



Participation in the Awareness Programme on "Empowering Growers through Farmers Variety Protection under PPVFRA" at Central Coffee Research Institute, Chikkamagaluru



A one-day awareness programme titled "Empowering Growers through Farmers Variety Protection under PPVFRA" was organized by the Central Coffee Research Institute (CCRI), Coffee Research Station, Chikkamagaluru, Karnataka, on 09 July 2026 at the CCRI Auditorium. As directed by the PPVFR Authority, Head Office, New Delhi, the undersigned participated in the programme as resource person.

The programme commenced with the Raitha Geethe, followed by the Welcome Address delivered by Dr. Jeena Devasia, DH (PBG) & Principal Investigator, DUS Project, CCRI. Dr. M. Senthilkumar, Director of Research, CCRI, presented the introductory remarks through on line mode and highlighted the importance of protecting plant varieties and promoting awareness among coffee growers regarding the provisions of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights (PPV&FR) Act, 2001.



The technical session began with an expert lecture delivered by Shri R.S Sengar, Consultant (Technical) PPVFRA Branch Office Shivamogga, A comprehensive presentation entitled "DUS under PPVFRA and Benefits of Varietal Registration to the Planting Community" was delivered. The presentation covered the objectives and salient features of the PPV&FR Act, 2001, eligibility criteria for registration of plant varieties, DUS (Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability) testing requirements, rights of breeders and farmers, benefit sharing, conservation of plant genetic resources, and the procedure for registration of farmers' varieties. Special emphasis was laid on

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the protection of traditional and indigenous plant varieties and the importance of encouraging farmers to register their unique varieties under the PPV&FR Act. During the programme, two applications for registration of Farmers' Varieties were submitted to the undersigned.



Subsequently, Dr. Jeena Devasia, DH (PBG) & Principal Investigator, DUS Project, CCRI, presented the status of the DUS Project in Coffee at CCRI. She elaborated on the progress made in DUS characterization of coffee varieties and emphasized the importance of scientific evaluation in facilitating variety registration under the PPV&FR Act.

The technical presentations were followed by an interactive session involving Shri R.S. Sangar, scientists and officials of CCRI, and coffee-growing farmers. The participants actively discussed various aspects of varietal protection, registration procedures, DUS testing, and the benefits available to farmers under the PPV&FR Act.



varieties.

At the conclusion of the programme, Dr. Karuthamani, Joint Director of Extension (JDE), Chundale, summarized the key deliberations and emphasized the need for sustained awareness among coffee growers regarding intellectual property protection and registration of farmers'

The programme concluded with a Vote of Thanks proposed by Shri Shreeharsha K. S., Plant Breeder and Co-Principal Investigator, DUS Project, CCRI.

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