

ANNUAL REPORT

2004-2005



National Biodiversity Authority

ANNUAL REPORT 2004-2005



NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY
#475, 9TH SOUTH CROSS STREET,
NEELANKARAI CHENNAI 600 041
www.nbaindia.org

Elegant View of National Biodiversity Authority Office at Neelankarai





CONTENTS

Sl. No	Chapter	Page No
1.	Introduction and the year under review	
2.	Authority meeting	
3.	State Biodiversity Boards	
	i) National Biodiversity Authority Initiatives	
	ii) Information and Activities of SBB	
	iii) Financial Help	
4.	Activities of National Biodiversity Authority	
	i) Awareness Programme on Biodiversity of India	
	ii) Website	
	iii) Media Sensitization Programme	
	iv) Orientation Programme on SBB for Tamilnadu and Pondicherry	
	v) Publications	
5.	Persons Visited	
6.	Budget	
	i) Expenditure Statement for the Year 2004 – 2005	
	ii) Receipts	
	iii) Charts	

1. INTRODUCTION AND THE YEAR UNDER REVIEW

ROLE AND ORGANISATION

The Biological Diversity Act of India 2002 and the Biological Diversity Rules, 2004, will be implemented by the National Biodiversity Authority established by the Government of India. This authority may advise the government on matters relating to the conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilisation of biological resources, select and notify the areas of biodiversity importance as biodiversity heritage sites under this act, perform other functions as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of the act. The National Biodiversity Authority on behalf of the Central Government may take measures necessary to protect the biological diversity of the country as well as oppose the grant of intellectual property rights in any country outside India on any biological resource obtained from India or knowledge associated with such biological resource which is derived from India.

The National Biodiversity Authority may also perform functions such as laying down the procedure and guidelines to govern the activities provided under the sections 3, 4, and 6 of the Act which also reflects and is also in accordance with the Article 8 (j) of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) which touches upon respecting, preserving and maintaining traditional knowledge, innovations and practices by local and indigenous communities relevant to sustainable use of biological diversity and the equitable sharing of benefits arising from it. Some of the key mandates of the Biological Diversity Act 2002 include an undertaking to respect, protect and register at local, state or national levels knowledge of local people relating to biological diversity, regulate access to biodiversity, associated knowledge and benefit sharing and ensure equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of accessed biological resources, their by products, innovative and practices associated with their use and applications and knowledge relating thereto in accordance with mutually agreed terms and conditions between the persons applying for such approval, local bodies concerned and benefit claimers. The authority will also coordinate the activities of the State Biodiversity Boards, providing them with technical assistance and guidance, as well as commission studies and sponsor investigations and research.

Authority meeting

The second meeting of the authority was conducted on 31st August 2004 to decide important issues such as the formation expert committees to frame guidelines for access, benefit sharing and transfer of material (Section 3 and 4 of Biological Biodiversity Act 2002), collaborative research projects (Section 5 of Biological Diversity Act 2002), Endangered, endemic and threatened species of plants and animal (Section 38 of Biological Diversity Act 2002), normally traded commodities (Section 40 of Biological

Diversity Act 2002) and Biodiversity Resource Centre. Other important decisions such as printing of the Act and Rule book both in English and in Hindi, conducting of one day orientation workshop for state government officials, a three day workshop on awareness on the importance of Biodiversity and the Biodiversity Act, approval of recruitment rules, approval of application received by NBA,

3. Formation of SBB

As per the decision taken in the meeting of the National Biodiversity Authority, letters were written to Chief Secretaries and Principal Chief Conservators of Forests of all the 26 states. Eight states notified the formation of State Biodiversity Board and few other states are in the preparatory stage. National Biodiversity Authority in its meeting took decision to issue a one time grant of Rs 10, 00,000/= to each state in two installments for the establishment. So far two states *viz.* Karnataka and Madyapradesh have received the full amount.

2. NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY MEETINGS

I) SECOND MEETING OF THE AUTHORITY

DATE: August 31, 2004; TIME: 10:00 - 17:00

**VENUE: Office of the National Biodiversity Authority
475-9th South Cross Street
Neelankarai, Chennai- 600 041.**

INTRODUCTION

Shri D. D. Verma, Chairperson, extended a warm welcome to the members and briefed the members on the status of the selection of the Chairperson to the NBA by the Search-cum-selection committee headed by **Prof Madhav Gadgil** of the Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science. **Shri Verma** also explained that the DoPT will be shortly providing the letter of extension to **Shri Vishwanath Anand**, the first Chairperson of the NBA whose tenure ended in July 2004.

This was followed by the Chairperson requesting the members to introduce themselves. Following the introductions, **Dr. K. Venkataraman**, Member Secretary – NBA initiated the conduct of the meeting through a brief presentation on the activities of the National Biodiversity Authority since its inception in July, 2003. The summary of the presentation is as follows:



Shri. D.D. Verma , Chairperson of the second meeting in discussion with the members

1. Agenda Item 1 - Dr. Venkataraman, Member Secretary – NBA in his brief introduction to the activities of the NBA since inception in July 2003 highlighted the following aspects:

- ➔ All sections of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Rules 2004 have been notified
- ➔ The office of the NBA has been established at the following address: 475, 9th south cross street, Kapaleeswarar Nagar, Neelankarai – Chennai 600 041
- ➔ Security for the office has been ensured by engaging a professional security agency
- ➔ A budget of Rs. 80,00,000 has been sanctioned for the activities of the NBA for 2003-2004 and a bank account has been opened with a nationalised bank viz. Bank of Maharashtra, Neelankarai for this purpose.
- ➔ The NBA would initially function with 10 staff members to be loaned from the Ministry. However, only two staff members have joined duty.

- In this regard, draft recruitment rules have been framed and sent to Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, New Delhi for approval.
- Two meetings of the NBA have been conducted till date.
- The Annual Report for the year 2003-2004 has been placed for comments and approval.
- Essential office equipment has been purchased. The NBCC has been approached for furnishing and further equipping the office and designs have been placed for approval.
- A prototype of the website for NBA and three draft designs for the logo of the NBA have been developed and placed for comments and approval.
- Eight applications have been received by the NBA till date and these have been tabled for consideration
- Thematic papers and concepts are being prepared for functioning of the NBA.
- The budgetary request for the year 2004-2005 is placed for approval.

Following the presentation, the Chairperson requested the members to place on record their reactions.

2. Following the Member Secretary's presentation, the Chairperson requested the members to provide their suggestions / advice or seek clarifications on the activities of the NBA.

Dr. A. K. Ghosh sought a clarification on the extent of support to the State Biodiversity Boards.

Drs. Pushpangadan and **R Gadagkar** informed the members that the states of Kerala, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh have already formed their SBBs. The Chairperson suggested that the process of forming the SBBs could be initiated from these states.

- *Action: Member Secretary to write to the SBBs of Kerala, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh seeking for a write-up on their activities. Member Secretary is to also inform these states on the structure and scope of SBBs, advise reconstitution to comply with the provisions in the Act (Chapter 6, 22 (4)), wherever necessary.*
- *Action: Member Secretary to write to all different states to setup the Board. Those states which have already formed the Board may send a write up on their activities undertaken, and if the Board already formed is not accordance with the BDA 2002, they may be asked to reconstitute the Board.*

Following this the process to constitute SBBs in other states of India could be initiated. The Chairperson also informed that Rs.70, 00, 000/- has been earmarked for enabling the formation of the SBBs.

On the query on Union Territories from **Dr. L. Kannan**, the Chairperson clarified that in accordance with the Act; the NBA will coordinate the activities for the Union Territories.

3. Agenda Item - Confirmation of Minutes of the first meeting:-

The following points were made in response to request to confirm the minutes of the first meeting of the NBA.



Committee members of National Biodiversity Authority in the second meeting

1. **Dr. S. Natesh** requested that the decision taken in the first meeting to send the letter of invitation / information to the person nominated in each ministry / department has to be adhered to. Appropriate revision in the list of members has to be made immediately. The Chairperson endorsed this point by highlighting the importance of continuity of nominees.
2. On the action point on obtaining information from **Dr. Pushpangadan**, the Member Secretary informed the members that the published works of **Dr. Pushpangadan** has already been sourced by him and he would shortly write to **Dr. Pushpangadan** to ask for more recent publications.
3. The members expressed their concern on the non-formation of the Expert Committees. It was clarified that this was being included as an agenda item for the current meeting. The list of experts is under preparation.
4. The members also expressed concern on the delay in preparing the procedure for application for transfer of biodiversity for research purposes. The Chairperson stated that this was especially critical since people at large were not clear on how the NBA would function. He therefore stressed upon the importance of expediting the preparation of guidelines and procedures. The Member Secretary assured that this would in place shortly.

Following this, the minutes of the first meeting were confirmed.

4. Brainstorming Session

In view of the number of points that the members sought to make, the Chairperson suggested that a short brainstorming session be added to the agenda. The members were requested to make short statements / points on the mandate, scope and functioning of the NBA, the Biological Diversity Act and Rules, 2004.

In response, **Dr S K Sharma** placed on record the apprehension of departments such as AYUSH, and also the industry on the possible delay that may be caused in granting permissions. He specifically highlighted the provision that stated that permissions need to be granted within 60 days. Dr Sharma suggested that permissions need to be granted within 2 weeks.

In response, Chairperson and the members stated that since the primary objective of the NBA was to protect and conserve the biological resources of the country, it is imperative that access to biological resources was granted only after approval. They also clarified that in case of government institutions, the Act seeks only 'intimation' and not 'approval'. It was also informed that private bodies need to wait for the permission. To address the issue of inordinate delays, it was suggested that the Expert Committee that is constituted for the purpose of collaborative research or Material Transfer Agreement be asked to set a time frame that was feasible. The Chairperson underscored the point that the NBA was not a trade organisation, but has been constituted to protect the biodiversity of the country.

In his statement, **Dr Kurian** of the DST highlighted the importance to harmonise the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and the Biological Diversity Act, 2004. He stated that issues of contradiction in granting or decline of permissions by authorities needs to be considered for effective operationalising of the Biological Diversity Act. He suggested further strengthening of

the application by adding a query on whether permissions have been obtained from the Chief Wildlife Warden.

In response, the Chairperson and members stated that no law of state is to the exclusion of the other. Further, the Biological Diversity Act concerns three critical issues that the Wildlife (Protection) Act does not consider viz. Patents and Intellectual Property Rights, Benefit Sharing and Biodiversity outside the Protected Area system. The members placed on the record to find means to harmonise the two acts.

Dr. Pushpangadan, his statement underscored the importance of endemic biodiversity, in addition to the Rare, Endangered and Threatened species. He cited the example of Arogyapaccha, which is derived from *Trichopus zeylonicus*, a plant species that is found in southern Western Ghat, Sri Lanka and the Phillipines. **Dr. Pushpangadan** stated that the active ingredient used in the formulation of the stimulant could be derived only from the plants found in the Western Ghat, and not from other regions. This highlights the importance of also taking into account genetic diversity within the same species. It is therefore important that such data along with the distribution of biodiversity be mapped and operationalised.

Dr. Pushpangadan also stressed upon the need to decide on the format and application procedures Material Transfer Agreement and access to biological resources.

In his response, Chairperson stated that the issue of patents was the key factor in ensuring conservation and benefits.

Prof. Raghavendra Gadagkar stressed upon the current lack of information on the Biological Diversity Act. He suggested that procedures and guidelines for application be hosted on the NBA website. **Prof. Gadagkar** also emphasised the importance of ensuring fair and objective grant of permissions.

Dr. Subramaniam highlighted the need to popularise the Biological Diversity Act and Rules amongst all agencies, departments and research institutions.

Prof L Kannan emphasised the need to have a comprehensive database on all elements of biodiversity needs to be established as part of the NBA.

Dr Natesh stressed upon the need to ensure transparency in the proceedings of the NBA. He also emphasised the need to bring in the user-perspective while operationalising the Biological Diversity Act.

The Chairperson and members in conclusion while underscoring the importance of protecting biodiversity, ensuring sustainable use, facilitating pioneering research and validating traditional knowledge to ensure benefit sharing, recommended expeditious formulation of policy guidelines and constitution of Expert Committees.

PRE-LUNCH SESSION

Agenda Item 5 – Appointment of Expert Committees

The agenda item on appointment of Expert Committees (EC) was dealt with extensively and the members considered the following points (ref Appendix) in this regard.

1. Identification of various subjects, themes and gap areas for appointing ECs

2. Identification of the number of ECs that are to be formed on a priority basis
3. Defining the nature and scope of the EC including the possibility of involving members/experts from the industry
4. Developing guidelines for effective functioning of the EC
5. Identification of members for the EC

After deliberations, the members finalised the number and nature of the ECs that are to be constituted immediately.

Action:

The **first EC** that would be formed would be an EC on Collaborative Research, which would distinguish and address two types of collaborative research viz. bilateral or multilateral research approved by the Government of India and collaborative research amongst organisations, universities, departments etc involving foreign institutions.

It was also agreed that guidelines developed for this EC (addressing Agenda point) need to incorporate in their ambit the scope of various forms such as bi or multi lateral collaborations, research between government, accredited or approved bodies and industry, between industries, research supported by the Government, projects between academic institutions within India and abroad etc. In this regard, **Prof Gadagkar** highlighted the need to also take into consideration non-collaborative research under the following three categories viz. flora, fauna and micro-organisms (including soils, sediments and dead biological material).

Member Secretary to write all research depts./ministries to confirm about the ongoing projects in accordance with the BD 2002.

To address the concern on sharing of data and ongoing research, the members suggested that the in accordance to the Act, ongoing research needs to conform to the provisions of the Act. The NBA on finalising the guidelines should write to all the institutions and organisations asking for conformation at their end. In view of increased focus by outside agencies on certain groups of organisms such as salt tolerant varieties and insects, the members suggested tightening of norms for collaborative research.

The members concurred that declaration of bio-resources should be made mandatory in all international airports (as in Australia) to curtail illegal transportation of material. The Chairperson informed the members that the MoEF is shortly planning to conduct a training programme on the Biological Diversity Act and Biosafety measures. In this regard, the members opined that it would be useful to

- a) write to the Government of India to mainstream the Biological Diversity Act and Biosafety measures into the syllabus of the training programme of the Customs Department.
- b) organise regional level awareness and education programmes and
- c) organise regional level refresher courses for a range of personnel.

Member Secretary to organize Regional Workshop for Customs officers on BD 2002 to create awareness.

The **second EC** that would be formed would deal with Material Transfer Agreement, Patents and Benefit Sharing. It would operate on the same principles as the EC on collaborative research.

The **third EC** that would be formed would address the issue of Normally Traded Commodities and would also consider derivatives, extracts etc. This committee will also take into

account those normally traded commodities that constitute foods and those that are used for the purpose of regeneration. The members suggested that while formulating guidelines, this EC should consider incorporating retaliatory measures to protect the interest of our country.

The **fourth EC** would address the issue of identifying and recommending to the Government the list of Rare, Threatened, Endangered and Endemic species. It was decided that lists from the Botanical Survey of India, Zoological Survey of India, Wildlife Institute, IUCN, CITES, FRLI, Medicinal and Aromatic Plants and other agencies could be obtained, collated and reviewed to *a*) identify the gap areas and *b*) consolidate and recommend the final list to the Government of India.

It was decided that the **fifth EC** would concern itself with Databases on Bioresources and Traditional Knowledge. The members concurred that developing an exclusive database for the NBA would be futile and redundant. Instead, the NBA could immediately consider the establishment of a **Biodiversity Resource Centre (BRC)** that would function as

- a) a documentation centre
- b) a source centre for publications, unpublished reports and other relevant documents
- c) identify all organisations and departments (such as NBRI, Honey Bee, CES-IISc) who have authentic and valid databases, seek access and provide linkages through the web.
- d) document all biodiversity related research projects and PhD thesis so far conducted in India

The **sixth EC** would be constituted to operationalise the issue of Access to parts /whole of Flora, Fauna and Microorganisms. This EC will accord special attention to new collections????.

The members endorsed that the following action points be undertaken immediately:

1. Publish 5000 copies of a book contain the English and Hindi versions of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Rules, 2004
2. Develop guidelines for enabling the constitution of the ECs. The tenure of ECs will be 45-60 days
3. Develop a roster of experts drawn from various fields to enable the constitution of multi-disciplinary ECs
4. Write to the proposed members to seek consent
5. Engage Expert Consultants as the Member Secretary for effective functioning of EC.
6. The Expert Consultant should be well informed of the current scenario with regard to the scope of the ECs, should be able to work with multidisciplinary groups, devote time and complete the work within the specified time.
7. Advertise the same on the website of NBA.
8. Expert Consultants to be paid a consultancy fee of Rs. 15,000 –20,000/ per month plus other benefits
9. **Dr.Venkataraman** is authorised to take decisions in the selection of Expert Consultants
10. The above decisions are to be communicated to **Shri V Anand** with a note stating that these were endorsed by the Chairperson selected for the second meeting.

POST LUNCH SESSION

Presentation on the Website for the National Biodiversity Authority was made by the Technical Director of **SaturninfoLab**, a Software Company. The key features of the site, including the structure, operational procedures, security systems, search features and link providers were highlighted in the presentation. The three designs that have been created for the logo of the NBA were placed for approval.

The members concurred that the designs were not representative of the mandate and functions of the NBA. The Chairperson suggested that a more participatory approach be adopted to develop the logo for the NBA. To this end, he suggested that painting competitions be conducted for the school children of Chennai and the best or prize winning entries be refined to create a logo for the NBA.

The website creation may be entrusted to a private person in Chennai through advertisement in the local newspaper.

ACTION: Member Secretary

On agenda item pertaining to developing a comprehensive media sensitization programme, the members agreed that this complex task needs to be sustained and spread to all three forms of communication viz. print, audio and visual. It was suggested that the expertise of a media consultant be sought for this purpose.

The members suggested that a 6-month media package could be initially developed, and on review appropriate revisions or extensions could be considered. It was also felt that the opportunities provided by the **IGNOU** in televisions, and the **FM** Radio could be considered. The members also suggested that selective newspapers and magazines be approached to feature articles on the NBA.

On agenda item dealing with the formation of
Check Budget - MS

ADMINISTRATIVE

1. BUDGET:

As per the discussions held in the meeting the revised budget proposal to be submitted with the following: (appendix 3)

1. One time grant in aid of Rs. 10,00,000/= in two instalments to be paid to State Biodiversity Boards in two installments and for the year 2004-2005 a sum of Rs 25,00,000/= may be allocated to be distributed to five states.
2. Under the column **Office expenses** (Non recurring) cost of office Car and jeep (one each) to be removed from the total budget proposal.
3. Under the column **Other contingencies** instead of Rs. 13,00,000/= a sum of Rs. 8,00,000/= is approved.
4. Under the column **Library** (Books and Periodicals) instead of Rs. 4,00,000/= a sum of Rs. 1,00,000/= is approved.

5. Under the Budget estimates for salaries for the year 2004-2005 a minimum amount Rs. 15,79,807 for five months period is approved.

As per the revised and approved budget proposal decided during the Second Meeting of NBA is Rs. 31,61,000/= to be sanctioned for the year 2004-2005 as grant-in-aid by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, New Delhi (Statement of Budget requirement is enclosed as Appendix 3)

2. Approval of the recruitment Rules and recruitment of staff for the National Biodiversity Authority:

1. Option for appointment of candidates for all the posts should be by direct selection or by deputation.
2. Relaxation of age, qualification and experience in deserving cases as per Govt. of India rules.
3. Method of recruitment is by Advertising.
4. For deputation to send circulars to various departments.

With the above points the recruitment rules were approved by the members.

3. Approval of applications (Eight) received by NBA for access of bioresources.

1. Three applications (application No. 1,2, and 8) not considered for approval due to non-payment of Rs. 10,000/ as application fee. The above application forms should be sent to concerned research departments for their opinion and to be put up the case for the next meeting for approval.

(Action : Member Secretary)

2. Three Applications (application No. 3,4 and 7) not considered for approval due to non-payment of application fee and not applied in the prescribed form.
3. One application (application No. 5) denied permission by the Chief Wildlife Warden of Tamil Nadu as per Wildlife Act 1972.
4. One application (application No 6) may be considered for approval after taking final opinion from Wildlife Institute of India, Zoological Survey of India and CCMB, Hyderabad.

Action: Member Secretary

4. Appointment of Legal expert for the NBA:

1. Approved. A counsel may be engaged from the approved list of Government of India and paid as per the Ministry of Law as and when required.

5. Anomalies and objections raised by different agencies.

Initial responses to the points raised by AYUSH, ADMA and Hindustan Lever Limited on the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Rules, 2004

1. *Documents and notes submitted by AYUSH, ADMA and Hindustan Lever Limited on the anomalies, contradictions and impacts in the Biological Diversity Act of 2002 and Rules, 2004 and also the possible solutions were perused.*
2. *The concerns of all three parties are near similar, limited to plant species and can be broadly summarised as follows:*
 - *Issues pertaining to Normally traded Commodities – the criteria for identification, the nature of the list etc.*
 - *Value – added products – the need to recognised pre-processing and also distinguish extracts from derivatives*
 - *The absence of infrastructure at the level of the States largely addressing the issue of non-formation of the State Biodiversity Boards*
 - *The time frame that the Act stipulates for granting permissions – 3 months to 6 months*
 - *Ambiguity regarding the applicant*
 - *Ambiguity regarding Benefit Sharing Rules*
 - *Possible harassment, lack of transparency, deterrent nature of the Act etc*
3. *The issue of Normally Traded Commodities is indeed important and the offer of AYUSH to provide a list is welcomed. However it needs to be recognised that the mandate of the NBA does not limit itself to plants and therefore a number of other organisations notably those dealing with fauna need to be consulted before the final list can be submitted to the MoEF. Further, it is also essential that this list be vetted by an expert committee before submission to the MoEF. The concerns raised by some experts that the lists should include the names of the varieties in addition to the name of the species needs to be considered.*
4. *The issue of whether value addition could be categorised into two components viz. pre processing and extracts may lead to undermining the mandate of the Act. Activities such as drying, grinding etc are pertinent to harvest procedures and cannot be treated as value addition.*
5. *Issues on the formation of the SBB is being addressed – by conducting orientation workshops at the level of the state and also by provide seed grants.*
6. *Granting of permission within 7 days as requested is impossible. However it is appreciated that granting of permissions cannot be stretched to indefinite periods of time.*

7. *There is no ambiguity regarding the applicant – the three agencies need to understand the role of BMC.*
8. *The three agencies seem to view that obtaining permissions from the NBA as a prerequisite for patents as a deterrent and a possible case for harassment. This fear is misplaced. We need to recognise that biological resources are the sovereign property of the State and therefore each of us is bound to protect and conserve the same.*
9. *All three agencies seem to view plant species only as commodities and those plant species under the RET category as unsustainable. They also seek a waiver on traditional knowledge that is in public domain. Such issues need to be clarified by sensitising the agencies to the mandate, purpose and scope of CBD as well the Biological Diversity Act, 2002.*

6. Approval of payment of 15% of the total cost as official charges to National Building and Construction Corporation for furnishing, air-conditioning etc for National Biodiversity Authority Chennai.

1. The above purchase and installation is to be made through **KENDRIA BHANDAR**, Chennai and as per Government of India rules.

7. Sanctioning of seed money to the State Biodiversity Boards for the formation of State Board inviting budget proposal. A separate grant in aid is requested in the budget for the year 2004-2005.

1. A one-time grant of Rs. 10,00,000/= is approved as grant-in-aid for State Biodiversity Board and the amount to be paid in two installments of Rs. 5,00,000/= each.

8. National, Regional and State level Orientation Workshops on implementation of Biodiversity Act 2002.

1. 5,000 copies of English and Hindi version of Act and Rule are approved.
2. An exhibition on the **Importance of Biodiversity to India** may be conducted during September 2004 for the public and School Children in the NBA office premises is approved.
3. One-day Orientation workshop for Tamil Nadu and Pondyerry State in the NBA office premises during September 2004 is approved.

9. Purchase of computers, installation of email connectivity, furniture, refrigerator, water cooler, through Kendria Bhandar.

1. The above purchase and installation is to be made through **KENDRYA BHANDAR**, Chennai and as per Government of India rules.

10. Supporting staff for effective functioning of NBA on contract basis. Two technical staff and one ministerial staff on contract basis requested for approval.

1. The above staff on contract basis is approved as per Govt. of India financial Rules.

11. Approval of Annual Report 2003-2004.

1. The annual report for the year 2003-2004 is approved with some corrections in the text as pointed out by the members.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

3. STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARDS

i) NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY INITIATIVES:-

As decided by the National Biodiversity Authority the Chief Secretaries and Principal Chief Conservator of Forests all different States were contacted to form the State Biodiversity Boards in accordance with the Biological Diversity Act 2002.

In this direction the National Biodiversity Authority in its meeting held on 31st August 2004 took decision to conduct orientation workshops at regional and zonal levels inviting State Government officials who are supposed to be main stake holders and has connections with Biodiversity.

ORIENTATION WORKSHOP ON THE FORMATION OF THE STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARDS FOR TAMIL NADU AND PONDICHERRY:

A one-day orientation meeting for the formation State Biodiversity Boards in Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry was held in National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai on 24th September 2004. In the workshop lectures and discussions were held on topics such as: Biodiversity of Tamil Nadu, Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Biological Diversity Rules, 2004, State Biodiversity Boards- Processes and Procedures and the Biodiversity Management Committees- its scope, role, function and linkages. The one-day workshop was aimed at directing the concerned officials of the government departments and organizations, private industries and NGO's to coordinate in the formation State Biodiversity Boards. The following officials attended the workshop:



A view of the SBB orientation workshop for Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry held at National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai.



Dr. K. Venkataraman, Member Secretary National Biodiversity Authority delivering a lecture in the orientation workshop

Tamil Nadu Officials:

1. Mr. Ashish Srivatsava, IFS, Joint Director, Directorate of Environment, Chennai- 15.
2. Mr. K. Chidambaram, IFS, Conservator of Forest (WL), Chennai -15.
3. Dr. S. Noorjahan Beevi, Assistant Director of Fisheries (I & E), Chennai-6.

Pondicherry Officials:

1. Dr. M. C. Rajamanickam, Directorate of Animal Husbandry, Pondy- 5.
2. Dr. A. Balasubramanian, Director, Department of Fish and Fishermen Welfare, Botanical Gardens, Pondy – 1.
3. Dr. P. Devaraj IFS, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Department of Forestry and Wildlife, Botanical Garden, Pondy – 1.
4. Ms. G. Ramalakshmi, Chief Executive Officer, Pondicherry Fishery Harbour Management Society, Pondy.

Officials from NGO's:

1. Dr. R. Ranjit Daniels, Care Earth, Chennai -61.
2. Mr. A. C. Soundarajan, Nilgiri Wildlife Association, Nilgiris.

**ii) INFORMATION AND ACTIVITIES ON THE STATE
BIODIVERSITY BOARDS:**

The following states have formed the **SBB**, the details are furnished below

. No.	Name of the State	Notification No. and Date
1.	Karnataka	No. FEE 125 ENV 2003, Bangalore dated 21 st November, 2003
2.	Goa	No. 7/17/92/STE/PART/858 dated 2 nd December, 2004
3.	Madhya Pradesh	No. F. 1-2/2003/LVII-Bhopal dated 17 th December, 2004
4.	West Bengal	No. EN/100/T-II-7/003-i/2003 dated 17 th January, 2005
5.	Punjab	No. 2/41/2000-STE (1)/3942 dated 23-1-2004
6.	Kerala	G.O.(MS) No.01/2005/STED dated 28 th February 2005
7.	Arunachal Pradesh	No.For.262/D-4/04/6421-80 dated 15 March 2005
8.	Nagaland	No.For-Works-11/04 dated Kohima, 14 th March 2005

States in the process of formation of SBB:

1.Gujarat, 2. Mizoram, 3. Assam, 4. Tamil Nadu, and 5. Chandigarh

i) GOA BIODIVERSITY BOARD

Chairman:

- 1. Dr. Herman Y. Karaputkar**

Members:

1. Representative of the Department of Forests
2. Representative of the Department of Agriculture
3. Representative of the Department of Fisheries
4. Representative of the Department of Higher Education
5. Dr. M. K. Janarthnam, Reader, Department of Botany, Goa University
6. Dr. Nandkumar Kamat, Lecturer, Department of Botany, Goa University
7. Dr. (Mrs.) Kasturi R. Dessai, Reader, RSN (PES) College, Ponda.
8. Dr. Bernard F. Rodrigues, Reader, Department of Botany, Goa University
9. Dr. Manoj Borkar, Reader, Carmel College, Nuvem
10. Director/Jt. Secretary, Department of Science, Technology and Environment
(Member Convenor)

Contact Address:

Dr. N.P.S. Varde,

Director/Jt. Secretary, DSTE &

Member Convener, Goa State Biodiversity Board,

Office of the Director, Department of Science, Technology & Environment,
Saligao, Bardez, Goa-403 511.

Office Phone: 0832-2407186; 187; 189; 580.

Chairman: (Res.) 0832 – 2225549; Dr. N.P.S. Varde (Res) 0832-2412041.

ACTIVITIES OF GOA BIODIVERSITY BOARD

1. Notification Number and Date: 7/17/92/STE(PART)/1006 dated 7th January, 2005

The activities carried out by the board in First Meeting are below:

The initial steps taken since the issue of the order (No.7/17/92/STE/Part/858 dt 2/12/2004) constituting the Board were then put forth before the Members, which are as under:-

- i) Opening of an Account No.15109 in the Indian Overseas Bank, Panaji Branch, to facilitate receipt of funds from the National Biodiversity Authority, the State Government and others.
- ii) Steps initiated to search for a suitable of the premises measuring 150 sq.mt in Panaji, City.
- iii) Details regarding an adequate staffing pattern for the smooth functioning of the Board.

The Chairman informed that presently the Draft Rules are being framed and the same will be put before the Board in its forthcoming meeting so that any suggestions made by the Members could be incorporated before submitting the same for the vetting of the Law Department. He further added that a token Budget provision for the next 3 months i.e(Jan – Mar 05) as also the Budget for the year 2005-2006 are under preparation and the same will be put up for Government approval.

2. Notification Number and Date: 7/17/92/STE(PART)/1204 dated 3rd March, 2005

The activities carried out by the board in Second Meeting are below:

Further Steps taken since the last meeting

1. The chairman has requested the DSTE to release ad-hoc funds to the tune of Rs.25,000/- which will be reimbursed to the Department as soon as the National Biodiversity Authority releases the first installment of Rs.5 Lakhs.
2. The Chairman and the Member Convenor met the Hon`ble Minister for Environment to brief him about the contemplated activities of the GSBB and thanked him for his support.
3. The Principal of College of Arts(Altinho) has been requested to conduct a competition amongst the final year students to suggest a “Logo” for the GSBB.

The creator of the selected Logo will be suitably rewarded and all the participants will be given participation certificates. The last date for receiving the entries is 31st Jan 05.

FORMING OF GOA BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY RULES, 2005

1. The desired level of functioning of SBB shall depend on the status of the NBA.
2. Presently only six states have constituted the SBBs and the Chairman of the National Biodiversity Authority is yet to be appointed.
3. The mandate of the SBB is to control the exploitation of a variety of native “floral/faunal” germplasm and to protect the same against unscrupulous, and authorized users. Further, the SBBs also have the task of protecting the rights of native and traditional users of location specific germplasm for their livelihood. This is a complex task given the facts that the available native ‘varieties/species’ of germplasm are located in the open and unprotected locales and the genuiness of traditional users is difficult to establish.
4. The constitution of the contemplated Local Management Committee (LMC) at the Panchayat level and activation of the same will be a daunting task vis-a vis the priorities of Local Authorities.
5. The framing of Rules governing the appropriate and sustainable use of Biological Diversity requires a through knowledge of repositories (“hot spots”) of both floral & faunal biodiversity including the microbial world.

Formation of Sub-Committees to prepare a Statewide Biodiversity Status Report

Dr. M.K.Janarthanam, Dr.Nandkumar Kamat, Dr.Kasturi N.Dessai, Dr.Bernard F.Rodrigues, Dr.Manoj Boarkar are agreed to prepare preliminary status report on identification, documentation, availability, vulnerability and exploitative potential of various species of germplasm, native to Goa, by 20/02/05. It was also decided to prepare a Detailed Report by 31/05/05.

Other Activities

1. During the interim period, until the said Biodiversity Status Report is submitted, the GSBB shall use the Goa Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (GBSAP) prepared through the scheme jointly funded by DSTE

(Goa) and supported by the Ministry of Environment & Forests (GoI) as its preliminary “guide book”.

2. The GSBB shall use the services of 350 schools under the National Green Corps (NGCs) scheme implemented by the DSTE, to undertake a massive awareness drive concerning the unique and rich biodiversity of Goa and its enormous potential to usher in an era of socio-economically rich and ecologically sustainable development.
3. The GSBB, through a field survey shall prepare a “Illustrated Guide Booklet” of Biodiversity “hot spots” as well as a herbarium for the purpose of exhibition and documentation.
4. Initially, the GSBB shall identify twenty two Village Panchayats where awareness programmes could be initiated with the active participation of NGOs.
5. A circular will be issued to all line Departments and other relevant entities informing them about the constitution and mandate of GSBB and urging them to make available any “information/material” sought by the Board.
6. The Forest Department shall make available to GSBB the required information on the biological diversity of inland fresh water lakes, rivers and sea.
7. The Forest Department shall demarcate private forest areas so that the GSBB can take up the identification of certain wild species with the help of forest officials.

ii) KARNATAKA BIODIVERSITY BOARD

Chairman:

1. **Shri. Shriyuths**, Hon'ble Minister for Information, Environment and Ecology,

Members:

1. Principal Secretary to Government, Forest, Ecology and Environment Department.
2. Principal Secretary to Government, Agriculture and Horticulture Department.
3. Secretary to Government, Forest, Ecology and Environment.
4. Director, Indian System of Medicine and Homeopathi.
5. Prof. Madhava Gadgil, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.
6. Dr. Dwarakanath, Ex. Vice Chancellor, Agricultural University
7. Prof. H. Sharath Chandra, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.
8. Dr. M. S. Mahalingappa, Siddarama Krupa, Tumkur District.
9. Dr. Darshan Shankar, Foundation for Revitalisation of Local Health Tradition

Contact Address:

Sh. Shivanna
Member Secretary,
Karnataka Biodiversity Board,
Ground Floor, Vanavikasa, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore-560003.
Ph: 080-23448783; Fax: 080-23440535

ACTIVITIES OF KARNATAKA BIODIVERSITY BOARD

The activities carried out by the board are detailed below:

The Government of Karnataka has established the Board vide G.O. No. FEE125 ENV 2003 dt 19-6-2003 and it has started functioning from 1st August 2003. The Government has constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Forest, Ecology and Environment with five each of official and Non- official Members to the Board vide Govt. Notification No: FEE 125 ENV dt. 31-12-2003. Following are the members of the board.

1. A project on conservation, maintenance and consolidation of Kuvempu Memorial Biopark at a cost of Rs. 100 lakhs around the birthplace of Rastrakavi Kuvempu in Shimoga and Chickmangalur districts was prepared and submitted to Govt. the State Government has released Rs. 1 Crore and the work is in progress.
2. A comprehensive proposal for conservation and development of Biodiversity of the Eastern plains of Karnataka at a cost of Rs. 12 lakhs was prepared and submitted to JBIC for financial assistance.
3. A detailed project on Biodiversity Conservation and Management of Coastal Karnataka at a cost of Rs. 2420 was prepared and submitted to Central Govt. and KUIDFC, Bangalore for initial assistance. As desired by the funding agency the project has been modified to Rs. 99.94 lakhs. Sanction is awaited.
4. The Board has recommended to the State Govt. for taking appropriate steps to declare 13 river stretches in Karnataka as "Fish Sanctuaries" apart from taking suitable protective measures.
5. The Board has prepared a Project for revival of Bursara plantation and conservation of other flora of Tataguni Estate at a cost of Rs. 60 Lakhs and submitted to G. O. I for funding.
6. The Board has conducted the floristic survey of Tataguni Estate and published a booklet entitled "Diversity in Flora Tataguni Estate".

7. The Karnataka Biodiversity Information System has been installed at Board's office. At present the Information on Biodiversity of Fauna and Flora of Western Ghats of Karnataka has been incorporated.
8. The Board has proposed sub-committees on the following subjects to deal with Biodiversity.
 - a. Agriculture and Horticulture.
 - b. Animal Husbandry and Fisheries.
 - c. Medicinal Plants.
 - d. Intellectual Property Rights
9. As per the request of the Board the Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, Govt. of Karnataka has issued a circular to form Biodiversity Management Committees at all Grama Panchayats of the State.
10. The Board has translated the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Biological Diversity Rules, 2004 in Kannada language.
11. The Board has printed the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Biological Diversity Rules, 2004 in Kannada and English language for the benefit of officers and functionaries of BMC's.
12. The board has initiated the training programme on Biodiversity related issues apart from capacity building stakeholders like district officers, Members of Zilla Panchayat and Taluka Panchayats, Teachers and Students.
13. The Board has participated in following exhibitions showcasing the Biodiversity of the State.
 - a. Environment Day Exhibition- 5th to 7th June 2004.
 - b. Bangalore Bio-2004 Exhibition – 11th to 13th July 2004.
14. The Member Secretary and Executive Officer (Fisheries) of the Board visited the four fish congregation centres in River Tunga on 28-12-2004 along with Joint Director of Fisheries (Marine), Bangalore. As the sites are of immense biological importance i.e. congregation of Indigenous varieties of fish along with sport fish Mahseer, the Dept. of Fisheries has been requested to expedite the process of declaring as Fish Sanctuaries to prohibit fishing in these areas.

15. The Board has prepared the draft Karnataka Biological Diversity Rules, 2005 and is in the process of Submitting to State Government for enactment.
16. The Board in coordination with the several NGO's and Institutes conducted several Ayurveda Meals wherein awareness on importance of medicinal plants, Herbal Home Remedies and Local Traditional Knowledge Systems.
17. The Board has taken up distribution of Medicinal Plants for cultivation in kitchen gardens and usage in domestic levels in primary health care.
18. The Board is initiating several measures to popularize medicinal plants of Karnataka through media like AIR, Doordarshan, Private Local Channels and print media.

iii) PUNJAB BIODIVERSITY BOARD

Chairman:

Chief Minister, Punjab

Vice- Chairman:

1. Parliamentary Secretary, Agriculture

Members:

1. Chief Secretary, Government of Punjab (Ex-officio Member)
2. Principal Secretary, Department of Science, Technology and Environment, Government of Punjab (Ex-officio Member)
3. Financial Commissioner, Development, Government of Punjab (Ex-officio Member)
4. Director (Environment), Punjab State Council for Science and Technology (Member Convener)
5. Officer-in-charge, Zoological Survey of India, Dehradun (Expert)
6. Officer-in-charge, Botanical Survey of India, Dehradun (Expert)
7. Brig. Sukhjit Singh (Expert)
8. Director, Extension Education, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana (Expert)
9. Dr. G. S. Kalkat, Former Vice Chancellor, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana (Expert).

Contact Address:

Dr. Neelima Jerath

Joint Director (Environment)

Punjab State Council for Science and Technology

Adj. Sacred Heart School, Sector 26, Post Box No. 727

Chandigarh – 160 019.

Ph: 0172-2795001, 2792787, 2792325

ACTIVITIES OF PUNJAB BIODIVERSITY BOARD

Notification Number and Date: No. 2/41/2000-STE (1)/3942 dated 23-1-2004.

The following activities have been pursued since the constitution of board:

1. PSCST had prepared the State Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan (SBSAP) under the National Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan project. The same is under point.
 - The council (SBB secretariat) has compiled information on loss of agricultural biodiversity in the state and prepared lists of pre and post green revolution crops.
 - The SBSAP has also listed specific projects for biodiversity conservation. The SBB would be requested to prioritize the same for funding by Government.
2. The council had taken up a study of the Shivalik ecosystem (from 1999 to 2003) in Punjab.

The SBB has obtained the following information from the project report:

- a. Lists of flora & fauna in the Shivaliks.
- b. List of threatened, rare & endemic species in the area.
- c. List of economically important plants.
- d. List of medicinal plants.
- e. Identification of biodiversity rich, as well as, eroded areas.
- f. Recommendations on conservation measures.

The above information will be put up to the State Biodiversity Board for consideration.

3. A proposal has been submitted to the State Planning Board for approval of budget for State Biodiversity Board in the State Plan and constitute the State Biodiversity
4. Fund. Appropriate staff for the SBB secretariat will be recruited on sanction of funds.
5. Joint Director (Env), SBB secretariat would be visiting the office of National Biodiversity Authority for discussion on 9.3.2005.
6. A meeting of the State Biodiversity Board is also planned in the near future

iv) MADHYA PRADESH BIODIVERSITY BOARD

Chairman: Not yet notified

Ex officio Members:

1. Agricultural Production Commissioner.
2. Principal Secretary/ Secretary, Department of Biodiversity and Biotechnology.
3. Principal Chief Conservator of the Forest.
4. Vice Chancellor, JNKVV, Jabalpur
5. Member Secretary of the State Biodiversity Board.

Non-Official Members:

.....

Contact Address:

Mr.B.M.S. Rathore,
Member Secretary,
Madhya Pradesh State Biodiversity Board,
3rd Floor, Beej Bhavan,
Mother Teresa Marg, Arera Hills, Bhopal-462016.
Ph: 0755-2554539; 2554549; Fax: 0755-2554539
E-mail: mp_biodiversityboard@yahoo.co.in

ACTIVITIES OF MADHYA PRADESH BIODIVERSITY BOARD

Notification Number: No. F. 1-2/2003/LVII dated 17th December 2004

With the overarching vision of "*Fostering development..... the conservation route*" the year 2004-05 saw the beginning a new conservation paradigm anchored by the Madhya Pradesh State Biodiversity Board (MPSBB). The strategic focus of Board's imperative has been for proactively soliciting collaborations across sectors and actors towards shared vision and agreed upon goals. The Multi-stakeholder workshop on "International Biodiversity Day" on May 22, 2004 was the first step furthering the vision. The workshop with participation from actors across the state led to the development of "**Biodiversity Conservation Action Agenda**" of the State that reflects actions incident upon various agencies/institutions in pursuance of the goals of biodiversity conservation, sustained use and equitable benefit sharing. Another landmark of the conservation process has been the promulgation of the **MP State Biodiversity Rules, 2004**. Notified on December 17, 2004; the rules delineate the operational framework for translating intent into action.

Using the eco-regional niche as the conservation unit, eco-regional processes for biodiversity conservation have been initiated in three of the seven eco-regions of the state, namely Vindhya, Satpuda and Chambal.



Documentation of biodiversity through **People's Biodiversity Registers (PBR)** is the high point of the process. The process is spearheaded by Non-Government Organisations in the region and underscored by partnerships between Government agencies, academic & research institutions and communities. PBRs are being developed for 40 villages across seven districts of Vindhya eco-region. Similar process is underway in the Satpuda and Chambal region.

Actions for cultivating conservation ethics in the young minds gained momentum with the state wide **Mowgli Festival** in October 2005. The festival had participation of over

44,000 school across the state culminating into a three-day mega event at the Pench Tiger Reserve; the home of Mowgli and friends from Rudyard Kiplings epic "The Jungle Book". The festival fostered an alliance among Department of School Education, Department of tourism, Centre for Environment Education and the Board for furthering conservation education with Mowgli being the Icon. "Teachers for Tigers" workshops with Zoo Outreach was another milestone in conservation education.



Biodiversity research has been another strategic focus of the Board. The commissioned research of **Forest Owlett** resulted in sighting of six individuals of this rare and critically endangered species earlier thought to be extinct. Research on Chousingha (four-horned antelope) with Bombay Natural History Society; Avian Fauna of Bhoj Wetland (a Ramsar site) with the Lake conservation Authority and World Wildlife Fund are some of the examples of the collaborative research imperatives.



Various events and consultations have marked the process of developing partnerships between and across sectors. Centre for Ecological Studies, Bangalore for PBR process; National Law University, Bhopal for IPR issues; Indian Institute of Forest Management for State Biodiversity Information System; Department for Panchayat Raj & Rural Development for governance issues, Department of Forests, Agriculture, Rajiv Gandhi Water shed Mission are some of the partners in pursuance of the shared vision. These lead to a strong foundation to build on in the coming years.

v) WEST BENGAL BIODIVERSITY BOARD

Chairman:

1. **Professor Arun Kumar Sharma**, Department of Botany, Calcutta University, 35, Ballygunge Circular Road, Kolkata- 19.

Members:

1. Principal Secretary to the Government of West Bengal, Department of Environment
2. Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests, Wild Life and Bio- Diversity & Chief Wild Life Warden, Directorate of Forests, Government of West Bengal.
3. Principal Secretary to the Government of West Bengal, Department of Agriculture.
4. Principal Secretary to the Government of West Bengal, Department of Panchayat & Rural Development.
5. Member Secretary, West Bengal Pollution Control Board.
6. Dr. Ajit Bannerjee, Ex- Senior Forestry Expert, World Bank, 9, Greek Church Row Extension, Kolkata -26.
7. Dr. B. S. Joardar, Joint Co-ordinator, Post Graduate Department of environmental Science, Ashutosh College, Kolkata.
8. Dr. Biswanath Chakraborty, Professor, North Bengal University.
9. Shri. Tapan Saha, Scientist, IW MED, Salt Lake, Kolkata.
10. Prof. Sudip Banerjee, Chairman, WBPCB.

Contact Address:

Chief Environment Officer

Government of West Bengal,
Department of Environment,
Block 'G', 2nd Floor, Writers' Building,
Kolkata – 700 001.

Ph: 22141356; 22141357; Fax: 22141356

E-mail: enviswb@vsnl.net / envwb@vsnl.net;

ACTIVITIES OF WEST BENGAL BIODIVERSITY BOARD

Notification: No. EN/388/T-II-7/006-i/2004 dated 10th March 2005

1. The West Bengal Biodiversity Board (WBBB) has been constituted under a Notification, with effect from 16th September 2004 under the Chairmanship of Prof.Arun Kr.Sharma, Department of Botany, Calcutta University along with other experts and ex-officio members. This was communicated to your vide our earlier letter No.EN/198/T-II-7/006-i/2004 dt 11th February, 2005. The office of the West Bengal Biodiversity Board (WBBB) is housed in the office of the West Bengal Pollution Control Board at Salt Lake, Kolkata.
2. A Bank Account has already been opened by the Board in Allahabad Bank.
3. The WBBB met thrice and a number of decisions have been taken, specially in regard to documentation of biodiversity, awareness generation, formation of biodiversity management committees etc. The preparation of a village level People's Biodiversity Register' (PBR) has been one of the important agenda of the Board. Accordingly a pilot project is under consideration in the district of Hooghly.
4. As a pilot basis a Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC) has been formed at Goghat – II Block, Hooghly District on February 22, 2005 and the preparation of village level PBR is one of the primary works of the BMC to be undertaken shortly. Organization of the teams at local level has already been done through one of the NGOs.
5. Biodiversity Act, 2002 when with inter and outline the constitution of BMCs, their duties and functions and the procedure for consideration of the applications by the State Bio-diversity Board etc.
In this regard the suggestions in framing the rules, offered by the Board members have also been considered by the State Government.
6. The State Government in consultation with State Biodiversity Board has created the posts of one Senior Research Officer, One Research Officer, two Research Assistant and one Stenographer under a notification dated 16th December, 2004.
7. The Board is proposing to organize state level workshop on Biodiversity and its management for creating awareness on the subject.

vi) KERALA BIODIVERSITY BOARD

Notification: G.O.(MS) No.01/2005/STED dated 28th February 2005

Chairperson:

1. Dr.A.M.Michael, Former Director, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi and former Vice Chancellor of Kerala Agricultural University.

Members:

Ex-Officio Members:

2. Principal Secretary, Science, Technology & Environment Department
3. Principal Secretary, Agricultural Department
4. Principal Secretary, Fisheries Department
5. Principal Secretary, Forest & Wildlife Department
6. Secretary, Agriculture (Animal Husbandry) Department

Members:

7. Dr.A.D.Damodaran, former chairman, Science, Technology & Environment Committee.
8. Dr.K.V.Ahmed Bavappa, former Director, CPCRI
9. Dr.A.K.K.Unni, Former Director, Poultry Development Board
10. Dr.L.Lakshmanan, T-44/A, 7th Avenue, Besant Nagar, Chennai – 90.
11. Dr.J.K.Sarma, Director, Kerala Forest Research Institute.

Contact Address:

Principal Secretary to Government,
Government of Kerala,
Science Technology & Environment (A) Department,
Sasthra Bhavan, Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram.

vii) ARUNACHAL PRADESH BIODIVERSITY BOARD

Chairman:

1. Chief Secretary

Members:

Ex-Officio Members:

2. Principal Chief Conservator of Forest & Principal Secretary (Envn.&Forests)
3. Add.Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife & Biodiversity)
4. Secretary of Agriculture/Horticulture/Animal Husbandry & Veterinary/Finance

Members:

5. Professor & Head, Department of Botany, Arunachal University
6. Professor & Head, Department of Zoology, Arunachal University
7. Principal, Horticulture College, Pasighat
8. Dean, Faculty of Forestry, NERIST
9. Director, State Forest Research Institute, Itanagar.

Contact Address:

K. Namchoom

Principal Secretary (Envn & Forests)

Government of Arunachal Pradesh

Itanagar.

ACTIVITIES OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH BIODIVERSITY BOARD

Notification: No.For.262/D-4/04/6421-80 dated 15 March 2005

Functions of the Arunachal Pradesh Biodiversity Board:

- a. advise the State Government, subject to any guidelines issued by the Central Government, on matters relating to the conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of biological resources;

- b. regulate requests for granting of approvals or otherwise for commercial utilization or bio-survey and bio-utilisation of any biological resource by Indians.
- c. Perform such other functions as may be necessary to implement the provisions of Biological Diversity Act, 2002, or as may be prescribed by the State Government.

viii) NAGALAND BIODIVERSITY BOARD

Notification: No.For-Works-11/04 dated Kohima, 14th March 2005

Chairman:

1. Minister in-charge Forests & Environment

Members:

2. Agriculture Production Commissioner
3. Principal Secretary (Forests & Environment)
4. Principal Secretary (Agriculture)
5. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
6. Chief Wildlife Warden

Contact Address:

Dr.S.C.Deorani,

Principal Secretary to the Government of Nagaland

Department of Forests, Ecology, Environment & Wildlife,

Nagaland.

3. FINANCIAL HELP:

Based on the decision taken in the Second meeting of NBA, the authority has to give a one time grant- in- aid of Rs. 10, 00, 000/- (in two installments of Rs. 5, 00, 000/- each) for the establishment and infrastructure of the State Biodiversity Boards that has been formed. In this regard the first and second installment of Rs. 5, 00, 000 was released to the following States:

FIRST INSTALLMENT PAID

1. Karnataka
2. Goa
3. Madhya Pradesh.
4. Punjab
5. West Bengal
6. Kerala
7. Arunachal Pradesh
8. Nagaland

SECOND INSTALMENT PAID

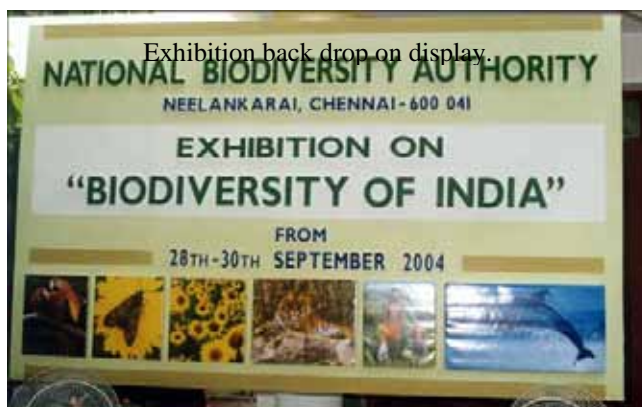
1. Karnataka
2. Madhya Pradesh

The state of Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh have submitted the utilization certificate for the first installment of Rs.5, 00, 000/- and have requested for the release of second installment by the authority. Second installment of Rs.5,00,000/- has been released to Karnataka State Biodiversity Board.

4. ACTIVITIES OF NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY

i) AWARENESS PROGRAMME ON BIODIVERSITY OF INDIA EXHIBITION ON BIODIVERSITY OF INDIA:

The National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai established in 2003 is the nodal agency in implementing the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Biological Diversity Rules 2004 in the country. One of its foremost aim is to create awareness among people about the need for biodiversity conservation and management for sustainable use of bio resources in India. With this ultimate goal the authority organized a three-day exhibition on “**Biodiversity of India**” from 28th – 30th September 2004 in its premises, along with essay writing, oration and painting competitions for school children. The exhibition was much focused on school children to create a better awareness at the grass root level.



Prof. T. N. Ananthakrishnan, Former Director, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata and Shri. S. Theodore Baskaran, Conservationist presided as Chief guests for the inaugural function on 28th September 2004. The exhibition featured posters on Ecosystems of India, Biodiversity of India, Threats to Biodiversity, Protected Areas and also about Biological Diversity Act, 2002. A total of 30 posters were on the display. The book of posters displayed was released by the Honbl. Chief guest Prof. T. N. Ananthakrishnan. Competitions such as Painting, Elocution and Essay Writing were held for school children of class IX –XII.



Prof. T. N. Ananthakrishnan lighting the Kuthuvilakku



Prof. T. N. Ananthakrishnan releasing the booklet of the posters displayed



Children in the Inaugural function



Children viewing the posters

Posters displayed in the Exhibition



The Students of Kendriya Vidyalaya from different parts of Chennai took part in all the competitions. The art competition was held on 28th September 2004, followed by elocution on 29th and essay writing on 30th. A total of 35 children participated in art competition followed by 28 in speech competition and 74 in essay competition. The judges for the competition were Dr. K. Rema Devi, Scientist C, Southern Regional Station, Zoological Survey of India, Chennai (art and essay writing), Dr. Ranjit Daniels, Care Earth, Chennai (art) and Dr. Mrs. Jeyashree Vencatesan, Care Earth, Chennai (art and elocution), Shri. P. Dhandapani, Scientist, (Retd.), Zoological Survey of India, Chennai (Elocution), Dr. D. B. James, Senior Scientist (Retd.), Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Tuticorin (Essay writing) and and Dr. G. Thirumalai, Scientist E, Zoological Survey of India, Southern Regional Station, Chennai (Essay writing).



A glance of the Elocution competition



School children in the art competition

The valedictory function was held on 30th September 2004. Prof. L. Kannan, Director-Research, Centre for Advanced Study in Marine Biology, Parangipettai and Dr. Anandhavalli Mahadevan, Vice Chancellor, Mother Teresa Women's University, Kodaikanal, presided over as chief guests. Prizes and certificates were distributed to the winners and each of the participants received a participation certificate.



The chief guest of the valedictory function Dr. Anandhavalli Mahadevan, Vice-Chancellor, Mother Teresa University, Kodaikanal being

Many school and college students,



A student participant garlanding the Chief guest, Prof. L. Kannan, Director-Research, Annamalai University

researchers, scientists, academicians, corporate and media personnel attended the exhibition. The response to the exhibition from the public was overwhelming. Many visitors responded that the posters on display gave fruitful information on India's Biodiversity and its need for conservation management. They also expressed that the authority should plan for large-scale events in the mere future for creating biodiversity awareness among different groups of people in all India level. A VCD on the Exhibition on Biodiversity of India was also prepared.



Exhibition on Biodiversity of India –on VCD

ii) WEB SITE:

On behalf of the President of India, the Member Secretary, NBA Chennai advertised a tender in the Hindu daily dated October 10th, 2004 inviting quotations for 100 mb web space from reputed web space providers. Accordingly M/s. Accel ICIM Frontline Limited hosted the NBA's website (www.nbaindia.org). and M/s. Infotrix, Chennai made the web design



National Biodiversity Authority's official Web Page

iii) MEDIA SENSITIZATION PROGRAMME:

In order to sensitize the media about the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and the Biological Diversity Rules, 2004 a one-day meeting of the “**Media Working Committee**” was conducted on 16th September 2004 at the National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai. The meeting was aimed at forming a working committee of media

personnel to popularize the importance of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Biological Diversity Rules, 2004 among Customs authorities, Export Departments MPEDA, APEDA etc., General Public, School and College students, Fishermen, Foreign Companies in India who are involved in access of bioresearches, Media persons and Teachers. The following personnel from the media attended the meeting.

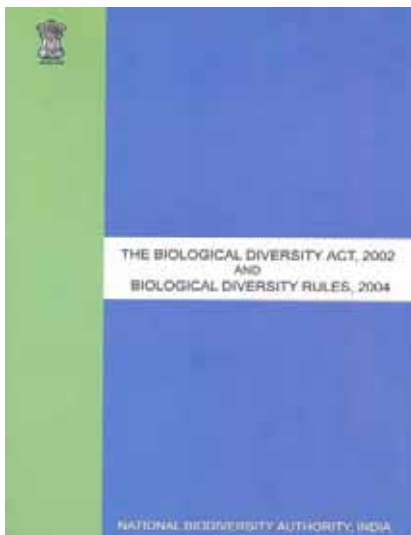
1. Mr. A. Subramani, Principal Correspondent, The Hindu, Chennai.
1. Mr. P. Oppili, Senior Reporter, The Hindu, Chennai.
2. Mr. Jayaraj Sivan, Chief Reporter, The New Indian Express, Chennai.
3. Mr. Aavudaiappan, Special Correspondent, Thinamalar, Chennai.
4. Mr. B.S.L. Prasad, Staff Reporter, Enadu, Chennai.
5. Ms. Radha Venkatesan, Special Correspondent, Indian Express, Bombay.

iv) ORIENTATION PROGRAMME ON SBB FOR TAMIL NADU AND PONDICHERRY:

A one-day orientation programme on the formation of State Biodiversity Authority for Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry was held in National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai on 24th September 2004. Three Officers from Tamilnadu State Four Officers from Pondyicherry and Two NGO's attended the programme. A series of lectures were organized and background material supplied to the participates.

v) PUBLICATIONS:

With the ultimate aim of implementing the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 And Biological Diversity Rules, 2004 the National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai has published 5000 copies of “**Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Biological Diversity Rules, 2004 (in English)**” handbook for the better understanding and implementation of the act by scientists, students, managers, public, government research institutes, academic institutes and private companies. Till date 945 copies have been distributed to various government and private organizations. Hindi version of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Biological Diversity Rules, 2004 is also produced and distributed.



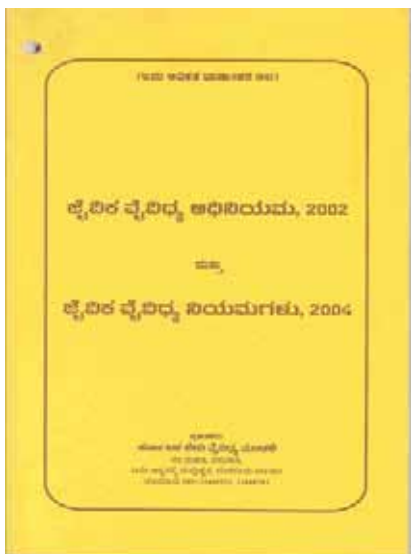
Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Biological Diversity Rules, 2004 (in English) published by National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai



Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Biological Diversity Rules, 2004 (in Hindi) published by National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai



Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Biological Diversity Rules, 2004 (in Malayalam) prepared by, M.S.Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai.



Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Biological Diversity Rules, 2004 (in Kannada) published by, Karnataka Biodiversity Board, Bangalore.

MEETINGS ATTENDED:

- ✚ Dr. K. Venkataraman, Member Secretary, National Biodiversity Authority attended the following meetings/workshops in the financial year 2004-2005:
- ❖ Review Meeting of National Biodiversity Authority, by the Honbl. Minister for Environment and Forests at New Delhi.
 - ❖ Workshop on Creation of Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) for the SAARC Member Countries on 27th -28th, December 2004, organised by SAARC Documentation Centre, New Delhi in collaboration with NISCAIR, New Delhi and in cooperation with Department of Secondary and Higher Education and Ministry of Human Resources Development, Government of India.
 - ❖ The SAARC IPR Working Group Meeting on December 29th, 2004, New Delhi organised by SAARC Documentation Centre, New Delhi in collaboration with NISCAIR, New Delhi.
 - ❖ South Asia (Southeast Asia) Regional training Programme on “Bioprospecting”: Managing Implementation of Access and Benefit Sharing Principles held on 10th -12th, January 2005 in Lucknow organized by IUCN.
 - ❖ Seminar on “Protection of Geographical Indication in India” on 29th January, Chennai.
 - ❖ One-day seminar on Environmental Laws of India for Magistrates held at C.P.R. Environmental Education Centre on 12th February 2004, organized by C. P. R. Environmental Education Centre.



5. PERSONS VISITED

✚ HONBL. MINISTER FOR STATE, SHRI. NAMO NARAYAN MEENA:

The Honbl. Minister for State Shri. Namo Narayan Meena visited National Biodiversity Authority on ----- to know more about the activities of NBA and its future proposals.

Glimpses of the visit by the Honbl. Minister for State Shri. Namo Narayan Meena to the National Biodiversity Authority, Neelankarai Chennai



Dr. K. Venkataraman, Member Secretary, NBA receiving the Honbl. Minister for State Shri. Namo Narayan Meena at NBA office in Chennai



Dr. Venkataraman and the staff of NBA extending a warm welcome to the Honbl. Minister for State Shri. Namo Narayan Meena



Dr. K. Venkataraman garlanding the Honbl. Minister for State Shri. Namo Narayan Meena



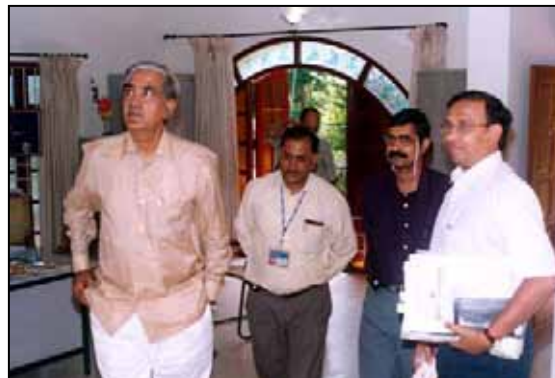
Honbl. Minister for State Shri. Namo Narayan Meena lighting the Kuthuvilakku



Dr. K. Venkataraman explaining the activities of NBA to the Honbl. Minister for State Shri. Namo Narayan Meena



Honbl. Minister for State Shri. Namo Narayan in discussion with Dr. K. Venkataraman



Honbl. Minister for State Shri. Namo Narayan Meena taking a closer look of the NBA office in Chennai.

✚ **Director, Zoological Survey of India visited the National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai on 4th Feb 2005 to know about the activities and progress of National Biodiversity Authority.**

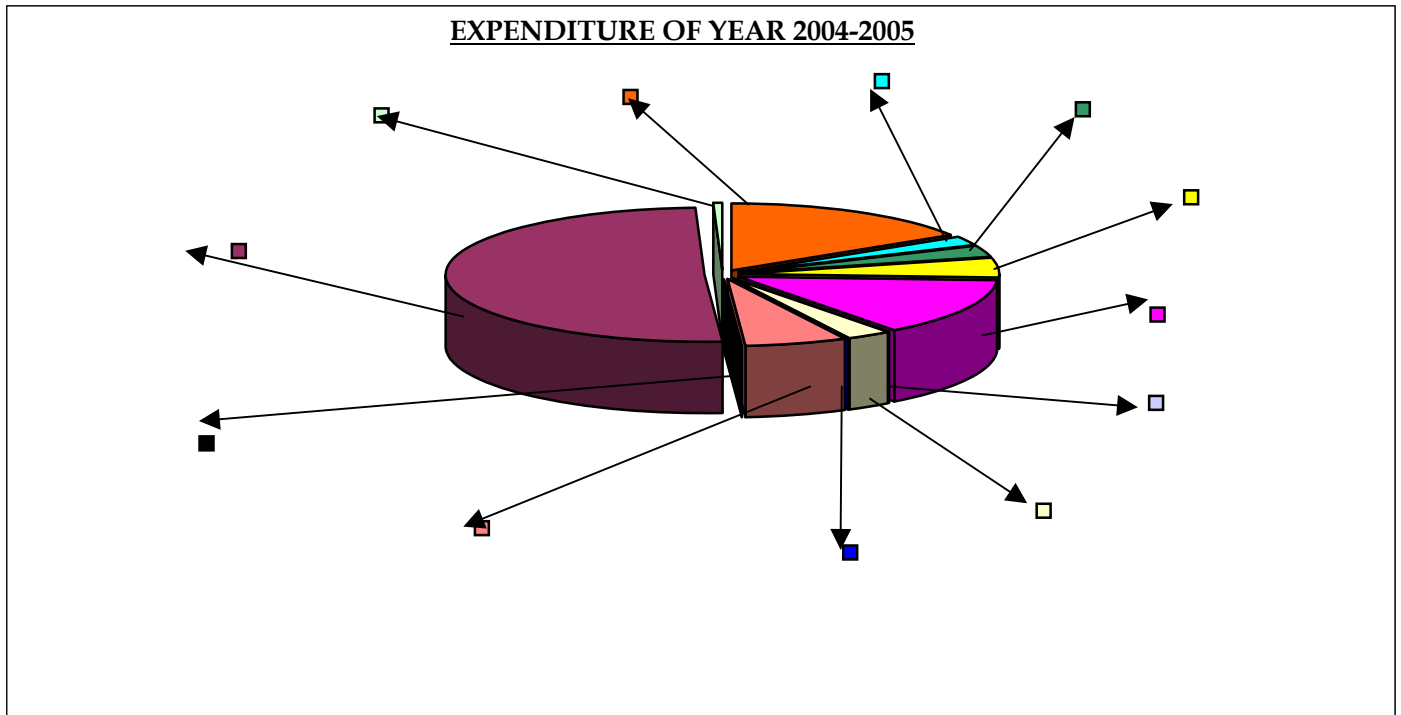
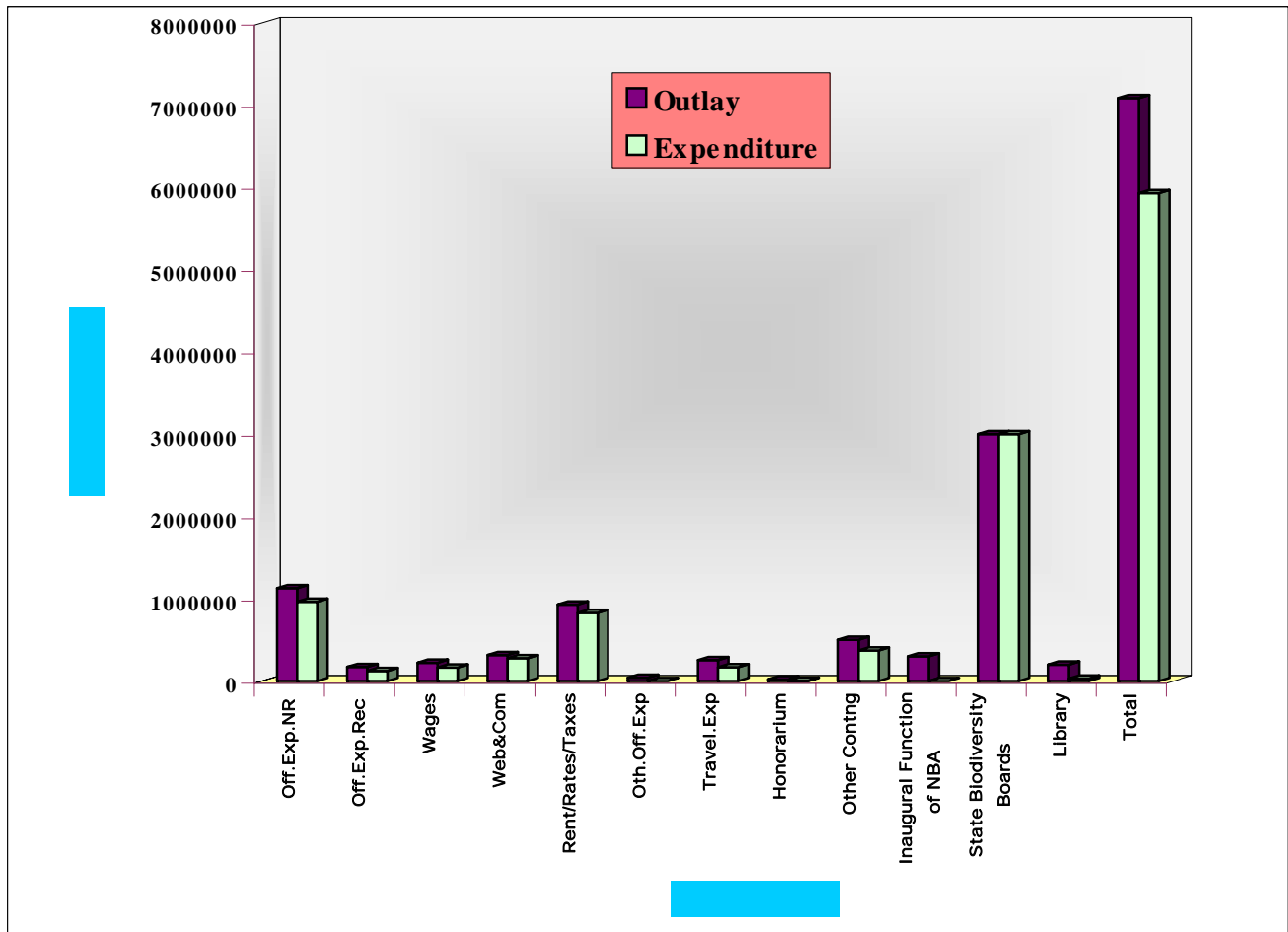
6. BUDGET

EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR 2004-2005

GRANTS IN AID	REVALIDATED FROM 2004 - 2005	EXPENDITURE UPTO MARCH 2005	BALANCE
Office Expenses Non Recurring	11,29,082	9,63,095	1,65,987
Office Expenses Recurring	1,71,847	1,22,834	49,013
Wages	2,22,365	1,65,312	57,053
Websites & Computers	3,15,000	2,76,110	38,890
Rent/Rates/Taxes	9,28,540	8,26,375	1,02,165
Other Office Expenditure	40,000	-----	40,000
Travelling Expenses	2,53,507	1,68,052	85,455
Honorarium	20,000	5,000	15,000
Other Contingent	5,01,870	3,70,718	1,31,152
Inaugural Function of National Biodiversity Authority	3,00,000	-----	3,00,000
State Biodiversity Board	30,00,000	30,00,000	-----
Library	2,00,000	29,486	1,70,514
Total	70,82,211	59,26,982	11,55,229

RECEIPTS

INTEREST RECEIVED	: 87,252
RECEIPTS OF APPLICATION FEES	: 60,500
TOTAL AMOUNT OF RECEIPTS	: 1,47,752





NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY

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