

**POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE**

**UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA**

**PGIA GOLDEN JUBILEE COMPETITIVE RESEARCH GRANTS – 2025**

The Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture (PGIA), University of Peradeniya, invites applications for two Competitive Research Grants, each valued at Sri Lankan Rupees 25 million, to promote high-quality, multidisciplinary research in agriculture and allied sciences. These grants are designed to support Sri Lankan researchers in generating impactful scientific outputs that contribute to the advancement of PhD training and address priority needs of the national agricultural sector and wider society.

**Late, incomplete and inaccurate applications will not be processed**

**SECTION A**

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| **1. Title of the Research Project***The research project title should be clear, concise, and accurately reflect the scope and objectives of the proposed research. It must be understandable to a scientifically or technically literate audience. Applicants are advised to avoid overly ambitious or speculative titles, or those suggesting broader applications or outcomes beyond what the proposed work is realistically expected to achieve.* |
|  |
| **2. Research Team and Applicants***Applicants for the Research Grants Scheme must be citizens of Sri Lanka residing in the country, and should hold a permanent position at a university, research institute, or other recognized institution. Research teams are expected to be multidisciplinary and are strongly encouraged to form inter-institutional collaborations, fostering co-creation to address both national and global challenges. Each team must include at least one investigator from the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, and the research student(s) must be registered for a PhD degree at PGIA.* |
| **1.1 Principal Investigator***Principal Investigator (PI) should be in the permanent cadre of his/her institution. PI should have a doctoral postgraduate research degree (PhD) and publications/ patents in the relevant research area.* |
| Name and Designation:Institution:Highest academic qualification obtained:Date and Place of obtaining the above qualification: NIC No.:Mailing address:Telephone: Office MobileEmail address: |
| Describe knowledge and research experience in the area related to the proposed research work (*Please do not include publications;* *word limit -100 words*) |
| Planned leave abroad (Study Leave, Sabbatical Leave, etc.) / Retirement during the project period: |
| If the PI is planning to take leave (> 2 weeks) during the project period, state the responsible person for the project: |
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| **Ongoing and Completed Research Grants Records during the last 3 years.***Indicate only the 05 most recent grants of the PI*  |
| Grant No. | Contribution (Principal Investigator/ Co-Investigator) | Approved duration of the Grant*(Dates)* | Title of the Project | Source of support/Total allocation | Status[Ongoing/Completed/Terminated/Cancelled] |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

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| **1.2 Co-Investigator/s***Co-Investigators should have postgraduate qualifications and research experience supported with publications/ patents.* |
| **1.2.1 Co-Investigator – 1**Name and Designation:Institution:Highest academic qualification obtained:Date and Place of obtaining the above qualification: NIC No.:Mailing address:Telephone: Office MobileEmail address: |
| Describe knowledge and research experience in the area related to the proposed research work (*Please do not include publications;* *word limit -100 words)* |
| Planned leave abroad (Study Leave, Sabbatical Leave, etc.) / Retirement during the project period: |
| **1.2.2 Co-Investigator – 2**Name and Designation:Institution:Highest academic qualification obtained:Date and Place of obtaining the above qualification: NIC No.:Mailing address:Telephone: Office MobileEmail address: |
| Describe knowledge and research experience in the area related to the proposed research work (*Please do not include publications;* *word limit -100 words)* |
| Planned leave abroad (Study Leave, Sabbatical Leave, etc.) / Retirement during the project period: |
| **1.2.3 Co-Investigator – 3**Name and Designation:Institution:Highest academic qualification obtained:Date and Place of obtaining the above qualification: NIC No.:Mailing address:Telephone: Office MobileEmail address: |
| Describe knowledge and research experience in the area related to the research work work (*Please do not include publications;* *word limit -100 words)* |
| Planned leave abroad (Study Leave, Sabbatical Leave, etc.) / Retirement during the project period: |
| **1.2.4 Co-Investigator – 4**Name and Designation:Institution:Highest academic qualification obtained:Date and Place of obtaining the above qualification: NIC No.:Mailing address:Telephone: Office MobileEmail address: |
| Describe knowledge and research experience in the area related to the proposed research work (*Please do not include publications;* *word limit -100 words)* |
| Planned leave abroad (Study Leave, Sabbatical Leave, etc.) / Retirement during the project period: |
| **1.2.5 Co-Investigator – 5**Name and Designation:Institution:Highest academic qualification obtained:Date and Place of obtaining the above qualification: NIC No.:Mailing address:Telephone: Office MobileEmail address: |
| Describe knowledge and research experience in the area related to the proposed research work (*Please do not include publications;* *word limit -100 words)* |
| Planned leave abroad (Study Leave, Sabbatical Leave, etc.) / Retirement during the project period: |
| **1.2.6 Co-Investigator – 6**Name and Designation:Institution:Highest academic qualification obtained:Date and Place of obtaining the above qualification: NIC No.:Mailing address:Telephone: Office MobileEmail address: |
| Describe knowledge and research experience in the area related to the proposed research work (*Please do not include publications;* *word limit -100 words)* |
| Planned leave abroad (Study Leave, Sabbatical Leave, etc.) / Retirement during the project period: |
| **1.2.7 Co-Investigator – 7**Name and Designation:Institution:Highest academic qualification obtained:Date and Place of obtaining the above qualification: NIC No.:Mailing address:Telephone: Office MobileEmail address: |
| Describe knowledge and research experience in the area related to the proposed research work (*Please do not include publications;* *word limit -100 words)* |
| Planned leave abroad (Study Leave, Sabbatical Leave, etc.) / Retirement during the project period: |
| **1.3 Collaborator/s***Any other member of the research group who does not meet the criteria for co-investigators, Industry Partners and Expatriates/ Foreign Scientists could be listed as Collaborators. Letters of Consent should be provided – Annex I* |
| **1.3.1 Collaborator – 1**Name and Designation:Institution:Contribution expected to be provided for the research project:Mailing address:Telephone: Office MobileEmail address: |
| **1.3.2 Collaborator – 2**Name and Designation:Institution:Contribution expected to be provided for the research project:Mailing address:Telephone: Office MobileEmail address: |
| **1.3.3 Collaborator – 3**Name and Designation:Institution:Contribution expected to be provided for the research project:Mailing address:Telephone: Office MobileEmail address: |
| **1.3.4 Collaborator – 4**Name and Designation:Institution:Contribution expected to be provided for the research project:Mailing address:Telephone: Office MobileEmail address: |
| **1.3.5 Collaborator – 5**Name and Designation:Institution:Contribution expected to be provided for the research project:Mailing address:Telephone: Office MobileEmail address: |
| **1.4 Percentage of time the PI and CoIns could contribute to this project**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 10% | 20% | 30% | 40% | Other  | % of time spent on other projects | % of time spent on administration |
| PI |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| CoIn - 1  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| CoIn - 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| CoIn - 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| CoIn – 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| CoIn – 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| CoIn – 6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| CoIn – 7 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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| **2. Institution/s**  |
| * 1. **Administering Institution**

*The Research Grant will be administrated by the Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya* |
| * 1. **Research Institution**

*Institution(s) where the major part of the research work will be carried out* |
| * 1. **Other Institutions involved**
 |

**SECTION B**

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| **1. Project Title***The research project title should be clear, concise, and accurately reflect the scope and objectives of the proposed research. It must be understandable to a scientifically or technically literate audience. Applicants are advised to avoid overly ambitious or speculative titles, or those suggesting broader applications or outcomes beyond what the proposed work is realistically expected to achieve.* |
|  |
| **2. Research Area(s)***Please specify the most relevant research area* |
|  |
| **3. Research Project Period***Please specify the project duration. Cannot exceed three years.* |
|  |
| **4. Summary of the Project** *(300 words)**The summary should provide a clear overview of the project’s objectives, a concise description of the approach and methodology to achieve them, and a statement of the expected outputs and outcomes.* |
|  |
| * 1. **Keywords (4-5) for the proposed project:**
 |
|  |
| 1. **Research Problem**

*Clearly define the problem(s) your research project aims to address. Provide relevant background information and a well-founded justification for undertaking this research, highlighting its significance, relevance, and potential impact.* |
|  |
| 1. **Comprehensive review of literature and the complete list of references in the relevant area.**

*Do not highlight or underline names of investigators in the reference list* |
|  |
| 1. **Innovative potential of the proposed work**
 |
|  |
| 1. **Overall aim and specific objectives of the proposed work**
 |
| 8.1 Overall Aim |
|  |
| 8.2 Specific Objectives |
|  |
| 1. **Expected outputs in terms of research work**

*State the deliverables expected to be achieved at the end of the project.* |
|  |
| 1. **Expected outcomes**

*State the significance of the research outputs for society and country.* |
|  |
| 10.1 Detail the direct and indirect contributions of the project to the national economy *(maximum 300 words)* |
|  |
| **11. Indicate which Sustainable Development Goal/s (SDGs) your research project will address**[*http://www.statistics.gov.lk/sdg/*](http://www.statistics.gov.lk/sdg/) |
|  |
| 1. **Methodology**
 |
| 12.1 Describe the study design |
|  |
| 12.2 Describe the Methodology |
|  |
| 12.3DescribeExperimental design where applicable   |
| 12.3.1 Sample size calculation |
| 12.3.2 Data/sample collection  |
| 12.3.3 Study site |
| 12.3.4 Study group and controls |
| 12.3.5 Validation and quality control of methods |
| 12.3.6 Cost effectiveness of proposed methodology |
| 12.4 Describe the method of data analysis |
| **13. Work plan** *Please attach the monthly Gantt Chart to cover the proposed study, as per the format below.* |
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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Specific objectives** | **Activities** | **Timeline (Gantt Chart)** | **Key Performance Indicators****(KPI)** |
|  Year 1 |
| J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| **Specific objectives** | **Activities** | **Timeline (Gantt Chart)** | **Key Performance Indicators****(KPI)** |
|  Year 2 |
| J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D |  |
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| **Specific objectives** | **Activities** | **Timeline (Gantt Chart)** | **Key Performance Indicators****(KPI)** |
|  Year 3 |
| J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D |  |
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| 1. **Authorization**

*(Ethical clearance/necessary permission**should be submitted once the grant is approved by the PGIA)* |
| * 1. **Ethical consideration**
 |
| Relevance to the project: |
| * 1. **Permission from relevant authorities (Dept. of Wildlife, Forest Department, CEA etc.)**
 |
| Relevance to the project: |
| * 1. **Material Transfer Agreement**
 |
| Relevance to the project: |
| 1. **Budget**
 |
| 15.1 Financial support |
| The proposed project should not be currently funded by any other funding source |
| 15.2 Major equipment and other facilities available at the institutions of the Investigators for the research project |
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|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Equipment** | **Location at the institution** |
|  |  |
|  |  |

 |
| **15.3 Summary of Budget***Funds should be requested only for essential items with adequate justification.* *Refer Annex III for rates of payments for Personnel and Travel & Subsistence votes*. |
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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. **Personnel**
2. Research Student\*
3. Technical Assistant
4. Labour/ Other
 | 1st Year | 2nd Year | 3rd Year | Total |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Sub Total (Personnel) |  |  |  |  |
| **(2) Equipment** |  |  |  |  |
| **(3) Consumables** |  |  |  |  |
| 1. **Sample analysis (if outsourced)**
 |  |  |  |  |
| 1. **Statistical analysis**
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| 1. **Postgraduate registration fees**
 |  |  |  |  |
| 1. **Travel & Subsistence**

*(for field visits only)* |  |  |  |  |
| 1. **Miscellaneous**
 |  |  |  |  |
| **GRAND TOTAL \*\*** |  |  |  |  |

\* **Full-time Research Students shall register at the PGIA for PhD degree programme under appropriate Board of Study.****\*\* Maximum duration of the research grant shall be 3 years** |
| 1. **Budget justification**
 |
| **16.1 Personnel***Requests for personnel for the proposed project should not be made unless they are absolutely necessary. The Investigators should indicate and justify the type of personnel required.*  |
| 1. Research Student\*
2. Full time for ……………………… years/ months
3. Detailed description of work to be carried out by the Research Student:
4. Research Student shall be registering for a PhD degree:
 |
| 1. Technical Assistant
2. Full time/part time for ……………………… years/ months
3. Detailed description of work to be carried out by the Technical Assistant:
 |
| 1. Labourers
2. No. of labourers required……………………………..
3. Time period ……………………… days/months per labourer
4. Detailed description of work to be performed:-
 |
| **16.2 Equipment***A complete description of equipment required and a full justification must be given. Indicate the make, type, model No., supplier, quantity etc. Also attach brochures.**Prices should be given in rupee equivalent (calculated at current exchange rate + 20%).* |
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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Equipment type/ Model/ Supplier** | **Qty** | **Estimated Cost (Rs.)** | **Availability of the Equipment at the Department/ Faculty/ Institution**  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| TOTAL |  |  |  |

**Justification for each Equipment for the project:** |
| **16.3 Consumables***Attach the list and give a complete description of type (eg: Chemicals, glassware specific to the project), quantity and estimated cost with justification. Avoid over-estimation and include only the necessary consumables for this project.*  |
|  |
| **16.4 Sample analysis** (if outsourced) |
|

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Year | Type of sample and analysis  | No. of samples | Estimated cost | Place of analysis |
| 1st Year |  |  |  |  |
| 2nd Year  |  |  |  |  |
| 3rd Year  |  |  |  |  |

 |
| **16.5 Statistical analysis** |
| Justification for requesting funds |
| **16.6 Postgraduate registration** Breakdown of fees during the project period *(Refundable deposits will not be reimbursed)* |
| 1st Year  |
| 2nd Year  |
| 3rd Year  |
| **16.7 Travel & Subsistence** *Funds can be requested only for field visits related to the project. Give a detailed breakdown for each year with justifications of the cost figures given in summary budget. Indicate no. of field visits, places to be visited and any other relevant details. As much as possible use vehicles of the PGIA for transport facilities. If vehicles are not available, then hire from the University of Peradeniya approved service providers.* |
| 1st Year

|  |
| --- |
| Travel  |
| Purpose of visits | Places to be visited | Distance (Km) | No. of visits | Total cost for transport |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

Subsistence for above field visits (please give calculation):  |
| 2nd Year

|  |
| --- |
| Travel  |
| Purpose of visits | Places to be visited | Distance (Km) | No. of visits | Total cost for transport |
|  |  |  |  |  |
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 Subsistence for above field visits (please give calculation): |
| 3rd Year

|  |
| --- |
| Travel  |
| Purpose of visits | Places to be visited | Distance (Km) | No. of visits | Total cost for transport |
|  |  |  |  |  |
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 Subsistence for above field visits (please give calculation): |
| **16.8 Miscellaneous***Give complete breakdown with estimated cost. Funds for miscellaneous should not exceed 10% of the total cost of the project. Funds for administrative cost and contingencies/ unforeseen expenses cannot be considered.* |
|

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Item/s | Justification | Estimated Cost |
| 1st Year | 2nd Year | 3rd Year | Total  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
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 |
| 1. **Special concerns in the review of the application**

*Applicants may indicate persons, that they think should not review the project for reasons of conflict, for consideration by PGIA.* |
|  |
| **18. Signatures of Investigators *(to be printed, signed, scanned and sent)*** |
| 1. **………………………………**

 (Principal Investigator)1. **………………………………**

 (Co-Investigator -1)1. **………………………………**

 (Co-Investigator -2)1. **………………………………**

 (Co-Investigator -3)1. **………………………………**

 (Co-Investigator -4)1. **………………………………**

 (Co-Investigator -5)1. **………………………………**

 (Co-Investigator -6)1. **………………………………**

 (Co-Investigator -7) | ……………………….........Date |
| **19. Recommendations *(to be printed, get it signed and send the scanned copy)*** |
| *When forwarding the application, the Signatories are expected to consider the following aspects:** *Principal Investigator is a permanent staff member*
* *No duplication in funding*
* *The applicant will be able to devote sufficient time to carry-out the project.*

***(If the applicants are from different Institutions, recommendations from each Institution should be submitted)*** |
| **19.1 For Principal Investigators from Universities** |
| I confirm that I have read the application and that the applicant is a permanent staff member and facilities will be made available for this project (Refer Item 15.2). The application is recommended.……………………………………………...…… …………………………..Name and Signature of Head of the Department Date |
| I recommend and forward the application.…………………………………….……………. …………………………..Signature of Dean of the Faculty Date |
| I recommend and forward the application.……………………………………….…………. …………………………..Signature of the Vice Chancellor Date |
| **19.2 For Principal Investigators from Institutions/Organizations (Other than Universities)** |
| *When forwarding the application, the Signatories are expected to consider the following aspects:** *Principal Investigator is a permanent staff member*
* *no duplication in funding*
* *the applicant will be able to devote sufficient time to carry-out the project.*

***(If the applicants are from different Institutions, recommendations from each Institution should be submitted)***I confirm that I have read the application and that the applicant is a permanent staff member and facilities will be made available for this project (Refer Item 15.2). The application is recommended and forwarded.…………………………………………….… …………………………..Signature of Head of Institution/Organization Date |
| **For Co-Investigators (from universities/other institutions)***If there are more than three Co-Investigators, please insert additional recommendations.* |
| **19.3 For Co-Investigator I** I confirm that I have read the application and that the facilities will be made available for this project (Refer Item 15.2). The application is recommended.…………………………………………….… …………………………..Signature of Head of Department/Institution Date **For Co-Investigator II** I confirm that I have read the application and that the facilities will be made available for this project (Refer Item 15.2). The application is recommended.…………………………………………….… …………………………..Signature of Head of Department/Institution Date **For Co-Investigator III** I confirm that I have read the application and that the facilities will be made available for this project (Refer Item 15.2). The application is recommended.…………………………………………….… …………………………..Signature of Head of Department/Institution Date |

**Annex 1**

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| --- |
| ***For Industry/s Collaborating with this Project***  |

 (To be filled by the Industry Partner)

|  |
| --- |
| **Name of the Company/s**AddressContact researcher/person: (Please attach a CV) |
| **Contribution of funds towards the project** |
| Vote/ Item | Amount (Rs.) |
|  |  |
| **Facilities that can be made available for the research project** |
|  **Office Laboratory/hrs per week**Space:Equipment:(Type)Other(Please specify) |
| Any other comments |

……………………………….. …………………………………………….

Date Name and Signature of the Industry Partner

**Annex 2**

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| ***Consent to be a Collaborator of a Research Project***  |

(To be signed by the Collaborator/s)

**Director**

**Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture**

**University of Peradeniya**

**Research Project on - ……………………………………………..**

This is to convey my willingness to work as a collaborator of the research project referred to above, supporting and contributing to the realization of the project objectives stated in the grant application.

I understand the support and assistance to be extended to the research team by providing necessary facilities and/or expert opinion and guidance to carry-out the project successfully.

Yours sincerely,

…………………………………….

(Signature)

Name of the Collaborator : ……………………………………………

**Annex 3**

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| ***Prevailing Rates of Payments for Estimation of the Budget*** |

1. Monthly allowance of Research Students

Registered for a PhD - Rs. 90,000/=

1. Monthly allowance of Technical Assistants

With G.C.E. (A/L) Qualifications - Rs. 40,000/=

 .

1. Subsistence rates – Have to be paid according to Government Circulars –

*Management Service Circular No. 34*

 Grantee - Maximum - Rs. 500/= (according to the salary)

 Research Students allowance - Rs. 500/=

 Technical Assistants allowance - Rs. 400/=

1. Travel – PGIA rate
2. Labourers - Rs. 739.53 + C.O.L Rs. 260.00 per day + Interim Allowance Rs. 76.13 - As per DMS 02/2016 Circular