



Stakeholders' Consultation on the Study on the Plants Breeders' rights and Royalty Payment in the Indian Floriculture Sector

0930 – 1145 hrs. CET. | Friday 21st March 2025 | Hybrid format (*in-person consultation at KF Bioplants, Pune*)

MS TEAMS Link: <https://teams.live.com/join/9315358843082?p=vBxcMI646y0Ff1uaeL>

Initial (draft) findings in Annexure I

Background:

In commercial floriculture, Plant Breeders' Rights (PBR) and royalty payments are the primary revenue sources for breeders, supporting their efforts and incentivizing innovation in further breeding. In India, the concepts of PBR and royalties were largely unknown until the late 1980s. The 1988 Seed Development Policy improved access to quality plant material but failed to convey the significance of these concepts, as the focus remained on domestic markets. With the rise of export-oriented floriculture in the 1990s, royalty payments were viewed as an added cost without recognizing their true value. Despite the 2001 Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act (PPVFRA), which aimed to protect breeders' rights, the lack of alignment with the international UPOV system led to skepticism abroad and limited access to new varieties. This has resulted in widespread illegal propagation of imported crops. For India's floriculture sector to thrive, all stakeholders must fully understand and value PBR and royalty systems to enhance the uniqueness and quality of plant materials.

About the 'Study on Royalty Payment and Breeders' rights in Indian Floriculture':

The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in India has commissioned a study on royalty payment and breeders' rights in Indian floriculture' to understand the whole concept of PBR and royalty payments in Indian floriculture sector and find ways to improve its implementation.

The main objectives of this study are to:

- ✓ Identify roadblocks and possible solutions for maintaining the tenets of the breeders' right and royalty payments.
- ✓ Need for adhering to breeder's right and royalty payment for larger interest of the Indian floriculture.

As a part of the study, insights of important stakeholders from floriculture sector on the topic of plant breeders' rights and royalty payments have been collected and analyzed. A detailed report will then be formulated and launched with series of recommendation after due consultation with the key stakeholders

About the Stakeholders' Consultation

A Stakeholder Consultation is being organized to discuss and validate the findings of study with the key representatives from the Indian floriculture eco-system including government, industry, academia, international sectorial associations as well as growers.

The stakeholder consultation will highlight different perspectives – from requirements to challenges and possible solutions for effective implementation of plant breeders' rights for larger interest of the Indian floriculture sector. Thus, the stakeholder consultation will be a critical step towards making the study more comprehensive and relevant to the need of the floriculture sector.

Initial (draft) findings of the study are enclosed in the Annexure I of this document.



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Program		
0930 – 0940 hrs. CET	<i>Welcome remarks</i>	Kishore Rajhans Director, KF Bioplants
0940 – 0950 hrs. CET	<i>Opening remarks and Context setting.</i>	Michiel van Erkel Agriculture Counselor for India and Sri Lanka, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in India
0950 – 1000 hrs. CET	<i>Special remarks I</i>	Priya Ranjan* Joint Secretary – Horticulture, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India, and Managing Director, National Horticulture Board
1000 – 1010 hrs. CET	<i>Special remarks II</i>	<i>Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra</i> <i>Chairperson, Protection of Plant Varieties and the Farmers Rights Authority – PPVFRA</i>
1010 – 1030 hrs. CET	<i>Presentation on the findings of the 'Study on royalty payment and plants breeders' right in Indian Floriculture' by Dr. Narendra Dadlani.</i>	
1030 – 1130 hrs. CET	<i>Discussion on the findings of the study</i> <i>To be moderated by: Dr. Dinesh Kumar Agarwal, Registrar General, PPVFRA</i>	
1130 – 1140 hrs. CET	Summarizing the discussion/highlighting the take-aways by Dr. Narendra Dadlani	
1140 -1145 hrs. CET	<i>Vote of thanks & close of the program</i>	Michiel van Erkel Agriculture Counselor for India and Sri Lanka, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in India

* To be confirmed