

Proceedings of the Celebration of Seventh Foundation Day of the PPV & FR Authority and Fifth Review Meeting of the DUS test Centers and Projects held on 11th -12th November, 2011 at NBPGR, New Delhi

A meeting to review the progress of DUS test centers and projects was organized by the Authority on 11-12 November, 2011 at Dr. B.P. Pal Auditorium of NBPGR, New Delhi. The meeting was coincided with celebration of 7th foundation day of the Authority in the forenoon of 11th Nov, 2011. More than 150 participants representing different DUS test centers and projects of the Authority including PD/PC/ Nodal/Co-Nodal officers, Chairmen of the DUS monitoring teams, officers from the DAC, ICAR, NBPGR, IARI, New Delhi and other relevant organizations attended the event. The list of the participants is at **Annexure-I**. The detailed program of the meeting is enclosed as **Annexure-II**.

The proceedings of the meeting are as under:-

A. Inaugural Session

1. Dr. Manoj Srivastava, Registrar, PPV and FR Authority welcomed Dr. R.S. Paroda, Chief Guest and Chairman, Haryana Kissan Ayog, and Trust for Assessment of Agricultural Services (TAAS), Shri. P.K. Basu, Guest of Honour and Secretary (A&C), Dr. P.L. Gautam, Chairperson, PPV and FR Authority, Dr. Gurbachan Singh, Chairman, Agricultural Scientist Recruitment Board (ASRB), Shri Prem Narain, Senior Advisor, Planning Commission, Dr. K.C. Bansal, Director, NBPGR and other distinguished delegates from DAC, ICAR, IARI, SAUs. He also welcomed PD/PC, Nodal and Co-Nodal Officers of different DUS test Centres and Projects including Officers representing MSSRF, Gene Campaign, VAANGHAI, IEED and other NGOs. He presented the overall progress of Authority in various fields and mentioned that Govt. of India has issued gazette notification of another 9 crop species thereby increasing the species to 54 and the Authority has issued 305 certificate of Registration of plant varieties.
2. Dr. K. C. Bansal, Director, NBPGR, New Delhi applauded the progress made by PPV & FR Authority within a short span of six years from the year of its establishment and the role played by NBPGR in various areas like registration of Extant Varieties, database expansion, establishment of Gene Bank etc. The NBPGR is always supportive to the Authority and represented in many technical committees constituted by the Authority in view of its close linkage.
3. Dr. Gurubachan Singh, Chairman, ASRB (ICAR), informed that he has been associated with the Authority as one of the official member in the capacity of Agriculture Commissioner, DAC, Ministry of Agriculture, New Delhi. He was happy to note that the Authority is an important statutory body in the field of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in Agriculture and doing great services to the plant breeders, researchers and the farming community. He underscored that during his last one year association with the Authority, he had taken several important decisions including the recognition and rewards to the farming community as Plant Genome Savior Community Award, expeditious registration

of varieties, inclusion of new genera and species for registration and also construction of PPV & FR Authority Campus.

4. ShriPremNarain, Senior Advisor, Planning Commission in his introductory remarks informed that during his tenure as Registrar General of the Authority he realized several challenges with regards to manpower, space, and infrastructure and issues related to registration of EDVs, transgenic varieties, VCKs, etc. In spite of challenges, the Authority has successfully handled the situation and developed network institutions for DUS testing, infrastructure, DUS test guidelines and undertook large scale awareness program for the benefits of the farmers and the society.
5. Dr. P. L. Gautam, Chairperson, PPV & FR Authority appreciated the contributions of former Chairperson of the Authority, Dr. S. Nagarajan and decisions taken by him in various areas. Dr. Gautam informed that the Authority has been allotted a piece of land near Harbhajan Enclave and a contract has been awarded to an agency for construction of PPV & FR Authority Campus. He thanked the DAC, ICAR, NBPGR and all the DUS test centres for their constant support and guidance. DUS testing is a great vision on the part of the experts of the National Agricultural Research System and Govt. of India which started since 1999 and, thereafter, institutionalized by the Authority. He also informed that several technical committees and task forces have been constituted for developing DUS test guidelines of new crop species, Farmers' Rights, etc. He requested the DUS test centres and projects to take effective steps for conducting the DUS tests of the varieties with proper reference collection and also keep an eye on the maintenance breeding of the reference varieties. He appreciated the sincere work of the officers and staff of the Authority.
6. Shri P. K. Basu, Secretary (A&C) highlighted the role played by Dr. S. Nagarajan and Dr. Gautam in the development of the PPV&FR Authority. He was happy to note that the Authority has enlarged its basket with new genera and species under the ambit of the Act to enable registration of notified crop species of varieties. He observed that the our National Agricultural Research System is the one of the strongest in world with best minds and efforts should be made to deliver quality research for the farmers' of the country to uplift their social and economic status. The PPV & FR Authority has an important role to play especially in the area of registration of new varieties traditional and farmers' varieties. The registration of these varieties could serve as precious raw material for development of new varieties and open avenues for benefit sharing. He had full confidence that the under the leadership of Dr. Gautam, the Authority will touch new horizons.
7. Dr. R. S. Paroda, Chairman, Haryana Kisan Ayog and TAAS in his key note address mentioned that the Govt. of India moved forward in IPR in Agriculture by establishing, PPV& FR Authority, under the PPV&FR Act, 2001. It is an important organization of the country which came into existence after a lot of hard work made by the experts of several organizations. It is a unique Act in

the world where Farmers' Rights are being given due recognition at par with the breeders'rights with regards to their contributions in the conservation of traditional, farmers' varieties and land races. Dr. Paroda shared his long association with the finalization of the PPV & FR Act and Biological Diversity Act, 2002. The ICAR has played an important role in providing DUS centers in the ICAR system and State Agriculture University and these DUS testing centres are playing important role in Protection of Plant Varieties. He said that the country has travelled from an era of free exchange of germplasm in the past to a new era of protection of plant varieties in the shape of PBRs. He observed that India has the strongest agriculture research system in the world and concerted efforts should be made to register all the new and extant materials as well as farmers' varieties and landraces. He also advocated early enactment of the Seed Bill, 2004. He was happy to note the Authority has established the Plant Genome Savior Community Awards for the farming communities. He suggested a road map for the Authority as under:-

- a) *All the extant varieties should be registered at faster rate in single go as these are precious material of the public sector and should be protected in our own interest.*
- b) *The Farmers varieties of the public domain should also be included in the database of the PPV & FR Authority.*
- c) *The DNA fingerprinting of all the important crop varieties should be available with the Authority.*
- d) *The Authority should strengthen its legal system of protection with best manpower in its own interest.*
- e) *It should strengthen its manpower infrastructure, institutional mechanism and the capacity building especially of DUS centres.*
- f) *The Authority should get associated with NBPGR for developing genebank in permafrost conditions.*
- g) *The Authority should converge and synthesize its various programs and schemes with other Organizations of similar objectives such as ICAR, CSIR and National Biodiversity Authority etc.*

8. A list of Awardees who were conferred various awards on the seventh foundation day for various activities is at **Annexure -III**.

B. Technical Sessions

B.1. Action Taken Report of 4th Review meeting of DUS test Centres and Projects

The ATR of 4th review meeting held on Feb 25, 2011 at NASC, New Delhi is as under:-

Sl. No	Recommendation	Action Taken
1	The ways under which a parental material of a hybrid may be registered under PPV & FR Act was recommended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parental lines of a hybrid which has been notified under the Seeds Act, 	The Authority is already implementing this decision while examining the applications received

	<p>1966 or otherwise commercialised and the date of notification / commercialization is within one year from the date of filing may be filed as New varieties.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parental lines of a hybrid which have not been notified under the Seeds Act, 1966 or otherwise commercialised and the date of notification / commercialization is more than one year from the date of filing may be filed as VCK if the notification / commercialization is within 13 years from the date of filing of the parental line. • Parental lines which have not been exploited for developing any hybrid may be filed as New varieties. 	for registration.
2	DUS test guidelines of existing crop species need to be revisited.	PPV&FRA has constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. M. Mahadevappa to revisit the DUS guidelines for species notified time to time where some bottleneck has been observed. DUS centres are required to submit their proposals with proper justification for the particulars for which amendments are required for additions/deletions supporting with 3 years field data. (Action :- DUS centres, Registrar-I)
3	The Nodal officers need to submit the detailed protocols for the special tests to be undertaken in respective crops through the concerned PC/PDs.	The PPV & FR Authority has requested all the ICAR centres and SAUs including DUS centres to submit the proposals with regards to conducting special test to the crop specified to them for the purpose of IPR. A reminder has been sent on Sep'2011 to all concerned to expedite their proposals to enable the Authority to have a

		meeting shortly on the subject. (Action :-Reg-III)
4	Database of reference varieties needs to be updated and Centres are requested to take up the same at the earliest. It was requested that the quality of data recorded by the DUS test Centres should be good and non-distinct data should not be recorded and submitted to the Authority	DUS centres are required to submit the updated database supported with at least 3 years field data. Nodal officer may certify the data and update the same to IINDUS. (Action :-DUS Centres)
5	DUS test Centres should encourage and approach to get the farmers' varieties existing in their area and extant notified varieties at the within the time frame notified by the Authority	DUS centres are required to take up initiatives to facilitate registration of farmers' varieties and may follow the example of joint efforts of CRRI,Cuttack and Dept. of Agriculture & Food Production(Govt. of Odisha) adopted in documentation and filing of applications for farmers' varieties in Rice. It is requested that DUS centres may send the applications for extant varieties(notified and VCK) within the prescribed time period. (Action :- All DUS centre, Projects, NGOs)
6	DUS test Centres should also act as transfer and information Centre for timely filing of applications of plant varieties. Any issues/problems faced by the DUS test Centres should be communicated to the Authority so that proper corrective measures may be taken to resolve the issues	DUS centres may follow the recommendation. (Action :- All DUS centres, Registrar-I)

B.2. The review meeting for DUS centres and DUS projects was carried out in nine interactive sessions on the 11-12th November, 2011.

Representatives from DUS centres/Projects made their presentations highlighting their activities and progress. Deliberations were held on field, horticultural crops, Gene Bank and their management, farmers' varieties, medicinal and aromatic

plants, seeds and other spices and DUS centres at SAUs, DUS projects for trees species, fruits and others.

A separate session was held on financial monitoring and management of the DUS test centres/projects.

B.3. During the review meeting on 12th November, 2011 a brief session focusing on financial matter was arranged for the benefit of the house. Shri J. P. Singh, Financial Advisor briefed about the existing financial system and procedure being followed in Authority. Shri Rajiv Talwar, Senior Accounts Officer highlighted various problems being faced by the Authority in his presentation. It was informed by SAO that 57% of total funds are released to the DUS Centres and Projects for various activities. He thanked all the DUS Test Centres by timely forwarding UCs for adjustment. It was informed that utilization certificates against an advance of Rs.16.15 lakhs given to DUS test centres have not yet been received and a format was made available requesting for sending the same immediately.

Centre-wise details regarding non-receipt of UCs, difference between provisional and revised UCs, non-receipt of Statement of Expenditure (SOE), receipt of UCs after 30.6.2011, non-refund of unspent balance and also non receipt of UCs from various DUS test Centres and Projects and non-utilizations of funds released for conducting trainings/awareness programmes were discussed in detail. Points raised by CAG about non adjustment of advances given earlier and release of further advances were also brought to the notice of participants. The Chairperson, PPV & FR Authority advised all the concerned participants to ensure that such observations are addressed in future. He assured best cooperation of the Authority for which submission of physical and financial progress in time by the DUS centres/project will be very helpful.

B. Recommendations of review meeting of DUS test centers and projects

The following recommendations were made:

C. 1. POLICY ISSUES

- All varieties notified under the Seeds Act, 1966 and for the crop species notified under the PPV&FR Act, 2001 should be applied for registration at the earliest. The ICAR institutes, Directorate of Seed Research, Mau, NBPGR, New Delhi and SAUs to make sincere efforts for the purpose. The proposal for amendment in Rule 24 has been submitted to the DAC which will make all extant notified varieties eligible for registration. (**Action : ICAR institutes, DSR, NBPGR and SAUs**)
- All DUS centres, related organisations and institutes to provide documentation and characterization of all extant varieties to play key role in the registration.
(Action : DUS Centres/ ICAR/SAU Centres)
- More crop species of economic importance may be notified under the umbrella of registration. (**Action : Authority**)

- The scientists of SAUs and ICAR institutes may be guided to submit the applications of their varieties as new varieties as and when these varieties enter Advance Varietal Trial –II of the All India Coordinated Research Project of ICAR. **(Action : ICAR/SAU Centres)**
- A single window system for filing of all varieties from ICAR has been devised where applications are to be routed through NBPGR, New Delhi for onward submission to the PPV & FR Authority for registration.
(Action :ICAR institutes, DSR,NBPGR)
- Mass awareness/training programs should be organized in collaboration with DUS Centres / organizations. Organizers should provide proper feedback/impact analysis to the Authority.
(Action : Authority & DUS centres)
- Applicant should ensure that seed material shall be submitted as per specification given as under.
 - a. 12 mμ outermost layer of polyester
 - b. 12mμ middle layer of aluminium foil
 - c. 250 gauge inner layer of polyester
 - d. Seed packets should be hermetically sealed/vacuum packed
 - e. The seed pouches should have self-adhesive water proof printed labels having the following data :-
 - i) Denomination
 - ii) Registration No.
 - iii) Name of applicant
 - iv) Category- New /Extant /FV/VCK
 - v) Moisture, Germination and Physical purity %
 - vi) Date of harvest
 - vii) Seed quantity and no of packets **(Action: All applicants)**
- Authority to make endeavour for online filing of applications.
(Action : Authority)
- ICAR Centres/ SAUs should include a section on PPV & FR Act with focus on farmers' rights while bringing out their publications relating to packages and practice for Rabi/Kharif crops as done by PAU, Ludhiana and a copy of specimen is at **Annexure-IV**.
(Action: ICAR/SAU Centres)

C.2. TECHNICAL ISSUES

- CTCRI, Trivandrum to submit proposal to PPV&FR Authority regarding use of the international germplasm of sweet potato and cassava as reference varieties.
(Action : CTCRI, TVM)
- CTCRI, Trivandrum may prepare the draft DUS guidelines for sweet potato, cassava and to communicate the same within 3 months to the Authority for finalization. Authority may consider their request to convert their Project centres as a DUS test centre.
(Action: CTCRI, TVM and Authority)

- PV-2 & GURT affidavits in respect of varieties from ICAR/SAUs may be signed by the Project Coordinators/ Director of Research on behalf of the applicants.

• **(Action : ICAR/SAU Centres)**

- The guidelines for filing application for various categories are as under:-

S. No.	Kinds	Particulars
1.	Extant Varieties	Applications for extant notified varieties should be made only if they are within fifteen years from the date of Gazette notification by the Central Government. Applications may be filed within three years from the date of notification of crop species by the Authority.
2.	VCK	Applications of varieties of common knowledge (VCKs) should be filed if it is not under sale for more than thirteen years from the date of filing.
3.	Farmers' Variety	Applications for farmers' varieties may be filed within five years from the date of notification of crop species by the Authority.

(Action : For all applicants)

- Selection of reference varieties should be rationalized so that numbers of varieties are minimum and closest to the candidate variety and claimed characters are included to narrow down the number of reference varieties.

(Action: DUS Centres)

- During DUS test ample care should be taken so as to ensure that inbred is compared with inbred reference varieties and hybrid is compared with hybrids only.

(Action : DUS Centres)

- It must be ensured that vegetable and seed varieties of pea and rajmash are tested at their appropriate designated DUS test Centres on the basis of their use.

(Action : IIPR, Kanpur & IIVR, Varanasi)

- Efforts should be taken to develop guidelines and manuals for various activities like training programs, registration of new/extant/farmers' varieties/VCKs, recording of DUS data, field / seed gene banks, etc. in different languages. **(Action : DUS Centres, PPV & FRA)**

- Diversity in rice germplasm and other farmers'/traditional varieties mainly in coastal regions may be documented by the DUS centres.

(Action : VAANGHAI, TNAU, KAU, ANGRAU, CRRRI, DRR)

- Nodal DUS test centres should ensure that the seed material of reference varieties is made available to the sub-centres for testing of candidate varieties and maintenance breeding of reference varieties.

(Action : All DUS Centres)

- DUS centres and representatives from PPV & FR Authority shall visit sites evaluating farmers' varieties and a joint exercise may be undertaken for characterization, identification of benchmarks for uniformity and stability and decide ownership of the registered material.

(Action : DUS Centres, Branch Offices of Authority and Field gene bank)

- IARI, Regional Station, Karnal will identify a sub centres for DUS testing of Basmati rice varieties. **(Action : IARI, Regional Station, Karnal)**
- For the registration of farmers' varieties of rice in the state of Jharkhand, Orissa and Tamil Nadu a team will be constituted having representatives from VAANGHAI, TNAU, Coimbatore, DRR, Hyderabad and CRRI, Cuttack for identifying farmers varieties and to encourage the farmers of these area to register them with the Authority.

(Action : VAANGHAI, TNAU, DRR, CRRI and Authority)

- Department of Seed Science and Technology, TNAU, Coimbatore shall develop molecular characterization farmers varieties of rice.

(Action :TNAU, Coimbatore)

- Field gene banks at BAU and BBSKVV shall critically develop the gene bank block, DUS test block (with the root stock material), reference variety block (collecting local and commercial varieties keeping the maximum intra varietal variability), document the reference materials along with mother materials and also harmonize the reference collections in discussions with specific crop institutes, characterize the reference materials in mango/ginger/black pepper/cardamom/citrus/banana etc.

(Action :BAU, BBSKVV)

- Representatives of two field gene banks and branch office of PPVFR Authority will make a visit to the Manipur and adjoining areas for collection of local mango varieties as reference collection.

(Action :Field gene Banks , Branch offices Ranchi &Guwahati)

- DUS Centres shall update and strengthen the IINDUS data base of the Authority. **(Action :All DUS Centres)**
- Gene Campaign and PPV & FR Authority may draft and sign a MOU to shift the Gene Bank from Meghalaya to Assam.

(Action: Gene Campaign and Authority)

- Division of Floriculture at IARI may supply all the reference varieties to IIHR, Bangalore to create National Repository of Roses.

(Action: Division of Floriculture IARI, IIHR, Bangalore)

- A team may be constituted by the Authority to monitor maintenance breeding activities at DUS test centres. **(Action :PPV & FRA)**
- *Citrus grandis*L.shall be included in addition to other allocated citrus species for DUS.

(Action: NRCC, NAGPUR)

C.3.GENERAL ISSUES

- Nodal officer should indicate the claimed characteristics for their candidate varieties along with digital photographs in the final reports submitted to the Authority if there is any variation observed in their claimed characteristics.

(Action :All DUS Centres)

- In case the private applicants visit the DUS centre during DUS monitoring, their signatures may also be taken on the DUS Monitoring proforma.

(Action : DUS centres)

- The DUS centers have to submit the DUS test reports to the Authority after compilation of data within one month so that certificates may be issued. Centres should also submit the list of varieties for which DUS tests have been completed.

(Action: All DUS Centres)

- Gene Bank Manual for field gene bank may be developed in collaboration with the leading national and international organizations working in the area.

(Action :PPV & FRA)

- All the DUS test centres/projects should participate in the DUS review meetings invariably and indicate their regular progress and constraints faced, if any.

(Action: All concerned DUS Centres/Projects)

C.4.FINANCIAL ISSUES

- The Utilization Certificate (UC) for DUS test fees released to the centres should be submitted before 31st December every year.

(Action :All DUS Centres/Projects)

- Due diligence may be taken by DUS projects/centres in submitting Utilization Certificate before 30th June every year.

(Action :All DUS Centres/Projects)

- Utilization Certificates and Statement of Expenditure (SOE) pending for 2010-11 may be submitted immediately for fresh release by Authority.

(Action :All DUS Centres/Projects)

- The proposals where the utilization of funds is less than 50% should be accompanied by proper justification. **(Action :All DUS Centres/Projects)**

List of Participants for 7th Foundation Day of PPV&FRA

S.No.	Name	Designation	Address	Phone	Email
1.	Shri P.K. Basu	Secretary, (A&C),	Department of Agril. & Cooperation, KrishiBhawan, New Delhi		
2.	Dr. R. S. Paroda	Chairman, Haryana KisanAyog and TAAS			
3.	Dr. P. L. Gautam	Chairperson	PPV & FR Authority, New Delhi		
4.	Dr.Gurbachan Singh	Chairman,	Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board ICAR, KrishiAnusandhanBhawan- I, Pusa, New Delhi		
5.	Dr. V.N. Sharda	Member ASRB	204, KrishiAnusandhanBhawan-I, New Delhi-12		
6.	Sh. S.K.G. Rahate	Joint Secretary (Seeds, TMOP & Machinery)	Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India KrishiBhawan, New Delhi		
7.	Ms SmritiSharan	Director(Seeds)	Department of Agriculture and Cooperation KrishiBhawan, New Delhi		
8.	Dr. V.K. Yadava,	Plant Protection Advisor to the Govt. of India,	Directorate of PPQ&S, 409 B wing, ShastriBhawan, New Delhi		
9.	Dr. K.C. Bansal	Director,	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, Pusa, New Delhi		
10.	ShriPremNarain	Senior Advisor	Planning Commission, New Delhi		
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13.	Dr. R.C. Agarwal	National Coordinator, (NAIP)	ICAR KrishiAnusandhanBhawan - II PUSA Campus, New Delhi		
14.	Dr.SanjeevSaxena	Principal Scientist (IPR),	ICAR KrishiAnusandhanBhawan-I		
15.	Dr. Vilas A. Tonapi	Head, Division of Seed Science & Technology	IARI New Delhi		
16.	Dr. S. K. Yadav	Senior Scientist	Division of Seed Science & Technology, IARI		

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17.	Dr. S. K. Chakarbarty	Senior Scientist	Division of Seed Science & Technology, IARI New Delhi		
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19.	Dr MalvikaDadlani	JD (R),	IARI, New Delhi		
20.	Dr. D.C. Bhandari	Head Germplasm Exploration	NBPGR , Pusa New Delhi		
21.	Dr. R.K. Tyagi	Head Germplasm Conservation	NBPGR , Pusa New Delhi		
22.	Dr. P.C. Agarwal	Head GermplasmQuarantine NBPGR,	NBPGR , Pusa New Delhi		
23.	Dr.ArjunLal	Head Germplasm Exchange NBPGR	NBPGR , Pusa New Delhi		
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29.	Dr. S.R. Dhua	Principal Scientist & Nodal Officer (DUS) Crop Improvement Division	Central Rice Research Institute Cuttack-753006, Orissa		
30.	Dr. L. V. SubbaRao,	Principal Scientist and Nodal Officer	DUS Directorate of Rice Research (DRR), Angrau Campus, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad-500030		Lvsubbarao1990@gmail.com
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32.	Dr. M. R. Meena	Head	Sugarcane Breeding Institute		

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44.	Dr.PratibhaBrahmi	Senior Scientist	NBPGR, New Delhi		
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138.	Dr. J. L. Karihaloo	Coordinator APCoAB	Nasc Complex, New Delhi		
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**PROTECTION OF PLANT VARIETIES AND FARMERS' RIGHTS AUTHORITY****2nd Fl, NASC Complex, DPS Marg, New Delhi 110 012****Review Meeting of DUS test centres & Projects****Venue: Dr B P Pal Auditorium, NBPGR, New Delhi****Dated: Nov 11-12, 2011**

The PPV & FR Authority has published general guidelines for DUS testing and crop specific DUS test guidelines for 12 crops and officially released on 20 February, 2007. Registration for 12 crops species, viz., rice, bread wheat, maize, sorghum, pearl millet, chickpea, green gram, black gram, field pea, kidney bean, lentil, pigeon pea was started from 21 May, 2007. Subsequently, DUS test guidelines for four species of diploid and tetraploid cotton and two species of jute were published in December 2007 and registration was started from April 2008. National Gene Bank for maintenance of "orthodox" seeds of varieties under registration & field gene banks for horticultural crops/perennial plants are also established. Nodal officers will deliberate about the learning's of more than two years of DUS test, discuss about maintenance breeding and database upgradation and inform about physical and financial progress. Plant Varieties Registry also handled several cases of legal disputes successfully. Issues of benefit sharing, EDV determination, development of network to document variety database, registration of farmers' var needed to be addressed.

Technical Session I: Field Crops**Chairman: Dr P L Gautam, Chairperson, PPV&FRA****Co-Chairman: Shri G C Pati, Additional Secretary, Seeds, DAC, Ministry of Agriculture**

11:30-11:45	Conduct of DUS test in Wheat & recording of DUS characters	Dr Sushila Kundu, DWR, Karnal
11:45-12:00	DUS Testing in Cotton & Establishing EDVs	Dr K Rathinavel, CICR, Coimbatore
12:00-12:15	DUS Test in Maize and establishing distinctness (parental lines, Varieties and Hybrids)	Dr Jyoti Kaul, DMR, New Delhi
12:15-12:30	DUS test in Rice & how to facilitate farmers' var registration	Dr L V Subba Rao, DRR
12:30-12:45	DUS test in Chickpea and maintenance breeding in Pulses	Dr N P Singh, PC (Chickpea)
12:45-13:00	Discussion	

13:00-14:00 Lunch break**Technical Session II: Field Crops & others****Venue: Dr B P Pal Auditorium, NBPGR****Chairman: Dr P L Gautam, Chairperson, PPV&FRA****Co-Chairman: Shri R Gopalan, IAS, Director, Directorate of Agri. & Food Production, Orissa**

14:00-14:15	DUS project at CISH, Lucknow	Dr S Rajan, CISH
14:15-14:30	DUS test in Pearl Millet and maintenance breeding	Dr O P Yadav, PC (Pearl Millet)
14:30-14:45	DUS test in Pulses & promoting Plant var registrations	Dr Sanjeev Gupta, PC(MULLaRP)

14:45-15:00	DUS test in Sorghum & Documentation	Dr M Elangovan, DSR, Hyderabad
15:00-15:15	DUS test in Oilseeds & database maintenance	Dr N Mukta, DOR, Hyderabad
15:15-15:30	Discussion	

Technical Session III: Parallel Session: Vegetable Crops

Venue: Committee Room, NBPGR

Chairman: Dr J S Sandhu, ADG, Seeds, ICAR, New Delhi

Co-Chairman: Dr. S S Mehetre, Director Research, MPKV, Rahuri

Sugarcane, ginger and turmeric were notified for registration on 27th July, 2009 and the receiving of applications was started from 28 October, 2009. Further, Black pepper, Small cardamom, Indian Mustard, Rapeseed, Sunflower, Safflower, Castor, Sesame, Linseed, Groundnut, Soybean were notified for registration on 30th April, 2010. In addition to these, Potato, Garlic, Onion, Tomato, Brinjal, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Okra, Rose, Mango & Chrysanthemum were notified for registration on 02 December, 2010. While India has significant genetic diversity in Mango, Spices & Sugarcane, Medicinal & Aromatic plants, plant breeding activities in some of vegetable and oilseed crops rely upon exotic germplasm. Worldwide IPR titles are increasingly given more on vegetable/horticultural species, it is also expected that international breeders are interested in exploring their varieties registered in floricultural crops due to commercial reasons. Issues of maintenance breeding of reference/example varieties, preparedness for DUS testing, characterization and updating of varieties database, review of infrastructure and how to facilitate registration of extant varieties where significant genetic diversity exists (e.g., Mango, Spices, M&A species etc) are required to be reviewed. PPV&FR Authority also supported several projects to develop DUS guideline in forestry sp, cucurbits, fruit sp (pome fruits, citrus, banana etc), awareness programme etc.

14:00-14:15	DUS centre in vegetables at IIVR	Dr B Singh, PC (Vegetables), ICAR
14:15-14:30	DUS centre in vegetables at IIHR	Dr T H Singh, IIHR
14:30-14:40	DUS centre for Potato at CPRI	Dr Vinod Kumar, CPRI
14:40-14:50	DUS centre for Onion & Garlic	Dr Amarjeet Gupta, DOGR
14:50-15:00	DUS centre for Cabbage and Cauliflower	Dr R Barwal, IARI (Katrain)
15:00-15:15	Discussions	

15:15-15:45 Tea Break

Session IV Common Session: Gene Banks of PPV&FRA

Venue: Dr B P Pal Auditorium, NBPGR

Chairman: Dr. S.K.G. Rahate, Joint Secretary, DAC, Ministry of Agriculture

Co-Chairman: Dr Indu Sharma, Project Director, Directorate of Wheat Research, Karnal

15:45-16:00	National Gene Bank of PPV& FRA: Seed Standards & MTS	Dr Kalyani Srinivasan, NBPGR & Mr Dipal Roy Choudhury, PPV&FRA
16:00-16:15	Establishment & Maintenance of Field Gene Bank, Dapoli	Dr P Haldankar, BBS KKV, Dapoli
16:15-16:30	Progress of Establishment of Field Gene Bank, BAU	Dr R P Singh, BAU, Ranchi
16:30-16:45	Development of DUS criteria & establishment of gene bank in tropical tuber crops	Dr M N Sheela, CTCRI
16:45-17:00	Discussions	



PROTECTION OF PLANT VARIETIES AND FARMERS' RIGHTS' AUTHORITY

2nd Fl, NASC Complex, DPS Marg, New Delhi 110 012

Review Meeting of DUS test centres & Projects

Dated: Nov 12, 2011

Technical Session V: **Common Session: Projects on Farmers' varieties** Venue: Auditorium, NBPGR

Chairman: Dr P N Mathur, Fmr. DDG (Extn.), ICAR

Co-Chairman: Dr N Parsuraman, MSSRF, Chennai

10:00-10:10	Evaluation of Farmers' variety of Rice	Dr Geeta Rani, MSSRF
10:10-10:20	DUS project at VAANGHAI	Sh Monanlal M Yadav, VAANGHAI
10:20-10:40	DUS project at Gene Campaign	Dr Suman Sahai, Gene Campaign
10:40-10:50	DUS project at IEED	Sh I N Jha, IEED
10:50-11:10	DUS project at NEH (Colocasia)	ICAR NEH representative
11:10-11:15	Discussions	

11:15-11:30 Tea Break

Technical Session VI: **DUS centres for medicinal, aromatic plants, seed and other spices, floriculture species etc**

Venue: NBPGR Auditorium

Chairman: Dr. R.L. Srivastava, PC (Linseed), CSAUA&T, Kanpur

Co-Chairman: Dr. O.P. Yadav, Project Coordinator, AICMIP Mandore, Jodhpur

11:30-11:45	DUS centre at IARI(Divn of Floriculture and Landscaping)	Dr K V Prasad, IARI
11:45-12:00	DUS centre at CIMAP	Dr O P Dhawan, CIMAP
12:00-12:15	DUS centre at NRCSS	Dr R S Meena, NRCSS
12:15-12:30	DUS centre at IISR, Kozhikode	Representative of IISR
12:30-12:45	DUS characterisation for Neem, Karanj & Jatropha	Dr A Balasubramaniam, FCRI
12:45-13:00	Discussions	

Parallel Session VII: **DUS centres at State Agricultural Universities**

Venue: Committee Room, NBPGR

Chairman: Dr. B. Singh, Project Coordinator Vegetable Crops, IIVR, Varanasi

Co-Chairman: Dr. H.S. Randhawa, Director (Seeds), Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana

11:30-11:45	DUS centre at MPKV, Rahuri	Dr Vijay R Shelar, MPKV
11:45-12:00	DUS centre at UAS, Dharwad	Dr N K Biradar Patil, UAS
12:00-12:15	DUS centre at TNAU, Coimbatore	Dr M Bhaskaran, TNAU
12:15-12:30	DUS centre at ANGRAU	Dr M Sudha Rani, ANGRAU
12:30-13:00	Discussions	

13:00-14:00 Lunch

Session VIII: DUS projects for tree species, fruits and others **Venue: Auditorium, NBPGR**
Chairman: Dr Nazeer Ahmed, Director, CITH, Srinagar
Co-Chairman: Dr. M. Bhaskaran, Head, Seed Science & Technology, TNAU, Coimbatore

14:00-14:15	DUS characterisation for Eucalyptus and Casuarina	Dr B Gurdev Singh, IFGTB
14:15-14:30	DUS characterisation for Citrus	Dr I P Singh, NRC Citrus
14:30-14:45	DUS project at CITH, Srinagar	Dr K K Srivastava, CITH
14:45-15:00	DUS project at NRC, Banana	Dr R Uma, NRC Banana
15:00-15:30	Discussions	

Parallel Session IX: DUS projects and centres for other crops **Venue: Committee Room, NBPGR**
Chairman: Dr. Vilas A. Tonapi, Head, Division of Seed Science & Technology, IARI, New Delhi
Co-Chairman: Dr. K. H Singh, Principal Scientist, DRMR, Bharatpur

14:00-14:15	DUS project at SDAU and maintenance breeding of pulses	Representative of SDAU
14:15-14:30	DUS centre at Directorate of Soybean Research, Indore	Dr Ram Gopal Devdas, NRC(Soybean)
14:30-14:45	DUS centre at Directorate of Groundnut Research	Dr T Radhakrishnan, DOGR
14:45-15:00	DUS centre at CPCRI	Representative of CPCRI
15:15-15:30	Rose Repository at IIHR	Dr Tejaswini, IIHR
15:30-15:45	Discussions	

15:30-16:00 Tea Break

Since April 2008, PPV&FR Authority independently releasing grants-in-aid to DUS centres mainly to conduct maintenance breeding and maintenance of DUS infrastructure. DUS centres are expected to provide half yearly physical progress, statement of expenditure and utilisation certificate for expenditure incurred in GFR 19 format. As requested by DUS centres, salary for technical manpower is now upgraded to as per ICAR norms. However, due to CAG observations, it is needed that DUS centres shall return unspent fund before 31st March of every financial year, observe financial prudence in expenses and reconciliation of financial figures in expenditure statement along with authority records are to be done diligently. Budget utilisation for FY 2011-12 and review & need for up-gradation of DUS infrastructure will be discussed. The recommendations of all the deliberations will be compiled and summary will be presented.

Concluding Session

Venue: Auditorium, NBPGR

16:00-16:15	Financial Monitoring of DUS Test centres/projects	Sh J P Singh, FA/Sh Rajiv Talwar, SAO
16:15-16:30	Presentation of the recommendation	Sh D S Mishra, JR
16:30-16:45	Concluding Remarks	Dr P L Gautam, Chairperson
	Vote of Thanks	Dr Manoj Srivastava, Registrar

List of AwardeesSeventh Foundation Day of PPV & FR Authority, New Delhi

1. **Awards for DUS Test Centres (ICAR Institute Category)**
 - *Directorate of Wheat Research, Karnal* in recognition of outstanding performance as The Best DUS Test Centre (ICAR Institute category)
 - *Directorate of Sorghum Research, Hyderabad* in recognition of outstanding performance as DUS Test Centre (ICAR Institute category)
 - *Central Institute for Cotton Research, Regional Station, Coimbatore* in recognition of outstanding performance as DUS Test Centre (ICAR Institute category)
2. **Awards for DUS Test Centres (State Agricultural University Category)**
 - *Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri* in recognition of outstanding performance as The Best DUS Test Centre (State Agricultural University category)
 - *Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore* in recognition of outstanding performance as DUS Test Centre (State Agricultural University category)
 - *University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad* in recognition of outstanding performance as DUS Test Centre (State Agricultural University category)
3. **Awards for 'Best Institute Promoting Registration of Plant Varieties'**
 - *Directorate of Maize Research, New Delhi* in recognition of outstanding performance as The Best Institute Promoting Plant Variety Registration
 - *Directorate of Rice Research, Hyderabad* in recognition of outstanding performance as Institute Promoting Plant Variety Registration
 - *Project Co-ordinator (Pearl Millet), Jodhpur* in recognition of outstanding performance in Promoting Plant Variety Registration
4. **Awards for 'Best Project Centre'**
 - *Dr. Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli* in recognition of outstanding performance as The Best Project Centre
 - *Central Institute of Temperate Horticulture, Srinagar (J&K)* in recognition of outstanding performance as Project Centre
 - *M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai* in recognition of outstanding performance as Project Centre
5. **Best State Promoting Registration of Farmers Varieties**
 - *Directorate of Agriculture and Food Production, Odisha* in recognition of outstanding performance for Promoting Farmers' Variety Registration
6. **Special Awards**
 - *National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi* for long standing association for establishment of Gene Bank & Coordinating Plant Variety Registration
 - *Division of Seed Science and Technology, IARI, New Delhi* in recognition of excellent performance for capacity building and providing technical support
7. **Awards for the Best Employee of the Authority**
 - *Sh. Rajeev Talwar, SAO*
 - *Sh. D. S. Rajganes, LA*
 - *Dr. Ajay K Singh, STO*

Authority Celebrates 7th Foundation Day

The 7th Foundation Day of the Authority was celebrated on the 11th of November 2011 at the Dr. B P Pal Auditorium, National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi. Dr R S Paroda (Chairman, Haryana Farmers Commission and Chairman, Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences) was the Chief Guest and Sri P K Basu (Secretary, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation) presided over the session. Dr Gurbachan Singh (Chairman, Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board) and Sh Prem Narain (Additional Secretary, Planning Commission) and Dr K C Bansal (Director, National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources) were the guests of honour. The program commenced with the lighting of the lamp by the dignitaries followed by their addresses. DUS centres / projects which showed exemplary performance were given *awards* at the function. Special awards were given to National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources; Division of Seed Science & Technology, Indian Agricultural Research Institute and Directorate of Agriculture & Food Production, Odisha for their outstanding work. Sri Rajganesh (Legal Advisor), Sri Rajeev Talwar (Senior Account Officer) and Dr Ajay K Singh (Senior Technical Officer) were given recognition by the Authority for their performance. The contributions of the old employees of the organisation were also commended. The Foundation Day function was followed by the 4th Review Meeting of the DUS Test Centres & Projects, spread in nine interactive technical sessions on the 11th and 12th November and chaired by Dr P L Gautam (Chairperson, Protection of Plant Varieties & Farmers' Rights Authority). Representatives from various DUS centres / projects presented highlights of their activities and progress. Deliberations were held on field, horticultural and vegetable crops; gene banks and their management; farmers varieties; DUS centres for medicinal and aromatic plants, seed, spices; tree species, fruits and other crops. Separate session was held on the financial monitoring and management of the DUS test centres / projects. The recommendations presented at the conclusion of the session provided the road map and the direction to be taken for enhancing the performance of the DUS Centres. This platform provided the participants greater clarity in respect of management and functioning of the DUS centres / projects.

PROTECTION OF PLANT VARIETIES AND FARMERS' RIGHTS ACT-2001

To promote innovation and to meet international obligation, the Government of India enacted "Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act (PPV&FR Act) 2001. The Rules and Regulations to implement PPV&FR Act were formulated in 2003. For the effective implementation of these Rules and Regulations, the Government of India established an Authority known as "Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority in 2005. The Authority has Chairperson and fifteen members. The head office of this Authority is in NASC Complex, New Delhi. The PPV & FR Authority started functioning from October, 2005.

Notable features of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act:

- Provides an effective system for protection of plant varieties.
- Protect the rights of plant breeders to (i) encourage the development of new varieties of plants, (ii) stimulate investment or research and development, both in the public and private sector for the development of new plant varieties, and (iii) accelerate agricultural development in the country.
- Protect the rights of the farmers in respect of their contributions made at any time in conserving, improving and making available plant genetic resources for the development of new plant varieties.
- Facilitate the growth of seed industry in the country which will ensure the availability of high quality seeds and planting material to the farmers.

Under this Act, the following rights of the breeders and farmers are protected:-

Breeder's Rights

It provides an exclusive rights on breeder or his successor or his assignee to produce, sell, distribute, import or export the seed of protected varieties.

The breeder can also authorize any person to produce, sell and distribute the seed of protected varieties under certain conditions laid down in the Act.

Researcher's Rights

- The Researcher has the right to use the protected variety for research purpose and for the development of new varieties.
- However, the authorisation of the concerned breeder will be required for the repeated use of protected variety for the commercialization of the new variety.

Farmers' Rights

- Right to save, use, exchange, sow, re-sow, share or the sell the produce of protected variety, except the sale of branded seed.
- Right to benefit sharing from the contribution of his variety or plant material in the development of new variety.
- Right for Compensation for low performance of the protected variety. As per section 39 (2) of the Act the breeder has to disclose to the farmers the expected performance of the protected variety under the given conditions. If the protected variety fails to perform as specified, the farmer has a right for compensation for the low performance.
- Just like breeders, he can register his variety (Farmers variety/ traditional variety).

- Farmers are exempted from the payment of registration fee.
- Recognition and Reward to the farmers for conservation of land races and development of farmer's varieties.
- Farmers to be protected from the act of innocent infringement. If the farmers who is not aware of the existence of this act and unknowingly breaks the law of protection, then that farmer will be considered as innocent but he has to prove his innocence before the court.

Who can apply for Registration: Any person claiming to be the breeder or his successor or assignee or any person authorized by the breeder; any farmer or group of farmers or farming community.

Types of varieties which can be registered with PPV&FRA: Three types of varieties namely Extant, New and Essentially Derived Varieties (EDV) can be registered with the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority.

Extant Variety

*A variety which is available in India and notified under section 5 of Seeds Act (1966).

- A Farmer's variety (a variety traditionally cultivated and evolved by the farmer at his own field, can be a land race or wild relatives).
- A variety which is of common knowledge.
- A variety which is in public domain.

New Variety

A variety will be registered as a new variety if its seed has not been offered for sale before one year from the date of application for registration. It should confirm the criteria of Novelty, Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability.

Essentially Derived Variety (EDV)

A variety which is derived through single gene transfer, recurrent back cross derivatives, mutants, somaclonal variants. CMS lines, polyploids, substitution/deletion lines all come under EDV. EDV can be registered, if it differs from the initial variety for at least one character and meets the DUS test.

Varieties which cannot be registered: A variety, which contains any technology that is injurious to the life or health of human beings or animals or plants including terminator technology, shall not be registered.

Crops which can be registered: In the first phase, the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority has started the registration of varieties of the 14 crops and add another 40 crops; Rice, Bread wheat, Maize, Sorghum, Pearl millet, Chickpea, Mungbean, Urdbean, Fieldpea, kidney bean, kidney bean, Lentil, Pigeon pea, Indian mustard, Karan rai, Rapeseed (toria), Gobhisarson, Groundnut, Soybean, Sunflower, safflower, Castor, Sesame, Linseed, Diploid cotton, Tetraploid cotton, Jute, Sugarcane, Black pepper, Small cardamom, Turmeric, Ginger, Tomato, Brinjal, Okra, Cauliflower, Cabbage, Potato, Onion, Garlic, Rose, Chrysanthemum, Mango, Duram wheat, Dicoccum wheat, Other Triticum species, Isabgol, Menthol mint, Damask Rose, Periwinkle, Brahmi, Coconut.

Duration of registration: The varieties are registered initially for a period of six years in case of field crops and nine years in case of trees and vines. The registration can be renewed up to a maximum period of 15 years in case of crop varieties and 18 years for trees and vines.

Compulsory licensing: If the seed of the protected variety is not available

after three years of registration in adequate quantity at a reasonable price, the PPV&FR Authority may grant a license to a third party to undertake the production of the seed of the protected variety, its distribution and sale with limited royalty to the concerned breeder. The duration of the compulsory licence may vary from case to case keeping in view the gestation period and other relevant factors but it shall not exceed the total remaining period of the protection of that variety.

Benefit sharing: On registration of a variety, any person or a group of person can submit his claim of benefit sharing to the PPV and FR Authority in the prescribed form and with prescribed fee if his/her material has been used in the development of a particular variety. The Authority shall take the decision on the matter after considering the following point:

1. The extant and nature of use of the genetic materials of the claimant in the development of the variety relating to which the benefit sharing has been claimed; and
2. The commercial utility and the demand in the market of the registered variety relating to which the benefit sharing has been claimed.

Infringement of the Act: The Act will be infringed by a person if:

1. Any person, not being the breeder of the registered variety, or registered agent or registered licensee of that variety sells, exports or imports or produces the seed of such variety without the permission of the breeder of that variety;
2. Any person who sells, exports, imports or produces any other variety giving the denomination similar to the denomination of the registered variety.

Penalties for infringement: Any person who applies any false denomination to the registered variety or indicates the false name of the country or false name and address of the breeder of that registered variety shall be punishable with an imprisonment of three months to two years or a fine of ` 0.50 lakhs to 5 lakhs or both. Similarly, any person who makes false representation with respect to the denomination of a variety or its propagating material registered under the Act shall be punishable with an imprisonment of six months to three years or a fine of ` one lakh to five lakhs or both. The subsequent conviction of an offence will be punishable for the second and for every subsequent offence with an imprisonment of one to three years or with a fine of ` 2 lakhs to 20 lakhs or both.

Note: 1. More information regarding this Act can be sourced from the PPV&FR Authority website:- www.plantauthority.gov.in