

**NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY**  
**MINUTES OF THE SEVENTH MEETING**



सत्यमेव जयते

**20<sup>th</sup> JULY, 2006**  
**475, 9<sup>th</sup> SOUTH CROSS STREET**  
**KAPALEESWAR NAGAR**  
**NEELANKARAI, CHENNAI 600 041**  
[www.nbaindia.org](http://www.nbaindia.org)

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## NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY MINUTES OF THE SEVENTH MEETING

DATE : 20<sup>th</sup> JULY 2006

TIME : 10.00AM to 5:00PM

VENUE: NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY, CHENNAI

The proceedings of the SEVENTH meeting of the National Biodiversity Authority commenced at 10.30 am on 20.7.2006 at NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY, CHENNAI. The Chairman, NBA **Prof. S. Kannaiyan** extended a warm welcome to the members of the Authority to the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting and briefed them the major achievements made by NBA during the period between 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### 1. MAJOR ACTIVITIES OF NBA

#### Meetings Conducted by NBA

1. **“Interactive Workshop on State Biodiversity Board and Review Meeting”** organized by National Biodiversity Authority held on 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2006 at Gokul Hall, Hotel Krishna Residency, Chennai.
2. Third Meeting for **“Expert Committee on Threatened, Endangered and Endemic Species”** organized by National Biodiversity Authority held on 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2006 at Conference Hall of National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai.
3. **“Expert Committee Meeting on Access and Benefit Sharing and Material Transfer”** organized by National Biodiversity Authority held on 12<sup>th</sup> June, 2006 at Conference Hall of National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai.
4. **“Expert Committee Meeting to Evaluate the Access, Patent, Transfer of Research Results and Material Transfer Application”** held on 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2006 at Conference Hall of National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai.
5. **“National Workshop on People’s Biodiversity Register”** organized by National Biodiversity Authority held on 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2006 at Conference Hall, Institute of Ocean Management, Anna University, Chennai.
6. Third Meeting on **“Expert Group on Database on Biodiversity and Traditional Knowledge”** held on 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2006 at Conference Hall, Institute of Ocean Management, Anna University, Chennai.
7. **“Review of functions of National Biodiversity Authority”** Review meeting conducted by the Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi on 28.06.2006, NBA Conference Hall, Chennai.

### 2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF SIXTH MEETING

DATE : 20<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2006

TIME : 10.00AM to 6:00PM

VENUE: NATIONAL BUREAU OF ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES, KARNAL

The minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> Authority meeting was sent to all the members by speed post vide Lr No 8/2/213/2003-NBA (S) dated 15.05.2006. The Members of the Authority appreciated the achievements made during the period of 6<sup>th</sup> Authority meeting and the minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> Authority meeting was approved by the members unanimously.

**3. DISCUSSION ON THE AGENDA FOR THE 7<sup>th</sup> AUTHORITY  
MEETING HELD ON 20<sup>th</sup> JULY 2006**

**1. APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE AUTHORITY**

**There are 12 applications received from various applicants by NBA. One applicant has not paid the fee before the date of the meeting and hence 11 applications were taken for evaluation by the expert Committee.**

App. No.1: Ms. Rikako Kimura Ph. D: To analyze karyo types and Satellite DNA of Indian Wild Asses and also compare to Hybrids.

Comments: A letter has to be written to the Director, CCMB, and Hyderabad to verify whether any MOU/Agreement has been made with the applicant to do research on Wild Asses.

**The Chairman is authorized to approve the application as soon as the letter of clarification is received from the Director, CCMB as mentioned above.**

App. No. 2: Dr. Faujdar Singh: Transfer of imported *vip3A gene* from *Bacillus thuringiensis* to cotton and these were multiplied and utilized for making various crosses. *vip3A gene* is resistant to Lepidopteron insect pests

Comments: The application is recommended for approval. Also a verification letter has to be sent to Syngenta whether any Indian seed material of public variety is present in the Syngenta proprietary line. In which case, benefit sharing with India will be mandatory according to the guidelines which are being developed by the NBA and the comments received from Syngenta is to be sent to GEAC, MoEF, New Delhi.

**Approved by NBA as per the comments given by the Expert Committee**

App. No. 3: Prof. Masaru Nonaka: To collect and analyse two Indian *Oryzias* species, *O. carnaticus* and *O. dancena* for the possible presence of Major Histocompatibility complex (MHC) lineages to elucidate evolution and polymorphism of the vertebrate MHC – Mammalian MHC

Comments: The following points are to be clarified from the applicant: 1. whether the biological resource will be experimented in India or abroad, 2. the exact geographical location of the genetic material to be collected.

Also a concurrence letter of the Director ICMR is necessary in this case as to whether MoU has been signed with the applicant or not as well as IPR concerns if any.

**Not Approved by NBA. As per the letter written by the applicant on 12.7.2006 mentioning that a joint project for funding from INSA-JSPS is being proposed on**

**the above subject. The applicant may apply once again to NBA for approval only after the joint project is materialized**

App. No. 4: D1 Oils India Ltd: Providing the technology, plants, machinery and expertise in growing the feedstock and converting the vegetable oil into bio-diesel to the standard stipulated by the European Union

Comments: The application is recommended for approval by the expert committee. The samples of collection to be deposited at NBPGR by the D1 oil Company and IC numbers (Indigenous Collection) to be given. Specific data regarding the seeds collection such as 1) The oil content 2) The fatty acid composition and 3) The geographical location of occurrence of the seeds need to be shared with NBPGR. Benefit sharing must be done as per the guidelines given by the NBA. An agreement is to be signed by the applicant.

**The NBA Members of the opinion that the controversy on misappropriation of Jatropha germplasm at Indira Gandhi Agricultural University, Raipur is not yet over. The application is not approved.**

App. No. 5: Ms. Emily Rebecca Ladlow: Internship study on MSSRF's methods to preserve India's Biodiversity, traditional knowledge and also studying sustainable agriculture and their community based biodiversity projects at MSSRF Project centre, Wayanad, Kerala

Comments: The application is recommended for approval. The applicant must submit regular reports both to MSSRF and NBA. Since the application is treated as biosurvey, a tripartite agreement must be made between the applicant, MSSRF and NBA.

**Approved by NBA as per the comments given by the Expert Committee**

App. No. 6: Mr. Farshid Ahresrani: Study and Research on Gaur

Comments: The application is recommended for approval. The Tamil Nadu Chief Wildlife Warden of Forest must be informed about the approval of NBA.

**Approved by NBA as per the comments given by the Expert Committee**

App. No. 7, 8, 9: Vasundhara: Water detoxication by using Coconut coir, Water detoxication by using Bacha (*Acorus calamus*) rhizomes Extract, Water detoxication by using *Syzygium cumini* seed Extract.

Comments: The applications are recommended for approval. Benefit sharing arrangement has to be made according to the guidelines given by the NBA.

**Approved by NBA subject to clarification from the applicant that any traditional/associated/oral traditional knowledge is involved.**

App. No.10: National Botanical Research Institute: Export of plants for setting up of India Herbal Garden at WHO HQ, Geneva

Comments: The application is not recommended for approval. The prior art of the 18 plants which are to be exported is to be registered first with the NBPGR then the application may be resubmitted to NBA giving details such as characterization and genetic variability, and after registration with IC No. It should be deposited in Gene bank .

**Not Approved by NBA as per the comments given by the Expert Committee**

App. No 11: Dr. H. Thorsten Lumbsch: Diversity of *Thelotremataceae* in the Indian Sub - Continents to understand the evaluation of the family

Comments: Application fee not received hence not taken for discussion. A letter has to be written to the applicant to remind for application fee.

**This application is dealt separately in the additional agenda due to the delay in the payment of application fee.**

App. No 12: ICAR: Indian Wheat Genotypes

Comments: In view of the exigency emerging out of UG 99 against new virulence of Stem Rust and also the International commitment to the Global Rust Initiative and in view of the National and International Public goods Nature of the material the above application is recommended for approval.

In view of the collaborative research between the Government of India and other nations and in view of getting some valuable germ plasm, the genetic exchange such as that of mango, sunflower and coconut from India may be approved. The committee recommends that the ICAR will take care of the IPR and benefit sharing arrangement.

**Approved by NBA as per the comments given by the Expert Committee**

Application No 13: Application form of Dr N Fadnavis Indian Institute of Chemical Technology, Hyderabad pertaining to

1. APPLICATIONS TO NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY FOR APPROVAL Reference No: F. No. 9-66/2005; Particulars of Charges: Rs 5,000/= Paid Draft No 178097 dated 21.12.2005

1. Name and address of applicant : Dr. N. W. Fadnavis, Sci.E-II,  
Biotransformation Laboratory, Indian Institute of Chemical Technology, Tarnaka,  
Hyderabad – 500 007.

COMMENTS: The Committee recommended the proposal in principle. However, the authority be ensured and check with DST that the transfer is under robust MTA and IPRs are properly ensured with the counter part.

This application was evaluated 29.12.2006 by the approved Committee headed by Dr S.P. Tiwari, and the same was put up to the 5<sup>th</sup> authority meeting held at Port Blair for approval. Due to want of some information a letter was written to DST and the DST (CSIR) confirmed that the project meets the CSIR guidelines and has CSIR's approval.

**Approved by NBA as per the comments given by the Expert Committee**

**Action: Secretary**

## **2. APPROVAL OF METHODOLOGY FOR PEOPLE'S BIODIVERSITY REGISTER**

**The final recommendations of national workshop of on Peoples' Biodiversity Register are placed for discussion in the additional agenda.**

## **3. EXPERT COMMITTEE ON ACCESS AND BENEFIT SHARING MEETING OUTCOME.**

### **THE AUTHORITY FOR INFORMATION**

## **4. EXPERT COMMITTEE TO PREPARE GUIDELINES ON ESTABLISHMENT OF HERITAGE SITES.**

As per Section 37 of the Biodiversity Act, 2002, Heritage sites are to be notified by the State Government. In this connection criteria and guidelines are to be prepared by an Expert Committee approved by the Authority. The Expert Committee may consist of a Chairman and 6-10 members drawn from various fields suitable to the committee to give inputs.

### **THE AUTHORITY IS REQUESTED TO APPROVE**

**Chairman, NBA is authorized to propose the above committee considering DG Forest as Chairman and members drawn from Scientists and Indian Forest Service.**

**The following are the committee Chairman and members:**

**Chairman:**

**1. Director General Forests**

Ministry of Environment and Forests,  
Paryavaran Bhavan, CGO Complex,  
Lodi Road, New Delhi 110 003

**2. Dr. Ajit Patnayak**

Chilika Development Authority  
Plot No. C-11 , BJB Nagar  
Bhubaneswar - 751014  
Orissa , India  
Phone - 91(674)2434044/2436654  
Fax - 91(674)2434485  
Email: chilika@chilika.com

**3. Shri C. K. Sridharan**

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Panagal Building  
Saidapet, Chennai 600 015, Tamil Nadu

**4. Dr J. K. Sharma,**

Member Secretary  
Kerala Biodiversity Board  
Sastra Bhavan, Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram 695004

**5. Dr Siddharth Kaul**

Director,  
Ministry of Environment and Forests  
Paryavaran Bhavan, CGO Complex,  
Lodi Road, New Delhi 110 003

**6. Director (or his nominee)**

Wildlife Institute of India  
Chadrabani, PO Box 18.  
Dehradun 248001 Uttaranchal

**7. Dr R. P. S. Katwal**

Addl. Director General  
Ministry of Environment and Forests  
Paryavaran Bhavan, CGO Complex,  
Lodi Road, New Delhi 110 003

**8. Dr A. K. Ghosh**

Director  
Centre for Environment and Development  
329, Jodhpur Park, Kolkata 700 068.



**9. Dr S. Edison**

Director

Central Tuber Crops Research Institute

ICAR, Sreekariyam, Thiruvananthapuram 695 017.

**Action: Secretary****5. COMMITTEE TO APPROVE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS OF NBA****THE AUTHORITY IS REQUESTED TO APPROVE**

The authority has decided to approve the NBA Expenditure statements for the current year and for the coming years Chairman, NBA will be the Chairman of the accounts committee, Joint Secretary (CS), MoEF, New Delhi and Dr B. R. Subramaniam, Advisor, ICMAM, DOD, Chennai will be the members

**Action: Secretary****6. EXPERT COMMITTEE ON DATABASE (INDIAN BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION SYSTEM)****THE AUTHORITY FOR INFORMATION****Comments by Member:**

25.07.2006

Sub: 7<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2006 of the National Biodiversity authority.

Dear Dr. Venkataraman,

Kindly recall the discussion we had on the proposal on Indian Biodiversity Information System co-ordinated by Dr. Vishwas Chavan. As a scientist associated with various national and international database for many years I give my considered comments on the same as above.

It is extremely important to establish a National Biodiversity Information System involving the most active players of our country in this subject area. When we speak of the Biodiversity today the predominant component is plant biodiversity and I find there is not expertise on plant biodiversity in this proposal. Dr. Vishwas Chavan is a very good computer specialist and has done commendable work in preparing the data base on fauna for which he got the best expertise while he was working at Nio Goa. Currently he is at National Chemical Laboratory where there is absolutely no expertise on biodiversity. It may be mentioned here that the biodiversity database is not simply digitalizing the published information on species. It is much more than that. What we need to develop is a scientifically sound and validated database involving the best expert taxonomists of different groups to correctly authenticate the species before it is digitized.

The first ever validated interoperative and digitized international database on Legume was operated at National Botanic Research Institute and I was associated with the same. In this database the expertise of over 50 taxonomists belonging to over 20 countries were associated for correcting nomenclature and other aspects. Similarly when we want to establish a national biodiversity database we have to associate expert taxonomists and expert institutions so as to make it scientifically sound and globally compatible national database. Such a database have to be logistically located in a centre where taxonomists expertise available such as Botanical Survey of India or Zoological Survey of India or National Botanical Institute or Tropical Botanic Research Institute etc. I therefore request the NBA to call a meeting for all the concerned expert institutions and experts and discuss to develop a sound the strategy and methodology to finalize this project.

This national database should be under the direct supervision and control of National Biodiversity Authority. Also the project may be coordinated by a senior scientists or the Director of Botanical Survey of India or Zoological Survey of India or Director National Botanic Research Institute, Lucknow etc. The core team may be consist of a senior scientists from **ZSI, NBRI, NCL, IISc, NBAGR, UAS Bangalore, NBPGR, FRLHT, DBT, CSIR** etc.

I am attaching a write up that I prepared earlier on database on Biodiversity for your perusal and record.

With regards,

Yours sincerely  
P. Pushpangadan

**Action: Secretary**

#### **7. AUDIT REPORT - YEAR 2003-2004; 2004- 2005**

Local audit report on the accounts of National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai for the year 2003 – 2004 and 2004 – 2005

#### **THE AUTHORITY FOR INFORMATION**

#### **8. APPROVAL OF ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2005-2006**

The draft Annual Report for the year 2005-2006 (Annexed separately) is submitted to the Authority for approval.

#### **THE AUTHORITY IS REQUESTED TO APPROVE**

**The authority has approved the annual report of the NBA**

**Action: Secretary**

**9. APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR 2005-2006**

**THE AUTHORITY IS REQUESTED TO APPROVE**

The authority has approved the NBA Expenditure statements for the year 2005-2006 and to establish a committee to approve, Chairman, NBA is nominated as Chairman for the accounts approval committee, Joint Secretary (CS), MoEF, New Delhi and Dr B.R. Subramanian, Advisor, ICMAM, DOD, Chennai will be the members

**Action: Secretary**

**10. MINUTES OF THE REVIEW MEETING OF THE SECRETARY,  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS, NEW DELHI**

*The final approved minutes of the above meeting was received 19<sup>th</sup> July hence the same was discussed in the additional agenda at the end.*

**11. Proposal on Indian Biodiversity Information System (IBIS)  
A Pilot project on testing the feasibility and utility of establishing Indian  
Biodiversity Information System**

Co- Principal Investigators:

*Prof. Madhav Gadgil, IISc., Bangalore, Prof. Dharshan Shanker,*

*FRLHT, Bangalore*

*Dr. Irfan Ullah, ATREE, Bangalore, Dr. Lakra NBFGR, Lucknow*

*Dr. Sharma, NBPGR New Delhi, Dr. V K Gupta, NISCAIR, New Delhi*

*Dr. Kethrapal, NBAGR, Karnal, Dr. K N Ganeshiah, UAS Bangalore*

*Dr. V Chavan, NCL. Pune*

Period : 3 Years

**Budget :** Rs. 4,84,59,120/- (Four crore eighty four lakh fifty nine thousand one hundred and twenty only)

**THE AUTHORITY IS REQUESTED TO APPROVE**

The authority approves the above proposal with following comments 1. Instead of Dr Irfan, ATREE, Bangalore, other apex organizations such as Zoological Survey of India, Botanical Survey of India, National Botanical Research Institute, Mr A.J. Kurian as DST Representative; instead of Dr Kethrapal, Dr Ahlawat, Director, NBAGR to be included along with the comments of by Dr P. Pushpangadan given below.

Sub: 7<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2006 of the National Biodiversity authority.  
Dear Dr. Venkataraman,

Kindly recall the discussion we had on the proposal on Indian Biodiversity Information System co-ordinated by Dr. Vishwas Chavan. As a scientist associated with various national and international database for many years I give my considered comments on the same as above.

It is extremely important to establish a National Biodiversity Information System involving the most active players of our country in this subject area. When we speak of the Biodiversity today the predominant component is plant biodiversity and I find there is not expertise on plant biodiversity in this proposal. Dr. Vishwas Chavan is a very good computer specialist and has done commendable work in preparing the data base on fauna for which he got the best expertise while he was working at NIO Goa. Currently he is at National Chemical Laboratory where there is absolutely no expertise on biodiversity. It may be mentioned here that the biodiversity database is not simply digitalizing the published information on species. It is much more than that. What we need to develop is a scientifically sound and validated database involving the best expert taxonomists of different groups to correctly authenticate the species before it is digitized.

The first ever validated interoperative and digitized international database on Legume was operated at National Botanic Research Institute and I was associated with the same. In this database the expertise of over 50 taxonomists belonging to over 20 countries were associated for correcting nomenclature and other aspects. Similarly when we want to establish a national biodiversity database we have to associate expert taxonomists and expert institutions so as to make it scientifically sound and globally compatible national database. Such a database have to be logistically located in a centre where taxonomists expertise available such as Botanical Survey of India or Zoological Survey of India or National Botanical Institute or Tropical Botanic Research Institute etc. I therefore request the NBA to call a meeting for all the concerned expert institutions and experts and discuss to develop a sound the strategy and methodology to finalize this project.

This national database should be under the direct supervision and control of National Biodiversity Authority. Also the project may be coordinated by a senior scientists or the Director of Botanical Survey of India or Zoological Survey of India or Director National Botanic Research Institute, Lucknow etc. The core team may be consist of a senior scientists from ZSI, NBRI, NCL, IISc, NBAGR, UAS Bangalore, NBPGR, FRLHT, DBT, CSIR etc.

I am attaching a write up that I prepared earlier on database on Biodiversity for your perusal and record.

<b>Action: Secretary</b>
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**12. DISCUSSION ON THE NOTE SUBMITTED BY  
SHRI ASISH KOTHARI**

**THE AUTHORITY IS REQUESTED TO APPROVE**

Acts and Rules are framed by the Ministry of Environment and Forests and hence the National Biodiversity Authority is not to discuss the same.

**13. APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
PROPOSAL FOR THE 11<sup>th</sup> PLAN**

**THE AUTHORITY IS REQUESTED TO APPROVE**

In principle NBA approved the requirement of purchase of Land and Construction of Building.

**Action: Secretary**

**COMMENTS BY DR AK GHOSH:**

Dr AK Ghosh, member of the Authority raised the issue of non functioning of the Expert Committee on Repositories and the members informed that the Secretary, NBA should conduct the first meeting and inform the Authority in the next meeting. The Secretary, NBA also informed to the authority that due to non availability of Expert Consultant the above meeting could not be conducted till date and the first meeting will be conducted in the first week of September.

**Action: Secretary**

**NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY  
ADDITIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SEVENTH MEETING  
WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIRMAN**

**1. Department of Agriculture and Research Education Proposals to  
National Biodiversity Authority for Approval**

DARE Proposal No. 1: Export of 500 gm of *Cardiocrinum giganteum* seeds commonly known as Giant Himalayan Lily from India to Japan

**THE AUTHORITY IS REQUESTED TO APPROVE**

The approval of NBA is subject to the verification from Botanical Survey of India that Giant Himalayan Lily is an endemic species or not and the present status in distribution.

**Action: Secretary**

DARE Proposal NO. 2: Supplying TNMC 1 – 35 in *Jatropha curcas* at the cost of Rs.60, 000/- per tonne of *Jatropha* seed to Zambia.

**THE AUTHORITY IS REQUESTED TO APPROVE**

The Authority approved the above application for exporting *Jatropha curcas* seeds (two tones) to Zambia under the Section 5 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002. Indian Council of Agricultural Research is requested to take care of the IPR and benefit sharing if any from the above export.

**Action: Secretary**

DARE Proposal NO. 3: Export 1050 kg of Rice Seed C.V. Bigante (Hy) Foundation Seed (Line 060205 – 1000 kg), Breeder Seeds (Line 060205 – 45 kg) and Breeder Seed (Line 020205 – 5 kg) to Philippines.

**THE AUTHORITY IS REQUESTED TO APPROVE**

The approval of NBA is subject to the verification from ICAR whether it is a collaborative research project or not since the proposal came from Directorate General of Foreign Trade.

**Action: Secretary**

DARE Proposal NO. 4: Export 40 kg of Foundation Seeds of Rice c.v. 93024 (Line A – 30 Kg and Line R – 10 Kg) of to Bangladesh.

**THE AUTHORITY IS REQUESTED TO APPROVE**

The approval of NBA is subject to the verification from ICAR whether it is a collaborative research project or not since the proposal came from Directorate General of Foreign Trade.

**Action: Secretary**

DARE PROPOSAL NO. 5: Sending Gujarat Vegetable Chilli 101, 111 and 121 (developed by Anand Agricultural University, Anand, Gujarat) to Taiwan.

**THE AUTHORITY IS REQUESTED TO APPROVE**

The Authority approved the above application for exporting Gujarat Vegetable Chilli 101, 111 and 121 (developed by Anand Agricultural University, Anand, Gujarat) to Taiwan under the Section 5 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002. Indian Council of Agricultural Research is requested to take care of the IPR and benefit sharing if any from the above export.

**Action: Secretary**

DARE PROPOSAL NO.6: 100 q of Jatropha seeds to Mozambique

**THE AUTHORITY IS REQUESTED TO APPROVE**

The Authority approved the above application for exporting 100 q of *Jatropha* seeds to Mozambique under the Section 5 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002. Indian Council of Agricultural Research is requested to take care of the IPR and benefit sharing if any from the above export.

**Action: Secretary**

**2. FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON  
PEOPLE'S BIODIVERSITY REGISTER 22-23, June, 2006**

***Recommendations and Follow-up Action Points***

People's Biodiversity Registers must be documents of the people, by the people and for the people. Given the diversity of life and ecosystems, of people and economy, over our vast country, PBR exercises have to be fine tuned to the local conditions, and must be based on the understanding that the original holders of the knowledge they will contain are the local communities and their members. For this reason, the process of compiling each PBR must begin with obtaining prior informed consent of the concerned community with active involvement of the

diverse women and men knowledge holders with facilitative support of scientists, resource managers, teachers and students as appropriate. Each community shall control the PBR process and decide on which components of the information recorded are to be shared openly with the public, which components are to be shared under certain conditions specified by the knowledge holders, and which components should be accessible only to the community members. Since PBRs are documents formulated by communities and belong to them, PBRs of communities that do not wish to integrate any of the PBR information into the broader Information System would not be considered any less legitimate for purposes of conservation, legal protection, benefit-sharing, or other related purposes, than those that are willing to integrate some or all of the recorded information, either conditionally or unconditionally, into the larger Indian Biodiversity Information System.

Thus, PBR exercises should not be undertaken as set tasks with all details specified, but must allow for sufficient freedom to take on board local resource use landscapes, institutions, concerns and priorities. The exercises must also permit use of a whole spectrum of media from written text, photographs, paintings and songs to seed banks. At the same time, it is also desirable that communities have the opportunity of taking advantage of modern communication networks and access information relating to technologies and markets, as also share knowledge and experiences with other communities. This would be facilitated by linking of local PBR exercises with the larger Indian Biodiversity Information System, with the understanding, of course, that the communities have the prerogative to decide on the components of PBR information that are to be shared, either conditionally or unconditionally, as a part of the nation-wide Information System.

Such participation in information networks would be greatly facilitated by adopting the version of the PBR methodology as well as the PeBINFO database presented at the Workshop as the starting point for initiating countrywide PBR exercises. It is noted that the methodology and database are so designed as to permit extensive adaptation to local context, including, either simplification or further elaboration. It is also noted that if such adaptation results in considerable heterogeneity in the databases developed in different states, or even at the level of different districts, it would still be possible to effectively link them into a countrywide confederated Information System.

With this understanding, the NBA should promote the following set of activities, taking inputs from an Advisory Group set up for the purpose ensuring representation of community knowledge holders and of NGOs working with them:

***NBA should establish an Advisory Group comprising representatives of Environment and Forest, Fisheries, Agriculture, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Education and Information Technology ministries, technical experts, community knowledge holders and NGOs to facilitate follow up of the recommendations of the National Workshop on People's Biodiversity Registers. At the same time, NBA should set up a complementary Technical Support Group to assist in the follow up of recommendations involving more technical issues.***

<b>Action: Secretary</b>
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1. Developing, within the next 6 months to 1 year, ways and means of effectively providing control of the PBRs to the relevant communities, including through appropriate legal means (such as Rules under the Biological Diversity Act), administrative mechanisms, and local empowerment; this should include all PBR exercises/documents/collections, including those that communities desire not to incorporate into the national database.

***The Advisory Group should formulate suggestions regarding appropriate legal means (such as Rules under the Biological Diversity Act), administrative mechanisms, and local empowerment for effectively providing control of the PBRs to the relevant communities.***



**Action: Secretary**

2. Developing guidelines for the process by which PBRs are to be initiated; such guidelines should stress that PBRs should be tried out at a few sites to start with especially where the women and men of communities are well-organized to carry them out, and lessons from these learnt before spreading to other sites; the appropriate unit of settlement at which PBRs should be formulated, and the flexibility of adapting to local conditions. In particular, it may be appropriate to go down below the level of a Panchayat/ Municipality, and, as in the case of Village Forest Committees, organize sub-committees of BMCs at the level of individual villages/ hamlets/town wards and to prepare PBRs at this level. In the case of Schedule V areas, the selection of communities shall be in accordance with the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 and in Schedule VI areas based on the local traditional village institutions. In all cases, all adult residents must constitute the general body (the Gram Sabha under the 73<sup>rd</sup> Constitutional amendment) which selects its BMC in contrast to various committees formed by sectoral departments for their specific projects or programmes. The responsibility for technical support for the exercise may be appropriately assigned to forest, agriculture or fisheries departments depending on the prevalent environmental regime.

***The Advisory Group should develop guidelines for initiating the PBR process focusing on the appropriate unit of settlement at which PBRs should be prepared, ensuring flexibility of adapting to local conditions.***

**Action: Secretary**

3. Organization of an Indian Biodiversity Information System (IBIS), incorporating People's Biodiversity Register Information System (PeBINFO), and means of providing feedback to communities whose information is going into such a system, especially on how their knowledge is being used and protected, new values which the knowledge is acquiring, alerts on acts of biopiracy relating to their knowledge, and benefits that ought to be flowing back to them. A draft of the proposed structure and functions of IBIS should be put up for public inputs for a period of 3 to 6 months, and comments sought from research/scientific institutions, NGOs, government officials, and community organizations, before being finalized.

***With assistance from its Technical Support Group, NBA should promote the organization of an Indian Biodiversity Information System (IBIS), incorporating People's Biodiversity Register Information System (PeBINFO), with appropriate safeguards, and taking on board inputs from the public.***

**Action: Secretary**

4. Creating web-compatible, free, open source software versions of People's Biodiversity Register Information System (PeBINFO), preferably with the involvement of not for profit organizations.

***NBA should commission the development of web-compatible, free, open source software versions of People's Biodiversity Register Information System (PeBINFO), preferably with the involvement of not-for-profit organizations.***

**Action: Secretary**

5. Preparing more user-friendly versions of People's Biodiversity Register Methodology Manual for implementation at BMC level, giving adequate emphasis to both wild and agricultural (cultivated/domesticated) biodiversity.

***NBA should commission the preparation of more user-friendly versions of People's Biodiversity Register Methodology Manual for implementation at BMC level, in English, as well as all state languages. This process may be guided by the national level Technical Support Group working with similar TSGs at the state level.***

**Action: Secretary**

6. Establishment of Technical Support Groups, involving taxonomists, as well as ecologists, agricultural scientists, expert farmers & NGO representatives, biostatisticians and computer scientists to support the PBR activities at national, state and district levels.

***The Technical Support Group of NBA at the national level should promote the establishment of similar TSGs at state and district level to facilitate PBR activities at national, state and district levels.***

**Action: Secretary**

7. Development of educational resource material to support teacher-student-parent activities in the study and survey of local biodiversity.

***The national level Technical Support Group of NBA should collaborate with NCERT and UGC to promote development of educational resource material, especially in the context of compulsory Environmental Education courses, to facilitate teacher-student-parent activities contributing to the preparation of PBRs.***

**Action: Secretary**

8. Development of information dissemination and capacity building programmes for the women and men of communities to make them aware of the objectives and process of preparing PBRs and being able to access and use the IBIS and PeBINFO.

***NBA should promote information dissemination and capacity building programmes for the women and men of communities to make them aware of the objectives and process of preparing PBRs and being able to access and use the IBIS and PeBINFO.***

**Action: Secretary**

9. Preparation of countrywide inventory of focal issues on conservation, sustainable and equitable use of biodiversity and Traditional Knowledge, practices and innovations, based on the articulation and information of communities.
10. Preparation of countrywide inventory of focal wild and domesticated taxa (species, varieties, sub varieties, forma, and breeds) and habitats of local interest, along with their local and scientific names.

***The national level Technical Support Group, working in collaboration with state level TSGs, should coordinate the preparation of countrywide inventory of focal issues, taxa and habitats emerging from the PBR exercises.***

**Action: Secretary**

11. Finalizing a system of management of confidential information.

**NBA should work out a system of management of confidential information collected during the PBR process.**

**Action: Secretary**

12. Preparation and dissemination of resource material, including interactive identification keys for countrywide set of focal taxa and landscape and waterscape element types.

***The national level Technical Support Group, working in collaboration with state level TSGs, and agencies such as BSI, ZSI, various Centers of Excellence of Ministry of Environment and Forests, and other Universities and Research Institutions, should promote preparation and dissemination of resource material including interactive identification keys for countrywide set of focal taxa and landscape and waterscape element types.***

**Action: Secretary**

13. Preparation of resource material to promote sustainable harvests, storage, preliminary processing, local value addition and efficient marketing of biodiversity resources.

***The national level Technical Support Group, working in collaboration with state level TSGs, and agencies such as ICFRE, CSIR, ICAR and other appropriate institutions, should promote preparation and dissemination of resource material relating to sustainable harvests, storage, preliminary processing, local value addition and efficient marketing of biodiversity resources.***

**Action: Secretary**

14. Organizing training programmes and field trials.

***The NBA working in collaboration with State Biodiversity Boards should organize training programmes and field trials relating to preparation of PBRs.***

**Action: Secretary**

15. Documenting and disseminating information on various methods that communities are using to prepare PBRs, including in the case of PBRs that communities do not want to incorporate into a national system.

***The national level Technical Support Group, working in collaboration with state level TSGs, interested NGOs and other appropriate agencies should promote documentation and dissemination of information on various methods that communities are using to prepare PBRs.***

**Action: Secretary**

16. Developing and putting into place a publicly transparent system of monitoring the progress of PBR formulation, especially to ensure against distortions such as the process becoming mechanical and target-oriented, or to detect violations of the proposed system of community control, legal protection, and benefit-sharing with respect to the knowledge being documented.

***The NBA working in collaboration with State Biodiversity Boards should develop and implement a publicly transparent system of monitoring the progress of PBR formulation.***

**Action: Secretary**

17. Preparing, within the next 6 months, guidelines for the formation of BMCs (in view of the fact that PBRs are essentially to be prepared by BMCs, which therefore presupposes the existence of strong and effective BMCs). These guidelines should include BMC functions and powers, their links with PRIs and other local governance institutions with special attention to their variations in Schedule V & VI areas, their relationship with existing institutions at village and broader levels including with village bodies and line departments, their area of jurisdiction, and other aspects. For this purpose, NBA may call for a workshop with SBBs, NGOs, PRI representatives, state PRI departments, community organizations and networks, scientists, and others, to work out these guidelines, and open up a draft set of guidelines for public comment before finalization. The involvement of community representatives, e.g. from sites where communities are already well organized into bodies akin to BMCs, is crucial in the development of these guidelines. Once ready, the guidelines should be circulated to states to follow.

***The Advisory Group of NBA should formulate guidelines for the formation of BMCs.***

**Action: Secretary**

**3. FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF  
GUIDELINES FOR RARE, ENDEMIC AND THREATENED SPECIES  
(Expert Committee on Rare, Endemic and Threatened species as per Sec. 38  
of the Act)**

**THE AUTHORITY IS REQUESTED TO APPROVE**

The authority approved the above recommendation and the same may be sent to Administrative Ministry for necessary action.

**Action: Secretary**

**4. ACCESS APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL**

Applications to National Biodiversity Authority for Approval: Reference F. No. 9/84/2006/Tecl Appl / Particulars of Charges: Paid (Through Swift transfer)Rs.10000/-

1. Name and address of applicant: Dr. H. Thorsten Lumbsch, Associate Curator & Head of Cryptograms, Department of Botany, The Field Museum, 1400 S. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60605 USA
2. Date of Application in the prescribed Form: 22 – 05 - 2006
3. Type of form used: Form I
4. Name of the project: Collection of Biological and Geological specimens

5. Type of Bioresource: *Thelotremataceae* – Family of Lichens found in Western Ghats regions of South India
6. Application supported by any other Government Institution: Dr. D. K. Upreti, Head, NBRI, Lucknow.

**THE AUTHORITY IS REQUESTED TO APPROVE**

**Approval is subject to specific clearance from the Director General, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, New Delhi and from the Director, National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow.**

**5. PROPOSAL OF AUROVILLE'S GREENWORK**

**THE AUTHORITY IS REQUESTED TO APPROVE**

The Authority informed that a proper proposal is needed for examination. Also a team of experts to visit the Auroville Foundation and submit a report on the activities of the above foundation. Also NBA to collect information from the local Chief Wildlife Warden about the previous permissions issued to Auroville Foundation for collection of Bioresources.

**Action: Secretary**

**6. RECRUITMENT OF STAFF FOR NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY  
AUTHORITY**

**THE AUTHORITY IS REQUESTED TO APPROVE**

The Authority permitted NBA to fill up the above mentioned posts on deputation basis by advertising the same on website of NBA and circulating the office order to all Ministries under Government of India.

**Action: Secretary**

**7. FINAL REPORT ON THE *Jatropha* GERMPLASM AT INDIRA GANDHI  
AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, RAIPUR, INDIA**

**THE AUTHORITY FOR INFORMATION**

The Authority informed that based on the final report a notice is to be issued to the D1 Oil Company and the concerned Scientist involved Dr.Sunil Puri.

**Action: Secretary**

**8. GUIDELINES ON COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH PROJECTS**

**THE AUTHORITY FOR INFORMATION**

**9. REPLACEMENT OF CHAIRMAN FOR THE EXPERT COMMITTEE  
ON NORMALLY TRADED COMMODITIES (NTC)**

**THE AUTHORITY IS REQUESTED TO APPROVE.**

As approved by the authority, Dr J.P. Mishra, Asst. Dir. General (ESM & CSC), Indian Council of Agriculture Research, Krishi Bhavan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi – 110001 has been appointed as chairman of the EC on NTC.

**Action: Secretary**

**10. MINUTES OF THE MEETING TAKEN BY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF  
ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS, NEW DELHI ON 28.6.2006 TO REVIEW FUNCTIONING  
OF NBA, CHENNAI**

**THE AUTHORITY IS REQUESTED TO APPROVE**

The members agreed to the points raised by the Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests and based on the discussion a proposal may be sent by the NBA to the Administrative Ministry.

**COMMENTS BY Ms. Sushama Nath, Addl Sec, ICAR, New Delhi:**

NBA should initiate declaration of non-possession of Bioresource of India at the PORT of EXIT in the Embarkation form and creation of awareness to Indian Customs Department about the salient features of Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

**Action: Secretary**

## Appendix 1: ATTENDANCE OF MEMBERS PRESENT

### OFFICIAL MEMBERS PRESENT

1. **Shri D. D. Verma,**  
Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests  
Paryavaran Bhavan, New Delhi 11. 003.
2. **Smt. Sushama Nath,**  
**AS (D) and Secretary,** Dept of Agri. Res. Edu., Ministry of Agri.,  
Govt of India, New Delhi 110 001.
3. **Dr J. P. Mishra,**  
**Assistant Director General (RSM & CSC),**  
Room No 212, Indian Council of Agricultural Research,  
Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi – 110001.
4. **Dr S. K. Sharma,**  
Deputy Advisor – Siddha, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare,  
201, Indian Red Cross Building; Parliament Street, New Delhi 110 001
5. **Dr B. R. Subramaniam,**  
Advisor and Project Director, Department of Ocean Development, NIOT  
campus; Pallikaranai, Chennai 601 302.
6. **Shri A. J. Kurian,**  
Director, Department of Science and Technology, Technology Bhavan; New  
Meharauli Road, New Delhi 110 016

### LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED TO OFFICIAL MEMBERS

1. **Shri Rajeev Kumar,** J.S., Ministry of Tribal Affairs, New Delhi
2. **Shri Nikhilesh Jha,** J.S., Ministry of Science and Technology, New Delhi
3. **Dr. S. Natesh,** Advisor, Department of Biotechnology, CGO Complex, Block No. 2, Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110003.
4. **Shri R. P. S. Katwal,** Additional Director General of Forests (Wild Life), Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi 110 003.

**NON-OFFICIAL MEMBERS PRESENT**

- 1. Prof. L. Kannan**, Director of Research, Centre for Advanced Study in Marine Biology, **Parangipettai - 608 502**
- 2. Dr A. K. Ghosh**, Director, Centre for Environment and Development, 329, Jodhpur Park, Kolkata -700 068.
- 3. Dr. P. Pushpangadan**, Director, Rajeev Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology Thycaud PO, Pujappura, Thiruvananthapuram 695 014.

<b>LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED TO NON OFFICIAL MEMBERS</b>
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- 1. Prof. Raghavendra Gadagkar**, Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore 560 012.
- 2. Prof Anil Gupta**, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad 380 015