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**Call for Applications under the Challenge Fund of JKCIIP**

Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology of Jammu invites applications in the prescribed format are invited from Agri-startups, Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), Progressive Farmers, SHGs/VOs/CLFs, and UG/PG/Research Students of Jammu & Kashmir working in the agriculture and allied sectors for the Challenge Fund under the Competitiveness Improvement of Agriculture and Allied Sectors Project in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir (JKCIP). The selected applicants (maximum 37) will receive financial support of ₹5.00 lakh each during the financial year 2025-26.

### **Objective of the Challenge Fund**

The Challenge Fund aims to:

- Promote agri-tech and farm-based innovation
- Improve agricultural productivity and profitability
- Enhance food and nutritional security
- Foster entrepreneurship and startup ecosystem in agriculture and allied sectors
- Support locally relevant, scalable, and impact-driven solutions

### **Focus Areas / Challenge Themes**

Applicants may propose solutions in (but not limited to):

- Sustainable and climate-resilient agriculture
- Water management and irrigation efficiency
- Pest and disease management
- Agri-mechanization and precision farming
- Post-harvest management, value addition and processing
- Digital agriculture, agri-tech and ICT solutions
- Agri-tech innovation including seed, input and extension innovations
- Livestock, fisheries, apiculture and allied sectors
- Other specific focus areas and challenges within the agricultural sector in J&K

### **Eligibility Criteria**

Applications are invited from:

- Agri Startups based in Jammu & Kashmir
- Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)
- UG/PG/Research Students of J&K-based academic institutions with innovative agricultural solutions
- Progressive Farmers of J&K
- SHGs / VOs / CLFs engaged in agriculture and allied activities

### **Amount of Challenge Fund**

- ₹5.00 lakh per selected startup/enterprise per year
- Up to 37 agri-based startups/enterprises may be supported in a financial year

### **Application and Evaluation Process Guidelines**

- Eligible applicants must submit a detailed proposal in the prescribed format
- Proposals will be evaluated by a panel of experts in agriculture, agri-business, agri-tech and entrepreneurship
- **Evaluation criteria will include:**
  - ✓ Innovation and novelty
  - ✓ Technical and financial feasibility
  - ✓ Potential impact and scalability
  - ✓ Relevance to J&K agriculture

**Last Date for Submission:** 27<sup>th</sup> January 2026

### **Submission Details**

Hard copy and soft copy of proposals must be submitted by post to:

Nodal Officer, JKCIIP, Directorate of Extension, SKUAST-Jammu

Chatha - 180009 or

Through email to [jkcip@skuastj.org](mailto:jkcip@skuastj.org)

Contact: 9419192958, 7006311474, 9018771589

**APPLICATION FORM**  
**Challenge Fund under JKCIPI, SKUAST-Jammu**

**Part A: Applicant Details**

1. Name of Applicant / Organization / Startup:
2. Category (Tick ✓):  
 Agri Startup  FPO  Student  Research Scholar  Progressive Farmer  SHG/VO/CLF  other... Please specify
3. Name of Founder / Lead Applicant:
4. Address:
5. District:
6. Mobile Number:
7. Email ID:
8. Aadhaar / Registration Number:
9. Year of Establishment (for startups/FPOs/Enterprises):

**Part B: Proposal Details**

10. Title of the Proposal / Innovation:
11. Focus Area / Challenge Theme:
12. Problem Statement (Brief description of the issue being addressed):
13. Proposed Solution / Innovation:
14. Uniqueness and Innovation Component:
15. Target Beneficiaries (farmers/FPOs/others):
16. Future Scope and Practical Applicability
17. Scalability and Replication Potential:
18. Key Activities and Milestones:

**Part C: Financial Details**

18. Total Project Cost (₹):
19. Challenge Fund Requested (₹) (Maximum ₹5.00 lakh):
20. Other Sources of Funding (if any):

**Declaration**

I/We hereby declare that the information furnished above is true and correct to the best of my/our knowledge. I/We agree to abide by the terms and conditions of the Challenge Fund under JKCIPI, SKUAST-Jammu.

**Signature of  
Applicant:  
Name:  
Date:  
Place:**