


**One Day Planning Meeting of Knowledge Centre, IIT Kharagpur  
of the Sanctioned Project on  
Centre of Excellence for Digital Farming Solutions for Enhancing  
Productivity by Robots, Drones and AGVs (DFA)  
Created under  
Centre of Advanced Agricultural Science and Technology (CAAST)  
National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP)  
KAB-II, ICAR, Pusa, New Delhi, India**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**Opening:** A one day planning meeting of Knowledge Centre IIT Kharagpur was called on 16-12-2019 at 09:30 AM in the PHTC Conference room of Agricultural and Food Engineering Department, IIT Kharagpur.

- Present:**
- (1) Dr. P. K. Ghosh, National Coordinator, NAHEP, CAAST, ICAR, New Delhi as Chief Guest.
  - (2) Dr. Prabhat Kumar, National Coordinator, NAHEP, M&E, ICAR, New Delhi as Guest of Honor.
  - (3) Prof. V. K. Tewari, Principal Investigator, NAHEP-CAAST-DFA, IIT Kharagpur
  - (4) Prof. R. Machavaram, Co-Principal Investigator, NAHEP-CAAST-DFA, IIT Kharagpur
  - (5) Prof. T.K. Bhattacharyya, Co-Principal Investigator, NAHEP-CAAST-DFA, IIT Kharagpur
  - (6) Prof. N.K. Peyada, Co-Principal Investigator, NAHEP-CAAST-DFA, IIT Kharagpur
  - (7) Prof. A.K. Deb, Co-Principal Investigator, NAHEP-CAAST-DFA, IIT Kharagpur
  - (8) Prof. M. Bhattacharya, Co-Principal Investigator, NAHEP-CAAST-DFA, IIT Kharagpur
  - (9) Prof. N. Mallick, Head of the Department, Agricultural and Food Engineering, IIT Kharagpur
  - (10) Prof. Gopal U. Shinde, Principal Investigator, NAHEP-CAAST-VNMKV, Parbhani, Maharashtra
  - (11) Prof. Uday M. Khodke, Co-Principal Investigator, NAHEP-CAAST-VNMKV, Parbhani, Maharashtra
  - (12) Er. D. V. Patil, Team Member, NAHEP-CAAST-VNMKV, Parbhani, Maharashtra

**Agenda:** Planning Meet for the execution of the project “Centre of Excellence for Digital Farming Solutions for Enhancing Productivity by Robots, Drones and AGVs (DFA)”

  
02/01/2020

## Recorded Minutes:

1. Two/three weeks training program is proposed to be conducted twice in a year during the project duration, one for the students and another for the faculty. The appropriate time for both the training programs will be in the month of May and June of each year.
2. Three Junior Research Fellows (JRFs) / Senior Research Fellows (SRFs) will be recruited through Advanced Technology Development Centre, IIT Kharagpur who will work under the supervision of Principal/Co-Principal investigators of the project at IIT Kharagpur.
3. The Research Partners, NAHEP-CAAST-DFA, IIT Kharagpur and NAHEP-CAAST-VNMKV, Parbhani combindly may propose suitable courses/training programs for the students, faculty members and Entrepreneurs under Continuing Education Program (CEP) of IIT Kharagpur.
4. It is also proposed to conduct two workshops, one at IIT Kharagpur and the other at VNMKV, Parbhani involving the stake holders.
5. Three certificate courses in the areas of (1) Agribots, (2) Agridrones and (3) AgriAGVs of 40 participants each will be organized every year during the project duration at VNMKV, Parbhani and the faculty from IIT Kharagpur can act as resource persons as well as the supervisors for the short-term projects of the above mentioned certificate courses.
6. The access to the Digital Library and the Technical Softwares of IIT Kharagpur will be made available to the PG/Ph.D. Students and Faculty of VNMKV, Parbhani as per the Institute Norms/Regulations.
7. There will also be a mutual collaboration between NAHEP-CAAST-DFA, IIT Kharagpur and NAHEP-CAAST-VNMKV, Parbhani in publishing the books and high quality research papers, filing the patents and commercialization of developed technologies.
8. The faculty from IIT Kharagpur can act as co-supervisors in the research projects of PG/Ph. D. Students of VNMKV, Parbhani. Similarly, the PG/Ph. D. Students of IIT Kharagpur can undertake research trials of their projects at VNMKV, Parbhani under the co-supervision of Faculty at VNMKV Parbhani.
9. If required the Memorandum of Understanding will be signed by IIT Kharagpur and VNMKV Parbhani for mutual collaboration in the areas of interest to both the parties.

The sanctioned project grant to NAHEP-CAAST-DFA, IIT Kharagpur Knowledge Center is Rs. 85.00 Lakhs for the three years of project duration. It will be sanctioned under the head of Operational Cost of NAHEP-CAAST-VNMKV, Parbhani as per Annexure I of Detailed Project Report (DPR) of NAHEP-CAAST-VNMKV, Parbhani.

The planning meeting was ended with vote of thanks at 12:00 Noon. Later, the members visited the Labs at Aerospace Engineering and Electrical Engineering Department for the demonstration of Drones and Robots, and also the MEMS Laboratory and AVLSI Laboratory of ECE Department of IIT Kharagpur.



02/01/2020

(Prof. V. K. Tewari)  
PI, DFA