

पौधा किस्म और  
कृषक अधिकार संरक्षण प्राधिकरण



Protection of Plant Varieties and  
Farmers' Rights Authority

No. PPV&FRA/10-3/2006 /2186  
28<sup>th</sup> December, 06

Subject: Proceedings of the Second Meeting of the PPV&FR Authority on 20<sup>th</sup> December, 06.

Sir,

I am forwarding a copy of the proceedings of the Second Meeting of the PPV&FR Authority held on 20<sup>th</sup> December, 06 for information and necessary action.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

Registrar

Copy to:

1. Agricultural Commissioner, GOI, Ministry of Agriculture, DoAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi 110 001
2. DDG (CS), ICAR, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi 110 001
3. Jt. Secretary (Seeds), GOI, Ministry of Agriculture, DoAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi 1
4. Jt. Secretary & Legal Adviser, Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law & Justice, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi 110 001
5. Horticulture Commissioner, GOI, Ministry of Agriculture, DoAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi 1
6. Adviser Grade-I, GOI, DBT, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110 003
7. Director, NBPGR, Pusa Campus, New Delhi 110 012
8. Secretary (Agriculture), Dept. of Agriculture, Govt. of West Bengal, Writers Building Calcutta: 700001
9. Secretary (Agriculture), Govt. of Maharashtra, Agriculture & Horticulture Dept. Room No.509 Annex, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Mantralaya, Mumbai-400032
10. Head, Dept. of Biotechnology, Shetkari Sangathan, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Vidyapeeth Aurangabad (Maharashtra)
11. Director (Technical), M/s Ajeet Seeds Ltd. and Secretary, All India Crop Biotechnology Association, Chitegaon, Aurangabad, Maharashtra-413105

Copy for information to:

1. Dr. S. Mauria, ADG (IPR) ICAR. [Representing the DDG(CS) endorsed by DG, of ICAR and Sec., DARE]
2. PS to Chairperson, PPV&FRA, Pusa Campus, New Delhi 110 012
3. PPS to Secretary (A&C) Ministry of Agriculture, DoAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
4. PPS to DG, ICAR & Secretary, DARE, ICAR, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi 110 001

PS  
file for  
record  
2/11/07

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**Proceedings of the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the PPV & FR Authority held on 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2006, in the committee room of the PPV & FR Authority under the Chairmanship of Chairperson of the PPV & FR Authority.**

Following were present in the meeting:

- 1 Dr. S. Natesh, Adviser Grade-I
- 2 Shri. D.R. Meena, Joint Secretary & Legal Adviser
- 3 Shri. Manvendra Kachole, Head Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Vidyapeeth, Aurangabad.
- 4 Dr. F.B. Patil, Director (Technical) and Secretary, All India Crop Biotechnology Association
- 5 Dr. S.K. Sharma, Director, NBPGR

**Nominee of Members:**

- 1 Shri. N.N. Pandey, Chief Seed verification officer, West Bengal [Nominee of Secretary (Agriculture), Govt. of West Bengal]
- 2 Dr. S. Mauria, ADG (IPR) ICAR. [Nominee of DDG(CS) of ICAR]

**Member Secretary**

- 1 Shri R.K. Trivedi, Registrar, PPV & FRA

The Chairperson welcomed the members of the Authority. He mentioned that after the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Authority the Government of India has nominated 3 more Members in the Authority representing National or State level Farmers Organization, Tribal Organization and Seed industry. He further mentioned that in the last meeting of the Authority, it had been decided that since the post of Registrar General is lying vacant, Registrar will act as a Member Secretary of the Authority. Following the welcome remarks of the Chairperson, the Members briefly got themselves introduced. Thereafter, the agenda items for the meeting were taken up.

**Agenda Item No. 1: Proceedings of the last meeting of the Authority**

The proceedings of the first meeting of the Authority which was held on 18<sup>th</sup> May, 06 were adopted.

**Agenda Item No. 2: Proceedings of the Programme Planning and Policy Committee:**

The PPV & FR Authority has constituted the Programme Planning and Policy Committee to assist and advice on various policy and strategic issues. The first meeting of the Committee was held on 30<sup>th</sup> Nov, 06 under the Chairmanship of Dr. M. Mahadevappa. The proceedings of the first meeting of the Committee were placed for the information of Members of the Authority.

**Agenda Item No. 3: Activities completed for initiating the Registration of Plant Varieties:**

The Authority has taken various steps for commencing the registration of plant varieties. These include identification of 12 crops for registration in the first phase, finalization of Regulations under Section 95 of the PPV & FR Act 2001, finalization of General and Specific DUS test Guidelines, finalization of design and content of Plant Variety Journal of India. Notification, in respect of crop species and Regulations has

also been published in the Gazette of Government of India. The Members expressed their satisfaction on the progress of the Authority and also desired to put on record the appreciation of the Members for the work done by the Chairperson and Registrar in such a short span of time. The Members also acknowledged the contribution of DAC and ICAR in developing the DUS Test Guidelines for 35 crops before the establishment of the Authority. The Members were also informed that in the first phase the crops/species identified cover both self and cross pollinated crops to gain a good experience for taking more crops in second phase. The Members suggested that based on a national level debate, the Authority may prioritize the crops for taking up for registration depending on their importance and facilities available with the Authority.

The Authority had also organized awareness and sensitization meetings and workshops in different parts of the country. Farmers were also associated in these meetings and workshops. The Members desired that the Authority may organize more regional meetings with the help of the State Agricultural Universities and State Department of Agriculture, and the Authority may also consider to initiate efforts for making available the information on the PPV&FR Act in local/regional languages. Authority may provide funds to these and other organizations for conducting the meetings and also for publication of information bulletins in regional languages.

**Agenda Item No. 4: Physical facilities developed/required for registration of plant varieties:**

It was informed that the space vacated by NCF in NASC Complex has been taken over by the Authority. This space is presently sufficient for the Authority to handle the task in the first phase of activities. The Members appreciated the promptness and swiftness of DAC in providing the space to the Authority. The Authority has also initiated activities to develop the data base for maintenance of plant variety registry. The Members also expressed satisfaction for developing the data base by NBPGR. The two separate agreements, one for keeping seeds in the National Gene Bank of NBPGR and other for conducting the DUS test by ICAR and SAU centers were drafted by the Authority and sent to the ICAR for comments/execution. Dr. Mauria from ICAR mentioned that there would be some practical problems with ICAR in having of dedicated technical staff for conducting the DUS test in SAUs. However, ICAR is working on the NBPGR related draft agreement. It was unanimously decided that Hon'ble Agriculture Minister, will inaugurate the meeting for initiating the registration process on 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2007 and before that the draft agreements regarding national Gene Bank and DUS test centers should be finalized. The actual registration process will start from 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2007. The other decisions taken in this regard are as under:

- (i) The Authority will accredit ICAR/SAU centers for conducting DUS test initially for a period of 5 years. The Authority will also provide financial support for the dedicated technical staff to conduct DUS test.
- (ii) Annual maintenance funds will be provided to each center for maintenance of DUS facilities created under grant in aid scheme of DAC.

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- (iii) Appropriate incentive may be provided to retain competent scientific/technical staff for undertaking statutory DUS testing work.
- (iv) The Authority will provide funds to NBPGR for providing National Gene Bank facilities for keeping seeds of the registered varieties. The financial assistance will cover expenditure both on creation of facilities and annual maintenance charges.
- (v) A separate meeting may be organized between ICAR and Authority to sort out various issues relating to signing of agreements between the PPV&FR Authority and NBPGR and DUS test centers.
- (vi) The Authority will provide 70% of the DUS test fees to DUS test centers for conducting DUS test. Separate funds will also to be provided by Authority to each DUS test center for training and HRD related activities.

**Agenda Item No. 5: 11<sup>th</sup> Plan Proposal:**

The Authority envisages much larger activities during 11<sup>th</sup> plan period. This includes opening of 5 Regional Offices by the Authority in different parts of the country. The Authority has already sent 11<sup>th</sup> plan proposal to DAC for onward submission to the Planning Commission. The Members desired that the Authority may put more emphasis on development of DUS test facilities during 11<sup>th</sup> Plan Period for different crops so that its dependency on other agencies for conducting DUS test may be reduced. Steps should also be taken towards developing competent technical facilities in potential centers/institutions for conducting DUS test on the sustainable basis.

**Agenda Item No. 6: Filling up the post of Registrar General:**

The Programme Planning and Policy Committee had earlier suggested that the Authority may first finalize the eligibility criteria and experience requirements for the post of Registrar General and then circulate eligibility criteria to all Departments/Ministries for getting names of the suitable candidates. The Members agreed to this suggestion and also viewed that the post of Registrar General may be filled on deputation or transfer or contract basis as provided in the PPV&FR Rules 2003. The eligibility criteria, experience requirement for the post of Registrar General may be first developed by the Authority and then circulate to the Members representing the Ministry of Law, ICAR, DBT, DAC for their endorsement. Only after that names for suitable candidates may be sought.

**Agenda Item No. 7: Recognizing farmers/farming community for their past contribution in the development of new variety:**

It was informed that the Authority is considering to start the registration for 12 crops i.e. cereals, coarse cereals and pulses from 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2007. Before that a launching meeting will be organized on 20-21 Feb. 2007, which will be inaugurated by Hon'ble Agriculture Minister. This would provide good opportunity for creating awareness among the farming and scientific community about the registration process under PPV&FR Act 2001. On this occasion, the Authority will recognize farmers/farming community for the role they have had played in conserving and making available plant

genetic resources for the development of new plant varieties. The recognition will be called Genome or Gene Savior Award. The members endorsed that the Authority may recognize farmers/farming community at the time of the launching of plant variety registration.

**Agenda Item No. 8:            Creating permanent facility of PPV&FR Authority on the pattern of patent office at Dwarka, Delhi:**

The Members desired that the Authority may keep continuing the dialogue with the ICAR for getting land from IARI for construction of Authority's permanent office.

**Agenda Item No. 9:            Any other agenda item:**

Dr. Patil, the Member representing Seed Industry presented the joint comments from all Seed Industry Associations pertaining to Application Forms and DUS test guidelines in the meeting. The Members desired that the Authority may examine all these valuable comments for consideration.

Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.