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पौधा किस्म और
कृषक अधिकार संरक्षण प्राधिकरण



Protection of Plant Varieties and
Farmers' Rights Authority

F.No. PPV&FRA/1-01/2005/1056.
Dated, The 29th May 2006

Sub:- Proceedings of the First Meeting of the PPV&FR Authority on 18th May 2006.

Sir,

I am forwarding a copy of the proceedings of the First Meeting of the PPV&FR Authority held on 18th May 2006 in the Committee Room of the Authority under the Chairmanship of the Chairperson of Protection of Plant Varieties & Farmers' Rights Authority for information please.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

(R.K. Trivedi)
Registrar

Copy to:

1. Agricultural Commissioner, Govt. of India, DOAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi - 110 001
2. DDG (Crop Sciences), ICAR, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi - 110 001
3. Joint Secretary (Seeds), Govt. of India, DOAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
4. Joint Secretary & Legal Adviser, Govt. of India, Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law & Justice, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi - 110001
5. Horticultural Commissioner, GOI, DOAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-01

6. Adviser Grade – I Govt. of India, Dept. of Biotechnology, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, N Delhi- 03
7. Director, NBPGR, Pusa Campus, New Delhi – 110 012
8. Joint Secretary (Conservation), Govt. of India, MoEF, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, N Delhi- 03
9. Director (Research), PAU, Ludhiana – 141004, Punjab
10. Secretary (Agriculture), Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai
11. Secretary (Agriculture), Government of West Bengal, Calcutta

Copy for information to:

1. P.S. to Chairperson, PPV&FRA, Pusa Campus, New Delhi – 110012
2. PPS to Secretary (Agriculture & Cooperation) Govt. of India, DOAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi 01
3. PPS to DG ICAR & Sec. DARE, ICAR, Govt. of India, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi – 110 001

Encl: As above

Proceedings of the First Meeting of the PPV&FR Authority held on 18th May 2006 in the Committee Room of PPV&FR Authority, under the Chairmanship of Chairperson of PPV&FR Authority

Following were present in the Meeting:

1. Dr. S. Nagarajan; Chairperson PPV& FR Authority
2. Dr. N.B. Singh, Agricultural Commissioner, Dept. of Agric. & Coop.
3. Dr. S. Natesh, Advisor Grade – 1, DBT, Min. of Sci. & Technology
4. Dr. D.R. Meena, Joint Secretary, Min. of Law & Justice
5. Dr. B.S. Dhillon, Director (Research), PAU, Ludhiana
6. Dr. A.K. Singh, Director, NBPGR, IARI, New Delhi

The following members sought prior permission for absence.

- (i) Dr. G. Kalloo, DDG (Crop Sciences), DoAC
- (ii) Secretary (Agriculture), West Bengal
- (iii) Secretary (Agriculture), Maharashtra

Other members, namely, Horticultural Commissioner, DoAC; JS (Seeds) DoAC; Joint Secretary (Conservation), MoEF could not attend the meeting.

The Chairperson welcomed all the members in the First Meeting of PPV&FR Authority. He mentioned that as per the Section 3(5) (c) of the PPV&FR Act, 2001 the Registrar General is the Member Secretary of the Authority. However, at present, the post of the Registrar General is lying vacant. In view of this, the Registrar of the Authority was authorized to attend and record and issue the proceedings of the Authority meeting till the post of Registrar General joins or further information. This was voted and approved. The Chairperson asked the Registrar to put up the agenda items.

Following this being the first meeting of the Authority, the Chairperson asked the members to briefly get themselves introduced. Therefore, the Authority meeting agenda was transacted further.

Agenda Item No. 1 -Progress Report of the Authority since its establishment: -

The Registrar briefed the members that the Authority was established through the Gazette Notification (1183) issued by the Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture on dated 11-11-2005. Following the notification, a series of steps were taken by the Authority to draft various procedures and guidelines for initiating the process of plant variety registration. The data generated by ICAR/SAU system for 35 crops related to DUS test were critically examined by the Task Force 01/2005 constituted by the Authority. Twelve of these crops covering cereals, coarse-cereals and pulses were found to be in an unacceptable form for initiating registration in the first phase. The Task Force also assisted in finalizing the Draft Application Form for Registration, Technical Questionnaire, Specific Guidelines for 12 crops, General Guidelines, Various Material Transfer Agreement, Proposal of Fee Structure and Qualified Person etc. The Authority has also engaged number of consultants to assist in designing the Journal of the Authority, outline the various issues relating to Farmers' Rights, evaluate project proposals and other administrative issues. The Authority also organized consultation meetings in different part of the Country and sought the suggestions from the stakeholders on the guidelines, proposals, application form and other related issues. The members mentioned that with the limited availability of technical manpower, the Authority has generated voluminous technical information and documents, which are praiseworthy.

Agenda Item No. 2 - Proceeding of the First Standing Committee meeting on 4th April 2006.

It was decided that in place of First Standing Committee meeting on 4th April 2006' it should be read as "First Scientific Advisory Committee Meeting held on 4th April 2006'. To that limited extent corrigendum be issued and the SAC may function with the same composition. The Standing Committee be separately constituted as contained in the Act.

Agenda Item No. 3 - Giving Additional Charge of the Registrar General of PPV&FRA to the Joint Secretary (Seeds) of the DOAC.

After introducing the subject by the Registrar a detailed discussion was held to accept the stand of the member from the Ministry of Law and Justice, it was decided that the concerned file may be referred to the Department of Legal Affairs for their considered views on this issue.

Agenda Item No. 4 - Staff strength of the PPV&FR Authority.

4.1 Regular Staff

The appointment of Registrar and Dy. Registrar in the Authority with effect from 14-11-2005, 28-10-2005, respectively were approved.

4.2 Plant Variety Evaluator

The proposal for employing the temporary post of Plant Variety Evaluator in the Authority was approved. However, the Plant Variety Evaluators should be paid the consolidated amount minimum of Rs. 15000/- to a maximum Rs. 18000/- p.m. depending on qualification, training, publication and years of experiences. The reason for higher start must be properly justified and recorded. The total number of PVE at any given time shall not exceed five persons and their annual hiring will not exceed three calendar years each.

4.3 Professional Consultant

The Authority may maintain a list of the consultant to be hired for different needs apart from picking the best professionals from the sources.

4.4 Finance

It was decided that in the annual budget of the Authority provisions should also be made for civil construction work. The Authority may also take up with the DoAC for directly releasing the funds under grant-in-aid component. If required a revised EFC may be prepared and got approved.

Agenda Item No. 5 - Recruitment Rules for filling up the various posts in the Authority.

The Recruitment Rules, which were prepared by the Authority and got vetted through expert lawyer for various sanctioned post like Registrar, Financial Advisor, Joint Registrar, Dy. Registrar, Legal Advisor, Senior Accounts Officer, Senior Technical Assistant, Computer Assistant, Technical Assistant and Personal Assistant were approved.

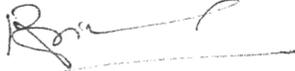
Agenda Item No. 6 - Preparedness for commencing the Registration of Plant Varieties.

The members appreciated the work so far done by the Authority for commencing the Registration of Plant Varieties. In the Month of July a special meeting of the Authority be convened to get the pending modalities of plant variety registration approved.

Agenda Item No. 7 - Transfer of land from IARI for the Construction of the office of PPV&FR Authority and the office space crunch.

The members felt that the Authority may take up the issue with ICAR and IARI for expeditiously transferring the land so that all offices relating to IPR in Agricultural Sector and the Tribunals may be constructed at one location. The Authority may also make sufficient budget provision for establishing their campus.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chairperson and members of the Authority.


Registrar


Chairperson

Date :- 29th May, 2006
Place :- New Delhi