

प्राधिकरण की 42वीं बैठक का कार्यवृत्त

Minutes of the 42nd Meeting of the PPVFR Authority

स्थान: बोर्ड कक्ष, प्लांट अथॉरिटी भवन, निकट
एनएएससी कॉम्प्लेक्स, डीपीएस मार्ग, टोडापुर
गांव के सामने दिल्ली-110 012

Venue: Board Room, Plant Authority Bhawan,
Near NASC Complex, DPS Marg,
Opposite Todapur Village, New Delhi-
110 012

समय : 02:30 बजे

Time: 02:30 PM

दिनांक: 28 जुलाई, 2026

Date: 28 July, 2026

पौधा किस्म और कृषक अधिकार संरक्षण प्राधिकरण

Protection of Plant Varieties & Farmers' Rights Authority

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण विभाग

Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार

Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India

प्लांट अथॉरिटी भवन एनएएससी परिसर, डीपीएस मार्ग, टोडापुर गांव के सामने, नई दिल्ली-110012

Plant Authority Bhawan, Near NASC Complex, DPS Marg, Opposite Todapur, New Delhi-110012.

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Minutes of the 42nd Meeting of the Protection of Plant Varieties & Farmers' Rights Authority

Meeting Type	Authority Meeting	Date and time	28 th July, 2026 at 02:30 PM
Subject	42 nd Authority Meeting of the PPV&FR Authority		
Venue	Plant Authority Bhawan		
Attendance	<u>The following members attended the meeting:</u> 1. Dr. T. Mohapatra, Chairperson, PPVFR Authority, DPS Marg, NASC Complex, New Delhi 2. Dr. P.K. Singh, Agriculture Commissioner, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi 3. Dr. D.K. Yadav, Deputy Director General (Crop science) Division of Crop Science, ICAR, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi. 4. Sh. Ajeet Kumar Sahu, Joint Secretary (Seeds), Government of India, Department of Agriculture and Famers welfare, New Delhi. 5. Dr. Prabhat Kumar, Horticulture Commissioner, Government of India, Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, New Delhi (Online) 6. Sh. Japan Babu, Joint Secretary & Legal Advisor, Department of Legal Affairs, Room No. 24088, 4th Floor, Kartavya Bhawan, New Delhi-110 001. 7. Smt. Jui Pethe, Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram-1, Shripad, Vakratunda Row, House, Opp. Rama Raman Apartment, Vrindavan Nagar, Kamatwade, Nashik-422010, Maharashtra (Online) 8. Dr. Seema Sharma, 220 Kautilya Nagar, Vidhayak Colony, Patna-800014 9. Dr. Anupam Mishra, Vice -Chancellor, Central Agricultural University, Imphal, Manipur. (Online) 10. Ms. Sarita Dhanwar, Additional Secretary, Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Empowerment, Odisha on behalf of Principal Secretary, Department of Agriculture &		

	Farmers' Empowerment, Odisha. (Online) 11. Dr. Dinesh Kumar Agarwal, Registrar-General/ Member-Secretary, PPVFR Authority, DPS Marg, NASC Complex, New Delhi. LEAVE OF ABSENCE was granted to: 1) Sh. Tarun Kathulia, Scientist-G, Bio-Safety Division, MOEF&CC. 2) Dr. Nitin Jain, Scientist 'G', Department of Biotechnology, New Delhi. 3) Principal Secretary, Department of Farmer Welfare & Agriculture Development, Madhya Pradesh.
Introduction	Dr. D.K. Agarwal, Member Secretary, welcomed the Chairperson and all the members of the Authority. He presented the ATR of the previous Authority meeting, the progress since the last Authority meeting and the agenda of the meeting.
Declaration of Conflict of Interest by Members	There was no conflict of interest raised by any member on any agenda item.

The members appreciated the timely receipt of the agenda through email and post.

Agenda Number	Agenda description	Details															
	Confirmation of the Minutes of the 41st Meeting of PPVFR Authority.	The Authority confirmed the Minutes of the 41 st Meeting of PPVFR Authority.															
1.	Action Taken Report of 41st Meeting of PPVFRA Authority.	The Authority noted the action taken report on the minutes of the 41 st Meeting of PPVFRA Authority.															
2.	Progress in Authority Activities.	The Authority noted the progress made by the Authority since its last Authority Meeting held on 2 nd December, 2025.															
3.	Approval of DUS test guidelines of Niger (<i>Guizotia abyssinica</i> (L.f.) Cass.), Summer Squash (<i>Cucurbita pepo</i> L.), Rubber (<i>Hevea brasiliensis</i> Muell. Arg.), Mahua (<i>Madhuca longifolia</i>), Alstromeria	The DUS test guidelines of the following crop species were presented which were examined by the members of the Authority: <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S. No.</th><th>Common Name</th><th>Botanical Name</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1.</td><td>Niger</td><td><i>Guizotia abyssinica</i> (L.f.) Cass.</td></tr> <tr> <td>2.</td><td>Summer Squash</td><td><i>Cucurbita pepo</i> L.</td></tr> <tr> <td>3.</td><td>Rubber</td><td><i>Hevea brasiliensis</i> Muell. Arg</td></tr> <tr> <td>4.</td><td>Mahua</td><td><i>Madhuca longifolia</i></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	S. No.	Common Name	Botanical Name	1.	Niger	<i>Guizotia abyssinica</i> (L.f.) Cass.	2.	Summer Squash	<i>Cucurbita pepo</i> L.	3.	Rubber	<i>Hevea brasiliensis</i> Muell. Arg	4.	Mahua	<i>Madhuca longifolia</i>
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	(<i>Alstroemeria</i> spp), and Tulip (<i>Tulipa</i> <i>sp.</i>) under Rule 29(9) of PPV&FR Rules, 2003.	<table><tr><td>5.</td><td>Alstromeria</td><td><i>Alstroemeria</i> spp</td></tr><tr><td>6.</td><td>Tulip</td><td><i>Tulipa</i> sp.</td></tr></table> The Authority approved the following: a) DUS test guidelines of Niger, Summer Squash, Rubber, Mahua, Alstromeria and Tulip. b) Submission to the Central Government for notification of Niger, Summer Squash, Rubber, Mahua, Alstromeria and Tulip crop species in Official Gazette for registration of new varieties under Section 29(2) of PPVFR Act, 2001. c) Publication of the above DUS guidelines in Plant Variety Journal for opening of registration of extant varieties of Niger, Summer Squash, Rubber, Mahua, Alstromeria and Tulip crop species under Rule 22(2) of PPVFR Rules, 2003.	5.	Alstromeria	<i>Alstroemeria</i> spp	6.	Tulip	<i>Tulipa</i> sp.				
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4.	Fixation of time limit for registration of extant varieties for crop species Niger (<i>Guizotia abyssinica</i> (L.f.) Cass.), Summer Squash (<i>Cucurbita pepo</i> L.), Rubber (<i>Hevea brasiliensis</i> Muell. Arg.), Mahua (<i>Madhuca longifolia</i>), Alstromeria (<i>Alstroemeria</i> spp) and Tulip (<i>Tulipa</i> sp.).	Under Rule 22(2) of PPV&FR Rules, 2003, the Authority approved the period for registration of extant varieties of Niger, Summer Squash, Rubber, Mahua, Alstromeria and Tulip crop species as follows: - “Extant Variety notified under Section 5 of Seeds Act, 1966, Farmers Variety and Extant Variety about which there is Common Knowledge – 10 years from the date of publication in Plant Variety Journal of India, after approval of the instant agenda by the Authority”										
5.	Fixation of DUS Test/On-site Fee for Niger (<i>Guizotia abyssinica</i> (L.f.) Cass.), Summer Squash (<i>Cucurbita pepo</i> L.), Rubber (<i>Hevea brasiliensis</i>	Under Rule 29(1)(a) of PPV&FR Rules, 2003, the Authority fixed the DUS test fees in respect of the following crop species as per the details given below:- <table><tr><td>S. No.</td><td>Common Name</td><td>Botanical Name</td><td>DUS test fee for New Varieties</td><td>On-site test fee for New Varieties</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	S. No.	Common Name	Botanical Name	DUS test fee for New Varieties	On-site test fee for New Varieties					
S. No.	Common Name	Botanical Name	DUS test fee for New Varieties	On-site test fee for New Varieties								

	Muell. Arg.), Mahua (<i>Madhuca longifolia</i>), Alstromeria (<i>Alstroemeria</i> spp) and Tulip (<i>Tulipa</i> sp.).	1.	Niger	<i>Guizotia abyssinica</i> (L.f.) Cass.	Rs. 20,000/-	-
		2.	Summer Squash	<i>Cucurbita pepo</i> L.	Rs. 55,000/-	-
		3.	Rubber	<i>Hevea brasiliensis</i> Muell. Arg	Rs. 60,000/-	Rs. 80,000/-
		4.	Mahua	<i>Madhuca longifolia</i>	Rs. 50,000/-	Rs. 70,000/-
		5.	Alstromeria	<i>Alstroemeria</i> spp	Rs. 40,000/-	-
		6.	Tulip	<i>Tulipa</i> sp.	Rs. 30,000/-	-
		The DUS Test Fees for Extant Varieties (VCK) will be 50% of that of new varieties and DUS test fee for EDV will be charged as per the DUS test Fees for New Varieties.				
6.	Report of the Committee to examine the PPVFR Act, 2001 and suggest amendments	The Authority appreciated the report of the Committee and endorsed the same for forwarding it to the Nodal Ministry with explanatory note and proper justification for amendment in PPVFR Act, 2001.				
7.	Report of the Committee to look into the issue involved in the Annual Fee and Renewal Fee.	The Authority accepted the report of the committee and endorsed forwarding the same to Nodal Ministry for amendment in PPVFR Act, 2001 and, for amendment in Notification relating to Annual Fee and Renewal Fee in Rules. The proposal has to be submitted along with an analysis on the impact of proposed changes on revenues to Authority/ Gene Fund as observed by JS (Seeds). The Authority approved the revised Annual Fee Return Form to be filed by the Registered Breeders.				
8.	Report of the Committee for revising existing DUS test guidelines and identify new crops for which DUS guidelines need to be developed.	JS (Seeds) wanted clarification regarding the necessity for revising the existing DUS test guidelines. It was explained that the DUS test guidelines under revision were more than 10 years old, which required modification and refinement based on new information regarding DUS characteristics, example varieties etc., after due consideration of the views of crop specialists, taxonomists, DUS testing centre scientists and concerned crop specific expert committee/ task force. Justification for changes made in DUS test guidelines have been given for each crop in the committee report. With this, the report of the Committee was accepted and the recommendations were approved. Prior to implementation, the revised DUS test guidelines shall be published in the PVJ. Development of DUS test				

		guidelines on 88 prioritised crops shall be initiated in a phased manner.
9.	Report of the Committee for developing guidelines/ protocols for special/ quality traits.	The Report of the Committee was accepted and the recommendations were approved by the Authority. The guidelines/ protocols for special characteristics in Cotton, Maize and Jute shall be published in the PVJ prior to implementation. The Committee for developing guidelines/ protocol for special characteristics shall be a standing committee. As and when special characters are claimed by the Applicants, the same will be examined and the test location, protocols, labs and fees for such characteristics shall be defined by the Committee, which shall be communicated to the Applicant for payment of fees. The Authority also delegated its powers under Section 10 of PPVFR Act, 2001 to Chairperson to act based on the recommendations of the Committee on special characteristics. JS (Seeds) observed that there should not be duplication of work being undertaken as part of VCU test. It was explained that DUS test is mandatory for registration and if special characteristics are claimed by any applicant, then only test will be conducted for the same to ensure appropriate varietal description. It was further explained that even special characters can be distinctive, even when the DUS characteristics fail to differentiate between the candidate and the reference variety, and thus be used for variety description as part of DUS testing. It was further explained that the standard VCU test conducted under AICRP of ICAR for variety identification and release is not going to be duplicated. Any released and notified variety under Seeds Act, 1966, shall not be tested by PPVFRA for any special characteristics prior to its registration, for which testing has been already done under AICRP of ICAR.
10.	Establishment of Field Gene Bank for PPVFRA	The Authority approved the establishment of Field Gene Banks since the maintenance of registered varieties is within the statutory mandate of PPVFR Authority. JS (Seed) observed that the cost of maintaining registered varieties is recurring in nature and accordingly the cost of maintenance should be shared by the Applicant. It was explained that most of the varieties in Field Gene Banks belong to the farmers/ farming communities and that for farmers, it is free. JS (Seeds) also observed that a SoP has to be prepared for the Field Gene Banks and a detailed note giving time-line, criteria for release of funds, protocols

		and financial implications be prepared and presented in the next meeting.
11.	Revised format(s) for Registration Certificates (02) under Rule 36 and Rule 37.	The Authority endorsed the amendment in the certificate of registration and forwarding the same to Nodal Ministry for amending the Third Schedule of PPVFR Rules, 2003 and notifying it in Official Gazette. Joint Secretary (Seeds) observed that the possibility of storing the variety registration certificates in Digi-locker be examined.
12.	Furnishing of PVP Trainees Hostel & Canteen at Plant Authority Bhawan and Development of Auditorium at Plant Authority Bhawan by integrating of existing lecture room and waiting area at ground floor of Plant Authority Bhawan	The Authority approved furnishing of the PVP Trainees Hostel and the Canteen at Plant Authority Bhawan in PPVFRA and observed that the work is to be implemented observing codal formalities in accordance with GFR. The Chairperson has the required financial powers.
13.	Strengthening of Audio-Visual Facilities in the Committee Room at Plant Authority Bhawan, PPVFRA.	The Authority approved the proposal for strengthening the Audio-Visual facilities in the Ground Floor, Committee Room of PPVFRA. The Authority observed that the same is within the financial powers of Chairperson and the proposed work is to be executed by observing codal formalities in accordance with GFR.
14.	Amendment in the Form O-5 (Agent/Licensee) Certificate.	The Authority endorsed the amendment in Form O-5 and forwarding the same to the Nodal Ministry for amendments in the Third Schedule of PPVFR Rules, 2003 and for notifying the amended Form O-5.
15.	Guidelines for financial support to organize seminars, symposia, conferences, exhibitions and farmers' fairs etc.	JS (Seeds) observed to verify whether funding other organisations for conducting seminars, farmers fair etc falls within the ambit of PPVFR Authority. It was explained that creating awareness among all stakeholders including, researchers, scientists, policy makers, industry representatives, farmers etc., about the PPVFR Act, 2001 is essential to facilitate registration of new and extant plant varieties. Particularly, the farmers are to be adequately informed about their rights as per the Act. Such awareness helps protection of more and more varieties particularly those belonging to farmers which constitutes a rich heritage of our Country. Financial Support to such programmes shall be provided only when special session/ discussion/ presentation/

		exhibition is organized on PPVFR Act,2001 involving the experts from the Authority or its Branch Offices/ DUS centres. It was further explained that the same falls within the functions of PPVFR Authority (Section 8 of the Act). The Authority authorized the Chairperson to take a decision in this matter after seeking clarification/concurrence of the Government.								
16.	Financial performance for the year 2025-26 (UNAUDITED AND PROVISIONAL).	The unaudited financial reports were noted by the Authority. The Authority wanted the status of government grants during 2025-26 to be presented (in lakhs and on cash basis):<table><tr><td>Opening Balance</td><td>497.35</td></tr><tr><td>Grants</td><td>3036.63</td></tr><tr><td>Expenditure</td><td>3469.97</td></tr><tr><td>Unspent Balance</td><td>64.01</td></tr></table>	Opening Balance	497.35	Grants	3036.63	Expenditure	3469.97	Unspent Balance	64.01
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17.	Status of Recruitment Deputation Basis/Direct Recruitment.	Status of the recruitment for filling up the vacant posts in PPVFR Authority was presented. JS (Seeds) observed that instead of issuing tender for conducting online exams for direct recruitment posts, alternative should also be examined like shortlisting of candidates for written examination based on the academic performance. JS (Legal Affairs) and Ms. Sharma, Member stated that it would be proper to conduct the written test first to short-list candidates for interview wherever required. After due deliberations, the Authority decided that the outcome of the tender be awaited and the agency for conducting online examination is to be identified following due process in GeM. Further decision will be taken depending on the number of applications received in different categories.								
18.	Data Security-Digital and Physical in PPVFR Authority.	The Authority accepted the report of the Committee and approved the recommendations. All related purchases/ items of work relating to the digital and physical data security in PPVFRA are to be executed after observing codal formalities in accordance with GFR. Dr. Seema Sharma, Member suggested that the digital security and digital enhancement should be combined and coordinated with each other, so that it can work with more accuracy and efficiency as both are related. It was explained that the same will be considered while implementing.								
19.	Strategy framework/ roadmap for registering varieties within a reasonable	The Authority approved the roadmap framed for reducing the time taken for registering the varieties. The reduction of timelines for various categories of varieties are to be clearly indicated phase-wise (Pre & Post DUS) and published in PVJ. JS (Seeds) further								

	period of time	suggested to review the time being taken in approval after the DUS test report as it still is between 5 months to 8 months, which seems to be higher.
SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA		
20.	Establishment of National Gene Bank as per Sec 27 of PPVFR Act, 2001 in the Plant Authority Bhawan	The Authority approved the establishment of National Gene Bank in PPVFRA. The Authority observed that the same is within the financial powers of the Chairperson and that the work is to be implemented by issuing tender through GeM-CPPP and observing other codal formalities as per GFR. JS (Seeds) suggested that a technical committee should be constituted to monitor its implementation. It was clarified that the same has already been constituted.
21.	Implementation of Network Infrastructure in PPVFR Authority.	The Authority approved the creation of network infrastructure in PPVFRA and observed that the same is within the financial powers of Chairperson. Accordingly, the proposal be executed by issuing tender and observing other codal formalities in accordance with GFR. However, necessary integration of network with digital security as per report of the committee be considered to achieve synergy. It was also suggested that the committee constituted in this regard already will certify that equipments recommended are the latest.
22.	Other observations	(i) JS (Seeds) observed that under AgriStack, alongside the Farmer Registry, Crop Registry, Land Registry, and 22 other sub-registries including a Seed Registry has been rolled out. The objective is to establish a centralized national digital infrastructure for the identification and management of seed varieties. Under the proposed framework, each seed variety will be assigned a unique identifier/code. This code can serve as a common reference throughout the lifecycle of the variety, whether it is registered with the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority (PPVFRA) or monitored and evaluated in the field. Such a system will enhance traceability, standardization, and interoperability of seed variety data across institutions. Both the Central Government and State Governments would be able to derive and utilize codes from this centralized framework, ensuring a uniform and standardized

		mechanism for variety identification across the country. At the same time, digitalization of PPVFRA through PARV portal is currently underway through the National Informatics Centre (NIC). In this context, it would be beneficial to convene a joint meeting to integrate both systems. The purpose of the meeting would be to discuss the development of a common framework for seed variety identification, data standards. It was explained that the list of registered varieties along with details will be forwarded for inclusion in the centralized national system for the identification and management of seed varieties. The PARV platform can be enabled to send the required information on variety registration to Agristack for automatic updation of registered plant varieties through API sharing. (ii) JS (Seeds) also observed that a major outcome of BRICS is that the PPVFR Authority has been identified to co-ordinate the Global Forum for Farmers' Rights in Seed System. This is a significant achievement, as the recognition of the PPVFR Authority at the BRICS level reflects the efforts made to position it in this important role. An appropriate action plan should be prepared to take this initiative forward. As the Hon'ble Prime Minister is scheduled to attend the BRICS Summit in September 2026, it would be desirable to initiate some concrete activities relating to the proposed Global Centre for Farmers' Rights prior to the Summit. (iii) It was suggested by Dr. Jui Pethe, Member, that DUS test guidelines for essential traditional food crops must be prioritized as tribal communities as farmers generally collect and preserve traditional seeds of crops which they consume on a domestic level.
All the items placed before the Authority for approval were discussed and decisions arrived at unanimously without the necessity to put up any item for voting. The Chairperson thanked all the members for their active participation and presenting their points of view, which added value and strength to the matter. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks by Member-Secretary/ Registrar-General to the Chair, Members, Officers and staff of the Authority.		