

1. Though India's plant variety protection law is progressive and pro-innovation variance in state laws must be addressed. India's ambition of doubling farmers income and making India \$5 trillion economy by 2025 can be achieved by addressing variance in state laws. As Agriculture is a state subject there are various interpretation of certain laws in regard with central state.

Plant variety protection

To protect plant variety and farmer rights in 2001 Protection of plant variety and farmer right (PPVFR)

act was enacted. This act retained the main spirit of TRIPS. This allows farmer to use IP registered seed for planting growing etc but restricted to sell a "branded seeds". But this led to an issue in 2019. Pepsico issue :- Pepsico's 2 hybrid varieties seeds were used registered under PPVFR and had IPR but were used by local farmers in Gujarat led to tensions. However farmer were protected under PPVFR.

Objectives PPVFR act

- facilitate to improve seed varieties quality
- encourage the development of new varieties of seeds
- Facilitate effective system for protecting plant varieties and farmer rights

Variance in state laws

As agriculture being state subject there is less collaboration, interaction regarding farmers rights, improving plant varieties etc between centre and state leading to

→ various interpretation of IP laws.

→ less farm infrastructure.

→ IP laws are not well

protected and registration seems

to be very slow process.

→ This decrease in innovation and

research because companies are

not keen in developing new

varieties with the constant fear

of their variety not being protected

Way forward

→ India must develop various research and development labs for increasing development of new varieties.

→ Both centre and state must have interaction on agriculture

subjects and provide justice to

both company as well as farmers

→ Educate farmers regarding IPR, patents etc

This addressing variance in state laws will aid in

fulfilling India's ambition by 2025.