

पौधा किस्म और
कृषक अधिकार संरक्षण प्राधिकरण



Protection of Plant Varieties and
Farmers' Rights Authority

F. No. PPV&FRA/Registrar/1-6/07/55334
Dated: 14th March, 2008

5547

To
All the members of the Authority

**Subject: Proceedings of the fifth regular meeting of the PPV&FR Authority
held on 3rd March, 2008**

Sir,

I am forwarding a copy of the proceedings of fifth regular meeting of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority held on 3rd March, 2008 at Committee Room-II, NAAS, NASC Complex, New Delhi-110 012 under the Chairmanship of the Chairperson, PPV&FR Authority for kind information.

Yours faithfully,

(R.K. Trivedi)
Registrar

Encl: As above

Copy for information to: P.S. to Chairperson, PPV&FRA, NASC Complex,
New Delhi – 11001

OFFICE COPY

Proceedings of the Fifth Regular Meeting of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority held on 3rd March, 2008 at Committee Room-II, NAAS, NASC Complex, New Delhi-12

Following Members were present in the meeting:

1. Dr. S. Nagarajan, Chairperson, PPV&FR Authority, Government of India, NASC Complex, New Delhi
2. Dr. P.L. Gautam, DDG (Crop Sciences), ICAR, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
3. Dr. N.B. Singh, Agricultural Commissioner, Dept. of Agric. & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, New Delhi
4. Sh. S.K. Pattnayak, Joint Secretary (Seeds), Dept. of Agric. & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
5. Shri. Satish Chandra, Joint Secretary & GC, Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law & Justice, Government of India, New Delhi
6. Dr. S.K. Sharma, Director, National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, ICAR, New Delhi-12
7. Dr. P.S. Minhas, Director (Research), Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana
8. Mr. Manvendra S. Kachole, Head, Dept. of Biotechnology, Shetkari Sangathan, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Vidyapeeth, Aurangabad (Maharashtra)
9. Dr. F.B. Patil, Director (Technical), M/s Ajeet Seeds Ltd., Secretary, All India Crop Biotechnology Association, Chitegaon, Aurangabad, Maharashtra-413105

Member Secretary:

1. Sh. R.K. Trivedi, Registrar, PPV&FR Authority, Government of India, NASC Complex, New Delhi.

Members who did not attend the meeting:

1. Dr. S. Natesh Adviser Grade – I, Dept. of Biotechnology, New Delhi
2. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forest, New Delhi
3. Sh. Sanjeev Chopra, Secretary Agriculture, Government of West Bengal

4. Mr. M.L. Chowdhury, Horticultural Commissioner, Dept. of Agric. & Cooperation, New Delhi
5. Shri N.P. Patil, Secretary Agriculture, Govt. of Maharashtra, Agric. & Horticulture Dept., Mumbai
6. Dr. Roytre Christopher Laloo, Dept of Botany, North Eastern Hill University, NEHU Campus, Shillong

The Chairperson welcomed the Members. The Chairperson also welcomed Shri. Satish Chandra, Joint Secretary & Legal Adviser who represented the Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India, New Delhi. The Chairperson placed on record the valuable services of Shri. D.R. Meena, Joint Secretary & Legal Adviser who regularly attended the meetings and gave valuable inputs. The members congratulated Shri. D.R. Meena on becoming Additional Secretary in the Law Ministry. The Chairperson introduced Shri. S.K. Pattanayak, who has taken up as the Joint Secretary (Seeds), Department of Agriculture & Cooperation and Dr. P.S. Minhas, Director (Research), Punjab Agricultural University as they first time attending the Authority meeting. Following this the agenda items were presented by the Member Secretary.

AGENDA ITEM No. 1: ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING OF THE PPV&FR AUTHORITY

The proceedings of the Fourth Meeting of the Authority which was held on 1st November, 2007 at NASC Complex, were adopted by including the following observations. (i) The selection for various posts in the Authority shall be strictly according to the provisions contained under the PPV&FR Act, 2001 and rules and regulations made thereunder (agenda 2.1). (ii) The facilities available with the public and private sector may be fully utilized for conducting DUS test and if required the Authority may also develop independent system for conducting DUS test. An accreditation team may also be formed by the Authority for accreditation of DUS test

centers (Agenda 4.2). (iii) The members with satisfaction noted the progress made by the NBPGR for providing designated space to the Authority for National Gene Bank (Agenda 4.4).

AGENDA ITEM No. 2: EMOLUMENTS TO PLANT VARIETY EVALUATOR AND REGISTRY ASSISTANTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PATTERN OF DST/CSIR/ICAR

The members were of the view that the parity in the emoluments of Plant Varieties Evaluators and Registry Assistants may be made in accordance with the office memorandum No. 202011/11/97-IFD dated August 6, 2007 issued by Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India. The emoluments should be in accordance with the qualification and experience of PVEs and RAs as per the analogous positions exist in the Department of Science and Technology/CSIR/ICAR system. The existing emoluments and the proposed emoluments of PVEs and RAs are as under:

S. No.	Position	Existing Emoluments	Proposed Emoluments
1.	PVEs	Rs. 15000/- to Rs. 18000/- consolidated per month	Rs. 18000/- consolidated per month
2.	RAs	Rs. 10000/- consolidated per month	Rs. 14000/- consolidated per month

The Members approved the raising of emoluments of PVEs and RAs as proposed above. They also suggested that the total contractual technical persons requirement in the Authority may be made on the basis of work assessment of Plant Varieties Registry and accordingly it may be reflected in the EFC memo that is under preparation. These temporary positions should be reflected in the EFC memo and got approved in the 11TH Plan Document under contractual services.

AGENDA ITEM No. 3: ADOPTION OF OFFICE PROCEDURES, SERVICE RULES AND PURCHASE PROCEDURE OF THE AUTHORITY

It was approved that the Authority adopts mutatis mutandis all central service rules, supplementary rules, financial regulations and procedures to run the office, till

such a time it develops its own procedures and got them approved from the Authority and operationalized.

AGENDA ITEM No. 4: APPOINTMENT OF STAFF IN THE AUTHORITY

The Members with satisfaction noted that during the last six months several positions have been filled up in the Authority. The Authority also noted that Sh. G.P. Sharma the Financial Advisor, who joined on 30th November, 2007 submitted his unconditional resignation from the post on 28th February, 2008 and since he insisted on getting relieved on 29th February, 2008, the same was acceded to by the Chairperson. Now his resignation is accepted waving of the one month notice that is generally required in such cases.

AGENDA ITEM No. 5: OPENING OF BRANCH OFFICES OF PLANT VARIETY REGISTRY

The members approved for opening of the branch offices of Plant Varieties Registry. The location of the branch offices, staff position, funds and infrastructural requirements etc. will be worked out in details by the Office of the Authority and incorporated in the EFC Memo to be prepared by the Authority. In the EFC Memo the staff strength of Assistant Registrar, Deputy Registrar, Joint Registrar and the secretarial and official support staff that would be needed for branch offices be taken up.

AGENDA ITEM No. 6: PROGRESS OF REGISTRATION OF PLANT VARIETIES

The status of application received up to end of February, 2008 was as under:

S. No.	Type of Varieties	Total no. of application received	Letter Sent for DUS test fee	DUS test fee received	Seed Received	Seed sent to DUS test Centers
1.	New	97	50	43	19	2

S. No.	Type of Varieties	Total no. of application	Submit to EVRC	Recommended by EVRC	Not recommended	Deferred

		received				
1.	Extant	531	53	14	07	32

S. No.	Type of Varieties	Total no. of application received
1.	Farmers	3 (Under examination)

The members were pleased to see the rapid progress on examination of applications, conduct of EVRC meetings, publications of PVJ of India, periodical updation of webpage of the Authority etc. and desired that this tempo should be maintained.

AGENDA ITEM No. 7: ADMINISTRATIVE FACILITIES FOR FUNCTIONING OF PROTECTION OF PLANT VARIETIES REGISTRY

This matter was noted and approved by the members.

AGENDA ITEM No. 8: CRITERIA FOR DISTINCTIVENESS, UNIFORMITY AND STABILITY FOR REGISTRATION OF FARMERS' VARIETY IN THE CATEGORY OF EXTANT VARIETY

The members noted the level of off-types in new varieties and farmers varieties as given in below table.

Acceptable level off types in New Variety and Farmer's Variety

S. No.	Crop	No. of Plants/replication	Natural Out-crossing Percentage	Permitted variation in the population	
				New Variety/Hybrid	FV*
1	Bread wheat <i>Triticum aestivum L.</i>	360	0.5 to 1	2/1000	4
2	Rice <i>Oryza sativa L.</i>	900	~6.8	4/1500 (lowland)	15
				4/1500 (upland)	15
3	Maize <i>Zea mays L.</i> Inbreds and single cross hybrids	120	~95	3/100	5
	Variety/other Hybrids	240	~95	6/100	10

4	Sorghum <i>Sorghum bicolor</i> (L.) Moench	240	2 -10	6/100	10
5	Pearl millet <i>Pennisetum glaucum</i> (L.) R. Br. Inbreds and single cross hybrids	240	~80	3/100	5
	Variety/other Hybrids	240	~80	6/100	10
6	Pigeon pea <i>Cajanus cajan</i> (L.) Millsp.	150	5-40	4/300	15
7	Green gram <i>Vigna radiata</i> (L.) Wilczek	~ 140	0-1	4/250	7
8	Blackgram <i>Vigna mungo</i> (L.) Hepper	140	0-1	4/250	7
9	Lentil <i>Lens culinaris</i> Medik	200	0-1	3/250	5
10	Kidney bean <i>Phaseolus vulgaris</i> L.	140	0-1	3/300	5
11	Chickpea <i>Cicer arietinum</i> L.	200	0-0.5	3/100	5
12	Field pea <i>Pisum sativum</i> L.	125	0-0.6	4/300	7

* Suggested level for FV.

The members observed that after circulating the above table and the proceedings of the meeting to all the members of the Authority and after getting postal approval it may be sent to the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation for notification in the Gazette of India.

The members observed that very few applications have been received in the Authority for registration of Farmers' Variety. Office of the Authority may correspond with ICAR, State Agricultural Universities, State Department of Agriculture and NGOs to motivate them for filing the applications of Farmers' Variety. The Authority may also assign the task to an Organization preferably to an Agriculture University to develop a manual for registration of farmers' variety and various other varieties under the Act.

AGENDA ITEM No. 9: CONSULTANT APPROVAL COMMITTEE

The members suggested that the technical experts of the Task Force may be given sitting charges which may be decided as per the Government norms and procedures. So far as regular consultants are concerned the governmental procedures have to be followed on such matters.

The members also felt that a technical group may also be constituted by the Authority to fix the molecular parameters for DUS testing for different crops.

AGENDA ITEM No. 10: Operation of National Gene Fund of the Authority

The item of rewarding farmers under Gene Fund was deferred as it needs elaborate discussion. The Authority while may continues with Plant Genome Savior Recognition. It may prefer a detailed document on how to use the Gene Fund and table it in the meeting of the Authority.

AGENDA ITEM No. 11: Operation of DUS testing fee by the PPV&FR Authority

The members were of the view that the utilization of Authority fund for various activities have already been specified in the PPV&FR Act, 2001 and Rules and Regulations made thereunder. The Chairperson is empowered to use the Authority fund as per provisions given under the Act. The DUS test fees which have been deposited in the Authority fund could be disbursed to the DUS test centers as per the ration of 70:30 (DUS test centers and Authority) finalized by the Authority.

Since there was no other urgent item to be discussed, the meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chairperson and the Members of the Authority.