

No. SR-CoE/RFTS/MOM/2/25

29/12/2025

Minutes of Meeting

(Ref: Office Order No.SC/CH/A.22/137/2024 dt. 19th Dec 2024 issued by Chairman, ISRO/ Secretary, DOS)

Meeting No.	2
Date	18th December 2025 [Thursday]
Time	11:00 – 13:00 hr
Mode	Online
Agenda	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Introductory Remarks by the Chair & Co-chair, JMC2. Review of action points from the previous meeting3. Review of project progress4. Other points discussed

1. Introductory Remarks

Shri M. Ganesh Pillai, Chairperson, JMC, welcomed the members and invitees for the 2nd meeting of Joint Management Council (JMC). Following points were addressed in the introductory remarks:

- ▶ Funds towards initial grant of Rs. 1.84 crores for establishment of CoE and Rs 44.45 lakhs (75% of all the sub-heads of new projects) as 1st year Maintenance Charges were released by ISRO/ DoS to IITM.
- ▶ Task Teams are constituted for all the 4 projects for intense monitoring and detailed review of concerned project activities.

Prof. C. Balaji, Co-Chairperson, JMC also welcomed all the participants and informed that project activities are commenced at the CoE with the receipt of initial grant fund and targeted to execute as envisaged in the MoU.

2. Review of action points from the previous meeting

JMC reviewed the progress of action points identified from the 1st meeting and details are given as follows:

Sl. No.	Action Identified	Status updated by the Actionees and Remarks by JMC
1	Transfer of Rs. 1.84 crore fund from ISRO/ DoS to IITM to be expedited. Action: Member Secretary (ISRO), JMC	Amount is transferred. Action closed.

2	Task Teams for each project to be identified. Action: Member Secretaries, JMC	Constituted. Action closed.
3	Testing requirements at ISRO Centres/ Units shall be consolidated and submitted. Action: Member Secretary (IITM), JMC	JMC informed that since task teams are constituted for each project, concerned task team can work out the testing requirement and submit to JMC. Action: Task Teams
4	Revised operational budget requirements for 3 years with year-wise split-up to be submitted. Action: Member Secretary (IITM), JMC	Provided. Action closed.
5	Upon the receipt of revised operational budget requirements from IITM, details to be reviewed and recommendations along with tuning, if any to be submitted to JMC. Action: AD (RESPOND), CBPO, ISRO	Review completed. Action closed.

3. Review of project progress

Concerned PIs from IITM presented the status of each project and the same were reviewed by the JMC. Copy of the presentation is given in Annexure-I. Summary of the review is given as follows:

Sl. No.	Project Title	Brief Status
1	Experimental and Numerical Studies for the design of active systems for effective Spacecraft Thermal management (URSC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Literature survey started. ▪ Year-wise deliverables worked out. Procurement of equipments and hiring of project staff are in progress.
2	Data Driven Algorithms for Spacecraft Thermal Modeling (URSC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Literature survey started and held discussions with ISRO focal point. ▪ Year-wise deliverables worked out. ▪ Procurement of equipments and hiring of project staff are in progress. ▪ Proposed to hire and additional research staff.
3	Cryogenic tank thermodynamics under various conditions (LPSC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Literature Review is ongoing. ▪ Year-wise deliverables worked out. ▪ Purchase process initiated for controlled chamber and controller of vibration shaker

4	Effective spacecraft thermal management through passive phase-change based device (URSC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Literature Review is ongoing. ▪ Year-wise deliverables worked out. ▪ Fabrication of wicking materials is in progress.
5	Mechanisms of combustion instability in hybrid rockets (VSSC)	The project is proposed to be dropped due to IITM PI's other personal and professional commitments which prevent him from continuing with the project. Concurrence from Director, IITM on above was conveyed via email to ISRO.

Review Remarks by JMC:

- i. JMC noted the progress of projects and complimented the project team for the excellent initiatives within the short-period.
- ii. JMC advised all the Task Teams to conduct periodic reviews on their respective projects and send periodic progress update to the JMC.

Action: Task Teams

- iii. Towards the proposal on hiring additional research staff for the project, 'Data Driven Algorithms for Spacecraft Thermal Modeling', JMC recommended to retain the originally approved number.
- iv. JMC concurred the dropping of project proposal on 'Mechanisms of combustion instability in hybrid rockets'. JMC also noted that there is no financial implications as no exclusive equipments are identified for this project.

4. Other points discussed

- i. Prof. C. Balaji was the Member of JMC as per the original office order. Currently, Prof. C. Balaji has taken over the charge of Head, Department of Mechanical Engineering, IITM, and becomes the Co-chairperson of JMC with his current designation at IITM. Hence, in place of him, a Member from IITM to be identified. IITM can send a formal nomination to DTDI, ISRO in this regard.

Action: Member Secretary, JMC (IITM)

- ii. In order to have detailed interaction involving more experts and to provide an avenue for new projects, it is proposed to conduct a joint Workshop at IITM tentatively during Apr-May 2026. Member Secretaries of JMC may work out the plan for the workshop.

Action: Member Secretaries, JMC

- iii. IITM suggested the feasibility of utilizing foreign technical experts for contributing to the projects identified under the CoE. They can contribute without any charges; only their travel expenses can be managed through CoE fund. JMC replied that the proposal is good; however, feasibility of utilizing foreign technical experts will be discussed at ISRO/ DoS level and the feedback will be provided to IITM.

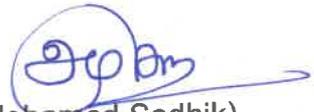
Chairperson, JMC and Co-Chairperson, JMC have thanked all the participants for the active participation and valuable contributions during the meeting.

Encl.: Annexure-I

Prepared by

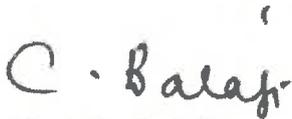


(Prof. Arvind Pattamatta)
Dept. of Mech. Engg., IITM
Member Secretary (IITM), JMC

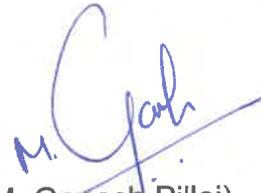


(A. Mohamed Sadhik)
Deputy Director, DTDI, ISRO HQ
Member Secretary (ISRO), JMC

Approved by



(Prof. C. Balaji)
HoD, Dept. of Mech. Engg., IITM
Co-Chairperson, JMC



(M. Ganesh Pillai)
Director, DTDI, ISRO HQ
Chairperson, JMC

To:

Chairperson, Co-chairperson & Members, JMC and Invitees

Copy for kind information:

Director, IITM
Chairman, ISRO/ Secretary, DOS

Participants:

A) Joint Management Council (JMC):

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. Shri M. Ganesh Pillai, Director, DTDI, ISRO HQ | - Chairperson |
| 2. Prof. C. Balaji, HoD, Mech. Engg., IITM | - Co-Chairperson |
| 3. Shri G. Harikrishnan, Director, CBPO, ISRO HQ | - Member |
| 4. Shri N. Raghu Meetei, Associate Director, DTDI, ISRO HQ | - Member |
| 5. Prof. P. A. Ramakrishnan, Aerospace Engineering, IITM | - Member |
| 6. Prof. Arvind Pattamatta, Mech. Engg., IITM | - Mem. Secretary (IITM) |
| 7. Shri A. Mohamed Sadhik, DD, DTDI, ISRO HQ | - mem. Secretary (ISRO) |

B) Invitees:

ISRO	IITM
1. Shri A. Rajendra, DD, MSA, URSC, ISRO	1. Dr. P.V. Venkitakrishnan- POP, IITM
2. Dr. Venkata Raghavendra, URSC	2. Dr. V. Arumugam, ICSR, IITM
3. Dr. A.R. Anand, URSC, ISRO	3. Dr. Pallab Sinha Mahapatra, IITM
4. Shri Akhil Jaiswal, URSC, ISRO	4. Dr. Kameswararao Anupindi, IITM
5. Shri V. Dilip, LPSC, ISRO	5. Dr. Shyama Prasad Das, IITM
6. Dr Abijit Avinash Adoni, URSC, ISRO	6. Prof. Balaji Srinivasan, IITM
7. Shri B.S. Chaitanya Murthy, URSC, ISRO	7. Prof. Sateesh Gedupudi, IITM
8. Shri Rajat Chaurasia, URSC, ISRO	8. Dr. Regulagadda Kartik, IITM
9. Shri Shubham Shukla, DTDI, ISRO HQ	9. Prof. Shaligram Tiwari, IITM
	10. Prof Ganapathy Krishnamurthi, IITM