

Minutes of the

First Meeting of Executive Council (2025-27) of Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi

Date: March 28, 2025

Time: 11.00 AM onwards

Agenda: *Annexure*

Venue: Hybrid mode- TAAS Committee Room, IARI, New Delhi and Online (via Zoom)

Chairman	Dr R.S. Paroda	President
EC Members	Dr R.K. Tyagi	Vice President
	Dr R.C. Agrawal	Vice President
	Dr Anuradha Agrawal	General Secretary
	Dr Sherry Rachel Jacob	Joint Secretary
	Dr Kuldeep Tripathi	Treasurer
	Dr Rohini M.*	Councillor (SZ)

**attended online*

Agenda 1: Welcome remarks

- Dr Anuradha Agrawal, General Secretary (GS), formally welcomed the Chairman and Members of the newly elected Executive Council (EC) to their first meeting. She informed the gathering that Dr G.P. Singh (Director NBPGR (*Ex Officio* Member) and Drs N. Sivaraj, Vaidurya Pratap Sahi, Vidya Sagar, Amit Kumar, Pavan K. Malav and Somnath Roy (Zonal Councillors) were unable to attend the meeting due to prior commitments. The agenda for the meeting was then introduced, which included the confirmation of the minutes from the twelfth EC meeting (2022–24) and the presentation of reports by the office bearers of the previous EC (*Annexure 1*).

Agenda 2: Chairmans' Remarks

- Dr. R.S. Paroda, President of ISPGR, extended a warm welcome to all newly appointed EC members, including Dr. R.C. Agrawal, DDG (Agricultural Education), ICAR, who joined as the new Vice President. He expressed gratitude to the outgoing EC members for their valuable contributions and acknowledged Dr. Anuradha Agrawal for her dedicated service as General Secretary. He also extended his thanks to Dr. R.K. Tyagi for his dual role and significant contributions as Vice President and Editor-in-Chief of IJPGR. Additionally, Dr. Paroda appreciated the successful organization of the National Conference held in Shillong and congratulated the team for their commendable efforts.
- Dr Paroda expressed his personal satisfaction on the progress made by ISPGR in the

past three years, particularly in promoting agro-biodiversity and genetic resources management. He highlighted the success of the International Congress on Agrobiodiversity (IAC), which has now become a rolling event and urged everyone to participate in the upcoming 3rd International Congress on Agrobiodiversity to be held in Kunming, China, during May 20-22, 2025. He informed that a side event (Panel discussion) on ‘Sustainability Challenges and Options for Farmer-led Initiatives on Community Genebanks’, has been planned by ISPGR in IAC 2025, for which approval from the organizers has been received.

- Dr Paroda also stressed on the need to further improve the quality and rating of the society’s journal and to explore all options for the same.
- He also mentioned the need to expedite the preparation for the upcoming ‘National Conference on PGR of Western Ghats’ and also to plan a major international event, for better visibility of both PGR and the Society.

Agenda 3: Confirmation of the Minutes of Twelfth EC (2022-24) meeting and Action Taken Report

- Dr. Anuradha Agrawal, General Secretary (GS), sought the approval of the Minutes of the 12th Executive Council (2022–24) meeting, held on January 6, 2025 and circulated on Feb 4, 2025. The minutes were unanimously confirmed.
- Action Taken Report on the recommendations of the 12th EC (2022–24) meeting was presented by the GS (*Annexure II*), which was duly approved by the EC.

Agenda 4: General Secretary’s Report

- Dr. Anuradha Agrawal presented the General Secretary’s Report (*Annexure III*), which was approved by the EC.
- She informed about the follow-up actions undertaken in connection with the ‘National Symposium on Hybrid Technology for Enhanced Productivity’ and the ‘National Conference on Managing Agro-Biodiversity in North Eastern India (NCMAN 2024)’. President urged that recommendations of the Umam conference be printed at the earliest.

(Action : General Secretary, ISPGR)

Agenda 5: Editor-in-Chief’s Report

- Dr R.K. Tyagi, presented the Editor-in-Chief’s report in which he shared the update of articles received and reviewed; and the expected timelines of issues of IJPGR to be published in 2025 (*Annexure IV*). The EC unanimously approved the Editor-in-Chief’s

Report.

- The President extended special appreciation to the Dr Tyagi, Editors and Reviewers for their continued dedication and support. Further, he suggested that a meeting be held with the MRI publishers to increase the efficiency of on line submission and publishing of articles, especially with respect to ‘Online First’.
- Dr Tyagi informed that he had identified a candidate (Ms Deepshikha Dixit) for hiring as a part-time dedicated Editorial Assistant, in place of Mr Arup Das who may be relieved from his duties in ISPGR, after giving a one-month notice. The EC approved the proposal.

(Action: General Secretary, ISPGR)

Agenda 5: Treasurer’s Report *(Annexure IV)*

- Dr Kuldeep Tripathi presented the Treasurer’s Report, detailing the income and expenditure incurred in the current financial year, including NCMAN 2024 *(Annexure V)*.
- EC approved the report and expressed satisfaction over the financial status. Also efforts of Dr Kuldeep Tripathi for managing accounts were appreciated.
- President suggested that suitable and timely action be taken for getting ICAR grant for IJPGR for the year 2025-26.

(Action: GS and Treasurer)

Agenda 6: Nomination of vacant positions of Councillors (West Zone and North Zone)

- Based on a request received through email, it was decided that Dr Sandeep Kumar, Principal Scientist, Division of Germplasm Evaluation, ICAR-NBPGR, New Delhi may be nominated as Councilor (North Zone). Dr Vinay Bhardwaj, Director, ICAR-National Research Centre on Seed Spices, Ajmer was proposed by Dr Anuradha Agrawal for the post of Councilor (West Zone). Both the nominations were unanimously approved by the EC members present. Formal letter may be sent to the nominees and both Dr Sandeep Kumar and Dr Vinay Bhardwaj be informed accordingly.

(Action: General Secretary)

Agenda 7: ISPGR Awards Announcement

- It was decided that the ISPGR Award announcement for 2025 be done immediately. The recommendation by the Award Committee of previous year, to limit the application document to a maximum of 20 printed pages, was duly considered and formally approved by the EC.

(Action: General Secretary)

Agenda 8: 3rd IAC Side Event

- A Panel Discussion on ‘Sustainability Challenges and Options for Farmer-led Initiatives on Community Genebanks’, is to be organised by ISPGR in collaboration with PPV&FR, TAAS, Alliance CIAT-BI, India Office, and MSSRF, during IAC 2025, for which formal approval has been received. The event has been allocated a time slot of 17:00 – 18:00 hours on 21 May 2025. Dr Anuradha Agrawal informed that necessary communications and actions are being taken for the successful organization of the side event.

(Action: President, Vice President and General Secretary)

Agenda 9: National Symposium on PGR of Western Ghats

- The EC discussed the possibility of holding a ‘National Symposium on PGR of Western Ghats (In Situ and Ex Situ Conservation)’ during first fortnight of December. ICAR-IIHR, Bengaluru, to be approached for being the local host institute under the leadership of Dr TK Behra, Director. The possibility of involving Kerala Agriculture University was also discussed, but concerns were raised about possible difficulties in logistic arrangements. Dr Rohini M. was assigned the responsibility of coordinating the preparation at ICAR-IIHR and providing feedback on possible event partners. Dr Sherry Rachel Jacob will work as contact point of the Society, for proceeding ahead with preparation of the Symposium.

(Action: Dr Rohini M and Dr Sherry Rachel Jacob)

Agenda 10: Shifting of ISPGR Office

- The GS informed regarding actions taken for shifting of ISPGR office from NBPGR to NASC. President suggested to expedite the matter and have a follow up with E&M Section of ICAR, in terms of a written agreement for the lease of the allocated space at NASC. A request may also be sent to Director, ICAR-NBPGR, to allow functioning of ISPGR office at NBPGR till new space is officially handed over by the ICAR to ISPGR at NASC.

(Action: General Secretary & Treasurer)

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair and all EC members by the Dr Sherry Rachel Jacob, Joint Secretary.



Anuradha Agrawal
(General Secretary)



R.S. Paroda
(President)

Date :, April 8, 2025
New Delhi

1st Meeting of the ISPGR Executive Council (2025-2027)**March 28, 2025 (11.00 a.m. onwards)****(Hybrid meeting)**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89907089674?pwd=g8YzbCfs4CDhdP7BfYyD393nZOewy7.1>

Meeting ID: 899 0708 9674

Passcode: 068517

AGENDA

11.00 – 11.05 a.m.	Welcome	Anuradha Agrawal General Secretary, ISPGR
11.05 – 11.10 a.m.	Introductory Remarks by Chairman	R.S. Paroda President, ISPGR
11.10 – 11.25 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmation of the Minutes of Twelfth EC (2022-24) meeting held on January 6, 2025 Action Taken Report General Secretary's Report 	Anuradha Agrawal General Secretary, ISPGR
11.25 - 11.35 a.m.	Editor-in-Chief's Report	R.K. Tyagi Editor-in-Chief, IJPGR
11.35 - 11.45 a.m.	Treasurer's report	Kuldeep Tripathi Treasurer, ISPGR
11.45 – 12.30 p.m.	Discussion on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nomination of vacant positions of Councillors (West Zone and North Zone) ISPGR award announcement 3rd IAC Side event National Symposium on PGR of Western Ghats Shifting of ISPGR office 	
12.30-12.35 p.m.	Remarks by Director, ICAR-NBPGR	G.P. Singh <i>Ex Officio</i> Member, ISPGR
12.35-12.45 p.m.	Remarks by Vice Presidents	R.C. Agrawal Vice-President, ISPGR R.K. Tyagi Vice-President, ISPGR
12.45– 12.55 p.m.	Remarks by President	R.S. Paroda President, ISPGR
12.55– 1.00 p.m.	Vote of Thanks	Sherry Rachel Jacob Joint Secretary, ISPGR
1.00 p.m.	Lunch	

Action Taken Report of the 12th EC Meeting held on Jan 6, 2025

	Recommendation	Action Taken
1.	<p>ISPGR would be co-organizing the ‘National Symposium on Hybrid Technology for Enhancing Crop Productivity’, scheduled for January 8-10 in New Delhi at NASC, New Delhi. An amount of Rs 3.00 lakhs would be provided to the organizers (TAAS, New Delhi), as already approved earlier by the EC.</p> <p><i>(Action : General Secretary and Treasurer)</i></p>	NSHT successfully conducted; ISPGR provided financial support of Rs 3.00 lakhs.
2.	<p>The 3rd International Agro Biodiversity Congress, set for April 22-25 in Kunming, China, was discussed and the possibility of participation by some senior EC/ISPGR staff was considered. If agreed by organizers, ISPGR may hold a side event, in possible collaboration with the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority (PPVFRA), Govt of India. The event would be in a form of a panel discussion with representatives from farming community, genebank representatives, industry and policy makers.</p> <p><i>(Action : President and General Secretary)</i></p>	A proposal for side event on ‘Sustainability Challenges and Options for Farmer-led Initiatives on Community Genebanks’ sent to Organizers on March 23, 2025.
3.	<p>It was proposed that a National Symposium be organized in Southern India either in November of this year or February of next year, in consultation with Institute Directors in Hyderabad and Bangalore.</p> <p><i>(Action : General Secretary and Councillors South Zone)</i></p>	Action to be initiated.
4.	<p>It was decided that the ISPGR awards for 2024 may be announced after incorporating minor changes suggested in the guidelines by the previous the last award committee.</p> <p><i>(Action : General Secretary)</i></p>	Revised guidelines prepared and to be approved by EC.



Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources

Meeting of the Executive Council (2025-2027)

EC Meeting # 1

Date: March 28, 2025

Report of General Secretary, ISPGR

- Minutes of 12th EC meeting were circulated on Feb 4, 2025.
- Co-organized and participated in the 'National Symposium on Hybrid Technology for Enhanced Crop Productivity' NASC, New Delhi, Jan 8-10, 2025
- Correspondence initiated with IAC Organizing Committee; ISPGR members requested to submit abstracts; One Side event proposed.
- ICAR Feedback proforma provided to ICAR regarding 'National Conference on Managing Agro-Biodiversity in North Eastern India (From Biodiversity to Bio-Wealth) (NCMAN-2024)' (Oct 23-25, 2024); UC provided to ICAR and PPVFRA.
- Action taken for shifting ISPGR office from NBPGR to NASC.

(Anuradha Agrawal)
General Secretary



Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources

Meeting of the Executive Council (2025-2027)

EC Meeting # 1

Date: March 28, 2025

Editor-in-Chief's Report, IJPGR

Manuscript Current Status (Online Processing)

- Total Manuscripts = 52
- No. of MS Under Submission = 16
- No. of MS Under Review/Revision = 29
- No. of MS under editorial process = 7
- Decline rate = 49% (19 out of 39)

Category	Number
Submission	29
Accepted	11
Declined	21
Published	16

Platform submissions in last 3 months (Dec 2024-March 2025)

Manuscript current status (Offline Processing) - None

Journal publication status

- First issue of IJPGR Vol 38 (1) 2025 is published by end of Jan. 2025 (was due in April 2025)
- Second issue of IJPGR Vol 38 (2) 2025 is due by August 2025
- 10 (2 Review + 8 Research) articles accepted for IJPGR Vol 38 (2) 2025; targeted to be published by end of April 2025 (due in August 2025)

Category	Number
All Users	452
Section Editors	31
Authors	196
Reviewers	404
Readers	85
Journal Manager	04
Total	1172

Review Articles

- 8 foreign authors/experts contacted for Review Articles on PGR; 6 (Australia, Malaysia, China, Bolivia, Colombia) accepted request
- Published: 01 from China (IJPGR 38(1) 2025)
- Under Review: 02 from Bolivia and Colombia

Special Issue on Hybrid Technology (NSHT)

- 35 Authors requested for articles from NSHT.
- Only 3 Review Articles received so far which are under review.

Special thanks to Editors and Reviewers.

(R.K. Tyagi)



Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources

Meeting of the Executive Council (2025-2027)

EC Meeting # 1

Date: March 28, 2025

Report of Treasurer, ISPGR

The summary of income and expenditure of ISPGR for the period April 1, 2024 to March 28, 2025, are as follows:

Bank Balance and Cash in Hand (Till March 28, 2025)

Source	Amount (Rs)
Fixed Deposit	1,15,28,276.44
Amount in Bank (saving account)	2,82,924.31
Cash in Hand	10,994.00
Total (Rs one crore, eighteen lakhs, twenty two thousand, one hundred ninety four, seventy five paise only)	1,18,22,194.75

Income (From April 1, 2024 to March 28, 2025)

Income Source	Amount (Rs)
Institutional Membership Fees	1,30,000.00
Life Membership Fees	2,02,000.00
Annual Membership Fees	38,000.00
Donation for Dr B.R. Barwale Awards 2023	1,00,000.00
Donation for Dr S.K. Vasal Award 2023	1,00,000.00
IJPGR Subscription for Vol 36 (3), 2023, Diva Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.	35,313.00
Bank Interest (From saving account)	25,332.00
Income Tax Return (2023-24)	17,900.00
Income Tax Return (2024-25)	10,350.00
Registration Fees (NCMAN)	5,88,500.00
Sponsorship (NCMAN)	19,89,155.00
TOTAL (Rs thirty two lakhs, thirty six thousand, fifty only)	32,36,050.00

Expenditure (From April 1, 2024 to March 28, 2025)

Expenditure Head and Details	Amount (Rs)
Secretarial Fee, Honorarium, ISPGR Awards Function etc.	7,93,637.00
Rent of ISPGR Office	19,950.00
Printing & Publishing (IJPGR & Others)	4,38,357.00
Office Expense (Stationery, Cartridge, Paper etc.)	6,225.00
ISPGR EC & Other Meetings (Refreshment etc.)	14,475.00
Auditor Fee	38,350.00
ISPGR Website Maintenance	10,000.00
Postage & Courier	4920.00
Dr P. Govindaraj	20,000.00

TAAS National Conference (NSHT)	3,00,000.00
ICARDA India (TDS return)	2,000.00
NCMAN Expenses	22,01,805.00
GRAND TOTAL (Rs Thirty eight lakhs, forty-nine thousand, seven hundred and nineteen)	38,49,719.00

- The ISPGR membership details are as follows:

Total ISPGR life members	981
Institutional membership (April 1 2024 to March 28, 2025)	5
Life membership (April 1 2024 to March 28, 2025)	34
Annual membership (April 1 2024 to March 28, 2025)	26

Kuldeep Tripathi

(Kuldeep Tripathi)
Treasurer, ISPGR