



सत्यमेव जयते

# **PLANT GENOME SAVIOR COMMUNITY AWARD**

**FROM THE  
NATIONAL GENE FUND  
(Under section 45 of the PPV&FR Act, 2001 and  
Section 70(2)(a) of PPV&FR Rules, 2003)**

## **APPLICATION FORM AND PROCEDURES**



**PROTECTION OF PLANT VARIETIES AND FARMERS' RIGHTS AUTHORITY  
Ministry of Agriculture  
Government of India  
NASC Complex, 2nd Floor, DPS Marg, Opp. Todapur Village, New Delhi -110 012**

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## **Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers’ Rights Authority – An Introduction**

India is endowed with a range of soil, climate, agricultural systems and sub-species variation of plants. Having considered these potential as vital elements of growth the Indian Parliament passed an Act called the “Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers’ Rights Act, 2001” and rules were drafted in 2003. The Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers’ Rights Authority (PPV&FRA) was established on 11th November, 2005 following the Gazette notification (S.O. 1589-E) in exercise of power conferred by sub-section (1) of Section 3 of PPV&FR Act, 2001. With the joining of the Chairperson in the Authority and Gazette notification in November 2005, the Authority was made functional. The purpose of the Act is to provide:-

- i. To provide for the establishment of an effective system for protection of plant varieties.
- ii. To provide for the rights of farmers and plant breeders.
- iii. To stimulate investment for research and development and to facilitate growth of the seed industry.
- iv. To ensure availability of high quality seeds and planting materials of improved varieties to farmers.

## PLANT GENOME SAVIOR COMMUNITY AWARD

It is an established fact that farmers have been associated in conserving the agro-biodiversity which is linked with varied soils, altitudes, seasons, rituals and social customs. They have shared their materials with research organizations for the development of new plant varieties of high productivity, heat tolerance, early maturity and of good quality for the use of the public at large.

As such plant/agro biodiversity so conserved and supplied to the research organizations and private seed companies has accelerated the growth of agriculture and economy of the country. However, it is an irony that the wealth so accrued does not always percolate to the real conservers and suppliers of the plant/agro biodiversity. If the situation continues due to the economic compulsions operating, farmers/ communities may give up their efforts to conserve and supply plant/agro-biodiversity. This will not be in the interest of conservation of biodiversity.

The objectives of the PPV&FR Act, 2001 states “whereas it is considered necessary to **recognise and protect the rights of the farmers** in respect of their contribution made at any time in conserving, improving and making available plant genetics resources for the development of new plant varieties”.

Based on this objective, section 70(2) of the PPV&FR Rules defines the manner of applying the Gene Fund for the purpose under section 45 of the Act, It states:

“The **Gene Fund** shall be applied for meeting the following **purposes** in accordance with the **priority made hereunder**:

- (a) To support and reward farmers, community of farmers **particularly** the tribal, rural communities engaged in conservation, improvement and preservation of genetic resources of economic plants and their wild relatives particularly in **areas identified as agro-biodiversity hot-spots**;
- (b) For **capacity building** on **ex-situ conservation** the level of the local body, particularly in regions identified as agro-biodiversity hot spots and for **supporting in-situ conservation**”.

Thus, the Act and the Rules thereof, have provided for a mechanism to recognize and reward such farmers/farming communities from the Gene Fund. Establishment of the National Gene Fund has been notified in the Plant Variety Journal of India Vol.1. No.3. The detailed identification and analysis of the Agro-biodiversity Hotspots in the country was carried out by a Task Force constituted by the

Authority and the report of the Task Force is available in the form of a Book in 02 volumes published by the PPV&FRA. The Authority, as a mark of recognition to the agro-biodiversity conservers and protectors, has started the Plant Genome Savior Community Recognition in 2007 and Plant Genome Savior Community Award in 2009.

### **Objective**

The **Plant Genome Savior Community Award** shall be conferred by the Authority annually, based on a national level search and sponsoring. The objective of the Award is:

- To support and reward farmers, community of farmers particularly the tribal, rural communities engaged in conservation, improvement and preservation of genetic resources of economic plants and their wild relatives particularly in areas identified as agro-biodiversity hot-spots.

### **About the Award**

The **Plant Genome Savior Community Award** will be given annually on the basis of the applications from community of farmers/farming community based organizations either directly or through sponsors/ facilitators, in response to advertisement in news papers, mass media, information to institutions, etc. Applications can be send in Hindi or English.

- Awards will be conferred **annually**
- Each award will be of **Rs. 10,00,000/- (Rs. Ten Lakhs only)**
- The Community should be properly represented by their designated representative to receive the award.
- The Award amount will be given in the form of multicity cheque/demand draft in the name of Awardees, to be held by them as joint account for usage by the community.

### **Eligibility for Plant Genome Savior Community Award**

- The Award is open to all Indian farming communities, particularly the tribal and rural communities engaged in conservation, improvement and preservation of genetic resources of economic plants and their wild relatives particularly in the areas identified as Agro-biodiversity Hotspots (list attached as Annexure).

- Applicant should submit supportive information evidence/details/proof on the claims made and their efforts to conserve the genetic resources.
- The applicant may also inform if the material has been utilized by any plant breeder/ organization to evolve better varieties.
- There will be a verification of the claim and if more information is required, the applicant/ sponsors/ facilitators would be asked to furnish the same. The awardees shall finally be decided accordingly.

### **Requirements**

- It is essential for the applicant(s) to submit supportive information to prove that the farmers, community of farmers conserved the crop genetic diversity.
- Similarly, if there is any information regarding large scale seed production of Farmers' varieties that may also be provided.
- The shortlisted applicant(s) shall be required to deposit defined quantity seed/planting material as per procedure, and this shall be a pre-requisite to receive the award.
- The applicants shall be required to submit a brief proposal regarding the utilization of the reward money. The reward money may be utilized for any work related to the Community's welfare decided at the Community level without any restriction from the Authority. Welfare works may include any innovative project/ development schemes etc such as development of local seed bank, water conservation activities at the conservation site, grain/seed threshing facilities, post harvest processing facilities, establishment of farm schools, sustainable community activities, and so on.
- The Panchayats, Agriculture Universities, KVKs, ICAR Institutes, reputed research organizations, NGOs, community based organizations, Farmers' Associations, etc can sponsor nominations.

### **Application form**

- The application form is given as Annexure -1. One set of complete form, duly filled shall reach the Authority before the last date.

- The application form can be obtained from the office of PPV&FRA, SAUs, ICAR Institutes, etc.
- The Guidelines and application form can also be downloaded from the web-site of the Authority [www.plantauthority.gov.in](http://www.plantauthority.gov.in)
- Duly filled one set of application along with supportive information should reach the office of the Authority at the following address:-

Registrar (Farmers' Rights)  
Protection of Plant Varieties & Farmers' Rights Authority  
S-2, 'A' Block  
NASC Complex, DPS Marg, Opp. Todapur Village  
New Delhi-110012  
Tel. No. 011-25840777 (O); 011-25840478 (F)  
E-mail: [ppvfra-agri@nic.in](mailto:ppvfra-agri@nic.in)

## Protection of Plant Varieties & Farmers' Rights Authority

NASC Complex, DPS Marg, Opp. Todapur Village

New Delhi 110 012

### APPLICATION FORM FOR THE 'PLANT GENOME SAVIOR COMMUNITY AWARD'

FOR FARMING COMMUNITIES ENGAGED IN CONSERVATION OF GENETIC RESOURCES OF ECONOMIC PLANTS AND WILD RELATIVES OF ECONOMIC PLANTS AND THEIR IMPROVEMENT THROUGH SELECTION AND PRESERVATION PARTICULARLY IN AREAS IDENTIFIED AS AGRO-BIODIVERSITY HOT SPOTS (AS PER SECTION 45 OF THE PPV&FR Act, 2001 AND SECTION 70(2)(a) OF THE PPV&FR RULES, 2003)

Year\_\_\_\_\_

1.	Name of the Applicant/ Community (ALL CAPITALS)	
2.	Postal address (for correspondence) Block Village P.O. District State Pin Tel. (if any)	
3.	Status of applicant (Community/Farming Community Based Organization)	
4.	Agro biodiversity hot spot area to which the community/applicant belongs? (please refer the list)	
5.	Location(s) of the conservation site(s)	
6.	Plants/Crop(s) in which conservation efforts had been made.	
7.	How many varieties (including farmers' varieties, economic plants, wild relatives and other genetic resources) had been conserved? (give details plant/crop wise)	

8.	How much area is being planted/ cultivated by the applicant with the conserved varieties? (give details)	
9.	Whether any innovative methods of conservation like cultural practices, storage techniques etc developed/ adopted? (give details)	
10.	Give information (if available) about the varieties that were shared with others.	
11.	What is the distinct trait identified in the conserved variety/ varieties? (Give details on variety basis)	
12.	Name of the organization, if any, that identified any useful trait in the conserved varieties.	
13.	Has the variety(ies) been entered in the Peoples' Biodiversity Register maintained by Biodiversity Management Committee	YES/NO
14.	Whether the farming community rewarded or recognized for the conservation efforts by any other organization? (give details)	
15.	Name the agencies (governmental or NGO's) conversant with the claims made	i. Governmental: ii. NGO:
16.	Give a brief outline of the proposed work plan for utilization of the Award Money (in 15-20 lines)	

- Note:
1. **Please sign each page of the Application Form**
  2. **There is no application fee for the farming community.**
  3. **For details/ information in any column, extra pages can be attached as Annexure.**
  4. **Any clarifications can be sought from the officials of PPV&FRA.**

## Protection of Plant Varieties & Farmers' Rights Authority

NASC Complex, DPS Marg, Opp. Todapur Village

New Delhi 110 012

### DECLARATION

**(To be attached as an informal consent from the community /organization/ registered society who represents the society that conserved, improved, preserved and shared the resource.)**

Name and address/telephone no./E-mail of the person with whom the Registrar, PPV&FRA can correspond with:

Name (Block Letters) \_\_\_\_\_

Agro biodiversity Hot spot (as per list) \_\_\_\_\_

Postal address (for correspondence) \_\_\_\_\_

Block \_\_\_\_\_

Village \_\_\_\_\_

P.O. \_\_\_\_\_

District \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Pin \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

It is certified that the above said genetic resource(s) was/were/is being conserved, improved, preserved and cultivated by the applicants/ community of farmers who are permanent residents of above said village(s) and I am/we are fully conversant with the applicant farmers/group or community of farmer and the candidate variety/varieties. The information given in the application

is true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. (strike out the non-applicable words given as options)

Signature

**(Representative(s) of the Farming Community)**

**Verified by a Gazetted official/Panchayat/Registered Organization**

(Chairperson/Secretary of the Concerned Panchayat Biodiversity Management Committee or Concerned District Agricultural Officer or Director of Research of concerned SAU or Concerned District Tribal Development Office)

**(Seal, Sign with date)**

## Agro-biodiversity Hotspots of India

S. No.	Hotspot Region	Areas Covered
1.	<b>Cold Desert</b>	Western Himalyas covering Ladakh and Kargil. Upper reaches of Lahual-Spiti districts of Himachal Pradesh.
2.	<b>Western Himalayan</b>	Districts of Srinagar, Anantnag, Udhampur, Riasi, Kathna in Jammu & Kashmir, all the districts of Himachal Pradesh except the cold arid region and all the districts of Uttarakhand.
3.	<b>Eastern Himalayan</b>	All the districts of Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Darjeeling district of West Bengal.
4.	<b>Brahmaputra Valley</b>	Dhubri, Kokrajhar, Bongaigaon, Barpeta, Nalbari, Goalpara, Kamrup, Golaghat, Darrang, Morigaon, Nagaon, Sonitpur, Jorhat, Lakhimpur, Sibsagar, Dibrugarh, Dhemaji and Tinsukia.
5.	<b>Khasia-Jaintia-Garo Hills</b>	All the seven districts of Meghalaya, i.e. East Garo Hills, West Garo Hills, South Garo Hills, East Khasi Hills, West Khasi Hills, Jaintia Hills and Ri-Bhoi.
6.	<b>North-Eastern Hills</b>	All the districts of Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and the adjoining Cachar and North Cachar districts of Asom.
7.	<b>Arid Western</b>	Sikar, Nagaur, Pali, Hanumangarh, Ganganagar, Jalore, Sirohi, Jodhpur, parts of Jaisalmer and Bikaner, Udaipur, Dungarpur, Churu, and Jhunjhunun districts of Rajasthan.
8.	<b>Malwa Plateau and Central Highlands</b>	Malwa plateau, Central highlands, the Mewar plateau and semi-arid south-eastern Rajasthan. Shadol, Raisen, Bhopal, Sehore, Shajapur, Indore, Ujjain, Mandasaur, Rajgarh Hoshangabad, Narsinghpur, Jabalpur, Mandla, Umaria districts.
9.	<b>Kathiawar</b>	Ahemadabad, Surendranagar, Jamnagar, Rajkot, Porbandar, Junagadh, Amreli, Bhavnagar, Bharuch, Surat, Navsari, Valsad, Banaskantha and Anand districts of Gujarat.
10.	<b>Bundelkhand</b>	Districts of Jhansi, Banda, Chitrakoot, Hamirpur, Jalaun and Lalitpur in Uttar Pradesh and Damoha, Datia, Panna, Sagar, Tikamagarh and Chattarpur in Madhya Pradesh.
11.	<b>Upper Gangetic Plains</b>	Districts of Hardoi, Sitapur, Barabanki, Lucknow, Unnao, Rae Bareilly, Kanpur, Kannuj of Central Uttar Pradesh and the districts of Maharajganj, Sidharatnagar, Kushinagar, Deoria, Sant Kabir Nagar, Gorakhpur, Basti of North-eastern Uttar Pradesh.

<b>12.</b>	<b>Lower Gangetic Plains</b>	Districts of Paschim Champaran, Purbi Champaran, Gopalganj, Siwan, Sitamarhi, Muzaffarpur, Saran, Buxar, Bhojpur, Patna, Rohatas, Jahanabad, Vaishali, Samastipur, Darbanga, Madhubani, Sheohar in North Bihar.
<b>13.</b>	<b>Gangetic Delta</b>	Broadly includes the deltaic 24-Parganas districts, and the districts of Hoogly, Howrah, Nadia, Bardhaman, Birbhum and Murshidabad.
<b>14.</b>	<b>Chotanagpur</b>	Districts of Singhbhum, Gumla, Ranchi, Lohardaga, Palamau and Hazaribagh and Santhal Pargana in Jharkhand and Mayurbhanj district in Orissa.
<b>15.</b>	<b>Bastar</b>	Districts of Bastar, Bilaspur, Durg, Jashpur, Kabirdham, Kanker, Kirba, Korba, Mahasamund, Kondaigaon, and Rajnangoan of Chattisgarh.
<b>16.</b>	<b>Koraput</b>	Districts of Malkangiri, Sonabeda, Jeypore, Koraput, Nabrangpur, Kalahandi, Bolangir, Rayagada of Orissa and districts of north eastern Andhra Pradesh i.e. Srikakulam, Vijanagaram and Vizagapatnam.
<b>17.</b>	<b>Southern Eastern Ghats</b>	Districts of Chittoor, Ananthapur, Cuddapah and Kurnool in Andhra Pradesh and districts of Bellary, Raichur and Kolar in Karnataka.
<b>18.</b>	<b>Kaveri</b>	Districts of Chengalput, South Arcot, North Arcot, Thiuvennamalai, Tiruchirapalli, Pudukottai, Thiruarur, Vellore, Kanchipuram, Dharmapuri, Salem, Namakkal, Karur and Dindigal.
<b>19.</b>	<b>Deccan</b>	Districts of Jalna, Hingoli, Parbhani, Beed, Nanded, Latur, Osmanabad, Solapur, Sangli, Gondia, Gadchiroli in Maharashtra, districts of Adilabad, Karimnagar, Warangal and Khamman in Andhra Pradesh and districts of Bidar and Gulbarga in Karnataka.
<b>20.</b>	<b>Konkan</b>	Coastal districts of Thane, Raigad, Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg and part of Sahyadri districts of Pune, Satara and Kolhapur of Maharashtra, all the districts of Goa and Uttara Kannada district of Karnataka.
<b>21.</b>	<b>Malabar</b>	Districts of Kasargod, Kannur, Wayanad, Kozikode, Malappuram, Palakkad, Thrissur, Idukki, Ernakulam, Alappuzha, Kollam, Kottayam, Pathanamthitta & Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala, Udhamandalam (Nilgiri) and Kanyakumari districts of Tamil Nadu and districts of Dakshin Kannada, Kodagu and Udipi in Karnataka.
<b>22.</b>	<b>Islands</b>	Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep