Further, the Senate suggested that the RPE course can be expected to be offered through online mode and the modalities for conduct of the course work and teaching are to be worked out by the Board of Studies.

**Item No. 16: Fine-tuning of modalities for keeping the AcSIR Admission Portal open throughout the year:** The Senate was apprised of the decision of the AcSIR Senate at its 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting (held on November 30, 2018) for keeping the AcSIR Admission Portal open throughout the year for accepting applications. Further details of the admission process was discussed by the members for initiation of the process at an early date. The following points emerged:

- (i) There will be a single Standing Screening cum Selection Committee for each AcSIR Centres valid for an entire academic year (January to December), constituted in consultation and approval of the Dean of respective faculty;
- (ii) The admission portal to remain open throughout the year with a break of maximum 1 month after each session as under:

Session	Early Application Dates (Portal opening)	Normal Application dates	Break between two sessions
January	1 <sup>st</sup> July – 31 <sup>st</sup> August	1 <sup>st</sup> September – 31 <sup>st</sup> October	1 <sup>st</sup> November – 30 <sup>th</sup> November
August	1 <sup>st</sup> December – 28 <sup>th</sup> February	1 <sup>st</sup> March – 31 <sup>st</sup> May	1 <sup>st</sup> June – 30 <sup>th</sup> June

- (iii) Advertisements for admissions for each session would be released as per existing schedule;
- (iv) The selection for early applications is subject to sufficient applications received and interest of the CSIR labs (AcSIR academic centers) to have early admission for the semester. An AcSIR Centre can conduct early admission only once during an admission session;
- (v) The candidates selected from early admission may join the institute as a Selectee student (with enrollment number allotted) and can work in the institute with permission of the concerned Director. However, he/she would be joining the session academics enrolled in AcSIR either in January or in August semesters only on Semester Registration Dates.
- (vi) The maximum candidates to be inducted out of total vacancies in early admission will remain flexible at the discretion of lab.
- (vii) The residency period (minimum 3 years to maximum 6 years) for such PhD students would be effective from the session they are enrolled at AcSIR.
- (viii) Applications for all other programs offered by AcSIR (i.e., Masters' and PG Diploma programs) would continue to be accepted as per the existing admission schedule for such programs.

**Item No.17: Introduction of student's Feedback form:** The Senate approved introduction of Student's Feedback Form to be submitted by the students at the time of completion of their degrees.



If any need is felt, an additional schedule of getting feedback from students may also be introduced. Suitable questionnaire is to be designed and introduced with approval of the Chairman, Senate.

**Item No. 18: AcSIR Faculty Related issues:** The Senate approved the following faculty related matters:

- (i) **Adjunct Faculty:** The Senate approved extension of tenure of Prof S.K. Bhattacharya, Former Director, CSIR-CBRI, Roorkee and currently the Deputy Director, IIT Kharagpur as an Adjunct Faculty, for another term of three years from the date of expiry of his current tenure, i.e., from 29<sup>th</sup> June 2019.
- (ii) **Recognition of Faculty from AcSIR Associate Centre, Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences, Lucknow:** In accordance to the provisions of the Agreement signed between AcSIR and Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences (BSIP), Lucknow on January 13, 2020, the Senate approved inclusion of the 32 Scientists of BSIP who have applied, as honorary Faculty of AcSIR, at appropriate levels in accordance with their position at BSIP:
- (iii) **Eligibility of Faculty teaching Research Methodology courses:** The matter of the Agenda is already covered under Item No. 15 above.
- (iv) **Inclusion of Co-Guide from non-CSIR Institutes:** The Senate approved inclusion of co-guides from non-CSIR Institutes for the following students of CSIR-IGIB:

Name of Student	Enrollment No.	AcSIR Centre	Co-Guide
Ritu Rani	10BB17A02020	CSIR-IGIB	Dr. Vishal Bansal, VP Chest Institute, Delhi Univ
Deepika Gautam	10BB17A02005	CSIR-IGIB	Dr. Pramod Kumar Garg AIIMS, New Delhi
Aarti Darra	10BB15A02003	CSIR-IGIB	Dr. Usha Datta PGIMER, Chandigarh
Ruchishree Konhar	10BB17A02024	CSIR-IGIB	Dr. Devendra K. Biswal NEHU, Shillong

**Item No. 19: Exemption of AcSIR course work for candidates joining Ph.D. after passing M.Phil.:**

The Senate had a detailed discussion on the proposal for exemption of AcSIR course work for candidates joining Ph.D after passing M.Phil in view of the UGC Ordinance IIA effective from 2016-17 academic session – “*The candidates who have passed M.Phil degree with course-work as per the UGC regulations (MINIMUM Standards and Procedures for award of M.Phil/Ph.D. Degree, 2009), shall be exempt from the requirements of Course Work.*” It was decided that the students holding an M.Phil Degree would be exempted from coursework. However, the following courses would be mandatory:

- (i) Research Methodology (4 credits), in case not done at M.Phil level
- (ii) Societal Program of AcSIR (4 credits)
- (iii) Any other course recommended by the DAC of the student

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



(Prof. Rajender Singh Sangwan)  
Chairman, Senate