

Minutes of the  
**15<sup>th</sup> General Body Meeting (GBM)**  
of the

**Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources, (ISPGR), New Delhi**

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**Date:** December 19, 2025    **Time:** 2:30 PM onwards    **Agenda:** *Annexure 1*

**Meeting Mode:** Hybrid    **Venue:** NAAS Committee Room 1, NASC, Pusa Campus, New Delhi

**Platform:** Online (via Zoom)

**Attendees:** A total of **30 members** attend the meeting, thereby fulfilling quorum of GB (minimum 25 members) (*Annexure 2*)

<b>EC Members (2025-2027)</b>	Dr R.S. Paroda	President
	Dr R.K. Tyagi	Vice President & Editor-in-Chief, IJPGR
	Dr Sherry Rachel Jacob	Joint Secretary
	Dr Kuldeep Tripathi	Treasurer
	Dr Pawan Kumar Malav	Councillor (NZ)
	Dr Sandeep Kumar	Councillor (NZ)
	Dr N. Sivaraj*	Councillor (SZ)
	Dr V.R. Sahi*	Councillor (CZ)
<b>Member Secretary</b>	Dr Anuradha Agrawal	General Secretary
<b>GB Members</b>	Please see <i>Annexure 2</i>	

*\*Online attendees*

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### 1. Confirmation of Agenda

- The agenda circulated prior to the meeting was as per *Annexure 1*, on Nov 14, 2025, by email.
  - **Resolution:** The agenda were approved by the GB, as circulated.
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### 2. Confirmation of Minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> GBM

- The minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> General Body Meeting held on October 25, 2024 were circulated in November 25, 2024.
  - **Resolution:** The minutes were approved by the GB, as circulated.
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### 3. Agenda # 1 & 2: Welcome and Opening Remarks

- Dr. Anuradha Agrawal, General Secretary (GS), extended a warm welcome to the Chairman and all members of the Executive Council (EC) and General Body (GB), attending either in person or virtually. She expressed her gratitude for the President's guidance and leadership, which has enabled many activities of ISPGR under his tenure. She informed that Dr RC Agrawal, Vice President and some other members of the EC could not attend the meeting due to other prior commitments.
- While welcoming the members of General Body (GB) present, Dr R. S. Paroda, expressed his satisfaction on the overall progress made by ISPGR. He appreciated Dr R. K. Tyagi for efficiently fulfilling the dual responsibilities of Vice President and Editor-in-Chief with exemplary diligence

and dedication.

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#### 4. Agenda # 3a: Action Taken Report on Matters Arising during the 14<sup>th</sup> GBM

- **Item:** Regarding improvement of IJPGR's NAAS rating above 6.0 by inviting more review articles from reputed national and international scientists, increasing citations, and considering national journals in NAAS evaluations. It was agreed to take up these points in a future NAAS meeting relating to ratings of journals.

**Action Taken:** One to two review articles, including contributions from international authors, are now being regularly featured in the issues of IJPGR. Further, the matter has been discussed with several members of ISPGR who are also NAAS Fellows, and it is currently under active consideration by the NAAS group. A committee is being constituted to enhance the IJPGR rating and overall quality.

- **Item:** It was suggested that a roundtable and an interface meeting be organized with the private sector to address public-private partnerships (PPP) in germplasm exchange, research collaboration, private sector needs, support to farmers, value addition through sustainable PGR use, ABS issues, and a consortia approach for sustainable use of genetic resources..

**Action Taken:** ISPGR was a co-organizer in the 'National Symposium on Hybrid Technology for Enhancing Crop Productivity (NSHT) (Jan 8-10, 2025) in which the issue of PPP was deliberated in several aspects, including strong push for mutually beneficial PPPs in hybrid R&D, seed production, and dissemination, need for transparent, flexible licensing models and fair access-benefit sharing mechanisms were recommended.

- **Discussion:**

- The President, ISPGR highlighted the Society's achievements and research contributions, and underscored the need for a dedicated brainstorming session on journal ratings and open-access policies.
- Dr S.B. Dandin, former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Horticultural Sciences (UHS), Bagalkot, raised concerns about the passive involvement of state agricultural universities and other organizations in ISPGR activities. He suggested proactive measures, including sending letters to university heads and creating institutional membership options. The General Secretary acknowledged the suggestion and mentioned ongoing efforts to enhance collaboration, including regional conferences and institutional membership drives.
- The group discussed the postponement of Western Ghats symposium and agreed to reschedule it, covering both Western and Eastern Ghats genetic resources. It may now be held in May 2026.
- Dr S.K. Vasal, World Food Laureate and Emeritus Scientist from CIMMYT highlighted the need to utilize existing germplasm materials from international centers for pre-breeding and breeding programs and proposed creating breeding populations for maize, offering financial support for such an initiative.
- The General Secretary informed about plans to organize a brainstorming session with NAAS and PAAS (Professional Association of Agricultural Societies) to address journal rating concerns and to possibly consider needed changes in the ecosystem for scholarly publications.

- **Resolution:** The ATR were approved by the GB.
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#### 5. Agenda # 3b: Progress Report of ISPGR

- Dr Anuradha Agrawal, GS, presented the progress report of ISPGR since the last GBM (*Annexure*

3). Summary of key points are:

- The ISPGR elections for the EC (2025-27) were held as schedule in Oct-Dec 2024. It is admirable that all positions were filled unopposed (*Annexure 3a*).
- The new EC held three meetings during 2025 to deliberate and plan on various activities of the Society.
- The ISPGR shifted its office to NASC (Office Block A) in 2025, after vacating its office in NBPGR premises since its inception (1987) (*Annexure 3b*).
- Since last GBM, ISPGR organized one national symposium, and co-organized one international congress and one national symposium.
- ISPGR provided comments to the draft Seed Bill 2025, in consultation with TAAS, NAAS, ISGPB, ISSST on Dec 10, 2025.
- 3 issues of IJPGR, 3 proceedings, 1 policy brief published in last one year.
- The 4th Dr D.S. Athwal Memorial Lecture and ISPGR Awards (2024) held in the forenoon of Dec 19, 2025.

• **Discussion:**

- The President, ISPGR, and members present appreciated the excellent achievements of the Society and the meticulous presentation made by the GS.
- Dr Paroda suggested that the document on the comments of the New Seed Bill 2025, developed jointly by ISPGR and others, be circulated to all members of ISPGR. Also the ISPGR website be updated regularly for the benefit of all.

*(Action: General Secretary)*

- It was suggested that efforts be made to re-organize the National Symposium on Harnessing PGR of the Western Ghats (expanded to include Eastern Ghats and broader genetic resources), targeting January for planning and May for the conference in Bangalore, Accordingly a new circular be issued and call for abstracts initiated at the earliest.

*(Action: Dr Sherry Jacob and Dr Rohini M.)*

- **Resolution:** The Secretary's Report was accepted by the GB with appreciation of sincere efforts made by Dr Anuradha Agrawal.

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## 6. Agenda # 4: Progress Report of IJPGR

- Dr R.K. Tyagi, Editor-in-Chief, presented the report related to publication of IJPGR (*Annexure 4*). Summary of key points are:
  - Three issues of IJPGR (Vol 37 (3) of 2024, 38 (1) and 38 (2) of 2025, were published, while Vol 38(3) is in press.
  - A total of 54 manuscripts were received, with a rejection rate of 67% (19 of 39 processed manuscripts), 29 manuscripts under review, and 4 accepted for publication.
  - Two new editors were inducted from April 2025, and all submissions were processed exclusively through the online portal, with an average manuscript processing time of seven months
  - Following notice from MRI on November 17, 2025, to discontinue services after Issue 38(3), arrangements are underway to transition to the ICAR-DKMA e-publication portal, with the shift expected to take about a month. However considerations for maintaining DOI validity and managing printing costs for hard copies needed some efforts.

- **Discussion:**

- The President commended the Editor-in-Chief, Editors, Reviewers, and ISPGR staff for their collective efforts in ensuring the journal's timely publication, and encouraged more committed individuals to come forward to support and strengthen its operations. He also gave special appreciation to Dr R.K. Tyagi, Editor-in-Chief, for taking on additional responsibilities and playing a key role in the timely publication of the current volumes of IJPGR.
- The IJPGR team was urged to continue efforts to solicit and publish review articles from international authors to increase journal visibility and quality. They were also told to complete the transition of the IJPGR from MRI publisher to DKMA portal after publishing the current issue, including porting all data.

*(Action: Editor-in-Chief, Editors and General Secretary)*

- **Resolution:** The Editor-in-Chief's Report was accepted by the GB.
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## 7. Agenda # 5: Financial Report of ISPGR

- Dr Kuldeep Tripathi, Treasurer, presented the financial report related to ISPGR (*Annexure 5*). Summary of key points are:
    - The audited report of for the FY 2024-25 was presented to the GB, and accepted by all (*Annexure 5a*).
    - For the FY 2025-26, opening balance was Rs 1,24,55,044.28.
    - During the period April 1 to Nov 30, 2025, an income of Rs 40,24,266.00 was received through Membership, journal subscription, donations, sponsorship etc.
    - During the period April 1 to Nov 30, 2025, an expenditure of Rs 38,60,617.45 was incurred, a large part of it was due to expenses on shifting to new ISPGR office and its renovation, besides salary, stationery, awards, publications, postage etc.
    - The Society has successfully achieved the 1000 membership target, including 24 life members added during the period.
  - **Discussion:**
    - The GB expressed satisfaction with the Society's sound financial position. President suggested that future revenue could be enhanced through expanded membership drive as well as holding symposia, seeking external sponsorship and CSR support.
  - **Resolution:** The Treasurer's Report was accepted by the GB with appreciation on record for dedicated service put in by Dr Kuldeep Tripathi.
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## 8. Agenda # 6: Any Other Items

- Dr S.K. Vasal emphasized the importance of aligning research by NBPGR and other institutes with national needs and suggested to identify and support research and innovation on neglected/under-utilized plants for economic potential. Dr S.B. Dandin proposed organizing a brainstorming session to identify crops with multipurpose use and economic viability, suggesting that the Society could play a catalytic role in this direction. The discussion also highlighted the potential of Indian plant materials in global research, as evidenced by recent Nobel Prize awards.
- Dr Gurinder Jit Randhawa, former HoD, DGR, ICAR-NBPGR expressed concerns about the lack of participation by young members in ISPGR events and the need for more inclusive participation. She also discussed the importance of recognizing and rewarding out-of-box thinking and efforts,

particularly in the context of NAAS and other such Fellowships.

- Dr M.C. Yadav, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NBPGR suggested that ISPGR consider shifting IJPGR to established publishers (such as Springer) to increase the visibility of journal. Editor-in-Chief informed that an exercise was done by his predecessor, but IJPGR needs to meet many criteria before publishers agree to on-board any journal.
- Dr Paroda informed the GB that ISPGR Assistant, Mr. Sunil Bhardwaj, had been critically ill and hospitalized in the ICU of a private hospital since December 5, 2025. In the absence of health insurance and due to financial constraints, his family faced difficulty in meeting hospital expenses of about ₹4-5 lakh. ISPGR released his November salary and an advance for December, and Dr Paroda, along with Dr R.K. Tyagi and Dr Anuradha Agrawal, contributed Rs 25,000 each (total ₹75,000) as immediate support. On humanitarian grounds, Dr. Paroda proposed a one-time grant of ₹1 lakh from ISPGR, which was unanimously approved by the GB. Dr S.K. Kaushik further suggested that willing members present in the meeting may also contribute directly to Mr. Sunil, and intimation to the Treasurer.

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## 9. Agenda # 7: Remarks by Vice President

- Dr R. K. Tyagi recalled his long association with the ISPGR Executive Committee and acknowledged the pivotal role played by Dr Paroda in elevating the Society to a global platform. He noted that the First International Agronomy Congress (IAC), held in New Delhi in 2016, significantly enhanced ISPGR's stature and marked the beginning of the IAC as a global rolling event. He expressed deep satisfaction in his continued association with the ISPGR and IAC, including the recently concluded congress in Kunming, China.
- He also informed the GB about the forthcoming 'Global Conference on Women in Agri-Food Systems – Driving Progress, Attaining New Heights (GCWAS-2026)', scheduled for March 12–14, 2026, at the ICAR Convention Centre, New Delhi. The conference will commemorate the United Nations' declaration of 2026 as the International Year of Women Farmers and is expected to be a landmark event, similar to the 1st IAC, under the leadership of Dr Paroda. About 500 participants from India and abroad, representing research, policy, CGIAR centers, NGOs, farmers' organizations, industry, start-ups, entrepreneurs, successful women farmers, and students, are expected to attend. The conference aims to catalyze policy reforms, enhance public awareness, foster international collaboration, and mobilize resources to advance women's role in agriculture. He invited all members to participate actively and disseminate information about the event, and encouraged them to visit the conference website for abstract submission and registration. (<https://gcwas.taas.in/>).
- Dr. Tyagi further stated that he would welcome the appointment of a new Editor-in-Chief for the journal and assured his full support in mentoring and facilitating a smooth transition.

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## 10. Agenda # 8: Remarks by President

- Dr R.S. Paroda, President, ISPGR expressed his deep satisfaction with the Society's overall activities.. He noted with pleasure that the 4th Dr. D. S. Athwal Memorial Lecture, delivered earlier that morning by Dr. Sanjay Kumar, Chairman, ASRB, was outstanding, and he commended the speaker for presenting his scientific achievements in an inspiring manner.
- Dr. Paroda congratulated the recipients of the ISPGR Awards presented earlier in the day and placed on record his appreciation for the Awards Selection Jury, comprising Drs. S. K. Vasal, R. C. Agrawal, B. M. Prasanna, Pratibha Brahmi, and Anuradha Agrawal. He also acknowledged the commendable efforts of the General Secretary for her meticulous planning and effective organization of both the award function and the lecture.

- Highlighting the importance of recommendations emerging from scientific discussions organized by professional societies, Dr. Paroda cited the NHST policy brief that contributed to the Government's announcement of the Seed Mission, as well as a report prepared under his chairmanship on the Safety Duplicate Genebank, which formed the basis for establishing a safety genebank in the country, on the pattern of Svalbard Global Seed Vault, as national seed vault of its own type.
- He further suggested that ISPGR members approach ICAR through NBPGR to consider reviving the National Advisory Committee on Agrobiodiversity, with a view to strengthening India's leadership in policy formulation and research prioritization in genetic resources management. He emphasized the continued need for advocacy to assign the national mandate for agrobiodiversity to ICAR-DARE under the National Biodiversity Act, 2002.

*(Action: All Concerned)*

- Concluding his remarks, Dr. Paroda proposed measures to enhance communication regarding GBM meetings and to encourage greater member participation. He suggested, where feasible, extending the notice period for future GBMs and issuing more frequent invitations to engage members more actively, particularly young scientists and students..

*(Action: General Secretary)*

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## 10. Agenda # 9: Vote of Thanks

- The meeting concluded at 4.45 p.m. with a vote of thanks proposed to the Chair and all members by Dr Sherry Rachel Jacob, Joint Secretary.

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## Signatures



**Anuradha Agrawal**  
(General Secretary)



**R.S. Paroda**  
(President)

Date: January 2, 2026

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## 15<sup>th</sup> General Body Meeting (GBM) of the ISPGR December 19, 2025 (Friday)

Hybrid Mode

Venue: NAAS Committee Room 1, NASC, Pusa Campus, New Delhi

Zoom Link

<https://zoom.us/j/92893746934?pwd=JTKJ7OoIEc68S4mKPYUwbZlIdYYbOH.1>

Meeting ID: 928 9374 6934

Passcode: 642457

### AGENDA

14:30-14:35	Agenda 1: Welcome Remarks	<b>Anuradha Agrawal</b> General Secretary
14:35-14:45	Agenda 2: Introductory Remarks by Chairman	<b>R.S. Paroda</b> President
14:45-15:00	Agenda 3: Confirmation of Minutes of 14 <sup>th</sup> GBM, Action Taken Report (ATR) and Progress Report of ISPGR	<b>Anuradha Agrawal</b> General Secretary
15:00-15:10	Agenda 4: Progress of IJPGR	<b>R.K. Tyagi</b> Editor-in-Chief, IJPGR
15:10-15:20	Agenda 5: Financial Report of ISPGR	<b>Kuldeep Tripathi</b> Treasurer
15:20-15:25	Agenda 6: Any other item (with permission of Chair)	
15:25-15:35	Agenda 7: Remarks	<b>R.K. Tyagi and R.C. Agrawal</b> Vice Presidents
15:35-15:45	Agenda 8: Presidential Address	<b>R.S. Paroda</b> President
15:45-15:50	Agenda 9: Vote of Thanks	<b>Sherry Rachel Jacob</b> Joint Secretary
15.50	Tea	

## LIST OF GB PARTICIPANTS

15th General Body Meeting (GBM) of  
Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources (ISPGR)  
NASC, New Delhi, December 19, 2025

## ATTENDANCE SHEET

S.no.	Name	Designation	Institute	Signature
1.	Dr. S. K. Bera	Director ICAR-IIGR, India	ICAR-IIGR, Jumargadh, Guj	
2.	Dr. Shailesh Tiwari	Research Associate	ICAR-NBPGR New Delhi	
3.	Dr. SHELRY JAIN	Principal Sien tist, DLR, NBPGR	NBPGR	
4.	Dr. K. S. Hounde	P.S.	NBPGR	
5.	Dr. H. L. Raiger	Pr. Sienst	NBPGR	
6.	Dr. Mahesh C. Yadav	Principal Scientist	ICAR-NBPGR, New Delhi	
7.	Rajesh Kumar	Pr. Scientist	NBPGR Delhi	
8.	Jameal Akhtar	Pr. Scientist	NBPGR	
9.	Parddeep Kumar	Sr. Scientist	NBPGR	
10.	Ravi Ranathi	Scientist	NBPGR	
11.	Kuldip Singh	Sr. Scientist	NBPGR	
12.	V. Cella Chelam	PSS Head, DPG	NBPGR	
13.	Anjin Mahendru Singh	Head, DGS	NBPGR	
14.	Gurinder Raghawa			} Online
15.	PL Gantam			
16.	VP Shah			
17.	Sivang Natnaga			
18.	Dr. Sandhu			

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S.no.	Name	Designation	Institute	Signature
19.	Dr. DINESH KUMAR	Executive Secretary	IAVA	
20.	S. K. Kulkarni	Pr. Sci.	ICAR-NBPGR	
21.	Randeep Kumar	Councillor North zone	ICAR-NBPGR	
22.	Pavan Kumar Malvi	Councillor North zone	ICAR-NBPGR	
23.	Dr. Shilpa Parasharam	Life member	ICAR-NRC on Pomigrants, Solapur	
24.	Dr. R. S. Baroda	President, ISPGR	ISPGR	
25.	R. K. Tyagi	VP	ISPGR	
26.	Rajkumar			} Online
27.	Jyoti Kumari			
28.	Sandhya Gupta			
29.	Anusdha Agrawal	PD, DKMA		
30.	S. K. Varad			

## Report of General Secretary, ISPGR

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### 1. ISPGR Elections for Executive Council (2025-27)

- The Election Committee nominated by ISPGR EC to conduct the 2024 elections of ISPGR EC (2025-27) for 16 posts, comprised Dr Dinesh Kumar (Election Officer), Dr Pratibha Brahma (member) and Dr S. Gopal Krishnan (member).
- Election schedule was prepared as per Rules and Guidelines, and announced as following:
  - Notification of Election (by email): By 04 December 2024, Wednesday
  - Last date of receiving nomination: 19 December 2024 (5.30 PM) Thursday
  - Last date of withdrawal of nomination: 31 December 2024 (5.30 PM) Tuesday
  - Display of final list of contestants: 02 January 2025 (5.30 PM) Thursday
  - Dispatch of e-ballot link/ballots: Latest by 17 January 2025 (5.30 PM) Friday
  - Last date of receipt of e-ballots/ballots: 10 February 2025 (5.30 PM) Monday
  - Counting of votes and notification of results: 12 February 2025 Wednesday
- Total nominations received = 21  
No nomination received for 1 post of Councillor (WZ).
- After last date of withdrawal of nominations, candidates for the posts of President, Vice Presidents, General Secretary, Joint Secretary, Treasurer and Councillors elected unopposed (*Annexure 2a*).
- The new EC took charge w.e.f. Jan 6, 2025. ISPGR thanks the Election Committee for efficiently conducting the elections.

### 2. Meetings Held

- The 14<sup>th</sup> GBM was held on October 25, 2025 at Umiam, Meghalaya, in a hybrid mode. Proceedings were circulated on November 25, 2024 and also sent to the Registrar of Societies Office.
- Since the last GBM, four meetings of the EC were held (Jan. 6; March 28, July 18, and Dec. 1, 2025), to discuss and decide the various issues related to activities and growth of the Society. Based on the decisions and suggestions of above meetings, the activities held are enumerated hereunder.

### 3. Events Organized

- (i) ***National Conference on Managing Agrobiodiversity in North-Eastern India From Biodiversity to Bio-wealth*** (NCMAN-2024)
- The ISPGR in collaboration with ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam, Meghalaya and ICAR-NBPGR, New Delhi, organized the NCMAN-2024 during October 23-25, 2024 to (i) provide an opportunity to researchers, academicians, policy makers, students and farmers to present their research results, views and suggestions relating to current developments in the area of genetic diversity management and develop the roadmap for future, and (ii) sensitize all the stakeholders for innovative conservation and utilization of the diverse genetic resources of the region for sustainable agriculture and the way forward of genetic resources-led livelihood and nutritional security for resource-poor farmers and consumers. NCMAN-2024 also aimed to address the agrobiodiversity management challenges faced by NEH

region, by fostering dialogue among researchers, policymakers, farmers, and stakeholders to develop a roadmap for conserving and utilizing agrobiodiversity for sustainable agriculture and biowealth creation, aligning with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of zero hunger and poverty by 2030.

- The event brought together over 250 delegates, including representatives from ICAR and its institutes, PPV&FRA, international research organizations (Alliance Bioversity, CIAT, ICARDA, ICRISAT), Central/State Universities, CSIR, Meghalaya Biodiversity Board, Directorate of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary, NABARD, other Meghalaya government agencies, the Tea Research Institute, etc.
- In view of climate change, habitat loss, and erosion of traditional knowledge, urgent action is needed to explore, document, conserve, and sustainably utilize diversity in NER. Key priorities include launching coordinated expeditions, creating a comprehensive inventory of genetic resources, strengthening research and conservation through modern tools, and integrating biodiversity into farming systems. Protection of farmers' rights, traditional knowledge, livestock breeds, fish, and microbes through appropriate legal and IPR frameworks is essential. Emphasis is placed on quality planting material, value addition, entrepreneurship, high-value sectors such as floriculture and ornamental fisheries, and capacity building. Strong policy, financial support, public-private partnerships, and community participation are critical to ensure long-term conservation and sustainable use of agrobiodiversity in NE India.

(ii) ***National Symposium in Hybrid Technology (NSHT) for Crop Improvement***

- The NSHT was organized by TAAS, and ISPGR was one of the Co-organizers, and it was held in New Delhi during Jan. 8-10, 2025.
- The symposium deliberated on the pivotal role of hybrid breeding in enhancing crop productivity, resilience, and nutritional security in the face of climate change and growing food demand. The proceedings emphasized that hybrid technology remains a cornerstone of modern crop improvement, offering significant yield advantages, stability, and adaptability across diverse agro-ecological regions.
- Experts highlighted recent advances in hybrid breeding approaches, including the use of molecular markers, genomics-assisted selection, cytoplasmic male sterility systems, and doubled haploids to accelerate hybrid development. The integration of conventional breeding with modern biotechnological tools was underscored as essential for improving efficiency, precision, and speed in developing next-generation hybrids.
- The symposium also addressed challenges such as narrowing genetic diversity, high seed costs, limited adoption in certain crops, and regulatory and policy constraints. Participants stressed the importance of broadening the genetic base through pre-breeding, conservation of germplasm, and greater use of indigenous and climate-resilient traits. Strengthening public-private partnerships and improving seed systems were identified as key enablers for wider dissemination of hybrid technologies.
- Attention was given to farmer-centric innovation, capacity building, and the need for supportive policies to ensure affordability, accessibility, and sustainability of hybrid seeds. The proceedings concluded that a strategic, science-led, and inclusive approach to hybrid technology is critical for achieving sustainable crop improvement, food security, and agricultural competitiveness in India.

(iii) ***Sustainability Challenges and Solutions for Farmer-led Initiatives on Community Genebanks***

- A Side Event (S14, T6) titled "Sustainability Challenges and Solutions for Farmer-led Initiatives on Community Genebanks" was organized during the 3rd International Agrobiodiversity Congress (IAC) on 21 May 2025 in Kunming, Yunnan, China.

- The session was co-hosted by ISPGR, New Delhi; Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT, India Office, New Delhi; Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS), New Delhi; and M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF), Chennai. About 40 participants comprising policymakers, scientists, practitioners, students, and farmers gathered to promote knowledge exchange and collaboration.
- The deliberations highlighted the urgent need to protect and promote farmer-led community genebanks as vital biodiversity nodes within agricultural systems. While ex situ conservation remains important, in situ and on-farm conservation led by farmers is fundamental for resilience, particularly in climate-vulnerable regions. The meeting recommended the following actions:
  - Establish national and regional registries of community genebanks.
  - Develop a Red List of agrobiodiversity at risk, focusing on threatened farmer varieties and landraces.
  - Put in place effective mechanisms for intellectual property rights (IPRs) protection.
  - Formally recognize custodian farmers and indigenous knowledge holders through incentives and inclusion in decision-making bodies.
  - Integrate community seed systems with formal seed systems while respecting community autonomy and traditional practices.
  - Call for enhanced funding, for not only conservation, but also for capacity building, value-chain development, and rural bio-enterprises.
  - Based on successful community models from India and Southeast Asia, coordinated global efforts involving GCDT, CGIAR, UNEP, national governments, and civil society is required
  - Protecting agrobiodiversity is a strategic imperative for food sovereignty, climate adaptation, and equitable development.

(iv) **Consultative Meeting for Draft Seed Bill 2025**

- The Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DAFW) released a draft Seeds Bill, 2025 to replace the Seeds Act of 1966 and the Seeds (Control) Order of 1983, on Nov 11, 2025. Comments were invited from ISPGR Members requesting submissions by Nov. 22, 2025.
- ISPGR participated in a Consultative meeting organized jointly by NAAS, TAAS, PAAS on Nov. 22, 2025 (Drs R.S. Paroda, R.C. Agrawal, R.K. Tyagi, J.L. Karihaloo, Anuradha Agrawal). Comments from ISPGR submitted on Dec 10, 2025 to DAFW. It included the following:
  - **Align with existing laws:** Harmonise definitions and procedures with the PPV&FR Act; avoid duplication by using “notification and listing” instead of parallel registrations.
  - **Robust varietal testing system:** Retain ICAR-led VCU testing, allow limited flexibility for strong R&D institutions, shorten timelines where justified, and enable parallel DUS–VCU testing.
  - **Balanced governance & representation:** Strengthen State and farmer representation in seed committees; clearly define Central–State roles and ensure State autonomy in implementation.
  - **Stronger seed quality & traceability:** Introduce QR codes with package-of-practices, expand genetic purity and DNA fingerprinting, and upgrade seed testing and certification infrastructure.
  - **Farmer protection & accountability:** Provide clear compensation mechanisms for crop loss due to poor seed quality and rationalise penalties with defined appellate and judicial powers.

(v) **4<sup>th</sup> Dr D.S. Athwal Memorial Lecture**

- Delivered by Dr Sanjay Kumar, Chairman, ASRB, New Delhi on ‘Bioresources to Bioenterprise: Building Value Chains for a Sustainable Bioeconomy’, Dec 19, 2025 at NASC, New Delhi.
- The lecture highlighted how frontier biotechnologies and agrobiodiversity-based interventions—ranging from enzyme engineering, enhanced nitrogen-use efficiency, biodegradable bioplastics, PHB materials, microbial composting, and waste-to-value systems—are being translated into scalable enterprises that promote technological self-reliance and rural entrepreneurship.
- It emphasized high-value crops and biodiversity-based enterprises such as Heeng, Monk Fruit, True Cinnamon, Liquorice, saffron beyond Kashmir, aromatic and horticultural crops, demonstrating how targeted scientific interventions can boost farmer incomes and create export opportunities.
- The integration of traditional knowledge with modern biotechnology, including nutraceuticals, vitamin D<sub>2</sub>-rich mushrooms, and herbal health products, further expands enterprise potential, while partnerships with municipalities, start-ups, industries, and state agencies enable effective technology diffusion
- Together with modern farming systems like aeroponics, hydroponics, and advanced tissue culture, these efforts illustrated how linking biodiversity, biotechnology, and enterprise development can position India as a globally competitive, sustainable bioeconomy.

#### **4. ISPGR Awards**

- The ISPGR Awards (2023) function was held on Oct. 23, 2024, during the inaugural session of the NCMAN-2024 at Umiam, Meghalaya.
- For the ISPGR Awards (2024), applications were invited in Dec 2024 and last date of receipt of applications was June 30, 2025.
- A total of 49 applications received were received for the following awards
  - Dr Harbhajan Singh Memorial Award – Lifetime Achievement (2023-24)
  - Dr S.K. Vasal Award for Use of PGR (2024)
  - Dr B.R. Barwale Award for Application/Excellence in PGR (2024)
  - Dr R.S. Paroda Young Scientist Award (2024)
  - Dr R.K. Arora Best Paper Award (2024)
  - Fellows (2024)
  - Dr K.L. Mehra Award-Best MSc (PGR) Student if IARI [Result given Prof (PGR)]
- A ISPGR Award Committee was constituted by President, ISPGR, as below:

Dr S.K. Vasal, Distinguished Scientist, CIMMYT	Chairman
Dr R.C. Agrawal, Former DDG (Agric. Education), ICAR	Member
Dr B.M. Prasanna, Managing Director BISA and CIMMYT Distinguished Scientist and Regional Director, Asia	Member
Dr Pratibha Brahmi, Principal Scientist (Retd), ICAR-NBPGR, New Delhi	Member
Dr Anuradha Agrawal, General Secretary, ISPGR	Member Secretary
- A meeting of the Committee constituted for selection of candidates was held on Nov 18, 2024 at Krishi Anusandhan Bhavan-1, Pusa Campus, New Delhi. Based on its recommendation and Ratification by EC, following have been awarded on Dec 19, 2024 Award Function:

Name of the Award	Awardee(s)
-------------------	------------

<b>Honorary Fellow (2024)</b>	<b>Dr Sanjay Kumar</b> , Chairman, Agricultural Scientist Recruitment Board (ASRB), New Delhi
<b>Dr H.B. Singh memorial Award for Lifetime Achievement (2023-24)</b>	<b>Dr Kuldeep Singh</b> Head, Genebank ICRISAT and Former Director, ICAR-NBPGR, Patancheru, Hyderabad, Telangana
<b>Dr. S.K. Vasal Award for efficient Use of PGR (2024)</b> <i>(jointly awarded)</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Dr Vinay Bhardwaj &amp; Team</b> (Drs Salej Sood, Sanjeev Sharma and Surinder Kumar Kaushik from ICAR-CPRI, Shimla) Director, ICAR-National Research Centre on Seed Spices, Ajmer, Rajasthan</li> <li><b>Dr Sandip Kumar Bera</b>, Director, ICAR-Indian Institute of Groundnut Research, Junagadh, Gujarat</li> </ol>
<b>Dr B.R. Barwale Award for Excellence/Application in PGR (2024)</b>	<b>Dr Ram Kumar Sharma</b> , Chief Scientist, Biotechnology Department, CSIR-Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology, P.O. Box. No. 6, Palampur, Himachal Pradesh
<b>Dr R.S. Paroda Young Scientist Award (2024)</b>	<b>Dr Shilpa Parashuram</b> , ICAR- National Research Centre on Pomegranate, Solapur, Maharashtra
<b>Fellows (2024)</b>	1 <b>Dr Anitha Pedapati</b> Senior Scientist (Horticulture) ICAR-Indian Institute of Oil Palm Research (IIOPR), Pedavegi, Eluru district Andhra Pradesh
	2 <b>Dr D.P. Semwal</b> Principal Scientist, Division of Plant Exploration and Germplasm Collection, ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), New Delhi
	3 <b>Dr Monika Singh</b> Principal Scientist, Division of Genomic Resources ICAR-NBPGR, New Delhi
	4 <b>Dr Shyam Bir Singh</b> Principal Scientist, ICAR-Indian Institute of Maize Research, Ludhiana, Punjab
<b>Dr R.K. Arora Best Paper Award (2024)</b>	<b>Neha Chhabra, Preetinder S. Sarao, R.M. Sundaram and Gurjot Kaur</b> (2024) Evaluation of Recombinant Inbred Lines of <i>Oryza glaberrima</i> and Improved Samba Mahsuri for Antixenosis and Tolerance against <i>Nilaparvata lugens</i> (Stal). <b>Indian J. Plant Genet. Resour.</b> <b>37(1): 56-61</b>

## 5. Forthcoming events

- ISPGR to be associated in Global Conference on Women in Agri-Food Systems (GCWAS-2026)- Driving progress, Attaining New Heights., March 12-14, 2026, NASC, New Delhi.
- National Symposium on Harnessing PGR of Western Ghats (NSWG), May 2026.
- Seminar on Rice in the Vindhyas, proposed at Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture technology and Sciences, Prayagraj, September 2026 (*Annexure 6*).

## 6. Publications

- Issues of Indian Journal of Plant Genetic Resources (IJPGR) published since the last GBM

comprised those of Vol 37 (3), 2024 and Vol 38 (1), (2), 2024.

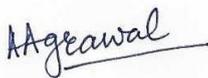
- Proceedings and Recommendations of National Symposium for Enhancing Crop Productivity (NSHT), Jan 8-10, 2025
- Strategy for Harnessing Hybrid Technology for Enhanced Crop Productivity –Policy Brief.
- Umiam Declaration on Managing Agrobiodiversity in North Eastern Region, 2025.
- Proceedings and Recommendations of Panel Discussion on Sustainability Challenges and Solutions for Farmer-led Initiatives on Community Genebanks, 2025.

## **7. Administrative Matters**

- The ISPGR shifted to its new office in NASC (Office Block A) in 2025, after occupying office in NBPGR premises for 38 years, since its inception (1987). Two rooms have been allocated by ICAR for ISPGR (see Annexure 2). ICAR Estate informed about the rental of new office. Rental charge/license fee applicable for the area of 60 sqm to be borne by ISPGR @ Rs. 658 per sqm annually (=Rs 39,480.00 per annum). Draft Rent Deed/Lease deed submitted to ICAR for approval.
- Change of address notified to all ISPGR members, Registrar of Societies and also updated on ISPGR website, letterheads, stamps etc.
- All routine administrative work (Papers to IT office for getting 80G status for ISPGR, room rent, grants application to ICAR) undertaken in timely manner. Accounts of ISPGR audited for the FY 2024-25, and IT returns duly filed.

I place on record gratitude to President and all EC and GB members of ISPGR for support in all matters of the Society

Date: Dec. 19, 2025

  
(Anuradha Agrawal)  
General Secretary

**ISPGR Election Result for Executive Council (2025-2027)  
of Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources (ISPGR), New Delhi**

Dated: 03/01/2025

**NOTICE**

On the basis of nominations received for the election of Executive Council (2025-2027) of the Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources (ISPGR), New Delhi and withdrawal by the candidates thereafter, the following nominees are declared elected unopposed for the Executive Council of ISPGR for the period, 2025-2027:

Positions	Nominee(s) elected
<b>President</b>	<b>Dr R.S. Paroda</b> Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS) Avenue II, IARI, Pusa Campus, New Delhi-110012
<b>Vice-President</b>	<b>1. Dr R.C. Agrawal</b> Krishi Anusandhan Bhavan-II Pusa Campus, New Delh-110012
	<b>2. Dr R.K. Tyagi</b> B-2G, Vijeta Vihar, Sector 13 Rohini, Delhi-110085
<b>General Secretary</b>	<b>Dr Anuradha Agrawal</b> Krishi Anusandhan Bhavan-I Pusa Campus, New Delhi-110012
<b>Joint Secretary</b>	<b>Dr Sherry Rachel Jacob</b> ICAR-NBPGR, New Delhi-110012
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Dr Kuldeep Tripathi</b> ICAR-NBPGR, New Delhi-110012
<b>Councillors (North Zone)</b>	<b>Dr Pavan Kumar Malav</b> ICAR-NBPGR, New Delhi-110012
<b>Councillors (South Zone)</b>	<b>1. Dr Rohini M.R.</b> ICAR-IIHR, Bengaluru, Karnataka
	<b>2. Dr N. Sivaraj</b> 3A SS Enclave 12-2-790/151 Ayodhya Nagar Mehdipatnam, Hyderabad, Telangana
<b>Councillors (Central Zone)</b>	<b>1. Dr Vaidurya Pratap Sahi</b> Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture, Technology and Sciences Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh
	<b>2. Dr Vidya Sagar</b> ICAR-IIVR, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
<b>Councillors (East Zone)</b>	<b>1. Dr Amit Kumar</b> ICAR-RC for NEH Region, Umiam, Meghalaya
	<b>2. Dr Somnath Roy</b> CRURRS, ICAR-NRRI, Hazaribag, Jharkhand
<b>Councillors (West Zone)</b>	<b>Dr Kartar Singh</b> ICAR-NRCSS, Ajmer, Rajasthan

*Pratibha*  
3/1/25  
(Pratibha Brahma)  
Member, Election Committee

*Gopala Krishna*  
03/01/25  
(S. Gopala Krishnan)  
Member, Election Committee

*Dinesh*  
03/01/2025  
(Dinesh Kumar)  
Election Officer



**Indian Council of Agricultural Research**

**Estate & Maintenance Section**

**NASC Complex, D.P. Shastri Marg, Pusa, New Delhi-110 012**

F.No.GAC-5-13/2024-E&M/E-324005

Dated the 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2024

**To**

Dr. Anuradha Agrawal,  
General Secretary,  
Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources,  
C/o ICAR-NBPGR, Pusa Campus,  
New Delhi-110012.

**Subject: Allotment of Space to ISPGR in NASC Complex - reg.**

**Madam/Sir,**

With reference to the above, the Competent Authority of the Council is pleased to provisionally allot Room No. 26 to the Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources (ISPGR) on 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Block-A (Above E&M Office), NASC Complex, subject to the following conditions:

1. The Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources (ISPGR) shall enter into a detailed Lease Deed Agreement with ICAR for above arrangement on a Non-Judicial Stamp of Rs.100/-.
2. Common Service Charge, One time construction cost, Lease rent, License Fee, Electricity bill, etc. shall be fully borne by the Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources (ISPGR) for the total space being allotted to the Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources, with no exemption/exception.
3. The space shall not be used for any other purpose other than the purpose for which request have been submitted.
4. ICAR reserves the right to withdraw the allotment/permission at any point of time, without assigning any reason thereof.
5. The Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources (ISPGR) shall keep indemnified ICAR against any misuse of the allotted space/violation of any statutory/Legal provisions for which the Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources shall be solely responsible.

The Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources (ISPGR) should submit its acceptance report within 7 days of the issue of this allotment letter, for further necessary action at this end.

Yours faithfully,

(Ashit Kumar)

Section Officer (E&M)

**Copy to:**

1. PPS to Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi for kind information
2. PPS to Secretary, ICAR, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi for kind information
3. OIC (Works), ICAR, KAB-I, Pusa, New Delhi
4. Caretaker, NASC Complex for further n/a please.
5. Office Copy/Guard File



भारतीय कृषि अनुसन्धान परिषद  
Indian Council of Agricultural Research

(सम्पदा एवं अनुरक्षण अनुभाग/ Estate & Maintenance Section  
नास्क कॉम्प्लेक्स, पूसा, नई दिल्ली -110012  
NASC Complex, Pusa, New Delhi-110012

F.No.GAC-5-13/2024-E&M  
(Computer No: 324005)

Dated the 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2025  
16

To,

Dr. Anuradha Agrawal,  
General Secretary,  
Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources (ISPGR)  
C/o ICAR-NBPCR Pusa Campus,  
New Delhi-110012

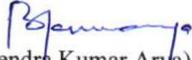
**Subject: Allotment of additional Office Space at A-Block, NASC Complex-regarding.**

Madam,

I am directed to refer to the Council's letter of even number dated 09.08.2024 (copy enclosed), vide which Room No. 26 at A-Block, NASC Complex was allotted to the Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources. In continuation of the above, **the Competent Authority has now approved the additional allotment of Room No. 18 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Block-A** which was earlier allotted to IRRI, subject to the following terms and condition:

- The ISPGR shall enter into a Rent/Lease Deed Agreement with ICAR for above arrangement on a Non-Judicial Stamp of Rs.100/-.
- Common Service Charge, Lease rent, License Fee, Electricity bill, etc. shall be fully borne by the ISPGR for the total space being allotted to the Society.
- The space shall not be used for any other purpose other than the case for which request have been submitted. The premises shall not be sublet, shared, or transferred to any third party without prior approval of the Competent Authority
- ICAR reserves the right to withdraw the allotment/permission at any point of time, without assigning any reason thereof.
- The Society shall keep indemnified ICAR against any misuse of the allotted space/violation of any statutory/Legal provisions for which the ISPGR shall be solely responsible.

Yours faithfully,

  
(Bhupendra Kumar Arya)  
Section Officer (E&M)

Copy to:

1. PSO to Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi for kind information
2. Sr. PPS to Secretary, ICAR, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi for kind information
3. Director (GAC)/US(E&M), NASC Complex, New Delhi
4. Director (Works), ICAR, KAB-I, Pusa, New Delhi
5. Caretaker, NASC Complex
6. Office Copy/Guard File



F.No.GAC-5-13/2024-E&M (Comp. No.: 324005)

Dated: 10.10.2025

To,

Dr. Anuradha Agrawal  
General Secretary,  
Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources (ISPGR)  
C/o ICAR-NBPGR Pusa Campus.

**Subject: Allotment of office space to ISPGR in the NASC Complex, Pusa, New Delhi-reg.**

Madam,

With reference to the subject cited above, the Competent Authority of the Council is pleased to allot Room Nos. 18 and 26, Second Floor, Block A, NASC Complex to ISPGR, subject to the following conditions:

1. The ISPGR shall enter into a Lease Deed Agreement with ICAR for the above allotment on a Non-Judicial Stamp Paper of Rs. 100/-.
2. The rental charge/license fee applicable for the area of 60 sqm shall be fully borne by ISPGR @ Rs. 658 per sqm annually, subject to revision from time to time.
3. The allotted space shall not be used for any purpose other than that for which the request has been submitted.
4. ICAR reserves the right to withdraw the allotment/permission at any time without assigning any reason.
5. The ISPGR shall keep ICAR indemnified against any misuse of the allotted space or violation of any statutory/legal provisions, for which the ISPGR shall be solely responsible.
6. The ISPGR may submit the acceptance report within 7 days from the issue of this allotment letter.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Yours faithfully,

  
(Bhupender Kumar Arya)  
Section Officer (E&M), ICAR  
NASC Complex, New Delhi

**Copy for information to:**

1. PPS to Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi for kind information.
2. Sr. PPS to Secretary, ICAR, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi for kind information
3. Director (GAC)/US(E&M), NASC Complex, New Delhi
4. OIC (Works), ICAR, KAB-I, Pusa, New Delhi.
5. Caretaker, IGH & NASC Complex, New Delhi.
6. Office Copy/Guard File

## Report of Editor-in-Chief, IJPGR

### 1. Publication status

Volume	No. of article published	Issue	Due date	Publication date
38	45	1	1 Apr, 2025	30 Jan, 2025
		2	1 Aug, 2025	7 July, 2025
		3	1 Dec, 2025	In press

### 2. Manuscript status

- Total manuscripts received= 54
- Manuscripts rejected = 67% (19 out of 39)
- No. of MS under review = 29
- No. of MS accepted = 4

### 3. Efforts made for Journal Improvement

- The journal has a 2024 NAAS rating of 5.17, a Research Impact Indicator of 0.1310 on the Indian Citation Index, and is indexed on Google Scholar.
- Nine foreign authors/experts were contacted for Review Articles on PGR; 6 (Australia, Malaysia, China, Bolivia, Peru, Colombia) accepted request; Published: 01 Colombia (IJPGR 38(2) 2025); Under Review: 02 from Bolivia, Colombia, Australia.
- Two new editors inducted w.e.f. 2025 April.
- Manuscripts were accepted only through the online submission channel (<https://ispgr.in/index.php/ijpgr>) facilitated by MRI Publication. The average processing time of manuscripts is 7 months. Published articles are immediately available as 'Online First,' and PDF copies of all issues from 1988 to date can be accessed on the IJPGR website.
- However, on Nov. 17, 2025, MRI gave a notice declining to provide service after 38(3) issue! Arrangements being made to shift to e-pubs portal of ICAR-DKMA (free of cost). Transition may take about a month. Will require on-boarding of a printer for hard copies.

Sincere thanks accorded all the reviewers for their contribution to the reviewing process and all Editors for their support.



**(R.K. Tyagi)**  
Editor-in-Chief

Date: Dec. 19, 2025

## Report of Treasurer, ISPGR

- The summary of income and expenditure of ISPGR for the period April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025, are as follows:

Source	Amount (Rs)
<b>Bank Balance and Cash in Hand</b>	
Fixed Deposit	1,18,42,485.45
Amount in Bank (saving account)	1,87,775.31
Cash in Hand	9,736.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,24,55,044.28</b>
<b>Income</b>	
Membership, journal subscription and donations	<b>40,24,266.00</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	
ISPGR Office expenses, Awards, National seminar, Publications, Postage etc.	<b>38,60,617.45</b>

- The details of income and expenditure are provided in the audited reports appended herewith (*Annexure 5*).
- The summary of income and expenditure of ISPGR for the period April 1, 2025 to Nov 30, 2024, are as follows:

Source	Amount (Rs)
<b>Bank Balance and Cash in Hand</b>	
Fixed Deposit	1,10,46,517.40
Amount in Bank (saving account)	3,74,017.35
Cash in Hand	10,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,14,30,534.75</b>
<b>Income</b>	
Membership, journal subscription and donations	<b>3,28,843.00</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	
ISPGR Office expenses, Awards, National seminar, Publications, Postage, TA etc.	<b>10,18,684.00</b>

- The details of income and expenditure are as follows:

Income Source	Amount (Rs)
Institutional Membership Fees	60,000.00
Life Membership Fees	1,44,000.00
Annual Membership Fees	7,500.00
IJPGR Subscription, Diva Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.	1,14,253.00
Bank Interest (From saving account)	3090.000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,28,843.00</b>

Major Head	Expenditure details	Amount (Rs)
Administrative Costs	Secretarial Fee, Honorarium etc.	2,82,408.00
	Office Expense (Stationery, Cartridge, Paper etc.)	7,067.00
	ISPGR EC & Other Meetings (Refreshment etc.)	7,787.00
	Transport Charges for ISPGR Shifting	29,500.00
	AC	39,500.00
	Repairing	3,06,070.00
	Postage and courier	386.00
Printing & Publishing	Umiam Declaration	70,800.00
	IJPGR	85,125.00
Auditor Fee	Audit 2024-25 FY	26,550.00
	Professional Charges	30,000.00
IAC, China	Travel, kit, logistics	1,41,058.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>10,18,684.00</b>

- The ISPGR membership details are as follows:

Total ISPGR life members	<b>1,004</b>
Institutional membership (April 1, to Nov.30, 2025)	1
Life membership (April 1, to Nov.30, 2025)	24
Annual membership (April 1, to Nov.30, 2025)	5

I place on record gratitude to President, General Secretary and all other EC members of ISPGR for their support in all financial matters of the Society

*Kuldeep Tripathi*

**(Kuldeep Tripathi)**  
Treasurer, ISPGR

Date: Dec. 19, 2025



# DADU DADOO & ASSOCIATES

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

## AUDITORS REPORT

To The Members of  
**INDIAN SOCIETY OF PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES**  
 C/o N.P.G.R., Pusa Campus,  
 New Delhi

We have audited attached Balance Sheet of INDIAN SOCIETY OF PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES as at March 31, 2025 and the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended on a day annexed thereto.

These Financial Statements are the responsibility of the Society's Management. Our responsibility is to opine on these Financial Statements based on our audit. We have conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in India. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Financial Statements are free of material misstatements.

As audit includes examining on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts of disclosures in the Financial Statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by the management as well as evaluating the overall Financial Statements presentation.

We believe that our audit provides our reasonable basis for our opinion.

We further state that: -

1. We have obtained all the information and explanation which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of the audit;
2. In our opinion, proper books of accounts have been kept by the society in so as appears from our examination of the books.
3. The Balance Sheet and the Income and Expenditure Account referred to in this report are in agreement with the books of account of the society.
4. In our opinion and the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us the said Balance Sheet and the Income and Expenditure Account give a true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles.

- a. Insofar as it relates to the Balance Sheet, of the state of affairs of the Society as at March 31, 2025; and
- b. Insofar as it relates to the income & Expenditure Account, of the surplus during the year ended that date.

For DADU DADOO & ASSOCIATES  
 Chartered Accountants  
 FRN: 006760N

(MAHENDRA DADU)  
 Partner  
 M.NO: 083625  
 Date - 11.09.25  
 Place - New Delhi

C-13, Mansarovar Garden, New Delhi- 110015  
 Phone : (011) 4761-5555-85 (30 Lines) Fax : (011) 4761-5577 Email : dadoodadu@gmail.com

**INDIAN SOCIETY OF PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES  
C/O N.B.P.G.R, PUSA CAMPUS  
NEW DELHI - 110012**

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH, 2025**

	PARTICULAR		AMOUNTS
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
A	<b>GENERAL RESERVE</b>		
	Balance brought forward	1,22,91,395.73	
	ADD: Surplus during the year	1,63,648.55	
		1,24,55,044.28	
B	<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
	Dadu Dadoo & Associates	26,550.00	
	Expenses Payable	54,100.00	
			1,25,35,694.28
<b>ASSETS</b>			
A	<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		
	Computer & Allied Accessories	71,673.73	
	Less: Depreciation	14,334.75	57,338.98
	HP Printer	15,342.13	
	Less: Depreciation	2,301.32	13,040.81
	Office Equipment	1,907.43	
	Less: Depreciation	286.11	1,621.32
	Office Furniture	1,75,878.92	
	Less: Depreciation	17,587.89	1,58,291.03
	Microwave & Freeze	7,769.28	
	Less: Depreciation	1,165.39	6,603.89
	Hitachi AC	8,453.25	
	Less: Dep	1,267.99	7,185.26
	<b>Investment</b>		
	Fixed Deposit		1,18,42,485.45
B	<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
	TDS on FD (A.Y. 19-20)	36,079.23	
	TDS on FD (A.Y. 20-21)	37,072.00	
	TDS on Donation (A.Y 21-22)	1,500.00	
	TDS (A.Y. 23-24)	66,213.00	
	TDS (A.Y. 24-25) Sponsorship PBFSNWH	10,000.00	
	TDS on FD (A.Y. 24-25)	9,510.00	
	Accured Interest	1,00,978.00	2,61,352.23
C	<b>CASH &amp; BANK BALANCES</b>		
	Cash in Hand	9,736.00	
	Cash at Bank	1,78,039.31	1,87,775.31
			1,25,35,694.28

  
(President)

  
(Secretary)

  
(Treasurer)

**AUDITOR'S REPORT**  
"As per our separate report of even date attached"  
for Dadu Dadoo & Associates  
Chartered Accountants  
FRN: 006760N

  
(Mahendra Dadu)  
Partner  
M.No. 083625



Date: 11.8.2025  
Place: New Delhi  
UDIN:

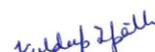
**INDIAN SOCIETY OF PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES  
C/O N.B.P.G.R, PUSA CAMPUS  
NEW DELHI - 110012**

**INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2025**

PARTICULAR	AMOUNTS
<b>A INCOMES</b>	
Institutional Membership Fees	1,10,000.00
Life Membership Fees	1,90,000.00
Annual Membership Fees	38,000.00
IJPR Subscription (Diva Enterprises)	35,313.00
Donation (Awards)	2,00,000.00
Interest (Saving Bank Account)	25,739.00
Interest on FD	8,00,808.00
ICAR Grant for NCMAN	5,00,000.00
Miscellaneous Income	47,251.00
Registration Fees (NCMAN)	6,98,000.00
Sponsorship (NCMAN)	13,79,155.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>40,24,266.00</b>
<b>B EXPENDITURES</b>	
Secretarial Fee, Honorarium etc.	4,71,020.00
ISPR Room Rent	19,950.00
Printing & Publishing (IJPR & Others)	5,14,031.00
Office Expense (Stationary, Catridge, Paper etc.)	7,350.00
ISPR EC & Other Meetings (Refreshment etc.)	21,543.00
Auditor's Fee	26,550.00
Professional Charges	29,500.00
Bank Charges	1,687.00
Depreciation	36,943.45
ISPR Website Maintenance	10,000.00
Postage & Courier	4,920.00
ISPR Award Function	4,09,295.00
Donation for NSHT	3,00,000.00
NCMAN Expense (Registration kit, Printing, Travel, Accomodation, Logistics etc.)	20,07,828.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>38,60,617.45</b>
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) During the year</b>	<b>1,63,648.55</b>

  
(President)

  
(Secretary)

  
(Treasurer)

**AUDITOR'S REPORT**  
"As per our separate report of even date attached"  
for Dadu Dadoo & Associates  
Chartered Accountants  
FRN: 006760N



  
(Mahendra Dadu)  
Partner  
M.No. 083625

Date: 11.0.2025  
Place: New Delhi  
UDIN:-

### Concept Note: Rice germplasm from the Vindhya region

In ancient Indian literature it is clearly mentioned that every plant on this earth is useful for human beings, animals and for other plants. India alone has around 90000 rice accessions thus home to tremendous rice genetic wealth. In India we have a diverse germplasm which can be utilized for breeding of rice varieties having therapeutic properties. A wide range of germplasm can be found across the length and breadth of India, which are having medicinal properties.

In Ayurveda, the medicinal values of rice have been described extensively. Rice is considered to be acrid, oleaginous, tonic, aphrodisiac, flattening, diuretic and useful in biliousness. Two treatises (*samhitas*), one by Charaka (c. 700 BC) and the other by Susruta (c. 600–400 BC) are available today. Both these mention rice varieties in the context of their effects on human health

Charaka writes that *Raktashali* (red), *Mahashali* (large and fragrant), *Kalama* (thick stem), *Shakunharhita* (curved), *Turnaka* (quick maturity), *Deerghashuka* (long awned), *Panduka* (yellowish), *Langula* (tall), *Sugandhika* (fragrant), *Lohawal* (red), *Shariva* (pointed), *Pramodaka* (fragrant), *Patanga* (resembling grasshopper/locust), and *Tapaniya* (golden or maturing in hot weather) are all excellent *shali* (rices maturing in winter) rices. They have the therapeutic effects: refrigerant, tasty, causing slight flatulence, somewhat sticky, nourishing, semen augmenting, and diuretic. *Raktashali* (red) was claimed to be the best. It quenched thirst and corrected humoral (three body humors: *vata*, *kafa*, and *pitta*) imbalance. It was followed by *Mahashali* and *Kalama*. Although these varieties are believed to possess curative properties, the inherent biochemical potentials of these varieties have not yet been delineated. The present power of knowledge is such that the molecular biochemical characterization of these varieties can pave way to register the indigenous technical know-how (ITK) on a scientific basis. But many of the traditional varieties are either extinct or on the verge of extinction due to monoculture of improved rice varieties and irrational use inorganic fertilizers. Importance of conservation of genetic resources is widely recognized today, and systematic research is needed to take up appropriate measures for the prevention of crop genetic erosion.

A unique collection of such landraces can be still found in the Vindhya region of Uttar Pradesh. It is a potential hot-spot for germplasm collection of not just rice but also a diversity of different crops such as wheat, millets, pulses, oilseeds, vegetables & fruits, ornamental plants, several spices and medicinal plants. The Vindhya Range lies on the southern fringe of the gangetic plain comprising the four districts of *Jhansi*, *Jalaun*, *Banda*, and *Hamirpur* in *Bundelkhand* division, *Meja* and *Karchhana tehsils* of *Prayagraj* district, the whole of *Mirzapur* district south of Ganges and *Chakia tehsil* of *Varanasi* district. One can still find farmers growing traditional varieties. There seems to be an urgent need to discuss and catalogue the biodiversity of the area. To start with the rich diversity of rice can be the focus. *Oryza nivara*, *Oryza rufipogon*, landraces of *Oryza sativa* and even introgressed lines of *O. rufipogon* can be found in the area. Apart from these, the Vindhya region has special regions with aromatic rice like southern Prayagraj, Sonbhadra and Mirzapur. *Adamchini*, *Laungchoor*, *Sonachoor*, *Badshahpasand*, *Shakkarchini*, etc are some landraces grown in the Vindhya region especially Mirzapur, Sonbhadra and the adjacent tahsils of Prayagraj. A special rice which grows through the winter season along the Ganges river in the district of Prayagraj is the Boro rice. Its ability to grow in winter makes it a special rice in terms of studies related to cold tolerance in rice. The wild rices in the Vindhya region are commonly called Phasahi (Fasahi) and are used for religious purposes and also have some usage as therapeutics.

With reference to the above, a seminar on rice in the Vindhyas is proposed for the month of September 2026 at Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture technology and Sciences, Prayagraj.

#### Tentative schedule of Awareness Cum Training Program on Rice Germplasm Collection and Conservation in Vindhyas

09:00 am – 10:15 am	Inaugural Session including speech of chief guest (Dr R S Paroda) and other respected members	
10:15 am – 10:30 am	Tea Break	
10:30 am – 11:00 am	Key Note Address	
11:00 am - 12:00 noon	Session 1 Theme : Importance of Germplasm	
11:00 am – 11:20 am	<b>Plenary:</b>	Dr Nagendra Kumar Singh, ICAR-NIPB
11:20 am – 11:40 am	Lecture 1: The Hindustan Centre: a plethora of	Dr V P Sahi

	rice Germplasm	SHUATS, Prayagraj
11:40 am – 12:00 Noon	Lecture 2: Germplasm cataloguing, Data storage and Retrieval	
12:00 noon – 1:00pm	Lunch	
01:00 pm – 02:00 pm	Session 2 Theme : Conservation and its utilization	
1:00 pm – 1:20 pm	<b>Plenary:</b>	
01:20 pm – 01:40 pm	Lecture 1: Germplasm Evaluation, Characterization and Maintenance: Legumes	Dr S Ahlawat ICAR-NBPGR
01:40 pm – 02:00 pm	Lecture 2: Identification, Characterization and Utilization of Germplasm of rice	Dr P K Singh, BHU, Varanasi
02:00 pm – 2:20 pm	Tea Break	
02:20 pm – 03:20 pm	Session Theme 3: Breeding Strategies	
02:20 pm – 02:40pm	<b>Plenary:</b>	
02:40 pm – 03:00 pm	Lecture 1: Breeding of traditional germplasm and wild relatives: Rice	Dr C N Neerja ICAR-IIRR
03:00pm – 3:20 pm	Lecture 2: Pre-breeding approaches for development of Genetic stocks and its characterization.	Dr Prashant Vikram IARI, New Delhi
3:20 pm – 3:40PM	Experience shared by FPOs and Progressive farmers	
3:40 pm – 04:30 pm	Visit to Notified State Seed Testing Laboratory, Centre of Excellence (Food and Nutrition) and Seed Processing Unit of SHUATS	
04:30 pm onwards	Closing Ceremony and Certificate Distribution	