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Call for Applications under the Challenge Fund of JKCIP

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 / VO / 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: 27th January 2026

Submission Details

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

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

Chatha - 180009 or

Through email to jkcip@skuastj.org

Contact: 9419192958, 7006311474, 9018771589

APPLICATION FORM
Challenge Fund under JKCIP, 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 JKCIP, SKUAST–Jammu.

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