

**CONCLUDING SESSION – REMARKS AND SUGGESTION BY
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- Survey and Inventory on development of crop genetic resources.
- Awareness creation at various level to be organized on the importance of genetic resources. The genetic resources activities require a multidisciplinary approach by including management, law, policy, IPR etc. Awareness creation on 'Biological diversity act and PPV & FRA needs greater attention: at various level: BD act is translated into Hindi, Malayalam, Tamil, Bengali, Marathi
- HRD and HRM on conservation, maintenance and documentation particularly at State Agricultural Universities and ICAR Institutions. A course even with a minimum credit load of 1+1 on Biodiversity and Agrobiodiversity issues and the importance conservation and covering some important issues of both the act. Besides SAU, Biodiversity issues to be incorporated right from Schools, Colleges and Universities.
- Agrobiodiversity as well as traditional knowledge both formal and informal should be documented. It is important to establish Information System on Agrobiodiversity Documentation of the species, wild relatives, to local cultivars, land races and folk varieties to be taken up systematically. In this connection it is also important to use the available data in usable form by developing suitable methodology and database programme.

NBA has taken up initiatives through an Expert Committee to establish Indian Biodiversity Information System. The committee was Headed by Prof.Madhav Gadgil. To start with in a Pilot scale Indian Biodiversity Information System will be initiated by MoEF.

- Identification of Institutions – designated Institutions, SAU's, ICAR Institutions for maintenance specific crop species.

- *In situ* on farm conservation of Traditional cultivars and landraces could be promoted as priority areas.
- Farmers should be educated through KVKS on *in situ* on farm conservation of crop genetic diversity. KVKS can play a key role by forming farmers group association or Cooperatives for registration of farmers varieties.
- Incentives, reward and Awards to the farmers may be encouraged for conservation. More particularly Tribal communities and women in conserving traditional varieties.
- A suitable conservation model (s) for *in situ* – on farm conservation may developed for Agrobiodiversity. Pilot scale experiments could be initiated.
- Genetic variability of underutilized food crops, fruits, minor fruits, greens, medicinal and aromatic plants, vegetables and other economic plants may documented and conserved. In Andaman, CARI and NPBGR Scientists have documented all the minor fruits. This could be entrusted to the ICAR centers involved in under utilized crops.
- It is important to identify, locate and document and assess any threat to species, ecotypes, cultivars and population relevant to Agrobiodiversity. This could also be focused more on the species that have originated in India as well as exotic introduced species over years.
- National Network approach by establishing linkages between Research Institutions and Universities on Agrobiodiversity and this Network platform can promote exchange of materials, Information sharing, technology transfer and sharing responsibilities on genetic resources activities. This would also provide for developing policy issue and also setting priorities and also to get the regional views.
- Agrobiodiversity Hotspots – identification – Dr.Nagarajan has given background information and suggested – 20 hotspots areas. But an expert

group can work on this in detail and improve upon the suggested Agrobiodiversity hot spots.

- Erosion of genetic resources can occur in *ex situ* collection at farmers fields and in nature. Therefore it will be appropriate to identify causes of genetic erosion. Communities participation / stakeholders meeting and participatory mode of conservation of Agrobiodiversity will be a practical solution to conserve local varieties and land races.
- Germplasm registration can be taken up by the Breeders. NBPGR has developed methodology for germplasm registration.
- Mechanisms to be developed at SAU's and ICAR institutions for continuous collections, conservation and sharing with farmers and recognizing farmers for their traditional knowledge and wisdom in evolving crop varieties for sustainable Agriculture in India.
- IPR and Benefit sharing issues on Agrobiodiversity are to be addressed.
- Funding mechanism for conservation. Funds are required for conservation of genetic resources / germplasm under field conditions.
- It is important address on crop genetic resources and land races particularly on
 - Conservation
 - Sustainable use
 - Fair and equitable sharing of benefits