

Dinesha Jayasooriya
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JSP Scholarship selection committee,
CIGAR
Germany

Dear Sir/madam,

I'm Dinesha Jeewanthy Jayasooriya, a master's student at Weihenstephan-Triesdorf University of Applied Sciences in Germany, studying in the International Master of Farm Management program. I graduated from the University of Sri Jayewardenepura in Sri Lanka with a Bachelor of Biosystems Technology (Honours) with a focus on Agricultural and Environmental Technology. My strong dedication to enhancing the sustainability and economic resilience of paddy farming in my native country has been influenced by my academic and professional experiences.

Growing up in a small Sri Lankan village where paddy farming is both the primary source of income and a component of our culture, I was able to observe firsthand the difficulties farmers face as a result of climate change, particularly the lack of water. My enthusiasm for agricultural innovation that supports smallholder farmers was sparked by these early encounters. I was able to mentor students while further understanding how scientific research can offer workable solutions to agricultural problems while working as a Teaching Assistant at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura's Faculty of Technology after earning my bachelor's degree.

Currently, for my Master's thesis, I am conducting research on the "Economic Effectiveness of Paddy Cultivation under Different Farming Methods Focusing on Seed and Water Requirements in the Anuradhapura District, Sri Lanka." The objective of my study is to identify cost-effective and resource-efficient farming practices that can enhance productivity while conserving water, a crucial step toward sustainable rice production in Sri Lanka. To execute my field experiments and collect primary data, I need to travel to Sri Lanka. However, the financial costs involved exceed my current means as a self-funded international student. The JSP CIGAR Scholarship would greatly support me in carrying out high-quality research and achieving meaningful results that can benefit paddy farmers in water-scarce regions.

I am deeply committed to applying my knowledge and research outcomes to contribute to the advancement of sustainable agriculture in Sri Lanka and beyond. I sincerely hope for your consideration of my application.

Thank you very much for your time and support.

Yours faithfully,
Dinesha Jeewanthy Jayasooriya

