

Veterinary Council of India

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Veterinary Council of India held on 26/5/2026 at 12.00 Noon (Virtual mode).

MINUTES

The following Members of VCI were present:

1.	Dr. Umesh Chandra Sharma	-	President
2.	Dr. P.H. Tank	-	Member
3.	Dr. Niteen Patil	-	Member
4.	Dr. K. C. Veeranna	-	Member
5.	Dr. Jatinder Paul Singh Gill	-	Member
6.	Dr. Sujit K. Dutta	-	Member
7.	Dr. Falguni S.Thakar	-	Member
8.	Dr. Vasava Kirankumar	-	Member
9.	Dr. Geetha Priya L	-	Member
10.	Dr. Amit Nain	-	Member
11.	Dr. D. Thanigaivelu	-	Member
12.	Dr. Sushantha Rai	-	Member
13.	Dr. Gurucharan Datta	-	Member
14.	Dr. Vijay Kumar	-	Member
15.	Dr. Dandeswar Deka	-	Member
16.	Dr. Rajendra Gulabrao Bambal	-	Secretary, VCI (Addl.charge)

Members namely Dr. Ingale Sandip Vinayak Rao (Vice-President), Dr. P.S. Patel, Dr. Danjan Longri and Dr. Indrajit Singh could not join the meeting.

At the outset, the Secretary, VCI (Addl. Charge) welcomed all the Members of the Veterinary Council of India and meeting commenced with permission of the Chair.

1. To consider the Draft Veterinary Clinical Practice Establishment (Registration and Regulations) Act.

The Council considered the Draft Veterinary Clinical Practice Establishment (Registration and Regulations) Act.

The Council noted that this Draft Act was prepared in view of Minutes of the meeting dated 20.4.2026 held under the Chairmanship of Secretary(AHD), Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India wherein it was desired that the Draft Bill of Clinical Veterinary Establishment is to be prepared by VCI and get the same approved by the Council for submission to DAHD by 31.5.2026.

In view of above, Council gone through the draft provision of Veterinary Clinical Practice Establishment Registration and Regulation Act and after detailed deliberations, Council approved the draft for submission to the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India through DO letter from President, VCI.



A copy of Draft Veterinary Clinical Practice Establishment (Registration and Regulations) Act is enclosed at Annexure-1 of this Minutes.

2. To consider the letter No.K-11/80/2025-LH (E-35173) dated 7/5/2026 received from the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India regarding change in nomenclature of St. Petersburg University, Russia.

The Council noted that office of Council vide email letter dated 02.4.2026 forwarded the Draft order for vetting of the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Government of India which is to be issued by this Council in compliance of order dated 27.11.2025 passed by the Hon'ble High Court of Andhra Pradesh in CWP No.3052 of 2023 titled "K Pavana Teja Vs. Union of India & others".

The Department vide letter dated 7/5/2026 informed to this Council that the Draft order sent by the Council for vetting is returned with direction to revisit the Draft order in light of Hon'ble High Court order dated 27.11.2025, the issue of Change of the name involved and pass an appropriate order being Respondent No.2 within prescribed time.

The Council considered the aforesaid Department letter along with judgement dated 27.11.2025 and the relevant portion of the judgement is as under:

"The petitioner must demonstrate that the Saint Petersburg Academy is a recognised institution equivalent to Saint Petersburg University and that this change did not impact the course's accreditation status during his enrolment.

Therefore, the Writ Petition is disposed of by setting aside the impugned proceedings dated 21-12-2022, by directing the petitioner to produce relevant material with regard to change of academy to that of Saint Petersburg University before the 2nd respondent, within a period of six (6) weeks from the date of receipt of copy of the order. Thereafter, the 2nd respondent shall consider and pass appropriate orders within a period of eight (8) weeks and the respondents are further directed to give an opportunity of hearing to the petitioner before a decision is taken by the 2nd respondent. No order as to costs."

The Council also noted that the Education Committee of this Council has thoroughly examined the matter in its meeting held on 24.3.2026 wherein Petitioner was given an opportunity to represent their facts as per aforesaid judgement. The decision of Education Committee was as under:

"The Committee gone through the judgement dated 27.11.2025 passed by the Hon'ble High Court in the W.P. No.3052/2023 filed by Mr. Pavana Teja Kotari wherein Union of India was Respondent No.1, Veterinary Council of India was Respondent No.2 and the Andhra Pradesh State Veterinary Council was Respondent No.3.

The Committee gone through the documents provided by the Petitioner vide his letter dated 09.3.2026 and observed as under:

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1. The language of study, teaching, examination and grades throughout the entire period of study was Russian as per document dated 11.2.2026 translated in English Version.
2. The duration of course of the Petitioner was for a period of five years at the St. Petersburg State University of Veterinary Medicine.
3. The period of practical training (internship) was three and half months during the entire course curriculum. Internship in the first, second and third years of study lasted for two week per each year and in the fourth fifth years of study lasted for one month per each year.
4. The following departments were not under the course curriculum of Petitioner namely Livestock Production Management (LPM), Livestock Products Technology (LPT), Animal Husbandry Extension (AHE) and Veterinary Medicine (VMD).

The Committee noted that the Council as per provision of Section 22(1) of the IVC Act, 1984 and with prior approval of the Central Government has framed Veterinary Council of India (Minimum Standards of Veterinary Education – Degree Course (B.V.Sc.&A.H.) Regulations, 2016 which prescribe minimum standards required for a veterinary college for 80 admissions annually to B.V.Sc. & A.H course. That the degree course of B.V.Sc. & A.H comprises of course of study consisting of curriculum and syllabus provided in Minimum Standards of Veterinary Education – Degree Course (B.V.Sc.&A.H.) Regulations, 2016 spread over five and half years including a compulsory internship of twelve months duration undertaken after successful completion of all courses provided in the syllabus.

Further, these Regulations also provides the medium of instruction shall be in English.

The Committee during the meeting interacted with the Petitioner on what was the medium of instruction in DVM course imparted by Saint Petersburg State University of Veterinary Medicine, duration of course, duration of internship, details of course curriculum imparted during DVM programme, Whether separate external and internal examination for theory and practical courses are held and their weightage and various disease of livestock learned during the course.

The Petitioner informed that the medium of instruction in DVM course is in Russian language. The duration for course is five years. In respect of duration of internship, he has informed that the period of practical training (internship) was three and half months during entire period of study for first to fifth years. On enquiry about the submission of detailed course curriculum, he has informed that he had already requested the university earlier in this regard as per VCI letter and University provided only the information as submitted by him. Further, he has also not assured that he will be able to provide the same in due course of time. Regarding details of separate external and internal examination, he has informed that there is no such explicit provision in DVM programme and there is no clear cut demarcation of



theory and practical in the aforesaid programme and in respect of various diseases of livestock learned during the course as per the course curriculum.

The Committee after detailed discussions and deliberation with the representative of Respondent No.1 & 3, observed as under:

- (1) The medium of instructions of DVM course is in Russian language whereas in India BVSc & AH are taught in English.
- (2) The entire course programme of BVSc & AH course are of five and half years as per VCI – MSVE Regulations, 2016, whereas duration of DVM course is five years.
- (3) The duration of internship programme in India for B.V.Sc. & A.H. programme as per VCI – MSVE Regulations, 2016 is twelve months after completion of entire BVSc & AH course programme, whereas, there is no such internship programme in DVM course in view of documents provided by the Petitioner and personal hearing since the three and half months internship programme is virtually a practical classes in DVM course spread over five years.
- (4) There is no department in DVM course like LPM, LPT, AHE and VMD. Whereas as per BVSc & AH course, these four departments are essential part for BVSc & AH course programme.
- (5) The Petitioner has also failed to demonstrate detailed course curriculum which have been taught in DVM programme. Hence, Committee was unable to comment whether the courses offered during DVM programme was equivalent to BVSc & AH course.

In view of aforesaid observation, the Committee unanimously decided not to consider DVM degree awarded by Saint Petersburg State University of Veterinary Medicine to be considered as recognized under the provision of Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984 for granting registration."

The aforesaid decision was approved by the Council in its meeting held on 28.4.2026.

The Council submitted the aforesaid decision to the Department (Respondent No.1) for its vetting vide this Council email letter dated 02.4.2026. However, Department informed to this Council to revisit the order in light of Hon'ble High Court order dated 27.11.2025.

In view of above, Council again examined the matter in detail and observed as under:

1. The language of study, teaching, examination and grades throughout the entire period of study of the Petitioner was in Russian language as per the document dated 11.2.2026 translated in English version which was provided by the Petitioner during Education Committee meeting held on 09.3.2026 and hearing given to the Petitioner on 24.3.2026.
2. The duration of course of the Petitioner was for a period of five years at the St. Petersburg State University of Veterinary Medicine.



3. The period of practical training (internship) was three and half months during the entire course curriculum, internship in the first, second and third years of study lasted for two weeks per each year and in the fourth and fifth years of study lasted for one month per each year.
4. As per provision of Section 22(1) of the IVC Act, 1984 and with prior approval of the Central Government has framed Veterinary Council of India (Minimum Standards of Veterinary Education – Degree Course (B.V.Sc.&A.H.) Regulations, 2016 which prescribe minimum standards required for a veterinary college for 80 admissions annually to B.V.Sc. & A.H course. That the degree course of B.V.Sc. & A.H comprises of course of study consisting of curriculum and syllabus provided in Minimum Standards of Veterinary Education – Degree Course (B.V.Sc.&A.H.) Regulations, 2016 spread over five and half years including a compulsory internship of twelve months duration undertaken after successful completion of all courses provided in the syllabus.
5. The following departments were not under the course curriculum of Petitioner namely Livestock Production Management (LPM), Livestock Products Technology (LPT), Animal Husbandry Extension (AHE) and Veterinary medicine (VMD). Whereas aforesaid Departments is an integral part of BVSc & AH course under VCI Regulations, 2016.
6. As per VCI Regulations, 2016, the medium of instruction shall be in English in BVSc & AH course. Whereas, DVM course which is awarded by the St. Petersburg State University of Veterinary Medicine, Russia is in Russian language.
7. The Council noted that the DVM qualification granted by St. Petersburg State Academy of Veterinary Medicine, Russia is a recognized veterinary qualification as per provision of IVC Act, 1984 since the same is included in the Second Schedule in the aforesaid Act. However, nomenclature of the University has been changed in the year 2020 from "St. Petersburg State Academy of Veterinary Medicine" to "St. Petersburg State University of Veterinary Medicine". The same is not included in the Second Schedule of the IVC Act, 1984.
8. The Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Government of India vide Gazette Notification dated 23.12.2025 notified the Veterinary Council of India (Foreign Veterinary Graduate Regulations) Rules, 2025. These Rules provides registration of foreign veterinary graduate with certain riders and one of the rider is that the candidate has successfully undergone and completed an internship programme for a minimum duration of twelve months in India.
9. From the documents provided by the Petitioner, it came to the knowledge of the Council that the Ministry of Agriculture of Russian Federation vide order dated 20.3.2020 changed the name from "St. Petersburg State Academy of Veterinary Medicine" to "St. Petersburg State University of Veterinary Medicine".
10. The Council also noted that the Petitioner had taken admission in the aforesaid institution before the year 2020. Hence, Petitioner might have taken admission as the DVM qualification granted by St. Petersburg State Academy of Veterinary Medicine was recognized qualification as per Second Schedule of the Act. However, name of the University was

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changed during the course of his study i.e. in the year 2020 which is not included in the Second Schedule.

11. As per provision of Section 46 of the IVC Act, 1984, registration shall be granted only to those practitioners who holds recognized veterinary qualifications and resides in the State. Further, as per provision of Section 2(e) of the IVC Act, 1984 recognized veterinary qualification means any of veterinary qualifications included in the First Schedule or the Second Schedule. Further, Section 16(1) deals with the veterinary qualification granted by veterinary institutions outside India which are included in Second Schedule shall be recognized veterinary qualification for the purpose of IVC Act, 1984. Hence, for granting of registration under the provision of IVC Act, 1984, the change of name is required to be included in the Second Schedule of the IVC Act, 1984.

Hence, Council after detailed deliberations and in view of above observations, decided to recommend to the Central Government for amendment in Second Schedule and recommendations are as under:

- i. At Sr.No.13 at Column 3 - The DVM (Doctor of Veterinary Medicine) qualification awarded by St. Petersburg State Academy of Veterinary Medicine shall be considered as recognized only on or before 19.3.2020. since the name of St. Petersburg State Academy of Veterinary Medicine has been changed to St. Petersburg State University of Veterinary Medicine w.e.f 20.3.2020.
- ii. New entry at Sr. no.14 - The DVM (Doctor of Veterinary Medicine) qualification awarded by St. Petersburg State University of Veterinary Medicine shall be considered as recognized only when granted on or after 20.3.2020 but before 22.12.2025 [with the rider that the students passing from the said University shall undergo internship programme/ practical training for a period of one year in the recognized veterinary college/ veterinary institutions in India to the satisfaction of the Registrar of the concerned State/UT Veterinary Council before granting registration under Section 46 of the IVC Act, 1984].

Explanation (1) – rider has been imposed as the person passing out the aforesaid institutions are not undergoing internship programme for a period of one year which is mandatorily required under the provision of IVC Act, 1984 for BVSc. & AH course programme. Hence, rider has been proposed to impose for one year internship programme in India.

(2) Cut-off date 22.12.2025 has been taken in view of the notification dated 23.12.2025 issued by the Central Government for recognition of foreign veterinary graduate for the purpose of granting registration under the provision of IVC Act, 1984. Further, DVM course is of five years and the nomenclature of the institution has been changed on 20.3.2020. Hence, it has been assumed that the students already admitted prior to 20.3.2020 shall have completed their DVM course on or before 23.12.2025.



The Council further decided that above decision shall be conveyed to the Central Government (Respondent No.1), Petitioner as well as Registrar, Andhra Pradesh State Veterinary Council (Respondent No.3) within three days from the finalization of the Minutes of this Special meeting.

3. To consider the Order dated 1/4/2026 passed by the Hon'ble High Court of Andhra Pradesh at Amaravati in Writ Petition No: 5796 of 2026 filed by Dr. Harsha Pandrangi, S/o P.K.D. Prasad, Age 29 Yrs, Occ. Unemployed, R/o 8-42, Near Syamalamba Temple, Kaikaluru, Andhra Pradesh.

The Council considered the Order dated 1/4/2026 passed by the Hon'ble High Court of Andhra Pradesh at Amaravati in Writ Petition No: 5796 of 2026 filed by Dr. Harsha Pandrangi, S/o P.K.D. Prasad, Age 29 Yrs, Occ. Unemployed, R/o 8-42, Near Syamalamba Temple, Kaikaluru, Andhra Pradesh and decision of the Council has been recorded under Item no.2 of this Minutes and decision shall be conveyed to the Petitioner.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to Chair.

Prepared by:

(Dr. R.G. Bambar)
Secretary, VCI (Addl. Charge)

Authenticated by

(Dr. Umesh Chandra Sharma)
President, VCI

Dr. Umesh Chandra Sharma
President
Veterinary Council of India
New Delhi

Dated:
Place: New Delhi