

Minutes of the  
**20<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Authority**  
(17th April, 2014)

**Venue: Board Room, IGH, NASC Complex, New Delhi-110012**



**Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority**

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## 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the PPV&FR Authority

Meeting Type	Authority Meeting	Date and Time	17 <sup>th</sup> April, 2014 15:00 Hrs.
Subject	20 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the PPV&FR Authority		
Venue	Board Room, IGH, NASC Complex, New Delhi		

Attendance	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>The following members attended the meeting :</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Dr. R.R. Hanchinal, Chairperson, PPV&amp;FR Authority, New Delhi</li><li>2. Dr. Sudhir Kr. Goel, IAS, Add. Chief Secretary</li><li>3. Dr. S.K.Datta, Deputy Director General (Crop Sciences), ICAR</li><li>4. Dr. B.S. Dhillon, VC, PAU, Ludhiana</li><li>5. Dr. J.S. Sandhu, Commissioner (Agril.), Govt. of India</li><li>6. Dr. Atanu Purkayastha , JS (Seeds), DAC</li><li>7. Dr. K.S. Charak, Scientist 'G' Adviser, DBT</li><li>8. Dr. Usha Barwale, Managing Director, Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Company Limited, Jalna, Maharashtra (Teleconferencing)</li><li>9. Sh. Mayaram Nettam, Programme Officer, (Retired), AIR and Doordarshan</li><li>10. Mrs. Neelam Tyagi, Secretary, Laxmi Jan Kalyan Sewa Sansthan</li><li>11. Dr. R. C. Agrawal, Registrar-General, PPV&amp;FR Authority, New Delhi, (Member Secretary)</li></ol> <p>Leave of absence was granted to Dr. K.C.Bansal, Director, NBPGR; and Sh. Suresh Chandra, Joint Secretary &amp; Legal Advisor</p>
Introduction	At the outset, Dr. R. C. Agrawal, Registrar- General, PPV& FR Authority welcomed all the members. The Chairperson also welcomed the members and briefed the members about the latest initiatives of the Authority.
Declaration of Conflict of Interest by Members	All the members submitted duly filled forms for the declaration of conflict of interest. There was no conflict of interest by any member.

Agenda Item	Subject	Discussion/Suggestion
1	Adoption of the minutes of the last meeting held on 18th October, 2013	The minutes of the last meeting held on 18.10.2013 were adopted unanimously.
2	Action taken report	<p>It was informed that the Authority has taken necessary action on all recommendations of the last meeting held on 18.10.2013. Members resolved that item no. 21 related to brain storming session for the review of existing DUS Testing policy needs to be again brainstormed under the chairmanship of Dr. S.K.Datta, DDG (CS) keeping in view the following-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In long term, some alternatives to be suggested for institute based DUS Testing so that crop based institutes may take up DUS testing for more crops.</li> <li>- Authority to suggest alternatives for taking activity of DUS testing through its regional offices.</li> <li>- DUS Centres may be independent. It may not have the issues of conflict of interest.</li> </ul> <p>Members also asked for the strategy to make registration compulsory.</p> <p>Members also asked that the matters pending with DAC should be pursued for an early clearance.</p> <p>Members noted the Action Taken Report and adopted the same.</p>
3	Progress of Plant Varieties Registry	<p>Chairperson presented the progress of the registry. Members appreciated the progress related to clearance of pendency, awareness programmes, and registration of farmer's varieties. It was decided that during the next meeting of the Authority, the time frame for clearance of pendency may be presented. In next one year, there should not be any pendency of old cases upto 2012.</p>
4	Extant Variety Recommendation Committee (EVRC)	The progress of the 22 <sup>nd</sup> and 23 <sup>rd</sup> EVRC meetings was noted by the Authority Members.
5	Finalization of DUS Test Guidelines of 6 crop species	<p>The DUS Test Guidelines for Crop Species Tea (<i>Camellia sinensis</i>, <i>C. assamica</i> &amp; <i>C. assamica ssp lasiocalyx</i>.), <i>Oncidium</i> Sw., Acid lime (<i>Citrus aurantifolia</i> Swingle), Mandarin (<i>Citrus reticulata</i> Blanco), Orange (<i>Citrus sinensis</i> (L.) Osbeck),</p>

		Bougainvillea ( <i>Bougainvillea</i> Comm. ex Juss.), and Banana ( <i>Musa</i> spp.) were adopted by the members.
6	Refund of DUS Test Fee in case of withdrawal of applications by applicants	The proposal for non-refund of DUS test fee to the applicants either in case of withdrawal of applications or withdrawal of seeds from DUS testing was adopted.
7	Execution of MOU between PPV&FRA and IARI	The members noted the lease deed executed between PPV&FRA and Indian Agricultural Research Institute (Indian Council of Agricultural Research) regarding the lease out of 10,480 sqm land to PPV&FRA for the purpose of construction of official building of PPV&FRA and the MOU executed between PPV&FRA and National Rainfed Area Authority (Planning Commission) and gave their consent.
8	Order dated 7.1.2014 passed by Hon'ble Supreme Court in SLP (C) Nos.13276, 13286 and 13289 of 2012-Nuziveedu Seeds -Vs- PPV&FRA and Anr.	Members noted the order of The Hon'ble Supreme Court.
9	EFC (Expenditure Finance Committee)	The Members noted and consented the EFC approved by the Ministry. The BE of the PPV&FRA for the year 2014-15 for Rs. 74.23 cr as per EFC was also approved.
10	Finalisation of Annual Accounts of PPV&FRA for the year 2013-14	Members authorised Chairperson to approve the Annual Accounts of the Authority for the year 2013-14 and subsequent years on behalf of Authority before sending it to CAG and also to give replies to audit observations. Audited Annual Accounts alongwith management replies to audit report should be placed before the Authority for their approval before sending the approved audited Annual Accounts to Ministry for placing the same before Parliament.
11	Expenditure on Award/Reward Function from National Gene	The members did not agree for the expenditure based on the percentage of the Award/Reward value as it involves many fixed expenditure. It was approved that the total expenditure

	Fund	related to Award/Rewards and its' ceremony from National Genefund including other activities from Gene Fund should be managed from the interest of Corpus Fund.																																				
12	Change in Accounting Policy of DUS Test fee	The proposed accounting policy of DUS Test fee was approved.																																				
13	Increase in the price of PVJ from Rs. 100 per issue (including postal charges) to Rs. 300 per issue (including postal charges)	The revised cost of Rs. 300 per issue of the Plant Variety Journal was approved. The Members also approved that in future, any revision for the cost of the PVJ may be approved by the Chairperson on behalf of the Authority, and the Authority may be only informed accordingly.																																				
14	Delegation of powers to dispose of benefit sharing proceedings	To decide and dispose of Benefit Sharing proceedings in accordance with law, the Authority delegated its powers under section 10 of PPV&FR Act, 2001 to chairperson or his nominee for adjudicating and disposing of the matter in accordance with law.																																				
15	Proposed schedule of the appointing authority, disciplinary authority and appellate authority in respect of the employees of the PPV&FRA	<p>The following schedule of the appointing authority, disciplinary authority and appellate authority in respect of the employees of the PPV&amp;FRA was approved-</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name of the post</th> <th>Appointing Authority/ Disciplinary Authority.</th> <th>Penalties (major/ minor)</th> <th>Appellate Authority.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Registrar General</td> <td>Chairperson</td> <td>All</td> <td>Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Registrar</td> <td>Registrar General</td> <td>All</td> <td>Chairperson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Joint Registrar</td> <td>Registrar General</td> <td>All</td> <td>Chairperson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dy. Registrar</td> <td>Registrar General</td> <td>All</td> <td>Chairperson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Financial Advisor</td> <td>Registrar General</td> <td>All</td> <td>Chairperson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sr. Finance &amp; Accounts Officer</td> <td>Registrar General</td> <td>All</td> <td>Chairperson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Legal Advisor</td> <td>Registrar General</td> <td>All</td> <td>Chairperson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Plant Variety Examiner</td> <td>Registrar General</td> <td>All</td> <td>Chairperson</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Name of the post	Appointing Authority/ Disciplinary Authority.	Penalties (major/ minor)	Appellate Authority.	Registrar General	Chairperson	All	Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority	Registrar	Registrar General	All	Chairperson	Joint Registrar	Registrar General	All	Chairperson	Dy. Registrar	Registrar General	All	Chairperson	Financial Advisor	Registrar General	All	Chairperson	Sr. Finance & Accounts Officer	Registrar General	All	Chairperson	Legal Advisor	Registrar General	All	Chairperson	Plant Variety Examiner	Registrar General	All	Chairperson
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		Sr. Technical Officer	Registrar General	All	Chairperson
		Technical Assistant	Registrar General	All	Chairperson
		Computer Assistant	Registrar General	All	Chairperson
		<p>For all other posts henceforth to be created/redesignated, Registrar General will be Appointing/Disciplinary Authority and Chairperson will be Appellate Authority.</p> <p>In case of deputationist, the guidelines framed by Central Government to initiate disciplinary proceedings during/after deputation will be followed.</p>			
16	Any other point	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chairperson proposed that period of registration for farmers' varieties may be extended as much of the farmers' varieties are yet to be captured for registration. In the public interest it was decided that the period for registration of extant varieties may be decided by the Authority itself and accordingly necessary amendments have to be effected in the rules.</li> </ul> <p>In this regard it was decided to expedite the consolidated proposal for amendment in PPV &amp; FR Rules and Regulations forwarded to the Ministry of Agriculture vide office letter no. PPV &amp; FRA/Legal/01/08/2891 dated 20.12.2013 for notification in the Official Gazette.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dr. Usha Barwale requested that the next meeting of the Authority may be held at Mahyco Research Centre, Jalna. Aurangabad</li> </ul>			
The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair					