email: inforcat@rajasthan.gov.in

R-CAT

website : rcat.rajasthan.gov.in

Rajasthan Centre of Advanced Technology
(A Registered Society established by the Government of Rajasthan)

No. F1.1(2)/RCAT/Corp/2022/166 Jaipur, Dated : 19-03-2025

Minutes of 4th Meeting of Executive Committee of Rajasthan Centre of Advanced Technology (R-CAT)

The 4th Meeting of the Executive Committee was held on 17th March, 2025 at 1:00 PM under the chairmanship of Commissioner, IT&C cum Managing Director, R-CAT to discuss and take the decision for the agenda points. Following Members were present during the Meeting: -

1	Sh. Arun Chauhan, Technical Director, DOIT&C	-	Member
2	Sh. Anil Kumar Singh, Director (Technical), RISL	-	Member
3	Sh. Ravindra Shukla, MD RKSL	-	Member
4	Sh. Sanjay Singhal, Executive Director, R-CAT	-	Member Secretary
5	Smt. Poonam Chaudhary CAO, DOIT&C	-	Member
6	Smt. Manoj Kanwar, DGM(F), R-CAT	-	Special Invitee

Discussion Points for the 4th Executive Committee Meeting:

TO ASCERTAIN THE VALID QUORUM

The quorum for the Executive Committee meeting of the society was confirmed. At the beginning of the meeting, the Member Secretary briefed the committee on the key achievements of R-CAT since the last committee meeting, as follows:

1. **Quiz-a-thon Scholarship**: In the past year, more than 10,000 students have applied for scholarships examinations, upon success in the Quiz-a-thons around 1800 students have been offered global certification courses at R-CAT and 200+ students have successfully cleared certifications. (this excludes the current Jan Quiz-a-thon numbers where about 2000 students have applied)
2. **Academic Partnerships**: Successfully completed academic partnership with 5 leading institutions like BTU, University of Rajasthan, Jagan Nath University, Arya University, IIS University.
3. **Industry Collaborations:** Industry partnerships have been developed with 4 world class organizations like ESRI, Google, Salesforce and AWS.
4. **SPOKE updates**: The construction of R-CAT's spoke centers at Kota, Ajmer, Udaipur and Bharatpur has been initiated and is nearing completion.
5. **Student Visits to R-CAT**: Welcomed 2500+ students for visits to R-CAT, providing a firsthand experience of the labs, learning resources, and training facilities.
6. **Placement Initiative**: One placement drive was conducted where more than 500 students attended the placement drive, received counseling, career guidance and 12 candidates were offered placements.
7. **State-of-the-Art COEs**: Facilitated establishment of CoEs (Cyber Security and Blockchain) in association with DoIT&C.
8. **State-of-the-Art Lab for research on psychology:** Established a Behavioral Lab in collaboration with IIM Udaipur. This facility will deliver courses/programs to government officers and Master/Ph.D.

level students to evaluate the impact of human behavior on policy making and research in Psychology related subjects.

9. **Learning Initiatives**: Conducted 5 webinars and more than 10 in-person workshops for students, industry professionals and government officers on emerging technologies and skill development, enhancing learning for thousands.
10. **Webinar Series initiated**: Facilitated Blockchain webinar series with CoE Blockchain to promote blockchain technology and its use-cases in day-to-day life. This has been initiated since the month of Feb 2024. This webinar happens every Wednesday.
11. **Industry-Backed Placement Program/Career Assured Program**: Empaneled HCL Tech to provide placement-assured training programs to 12th standard pass students of Rajasthan. The total cost of the program is INR 1,40,000 and INR 50,000 of this will be reimbursed by the Government of Rajasthan
12. **Credit Integration**: Successfully pursued with leading universities to integrate select R-CAT courses into the credit system of universities. Two leading universities have so far notified the credit integration, i) Mohanlal Sukhadia University (MLSU), and ii) Rajasthan University (RU) enabling students to earn academic credits for skill-based learning in emerging technologies.
13. **International Engagement:** International delegations visited from Torrens University from Australia, and a visiting team from ICT officials from Canada, expanding the global reach and opportunities for Rajasthan's students.
14. **Showcasing Innovation**: Successfully organized "R-CAT Tech Next" event, presenting R-CAT's achievements and ongoing initiatives to stakeholders. Hon'ble Minister of IT Shri Rajyavardhan Rathore visited R-CAT. He felicitated R-CAT alumni who have been well placed in the industry.
15. **IEC (Radio Visibility)**: R-CAT in partnership with JECRC 90.8 FM, held an engaging session for students on The Role of IT Innovation and Digital Literacy in Enhancing Skills for Media and Communication.'
16. **Government Training:** R-CAT conducted training for government officials on various emerging technologies like Cybersecurity, GIS and Blockchain. About 130+ government employees have been benefited from this program.
17. **FDP sessions:** A 5-day Faculty Development Program (FDP) was successfully conducted for educators across the state. The program saw active participation from 28 faculty members and featured in-depth discussions on Blockchain and Cybersecurity, covering key concepts and practical insights to enhance their knowledge and teaching capabilities.
18. **Deployment of personnels against sanctioned post of R-CAT society:** Personnel against sanctioned posts of GM, Dy GM (Admin, HR and Operations), Dy GM (Finance) and Deputy Manager (Finance) have been deployed in R-CAT.
19. **Outreach process:** The outreach process has been revamped to enhance engagement and participation. Under the new approach, (i) R-CAT representatives now connect with district-level colleges instead of limiting their efforts to division-level institutions. (ii) Outreach activities are now being taken care by Government Manpower along with PMU team. This strategic shift has resulted in a significant increase in participation in Quiz-a-thon event.
20. **Revised Quiz-a-thon process: R-CAT:** The Quiz-a-thon exam has undergone a significant revamp, introducing a new feature that allows colleges with significant number of registered students to conduct the exam directly on their campus. This change has resulted in a notable boost in

participation rates. Previously, only around 40% of registered students appeared for the test; however, this figure has now risen to approximately 70%, reflecting the positive impact of the new initiative.

The committee appreciated the efforts of the team, and with the chair's permission, all agenda items were presented to the Executive Committee members.

Agenda Point-1. To consider and approve amendments in Scholarship policy

The Executive Committee approved the R-CAT Scholarship Policy in its first meeting on 06.12.2022. Since the policy was framed, R-CAT's offerings have expanded, and over time, the need for certain provisions and guidelines has become apparent. The Member Secretary has informed the committee of the following:

a. The current provisions of the Scholarship Policy restrict students pursuing non-technical degree/diploma programs from availing scholarships. However, R-CAT has expanded its offerings to include courses in Digital Marketing, Designing, GIS, and other fields, which are equally beneficial to students in non-technical degree/diploma programs. Additionally, the OICs responsible for counselling qualified students have raised queries regarding eligibility. To address this, a committee chaired by the Executive Director has issued guidelines to provide clarity in the counselling process and recommended allowing students from non-technical degree/diploma courses to participate in Global Certification Courses, subject to the Executive Committee's approval (Annexure – I). The committee's recommendations are presented for post facto approval.
b. The current provisions of the Scholarship Policy allow any student to avail as many scholarships as they are eligible for, but not for the same course. However, it has been observed that some students are repeatedly receiving scholarships, thereby limiting opportunities for others to benefit. As a result, it has been decided that these students should not be allowed to participate in Quiz-A-Thon 2024 (4) and onwards. Additionally, the Quiz-A-Thon may be organized over a span of 3-7 days, with examination centres set up in institutions where a significant number of candidates are registered, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.
c. In light of the previous recommendations and decisions, following changes in current Scholarship Policy are proposed: -

    I. It has been observed that a significant number of students are being restricted to apply for scholarship due to condition of 65% in marks in their degree/diploma examination. Also Ph.D. Scholars are stand non eligible due to unavailability of last exam marks (within one academic year) and students having a gap of more than one year in their UG/PG course or diploma/degree course. Therefore, following amendment in clause 3 (VII)(a) is proposed: -

Existing Clause	Amended clause
Pursuing/Completed (Not more than one academic year) any regular technology degree/diploma from a recognised college/university of the state and has scored a minimum 65% in last year exam.	Pursuing any degree/diploma from a recognized college / university and has scored a minimum 60% marks* or equitant CGPA/SGPA/OGPA/grade in last semester/ yearly exam of pursuing course, provided that: -

	1. For Ph.D. Scholars minimum 60% marks in last degree/ diploma examination. or Completed any degree/diploma from a recognized college / university and has scored a minimum 60% marks* or equitant CGPA/SGPA/OGPA/grade in last semester/ yearly exam of completed course, provided that: - 1. Duration from date of declaration of last result and last date of registration for Quiz-A-Thon exam is not more than one year *If the fact of obtaining 60% or higher marks can be established by marks obtained mentioned in mark sheet or by any other means, that fact should be considered in decision making. Note: - in case candidate is perusing first Semester/Year of degree/diploma than minimum 60% marks in last degree/ diploma examination shall be considered. Provided that Last degree/diploma result declaration date must not be prior to 2 years from last date of registration for Quiz-A-Thon exam.

II. It has been observed that relying solely on the Quiz-A-Thon method is not enough to attract a larger number of students to avail scholarships and benefits. Therefore, it is proposed to introduce an additional method in the form of nominations from Government colleges and prominent institutions in the state. The following amendments are proposed for this purpose: :-

Amendment to Clause 3 (VIII): A new clause 3 (VIII) (C) shall be added as follows: (C) Nominated students from IIT Jodhpur, IIM Udaipur, IIIT Kota, MNIT Jaipur, and Government Colleges of the state.

Amendment to Clause 4 (II): After the existing point "f," the following points shall be inserted:

g. IIT Jodhpur, IIM Udaipur, IIIT Kota, MNIT Jaipur, and Government Colleges of the state may nominate their 20 students in each semester

for courses offered on scholarship by R-CAT. The selection criteria for these students shall be on merit basis by the concerned institute.

h. The number of nominations shall not exceed 20% of the total scholarship quota (currently 2200 students per financial year). Further in case of over subscription, selection of candidates shall be finalized by a committee under chairmanship of Executive Director on the basis of merit/marks and other criteria seems suitable.

III. R-CAT offers scholarships to eligible students, with budget provisions provided through Grant-in-aid by the State Government. To ensure the optimal use of these funds, it is essential to establish a mechanism or process for identifying eligible candidates. R-CAT has implemented two models for determining scholarship beneficiaries: (i) Any student may receive multiple scholarships (though not for the same course), and (ii) Any student may receive only one scholarship. Based on feedback and experiences from students and educational institutions, it has been concluded that a more flexible approach would be beneficial. This would allow students to have more than one opportunity, but prevent excessive scholarship allocations. To achieve this goal, the following amendment to Clause 6 (i) is proposed: :-

Existing expression shall be substituted with following expression "Any student who has availed the scholarship for one of the certification programs, shall not be eligible for any other scholarship in same FY, further any student who clears the Global Certification Examination may avail one more Scholarship."

The committee commended the efforts to expand opportunities for a larger number of students and resolved to approve the recommendations outlined in point 1(a) and the decision in point 1(b), along with all activities carried out based on these recommendations and decisions. Additionally, the committee approved the proposed amendments to the scholarship policy as outlined in 1(c)(I), (II), and (III).

Agenda Point-2. To consider and approve proposal of creating new short-term courses

Currently, R-CAT offers Globally Recognized Certification Courses in advanced and emerging technologies. These courses are provided by OEMs either directly or through their authorized training partners. The Member Secretary has informed the committee that these courses are specialized and cater to a limited number of beneficiaries. One of R-CAT's objectives is to upskill mid-career professionals, who often do not require in-depth technical training. Feedback from Government Departments and Educational Institutions suggests that R-CAT should introduce courses that provide a basic understanding of various technologies and their implementation for officials.

Therefore, it is proposed that R-CAT develop its own short-duration courses, such as 1, 2, 3, or 5-day programs. The target beneficiaries for these courses will include Government Employees, Private Sector Employees, Bank Staff, College/University Personnel, Associations, etc. These courses may be offered on a fee basis to the respective organizations. The course content will be approved by a committee at the Executive Director level, and the course fees will be approved by the SLC.

Resolved that, the proposal is approved.

Agenda Point-3. To consider and approve proposal of Empanelment of Faculty members

The committee was informed that, in order to conduct the courses offered by R-CAT (as per agenda item no. 2), the demand for qualified trainers will arise. During its meeting on 08.02.2024, the committee approved the payment of honorariums and other expenses to speakers participating in any knowledge sessions at R-CAT, and suggested that rules be established for this purpose, with approval from the Finance Department, GoR. The proposal, including the honorarium rates, is currently under process. Based on the requirements and details provided, it is proposed that R-CAT invite nominations from faculty members of Government and Private Universities, Colleges, Departments, Companies, etc. Faculty members will be selected on a need-and-availability basis to conduct lectures or classes for specific courses and will be compensated according to the rates approved by the Finance Department.

It was resolved that the committee approved the proposal and directed that a detailed procedure/rules for the empanelment of faculty members, assignment of classes, and payment of honorariums be developed and approved by the competent authority.

Agenda Point-4. To consider and approve proposal for amendments in financial and administrative powers of Executive Director

General Body of R-CAT has approved Schedule of Administrative and Financial Powers in its meeting dated 15.07.2024. In due course of time, some of the operational difficulties are observed. In this regard following amendments are proposed: -

a) Point no. 8 of Administrative Powers **(Current Provision)**

S.No.	Nature of Power	Extent of Powers to			Remarks
		Chairman	Vice Chairman (MD)	Executive Director	
8.	To declare any store as surplus, or obsolete/unserviceable and to dispose it off by sale/public auction, destruction, keeping in view the life prescribed for the articles		Full Power	Full Power	

Point no. 8 of Administrative Powers **(Proposed Provision)**

S.No.	Nature of Power	Extent of Powers to			Remarks
		Chairman	Vice Chairman (MD)	Executive Director	
8.	To declare any store as surplus, or obsolete/unserviceable and to dispose it off by sale/public auction, destruction, keeping in view the life prescribed for the articles		Full Power		Power shall be exercised as per GF&AR

b) Point no. 3 of Financial powers **(Current Provisions)**

S.No.	Nature of Power	Extent of Powers to			Remarks
		Chairman	Vice Chairman (MD)	Executive Director	
3	Sanction write off of losses.	Full Power up to Rs. 1,00,000			

Point no. 3 of Financial powers **(Proposed Provisions)**

S.No.	Nature of Power	Extent of Powers to			Remarks
		Chairman	Vice Chairman (MD)	Executive Director	
3	Sanction write off of losses.	Full Power	Up to Rs. 1,00,000		Power shall be exercised as per GF&AR

c) Point no. 18 of Financial powers **(Current Provisions)**

S.No.	Nature of Power	Extent of Powers to			Remarks
		Chairman	Vice Chairman (MD)	Executive Director	
18	To accord sanction for payment to experts as honorarium for delivering lectures or experts participating as resource personnel in seminar, symposium workshop organized by the company		Full Power		

Point no. 18 of Financial powers **(Proposed Provisions)**

S.No.	Nature of Power	Extent of Powers to			Remarks
		Chairman	Vice Chairman (MD)	Executive Director	
18	To accord sanction for payment to experts as honorarium for delivering lectures or experts participating as resource personnel in seminar, symposium, workshop, courses organized by the Society.		Full Power	Up to Rs. 1,00,000 Per Event/course	The rates of honorarium shall be approved by FD, GoR.

d) Point no. 26 of financial powers **(Current Provisions)**

S.No.	Nature of Power	Extent of Powers to			Remarks
		Chairman	Vice Chairman (MD)	Executive Director	
26	Municipal Rates & Taxes			Full Power	

Point no. 26 of Financial powers **(Proposed Provisions)**

S.No.	Nature of Power	Extent of Powers to			Remarks
		Chairman	Vice Chairman (MD)	Executive Director	
26	Municipal Rates, Taxes, Electricity, water & other utility charges (G2G) for R-CAT hub and Spokes.			Full Power	

e) Point no. 31 (a) of Financial powers **(Current Provisions)**

S.No.	Nature of Power	Extent of Powers to			Remarks
		Chairman	Vice Chairman (MD)	Executive Director	
31	a. Expenditure on refreshment during meeting, workshops & conferences		Full Power	Up to Rs. 50,000	

Point no. 31 (a) of Financial powers **(Proposed Provisions)**

S.No.	Nature of Power	Extent of Powers to			Remarks
		Chairman	Vice Chairman (MD)	Executive Director	
31	a. Expenditure on refreshment, **lunch** during meeting, workshop, conference **etc.**		Full Power	Up to Rs. 50,000 per event/ per order	

Note :

1. Amendments at 4 (a) and (b) are proposed to correct the typographical/clerical errors
2. Amendments at 4(C) are proposed to achieve operational smoothness, keeping in view that an event of maximum 5 days (40 Hrs.) like FDP may be arranged seamlessly, Special cases may be approved at the level of MD, R-CAT.
3. Amendments at 4(d), (e) are proposed to achieve operational smoothness.

Resolved that, the committee approved the proposed changes and suggested to obtain approval of General Body in the next meeting for the changes.

Agenda Point-5. To consider and approve proposal for Issuing EoI for Selection of New Industry Recognized Courses and Career Assured Programs

R-CAT has onboarded 15 industry partners to offer certification courses in various technologies provided by these partners. However, due to operational challenges, two partners have been off-boarded. This process was initiated through an Expression of Interest (EoI) issued by RISL to kickstart the initiative. Since R-CAT has been operating as an independent entity from FY 24-25, it is proposed to issue a new EoI to select additional technology partners.

Similarly, R-CAT has partnered with HCL Tech for Career Assured Programs aimed at Class 12th pass students. As one of R-CAT's primary objectives is to enhance the employability of youth, it is proposed to issue a new EoI for additional Career Assured Programs targeting Graduate and Postgraduate students.

As outlined in the agenda item, the Executive Committee reviewed the proposal and resolved to approve it for further action.

Agenda Point-6. To consider and approve Policy of arrangement of Refreshment/High Tea/Lunch in Training Programs/ Workshops/Seminars/Sessions of R-CAT.

R-CAT offers a range of activities and courses to various beneficiaries, which may require provisions such as tea/coffee, light refreshments, lunch, stationery, and other related items. Currently, there are no specific guidelines for making these arrangements. To streamline the process and ensure consistency, the following arrangements are proposed:

S.No	Activity	Beneficiaries	Duration	Proposed Arrangements
1	Students Visits	1. Students 2. Accompanying Faculty/staff members of concerned institution 3. R-CAT staff/partners involved in activity	4-5 Hrs.	Per Event 1. Tea/Coffee with refreshment (upto Rs. 30 per person) 2. Gifts for maximum 5 winners / performers in quiz or any other activity during visit and not more than 150 Rs. Each gift item.
2	Offline Seminar/workshop/ Training/conference etc.	1. Trainers/Speakers 2. Govt. officials 3. Faculty/staff of Educational Institutions 4. Employees of private	4-5 Hrs	Per Event 1. Tea/Coffee with refreshment (upto Rs. 30 per person) 2. Notepad and Pen (for Participants

S.No	Activity	Beneficiaries	Duration	Proposed Arrangements
		organisations/ companies/ startups etc. 5. Students		only)
			8 Hrs./ full day	Per Day 1. Tea/Coffee with cookies in forenoon 2. Lunch 3. Tea/Coffee with cookies in afternoon 4. Folder, Notepad and Pen (for Participants only)
3	Faculty Development Program	1. Participants 2. Trainers/Speakers 3. R-CAT staff/partners involved in activity	5 days (40 Hrs.)	Per Day 1. Tea/Coffee with cookies in forenoon 2. Lunch 3. Tea/Coffee with cookies in afternoon 4. Folder, Notepad and Pen (for Participants only at Initial day only)
4	Awareness Sessions	1. Students 2. Accompanying Faculty/staff members of concerned institution 3. Govt. officials 4. Employees of private organisations/ companies/start ups etc. 5. R-CAT staff/partners involved in activity	2-3 Hrs	Per Event 1. Tea/Coffee with cookies 2. Gifts for maximum 5 winners/performers in quiz or any other activity during visit and not more than 150 Rs. Each gift item.
5	Counselling	1. Students 2. Accompanying parents/guardians 3. R-CAT staff/partners involved in activity	8 Hrs./ full day	Per Day 1. Tea/Coffee with cookies

Executive Committee **resolved that** the proposal is approved and R-CAT administration may work as per the proposal.

Agenda Point-7. To Consider and approve Annual Quiz-A-Thon examination Calendar

R-CAT conducts an MCQ-based entrance test for selecting candidates to receive scholarships. To streamline the process, ensure timely operations, and encourage greater youth participation, the following proposals are made:

1. R-CAT will organize the Quiz-A-Thon on a quarterly basis, in May, August, November, and February.
2. This schedule will be effective starting from April 2025.
3. Key dates for the events, such as registration opening, closing, and examination dates, will be decided by the Executive Director.
4. In cases where other events, such as university exams, college fests, or winter/summer/semester breaks, may impact student participation, the Managing Director may decide to reschedule the Quiz-A-Thon.

The Executive Committee resolved that the annual examination calendar will enforce time-bound activities in the best interest of the students and approved the proposal.

Agenda Point-8. Any other agenda with the permission of chair.

Following additional agenda were presented during the meeting with permission of the chairperson

1. **Payment of Electricity Bill :** R-CAT is currently operating from the Soochna Kendra premises on a shared basis. Since its inception, R-CAT has not obtained a separate electricity connection, as it does not own the building. At present, the electricity bill is issued in the name of the Dy. Director, Soochna Kendra, and is being paid by R-CAT. This matter has been previously discussed with officers from DIPR/Soochna Kendra and the MD of R-CAT, but no significant progress has been made. Given that R-CAT occupies a larger portion of the building and consumes more electricity, and since the electricity bill payment is a government-to-Government transaction, it is proposed that R-CAT continue to pay the electricity bill as per the current practice.

The Executive Committee resolved that the payment of the electricity bill is essential, as failure to pay may lead to the discontinuation of services. Further R-CAT occupies a larger portion of the building and consumes larger part and no rent or lease charges are being paid by R-CAT to Soochna Kendra/DIPR Therefore, committee approved that R-CAT may continue to pay the bills as per the current practice and DIPR authorities should be apprised accordingly.

2. **Canteen Services at R-CAT:** The Executive Committee has approved allowing a start-up to operate the canteen on the premises, with the waiver of any security deposits for two years. It is important to note that the grounds for these relaxations have remained unchanged. Therefore, it is proposed to permit a start-up to provide canteen services at the R-CAT premises.

The Executive Committee has determined that canteen services are crucial for the Centre. It was decided that these services may be procured from a start-up specializing in the food service industry and registered under iStart. To facilitate this, an Expression of Interest (EoI) may be issued. Additionally, the Committee has agreed to waive the security deposit and any other charges permitted under the RTPP rules and Startup policy.

3. **Creation of Income Sources:** To achieve financial independence, it is proposed that R-CAT impose a charge of 15% of the training cost for the following:

   a) Conducting training on behalf of DoIT&C/RISL or any other Department/Institute/ Organization.
   b) Conducting training for students on a payment basis or under Courses on Credit.

   Additionally, R-CAT may offer its premises/facilities to other departments, institutes, or organizations, with the charges for this to be determined separately.

The Executive Committee resolved that, to make the society self-sustaining, the proposed activities should be a key initiative. The committee approved the proposal.

4. **Financial power at Spoke Level:** The Committee was informed that the establishment of R-CAT Spokes Centres in Kota, Udaipur, Bharatpur, and Ajmer is in the final stages. The infrastructure development at these locations will be completed soon. To support activities at these centres, it is proposed to make budgetary provisions for the spokes.

The Executive Committee reviewed the proposal and approved to transfer a fund of Rs. 50,000/- to concerned districts offices of DoIT&C under OE. Concerned officers may meet out office expenses of R-CAT spoke from this budget and shall submit a Utilization Certificate.

The meeting was concluded by the Member Secretary of the society, who summarized the resolutions and extended a vote of thanks to the present Executive Committee members.

Manoj Kanwar
Dy. GM (Finance), R-CAT

Poonam Choudhary
Chief Accounts officer, DoIT&C

Sanjay Singhal
Executive Director, R-CAT

Ravindra Shukla
MD, RKCL

Anil Kumar Singh
Director (T), RISL

Arun Chauhan
Technical Director, DoIT&C

Archana Singh
MD, R-CAT