



**Division of Germplasm Conservation**  
**ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources**  
*(Indian Council of Agricultural Research)*  
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**Dr RK Tyagi**

Head

**No. APCoAB/2017/1**

**Date: February 2, 2017**

Subject: Application for the post of **Coordinator, Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology (APCoAB), Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)**

**Dear Sir/Madam:**

With reference to the advertisement for the above-mentioned post, I am submitting my application for its consideration. My CV, list of publications, and names of referees are attached. My qualifications and core competencies as per the requirement of the post are given below, and details are available in the CV.

**Technical competencies**

**My position**

Ph. D. in agriculture or related disciplines from a recognized university.

: Ph D degree in Botany from University of Delhi, Delhi; Agriculture Research Service discipline is Economic Botany and Plant Genetic Resources.

At least 10 years of research and development (R&D) experience in agricultural biotechnology

Working for plant genetic resources management using conventional and biotechnological methods for the past 30 years at the ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (ICAR-NBPGR). Presently, working as **Head**, Division of Germplasm Conservation and National Genebank (7 years 10 months) and **Programme Leader** of *ex situ* conservation of orthodox seed and vegetatively propagated crop germplasm using conventional, *in vitro* and cryopreservation methods (modern biotechnological methods) for efficient conservation of germplasm holistically; **Lead Centre Platform Coordinator**, Consortium on Research Platform on Agrobiodiversity; holding administrative and managerial responsibilities of second largest National Genebank (seed genebank and *in vitro*/cryo genebank) of the world conserving about ) 0.43 million accessions of agri-horticultural crops.

Adequate knowledge of global R&D and regulatory developments in agriculture and biotechnology, in particular aiming at food and nutrition security

I have a Post-Graduate diploma in **Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs)** from Indian Law Institute. I have about 30 years of experience in managing the PGR including collection, characterization (morphological and molecular), evaluation, conservation and use in accordance with national and international conventions/treaties (CBD, ITPGRFA, Nagoya Protocols) and related phytosanitary and biosafety regulations. I have been involved in policy and legal issues related to PGR in national as well as international fora. We have germplasm exchange, conservation and utilization in crop improvement programmes with major CG centre genebanks and national agricultural research system of various countries. Several programmes have been negotiated for conservation of germplasm for mutual benefits of the partners.

Experience of organizing international/regional workshops/expert consultations/meetings. Experience in compiling meeting/workshop reports, technical status papers and other communication materials.

: Involved in organization of 24 national, regional, international **seminars/symposia/trainings; compiled reports/proceedings/recommendations etc.** As General Secretary ISPGR and Co-organizing Secretary, 1st International Agrobiodiversity Congress was organized recently during 6-9 November 2016.

Significant scientific contributions and leadership in the related field of specialization

Significant studies were carried out on genetic diversity assessment of collections of cultivated and wild relatives of crop genetic resources using phenotypic and molecular markers (SSRs and SNPs); development of core sets in rice using SNPs for rice improvement programmes. Development of protocols/methodologies on seed dormancy breaking, enhancement of seed germination, biochemical markers for seed deterioration, low-cost multiplication and conservation of various vegetatively propagated crops using *in vitro* (tissue culture) and cryopreservation techniques and investigations for genetic stability assessment of conserved germplasm using molecular markers. Seed health testing of for safe conservation of germplasm is also being carried out in genebank.

A total 334 publications, **including 78 research papers in internationally reputed journals** (such as *Acta Physiologia Plantarum*, *BMC Genetics*, *Biologia Plantarum*, *Cereal Research Communication*, *Crop Science*, *Cryoletters*, *Current Science*, *Euphytica*, *Genetic Resources and Crop Evolution*, *In Vitro Cellular and Developmental Biology*, *Plant Cell Tissue and Organ Culture*, *PLoS ONE*, *Scientia Horticulturae*, *Theoretical and Applied Genetics* etc.) on various aspects related to management of crop genetic resources. Worked as Editor-in-Chief (2010-2016; 2001-02) of Indian Journal of Plant Genetic Resources.

International/regional experience of coordinating R&D programmes particularly in the Asia-Pacific region.

: Managing the technical, financial and administrative matters for 31 institutional and 16 externally funded projects; 6 multi-disciplinary/inter-institutional/ international projects involving more than 150 partners Monitoring the progress of 85 scientists, technical personnel, supporting and auxiliary staff of the Division of Germplasm Conservation, NBPGR Regional Stations, Bhowali and Jodhpur. I have been working and effectively coordinating several multi-disciplinary teams for execution of in-house, network and externally funded projects at national and international level.

Presently, I am working as Head, Division of Germplasm Conservation; Programme Leader of Conservation of agri-horticultural crop germplasm using conventional and modern (in vitro and Cryopreservation) techniques; and Lead Centre Project Coordinator for Consortium Research Project on Agrobiodiversity (CRP-AB) involving 89 collaborators in National Agricultural Research System.

During 6-9 November 2016, I worked as Co-organizing Secretary to organize 1<sup>st</sup> International Agrobiodiversity Congress; a total 968 delegates from 60 countries participated in Congress.

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I look forward to a positive response.

Thanking you and with best regards.

Yours sincerely



(R.K. Tyagi)

To,

**Dr Bhag Mal**

Interim Executive Secretary

APAARI