



Visit of Officials of New Zealand High Commission to Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority, New Delhi



The delegation of officials from New Zealand High Commission visited Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority office in NASC Complex on 7th May, 2024. The delegation had a detailed interaction on procedure of plant variety registration in India and



possible areas of future collaboration between India and New Zealand. The delegation comprised of Ms. Melanie Phillips, Regional Agriculture Counsellor, Mr. Louis O'Brien, Second Secretary, New Zealand High Commission, Ms. Meera Arora, Head of Business Development, South Asia and Ms. Kethoseno Peseyie, Policy Advisor (Agriculture, Trade and Economic) New Zealand High Commission. Ms. Melanie

Phillips described the purpose of the visit and enquired about the procedure for protection of new varieties of crops of relevance to New Zealand such as kiwi fruit, apple, and pear. She also briefly mentioned about the system of crop variety protection in New Zealand. Dr. D.K. Agarwal, Registrar General, PPVFRA informed the delegates about the activities and the registration process of plant varieties with PPVFR Authority, Govt. of India. He specifically explained the procedure with regard to PEQ requirements and the agency dealing with it. Dr. T. Mohapatra, Chairperson, PPVFRA spoke about the importance of crops like kiwi fruit and the need for building collaboration for research between India and New Zealand. It was agreed to conduct a sensitization programme for the Growers and Exporters of Horticultural Crops of New Zealand to facilitate their varietal protection in India. It was also agreed to further discuss about sharing of experience, capacity building, harmonization of DUS guidelines & testing etc. to build future programmes. The delegates expressed satisfaction on the outcomes of the discussion held and expected continuation of interaction with the Authority.

