



## Celebration of 20<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day of Protection of Plant Variety and Farmers Rights Authority, on 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2024



Protection of Plant Variety and Farmers Rights Authority organized its 20<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day on 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2024 in the Lecture Hall, NAAS, NASC Complex, New Delhi. The program started with the lighting of lamp by the dignitaries.



Dr. D.K Agarwal, Registrar General PPV& FRA



welcomed the dignitaries and participants, and highlighted the two decades progress of the Authority in terms of registration of plant varieties and other aspects. The Chief Guest of the function Padma Bhushan Dr. R.S Paroda, Former Secretary DARE and DG, ICAR and the Founder Chairman of TAAS, in his Foundation day address highlighted the formulation of PPV & FR Act 2001 as a unique law providing plant variety protection rights not only to the breeders but also to the farmers. He

informed why India did not join the UPOV instead adopted “*sui-generis*” system for plant variety protection including Farmers Rights. He also suggested for a proactive role of the authority in registration of extant notified varieties. While appreciating the efforts of the authority in reducing the pendency, he emphasized on creation of greater awareness about the activities of the Authority.



Dr T. Mohapatra, Chairperson PPV & FR Authority in his presidential address highlighted the importance of protection of Plant Varieties to promote the seed industry for more investment in R&D and growth of seed sector in the country. He also urged the scientific community and seed companies



to come forward for protection of their plant variety innovation and assured to facilitate faster registration by the authority. Shri Sanjay Agarwal, former Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare Govt. of India in his remarks appreciated the efforts of the Authority in protection of Plant Genetic

resources conserved by the farmers and expressed his satisfaction in implementation of the various provisions of the PPVFR Act 2001 by the Authority. Dr. P. K Singh, Agriculture Commissioner, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare, GOI and Authority Member in his remarks, shared his experiences in association with the Authority as Registrar and implementation of farmers rights to facilitate the farmers for registration of their conserved varieties.



Dr. R. C. Agarwal, DDG, (Education), ICAR in his remarks highlighted the importance of the Authority and shared his experience during his long association with the Authority as Registrar General and Thanked the Chairperson PPVFRA for keeping him



involved in various committees formed by the Authority. Dr S. K. Singh, DDG (Horti.), ICAR, spoke on the importance of varietal developments in Horticultural crops by various institutes under ICAR and assured for protection under the PPVFRA. Dr. D.K. Yadava, ADG (Seed), ICAR in his remarks highlighted the

importance of Protection of Plant Varieties for the faster growth of the seed Industry. Dr. Ratan Tiwari, Director, ICAR –IIWBR, Karnal in his remarks highlighted



the role of the institute in DUS testing of the Wheat and Barley varieties. He further informed that institute is protecting all potential varieties developed by them under the PPVFR Act 2001.



During the function, certificates were distributed to the licensees of the Wheat Variety of ICAR –IIWBR, Karnal, which has been IP Protected by its registration with PPVFRA. Dr. Deepak Sharma, Prof. Genetics and Plant Breeding, IGKV Raipur felicitated the

Chief Guest Dr Paroda by presenting his portrait made by using rice seeds of farmers varieties. The foundation day celebration was organized in hybrid mode (Physical and online) and was attended by more than 250 Participants including many dignitaries, ADGs ICAR, Directors of ICAR



Institutes, NAAS Fellows, Scientists & head of IARI, NBPGR, Nodal Officers and Pls of various DUS Centers located in different parts of India, Licensees of Seed Companies, Private sectors representatives, Resource farmers and officers and Staffs of PPV&FRA.

The Following points emerged from the deliberation:

1. The Authority may take needful action for organizing Global Symposium on Farmer's Rights by the ITPGRFA on regular interval of four years.
2. To develop short and long term training courses on IP protection on plant varieties.



3. Registration of all Extent Notified varieties at the earliest by the Authority.
4. Documentation of Success Stories of the farmer's variety.
5. Monitoring of the activities of the Farming communities earlier recognized with PGSC Award.
6. To develop the strategy and guideline for the benefit sharing.
7. Use of molecular profiling of plant varieties for faster registration.
8. Clearance of pending applications in a time bound manner



The program ended with a vote of thanks by Dr. Ravi Prakash, Former Registrar and Technical Consultant, PPVFRA.

