



Training cum Awareness Programme on Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act at ICAR-VPKAS, Almora organized on 28th September, 2023



The Regional Training cum Awareness Programme on “Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers’ Right Act 2001” was organized jointly by ICAR-VPKAS, Almora and Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers’ Rights Authority, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India on 28-09-2023 at ICAR-VPKAS, Experimental Farm, Hawalbagh Almora, Uttarakhand to create awareness among the officials of



local KVKs, NGOs, farmers, staff, students and other stakeholders for protecting plant varieties. Approx 120 farmers, PGSC Awardees, representatives of FPOs, students, KVK staff, scientists from ICAR-VPKAS participated in the programme.

Dr. Lakshmi Kant, Director ICAR-VPKAS, Almora explained PPVFRA's role in the protection of plant

breeders' rights, the promotion of farmers' rights, agricultural innovation, economic benefits, knowledge dissemination and international cooperation and encouraged the farmers to secure ownership rights for their varieties through their registration with PPV&FR Authority, New Delhi.

Chief Guest Dr. Pramod Kumar Pandey, Director, ICAR-DCFR, Bhimtal, appreciated the efforts of Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority for their contribution in empowering plant breeders and farmers by providing intellectual property protection on the plant varieties.



Shri Dipal Roy Choudhury, Joint Registrar, PPVFRA presented an overview of the PPVFR Act, 2001 and talked about the various provisions to safeguard the rights of both plant breeders and farmers, functioning of authority, registration criteria, PGSC awards etc. He highlighted the various successful examples of registered FVs with PPVFRA that are befitting farmers of the country. He also interacted with the audience and addressed all queries asked by farmers,



scientist and other stakeholders.

Dr. R.K. Khulbe, Pr. Scientist, ICAR-VPKAS, Almora presented an "Overview of Geographical Indications and protection of traditional knowledge" and also discussed several GI's from the state, procedures, benefits to local communities. Progressive farmer Shri Gopal Dutt Upreti, PGSC Awardee (individual category in reward 2021-22)

shared his experiences and urged farmers from Uttarakhand to register plant varieties to secure IPR rights. One representative from "Gramin Khadya Samprabhoota Samooh" PGSC awardee (community category) in 2014-15 shared their experiences in agrobiodiversity conservation in millets, cereals, vegetables etc. Several farmers interacted with the panelists and scientists from ICAR-VPKAS.


