NCS-TCP Site Visits for Strengthening Quality Assurance in Tissue Culture during FY 2026–27

The **National Certification System for Tissue Culture Raised Plants (NCS-TCP)**, implemented by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India, plays a vital role in ensuring the availability of **virus-free, disease-free and genetically uniform planting material** for Indian agriculture and horticulture. Through a structured framework of facility assessment, laboratory testing and certification, NCS-TCP strengthens quality assurance across the tissue culture industry.



During the **first two quarters of FY 2026–27**, the Expert Committee of NCS-TCP, conducted sixty-seven site visits to **Tissue Culture Production Facilities (TCPFs)** across different regions of the country as part of the recognition and renewal process. The assessments focused on technical capabilities, infrastructure, production practices, quality-control systems, documentation and compliance with prescribed NCS-TCP standards.

The visits also facilitated direct interaction between NCS-TCP experts and tissue culture producers, enabling the provision of technical guidance on strengthening quality-control systems, addressing identified deficiencies and improving production practices.

The first two quarters of FY 2026–27 witnessed substantial field engagement under NCS-TCP, covering facilities seeking both new recognition and renewal of recognition. The assessment process has supported timely regulatory decision-making while maintaining the scientific rigour, integrity and credibility of the national certification system.

These efforts are particularly important in view of the expanding role of tissue culture technology in the production of quality planting material for important horticultural and plantation crops. By strengthening certification at the production-facility level, NCS-TCP contributes to the availability of quality planting material for farmers and supports agricultural productivity, sustainability and the growth of India's biotechnology-driven agricultural sector.

The continued field assessments demonstrate NCS-TCP's commitment to science-based certification, industry engagement, continuous improvement and quality assurance, thereby contributing to a stronger and more reliable tissue culture ecosystem across India.

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