

Though India's plant variety protection law is progressive and pro-innovation because in state laws must be addressed. Discuss.

India enacted a patent for a potato variety grown exclusively for a company under the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights Act (PPVFR act)

Progressive Indian laws

The PPVFR act allows for voluntary registration of seeds with the authority.

It also provides a benefit sharing mechanism with farmers and breeders.

Also the IPR cannot be re-registered for seeds which prevents evergreening of patents. Compensation is also provided

in case the seeds fail to perform.

The Precept Seed Bill too had provisions for compulsory registration of seeds that could increase the registration

## Increasing equity in seeds

Indian seed market is worth \$3 Billion and private sector contributes 85% of seeds to the farmers.

The IPR regime must be made to act swift as it is slow in registration process. The PPVRA demands to do own testing which deters the private innovators causing a stagnation.

As land and agriculture falls within state subject, it is the duty of both governments to look into the plant protection domain.

The centre can act as facilitator propelling states and protecting farmers welfare. This can double farmers' income by 2022.