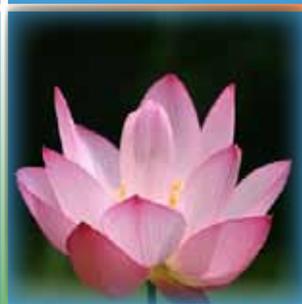


# Annual Report

2013-14



सत्यमेव जयते



## National Biodiversity Authority

(An Autonomous and Statutory body of the Ministry of Environment Forests & Climate Change, Government of India)

This Publication is available in electronic form at: [www.nbaindia.org](http://www.nbaindia.org)

Published by

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Design & Layout

Muthukumaran D. NBA

Photo Credits:

Shri. Hasan & Shri. Jitendra Katre

Printers:



# ***ANNUAL REPORT***

## ***2013–14***



### ***NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY***

(An Autonomous and Statutory Body under the Ministry of Environment Forests & Climate Change, Government of India)

5<sup>th</sup> Floor, TICEL Bio Park, CSIR Road, Taramani,  
Chennai - 600 113





## **Hem Pande, IAS**

Chairman,  
National Biodiversity Authority,  
(Full Addl. Charge) & Addl. Secretary, MoEF & CC



## ***Foreword***

India is one of the 17 mega diverse countries and is home to nearly 8 percent of the world's total recorded species with over 47,000 species of plants and 97,000 species of animals. India's economy and the livelihoods of hundreds of millions of people depend on the biological wealth and associated traditional knowledge of the country. Four of the 34 globally identified biodiversity hotspots are represented in India. India is also an acknowledged centre of crop diversity and harbours hundreds of varieties of crop plants such as rice, maize and millets.

The Government of India has enacted the Biological Diversity Act, 2002; Rules, 2004 to fulfill its obligations as a Party to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). BD Act is implemented through a decentralized three tier system with the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) at National level, the State Biodiversity Boards (SBBs) at State level and Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) at Local body level.

2013-2014 was an eventful year in the history of NBA with significant spread of strategic actions and initiatives to implement the Act. The networks and partnerships established by the NBA in the past were leveraged towards realizing the objectives of the Act.

I am thankful to the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Members of the Authority and the Members of various Expert Committees for their continuous support, enabling the NBA to work towards promoting the objectives of the Act as well as fulfilling its statutory functions.

I wish to place on record my appreciation to the officers and staff of the NBA and all those who have contributed in bringing out this Annual Report. I hope that the publication will provide a glimpse of the activities carried out during the year 2013 -2014.

Hem Pande  
Chairman, NBA





**T. Rabikumar, IFS**  
Secretary,  
National Biodiversity Authority



## ***Acknowledgement***

Annual report of the National Biodiversity Authority for the year 2013-14 compiled as per the provisions of Section 28 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 reflects the activities carried out by the NBA besides giving glimpse of the achievements in the implementation of the Act. I sincerely thank the Chairman, NBA for his valuable advice and continued motivation in all our endeavours without which we could not have achieved the set goals in an effective manner.

I express my deepest gratitude to the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, for the continued guidance, support and assistance extended in effective implementation of the provisions of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002. I am pleased to convey my sincere thanks to the Members of the Authority and Expert Committees for having offered invaluable assistance, support and guidance in furthering the activities of the Secretariat of the NBA.

I acknowledge with gratitude the complementary role of the Chairpersons and Member Secretaries of the State Biodiversity Board in compiling this report. I also thank the Principal Director of Audit (Scientific Audit) for having furnished the Audit Certificate in time.

I wholeheartedly appreciate the efforts of all the officers and staff of the NBA Secretariat in bringing out this report.

T. Rabikumar  
Secretary, NBA



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## ***Executive Summary***

Biodiversity is an essential component of nature and it ensures the survival of human species by providing food, fuel, shelter, medicines and other resources to mankind. A rapid environmental change typically causes mass extinctions of species and ecosystem. The CBD, one of the key agreements adopted during the Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, is the first comprehensive global agreement which addresses all aspects relating to biodiversity.

The Government of India on recognizing the potential threats and consequences to biodiversity and as a signatory to the Convention on Biological Diversity enacted "The Biological Diversity Act" in 2002. This Act established a three tier system for biodiversity governance in the country. The National Biodiversity Authority functioning at Central level is the apex body that regulates access to biodiversity and advises the Government of India on conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components and equitable sharing of benefits. The National Biodiversity Authority is functioning since

October, 2003 headed by a Chairman and assisted by a Secretary and supporting staff. The Nagoya Protocol has entered into force on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2014 to develop the National ABS framework and India has signed the Protocol on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2011, and ratified it on 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2012.

This report covers the activities of NBA during the financial year 2013-14. During the year under review, the Authority met thrice and took important decisions, besides approving applications processed by the NBA Secretariat and evaluated by the EC on ABS. The Authority also deliberated and provided inputs for further action by the Secretariat on the reports submitted by various Expert Committees constituted for different purposes such as, draft for ABS guidelines, recommendations of EC on ABS, draft guidelines on designated National repositories, draft guidelines on National Biodiversity Fund, modified recruitment rules for the existing posts and the recruitment rules for the posts to be created in NBA, ABS mechanism for export of red sanders,

Court cases M/s Ruchi Soya Industries vs. Madhya Pradesh Biodiversity Board, heard by Hon'ble NGT, Bhopal, and notification of threatened species U/Sec 38 of BD Act.

Apart from National Biodiversity Authority, State Biodiversity Boards at State level and Biodiversity Management Committees at Local Body level are constituted to promote conservation of bio resources, their sustainable use and to document the knowledge related to biological diversity. In implementing the Act, NBA is in constant dialogue with State Biodiversity Boards. Strengthening of institutional framework is important for effective implementation of the Act.

Keeping this in view, NBA convened the 9th National Meeting of SBBs on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, January 2014 at NBA, Chennai. The ninth National meet of SBBs was preceded by the tenth anniversary celebration of NBA. During this commemoration, NBA released the Hindi translations of guidelines relating to BMCs, PBRs and BHS brought out by the Rajasthan Biodiversity Board and a special publication " A Decade of Biodiversity " was also launched during this event. During the report period several SBBs took the initiative to form new BMCs. Andhra Pradesh SBB produced a documentary film on Biodiversity. Assam SBB released a booklet on 'Glimpses of Biodiversity in Assam'. Goa SBB also

published a book titled 'Flora and Fauna of Raj Bhavan'. Gujarat SBB published a book on 'Protected Areas and Natural Heritage of Gujarat' and also produced radio programs to generate awareness at grass root level. Kerala SBB produced documentary films and published several books to sensitize public about biodiversity issues. Karnataka, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Mizoram and Odisha SBBs organized several programs during the report period. Meghalaya SBB published a book 'Butterflies of Garo Hills'. Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal and Chhattisgarh SBBs also organized several awareness programs during the report period. This report covers in detail the key achievements of SBBs during the year 2013-14. During the reporting period, 1956 new Biodiversity Management Committees were formed to reach a total of 34135 in the country.

The present report outlines the activities and achievements made during the second year of 12<sup>th</sup> plan. The theme of 12<sup>th</sup> plan is for effective coordination of stakeholders for implementation of the Act and Rules with active support of National Biodiversity Authority for functional results. So far from 2003 to 2014, National Biodiversity Authority has received 877 applications for access to bio-resources and cleared 481 applications.

Of these, 129 applicants entered into agreement with National Biodiversity Authority based on Mutually Agreed Terms for access to bio-resources and associated knowledge. During 2013-14, 17 ABS agreements have been signed between the users and NBA.

Actions were taken to implement provisions of Acts and Rules. Till now species of 124 plants and 152 animals were notified as threatened species on verge of extinction. 15 repositories are notified as designated repositories and exempted 190 biological resources traded as commodities. During the report period a sum of Rs. 6.21 lakhs was received towards application fee Rs. 44.31 lakhs has been collected as royalty by National Biodiversity Authority so far from financial year 2008-2009. During 2013-14, NBA brought out several publications to enhance awareness on issues related to the Act, Rules, BMCs and PBRs.

National Biodiversity Authority is implementing the first National Project on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) launched under Global Environment Facility (GEF) from 2011-2012 in 5 States viz., Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim and West Bengal which aims at developing pilot models to deal with emerging issues at local level.

National Biodiversity Authority has also established a Centre for Biodiversity Policy

and Law (CEBPOL) as a joint initiative under the Indo-Norwegian Cooperation to deal with emerging and current issues on biodiversity governance, policy and law making.

The financial statement of 2013-2014 and Annual plan for 2014-2015 are elaborated in this report.



## ***Introduction***

India is known for its rich heritage of biodiversity. It is one of the recognized megadiverse countries of the world. With an area of about 329 mha, India is seventh largest country in the world. The varied edaphic, climatic and topographic conditions have resulted in a wide range of ecosystems and habitats such as forests, grasslands, wetlands, coastal and marine ecosystems, and deserts which in turn have contributed to immense biological diversity with large variation in species of plants, animals and microbes. Conserving biodiversity is basic to our survival and well-being and using it sustainably, forms part of the Indian culture and lifestyle. Biodiversity and ecosystem services provided by it contribute to poverty eradication and national development.

From the biodiversity point of view, India has about 47,000 species of Plants and 97,000 species of animals (Source: India's Fifth National Report to the CBD 2014). Around 10% of the recorded wild flora and fauna are endangered. The climate of India is dominated by rains from the southwest and northeast monsoons between June

to February and dry winds from March to June. India has a rich variety of wet lands and forests with great diversity of natural ecosystems. The panorama of Indian forests ranges from tropical wet evergreen forest in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands, the Western Ghats and North Eastern States to dry alpine scrub high in the Himalayas to the north. Between the two extremes, the country has semi-evergreen forests, deciduous forests, thorn forests, and subtropical pine forests. The distinct agro-ecosystems have contributed to diverse cropping pattern and systems across the country. Biodiversity practically refers to interdependence of all living things for functional ecosystem.

In developing nations, biological diversity is increasingly considered as a key resource at global, national and local level for sustained wellbeing of humanity. It is the raw material on which our future biotechnological development, agricultural produce and pharmaceutical industries will depend. When the genetic pool of plants and animals are over-exploited for the advancement of human life, the bio-resources get depleted

and inequality in ecosystem sets in. As the wilderness shrinks with fragmentation of habitat, the refuge of its denizens, the great diversity of wild species, their unquantifiable genes and complex ecosystems inherited as biological heritage gets threatened.

In response, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was adopted during the Earth Summit on June 5, 1992. It is the most comprehensive international agreement covering different aspects of biodiversity. The objectives of CBD are the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources. India is committed to contributing towards achieving the objectives of the CBD. Globally, 196 countries are parties to the CBD. India as a party to this convention, has implemented its provisions by enacting Biological Diversity Act in 2002 and Biological Diversity Rules in 2004.

### 1.1 National Biodiversity Authority

The National Biodiversity Authority was established in 2003 to implement India's Biological Diversity Act, 2002. It is headed by a Chairperson with 10 ex-officio members from related Ministries and five non-official members who are Scientists / Specialists appointed by the Government. The Act envisages for a three tier structure that

comprises the National Biodiversity Authority, State Biodiversity Boards and Biodiversity Management Committees. The Act empowers the Authority to constitute Expert Committees for purposes as it may deem fit, consisting of experts in the field of biodiversity.

#### Functions of National Biodiversity Authority

- \* Advise the Government of India on matters relating to conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of utilization of biological resources.
- \* Regulate activities and issue guidelines for access to biological resources and for fair and equitable sharing of benefits in accordance with Sections 3, 4 and 6 of the Biological Diversity Act 2002. Certain individuals/nationals/organizations require prior approval of NBA for obtaining biological resources and / or associated knowledge for use.
- \* Take necessary measures to 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 derived from India without following the due procedure provided in the Act.
- \* Advise the State Governments in selection of areas of biodiversity importance to be

notified as heritage sites and suggest measures for their management.

- \* National Biodiversity Authority and State Biodiversity Boards provide guidance and technical support to Biodiversity Management Committees for documenting People's Biodiversity Registers.
- \* Perform such other functions as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of Biological Diversity Act.

## 1.2 State Biodiversity Board

The State Biodiversity Boards are established by the State Governments by notification in the official gazette as per Section 22 of the Act. For the Union Territories, National Biodiversity Authority shall exercise the powers and functions of State Biodiversity Board. National Biodiversity Authority may delegate all or any of its powers or functions to such person or group of persons as specified by the Central Government.

The State Biodiversity Boards are structured with a Chairperson as the head, five ex-officio members representing the departments concerned and five members appointed from amongst experts in matters relating to conservation of biological diversity, sustainable use of biological resources and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of their use. As of March 2014,

all 28 States have established the State Biodiversity Boards.

### Functions of State Biodiversity Board

- \* Advise the State Governments, subject to guidelines issued by the Central Government, on matters relating to conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of utilization of biological resources.
- \* Regulate, by granting approvals or otherwise, the request for commercial utilization or bio-survey and bio-utilization of any biological resource by Indians.
- \* Perform such other functions as necessary to carry out the provisions of the Act or as prescribed by the State Governments.

## 1.3 Biodiversity Management Committee

Every local body shall constitute the Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) in accordance with Section 41 of the Biological Diversity Act 2002, within its area of jurisdiction for the purpose of promoting conservation, sustainable use and documentation of biological diversity including preservation of habitats, conservation of landraces, folk varieties and cultivars, domesticated stocks and breeds, micro-organisms and chronicling of knowledge relating to biological diversity.

Biodiversity Management Committee is constituted as per Rule 22 of the Biological Diversity Rules, 2004. It consists of a Chairperson and not more than six persons nominated by the local body, of whom not less than one-third should be women and not less than 18% should belong to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes.

As on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014, Biodiversity Management Committees have been constituted in 34,135 local bodies.

#### Functions of Biodiversity Management Committee

- \* Prepare, maintain and validate People's Biodiversity Register (PBR) in consultation with the local people. The BMC has to maintain a Register giving information about the details of access to biological resources and traditional knowledge about the collection of fee imposed and the benefits received and the mode of their sharing.
- \* Advise on any matter referred to it by the State Biodiversity Board or Authority for granting approval and to maintain data about the local vairs and practitioners using the biological resources.

# ***Meetings of the Authority and Expert Committees***

## **2.1 Composition of the Authority**

National Biodiversity Authority is headed by a Chairperson with ten ex-officio members from related Ministries of Government of India, five non-official members who are specialists/scientists, experts in various management aspects of biodiversity. The Government of India appoints the Chairperson and ex-officio members as well as non-official members.

The list of Members during the reporting period is at Annexure 2.

Four Non-official Members of the NBA were appointed as per Section 8 (d) of BD Act 2002, for a period of 3 years from 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2013 to 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2016.

## **2.2 Meetings of the Authority**

During the year under review, the Authority met three times to consider various techno-legal and administrative matters and gave directions to the NBA Secretariat for appropriate action. Besides, the Authority considered the recommendations of the EC on ABS on the applications. The details of the meetings held and major agenda items discussed are as follows:

### **2.2.1 Special Authority Meeting**

A special Authority meeting of the NBA was held on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2013 at New Delhi under the chairmanship of Dr. Balakrishna Pisupati, Chairman, NBA wherein the agenda discussed was related to the court cases viz., M/s Ruchi Soya Industries vs. Madhya Pradesh Biodiversity Board & 3 others heard by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Bhopal. The Authority also discussed subject relating extraction of oil from soya and its implications in relation to the BD Act 2002.

### **2.2.2 27<sup>th</sup> Authority meeting**

The 27<sup>th</sup> Authority meeting was held on 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> January 2014 at Chennai. Some of the important items that were discussed in the meeting include draft guidelines on Access and Benefit Sharing, recommendation of EC on ABS on 'NOC' for export of animal and animal origin materials, sending / sharing of biological resources for non-commercial research and related activities and for provision of access to Indian biological resources for emergency purposes, post-facto approval process, draft notifications on officers who are authorized to file complaints

under Section 61 (a) of BD Act, 2002, draft guidelines for designated national repositories, draft guidelines on National Biodiversity Fund, modified recruitment rules for the existing posts and the recruitment rules for the posts to be created in NBA.

### 2.2.3 28<sup>th</sup> Authority meeting

The 28<sup>th</sup> Authority meeting was held on 7<sup>th</sup>



& 8<sup>th</sup> March 2014 at New Delhi. Some of the important items were discussed and deliberated in the meeting include draft access and benefit sharing guidelines, recommendations of EC on access and benefit sharing in its 22<sup>nd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> meetings, ABS mechanism for export of red sanders and notification of threatened species U/S.38 of Biological Diversity Act.

### 2.2.4 Discussion Meeting on operationalization of National Biodiversity Fund:

In the 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Authority, the draft guidelines for determining contributions and utilization of National Biodiversity Fund were discussed at length and it was suggested that the guidelines be further examined at the

level of NBA and necessary changes effected. Accordingly, the improved version was placed in the 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Authority and the Members approved the same with some modifications, after detailed discussions. Further, to suit the changing needs and trends, the draft guidelines were deliberated in an Experts' meet held on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2013 at Chennai under the Chairmanship of Prof. M. S. Swaminathan, Founder Chairman, MSSRF, Chennai. Based on the inputs received, the draft is being revised.

## 2.3 Expert Committees

As per Section 13(1) of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 the Authority is empowered to constitute Committees to implement the provisions of the Act and Rules.

### 2.3.1 Expert Committee on Access and Benefit Sharing

Applications made before the Authority



for accessing any biological resource or associated knowledge or for transfer of research result or for prior approval for

applying for IPR are examined by the Expert Committee on ABS as per the provisions of the Act and Rules on a case to case basis and recommendations made by the EC are considered for approval by the Authority.

During the period under report, the EC on ABS met 5 times viz., 23<sup>rd</sup> EC (April 2013), 24<sup>th</sup> EC (May 2013), 25<sup>th</sup> EC (June 2013), 26<sup>th</sup> EC (August 2013) and 27<sup>th</sup> EC (November 2013) and evaluated around 100 applications on access and benefit sharing and gave recommendations which were placed before the Authority.

### 2.3.2 Expert Committee on Agro-biodiversity

The Expert Committee on Agro-biodiversity was reconstituted under the Chairmanship of Dr.E.A.Siddiq formerly DDG, ICAR. The Fourth Expert committee meeting was held on 8th & 9th April 2013 which deliberated on the report of the sub-committee on “Emerging issues and challenges - research, commercialization and related issues within the seed industry, ICAR, CGIAR systems and compliance issues”. The Committee underscored the important issues requiring action such as – saving native animal breeds, wild relatives of crop plants, plans for eradication of invasive alien species, guidelines/legislation on the issues of indigenous and TK, activities to promote on-farm conservation and long term management of agro-biodiversity-rich

areas in the country. The EC suggested for designation of more agro biodiversity heritage sites under Section 37 of BD Act and desired improved coordination of SBBs, BMCs, with NGOs and Government agencies at local level for better management.

### 2.3.3 Expert Committee on Preparation of Guidelines on Operationalization of Biodiversity Management Committees.

The Expert Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Smt. Gayathri Ramachandran, IAS, developed the operational guidelines for BMCs after wide consultation with stakeholders such as SBBs, community based organization, NGOs, legal and policy experts and representatives of Biodiversity Management Committees of Sikkim, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and West Bengal. The guidelines were finalized and later issued in March 2013.

### 2.3.4 Expert Committee on Medicinal Plants

Considering the importance of medicinal plants to the socio-economic, health and livelihood security of the country as well as for sustaining its bio-cultural diversity and after taking due cognizance of its importance for the effective implementation of the three stated objectives of the Act, the NBA reconstituted the Expert Committee on Medicinal Plants in March 2012 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Darshan Shankar

with Shri D.K. Ved as Vice Chairman. Three sub-committees were formed under this EC to address specific issues such as Health and Livelihoods, Traditional knowledge and practices and ABS issues and inter-sectorial strategy for conservation, sustainable use and trade issues related to medicinal plants.

An important Terms of Reference (ToR) of the EC is to outline in consultation with the stakeholders, the roles and responsibilities and programmatic themes of different Ministries, Departments, Boards and Authorities in respect of the management of medicinal plant resources in India. Based on the recommendations of the EC and after duly recognizing the multi-dimensional scope of the proposed inter sectorial strategy document, the EC had planned for National consultations addressing thematic areas such as Conservation and Cultivation, Science & Technology, Health & Livelihoods security, IPR & TK protection, Domestic and International trade of value added herbal products and medicinal plant resources. Two meetings of the EC and four meetings of the sub committees were convened and the recommendations received from these meetings are under the active consideration of the NBA.

### 2.3.5 Expert Committee on Normally Traded Commodities

The Central Government in consultation with the National Biodiversity Authority is empowered under Section 40 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 to issue notification that the provisions of the Act shall not apply to any items including biological resources. A list of 190 commodities under medicinal plants, spices and horticulture crops were notified as normally traded commodities in 2009 as a first step. In due course of time, several issues concerning normally traded commodities were raised by various stakeholders and in response, the 17<sup>th</sup> Authority of NBA had decided that a special committee would be formed to work out the modalities for augmenting the NTCs notified by Government of India vide S.O.2726 (E) dt. 26<sup>th</sup> October 2009. As a response to this, the expert committee on normally traded commodities was reconstituted vide office order dt. 06.11.2012 under the Chairmanship of Shri. A.K. Goyal IFS to work out the modalities for notifying NTCs in its revised format detailing the illustrative trade/common name, plant part and the sources of procurement for trade. The NBA had reconstituted its 4<sup>th</sup> Expert Committee on Normally Traded Commodities on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2014 under the Chairmanship of Shri. D.K.Ved with a mandate to identify biological

resources normally traded as commodities.

### 2.3.6 Meeting of the Designated National Repositories

The first meeting of the National Repositories designated Under Sec. 39 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 was held on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2013, chaired by Dr. Balakrishna Pisupati, Chairman, NBA. The draft guidelines for National Repositories prepared by the NBA were presented. During the meeting, the participants discussed the role of modern tool and DNA bar-coding in dealing with species related issues. Focusing on issues of microbial culture collections, the participants emphasised that the most immediate requirement in the country is to establish a network of institutions holding microbial cultures within both private and public sector. The participants felt that there is an immediate need for capacity building and awareness rising on issues of ABS amongst the repositories. Since a large number of repositories are unaware of the legal and policy implications, there is an urgent need for the institutions to increase the awareness on these areas.

## 2.4 Consultation and seminars

***Interaction Meeting between Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) Centre and National Biodiversity Authority.*** The NBA organized

one-day interaction meeting with CGIAR centre at New Delhi on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2013 to gain better understanding on activities of the centre in India with special reference to the Biological Diversity Act. It was also decided to have regular interactions in this regard.

### ***Interaction Meeting of NBA, BSI and ZSI to facilitate the preparation of PBRs***

An interaction meeting of National Biodiversity Authority, Botanical Survey of India (BSI) and Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) was organized by the NBA on 1st October 2013 with an intent to formalize the collaboration of the NBA-BSI-ZSI in the context of preparation of People's Biodiversity Registers (PBRs). During the meeting, the members discussed the vital role to be played both by the BSI and ZSI in the entire process of preparation of PBRs.

# ***Access and Benefit Sharing***

## **3.1 Approval Process**

National Biodiversity Authority, in accordance with sections 3, 4, 6 and 20 of the Biological Diversity Act 2002 and Rules 14, 17, 18 and 19 of the Biological Diversity Rules 2004, grants prior approval for access of bio resources and/or associated knowledge for specific purposes as indicated in table 1.

The applications are examined by the Expert Committee (EC) on Access and Benefit Sharing as per the provisions of the Act and Rules on a case by case basis and the recommendations made by the EC are considered and approvals granted by the Authority. So far, NBA has received 877 applications related to access to bio resources and/or associated knowledge and during the period 2013-2014, 93 applications have been received. The category wise details of applications received and dealt with by NBA during the year are given in Table 2.

## **3.2 Consultations with SBBs and BMCs**

As provided under Section 41 (2) of the Biological Diversity Act 2002, the National Biodiversity Authority and the State Biodiversity Boards are consulting the

Biodiversity Management Committees while taking any decision on the application relating to the use of biological resources and knowledge associated with such resources occurring within the territorial jurisdiction of the Biodiversity Management Committee. This process has been simplified with the introduction of a simple format during the year 2012-2013 for consultative process with the State Biodiversity Boards. As per the decision of the Authority to expedite process of approval, the SBBs are provided with a timeline of 30 days to send their response to NBA, after due consultation with the BMCs.

## **3.3 Internal Structure of application processing**

The internal structure of application processing comprise facilitation desk and review desk. The facilitation desk will facilitate the receipt of applications, liaising with applicants and supporting the Expert Committee on ABS, while the review team will assess the techno-legal details provided in the applications. Each of these teams is oriented on the terms of reference and provided with specific timelines to process the applications.

### 3.4 ABS Facilitation Desk

The front end for receipt of applications and interaction with the applicants is the facilitation desk. It takes care of preliminary scrutiny of the applications for their genuineness and completeness, fee and documents required. In case, applications received are incomplete, they are returned to the applicants intimating the details/documents required. The applications received with complete details are transferred to the review desk for further processing.

### 3.5 Review Desk

The review desk consists of two teams, comprising technical and legal examiners for scrutiny of applications received from the facilitation desk. Each review team handles three tasks. 1) Initial process, such as verification of consistency of form, purpose applied for and other details and enclosures. 2) Technical scrutiny like scientific analysis on specific biological resources based on assessment by SBB and 3) Examination on legal issues pertaining to compliance and regulation duly checking the legal instruments received with the application.

The applications will be further scrutinized by an Expert Committee on ABS consisting of professionals from diverse areas, such as Science, Finance, Law and representatives from institutions like NBPGR and ICAR. The

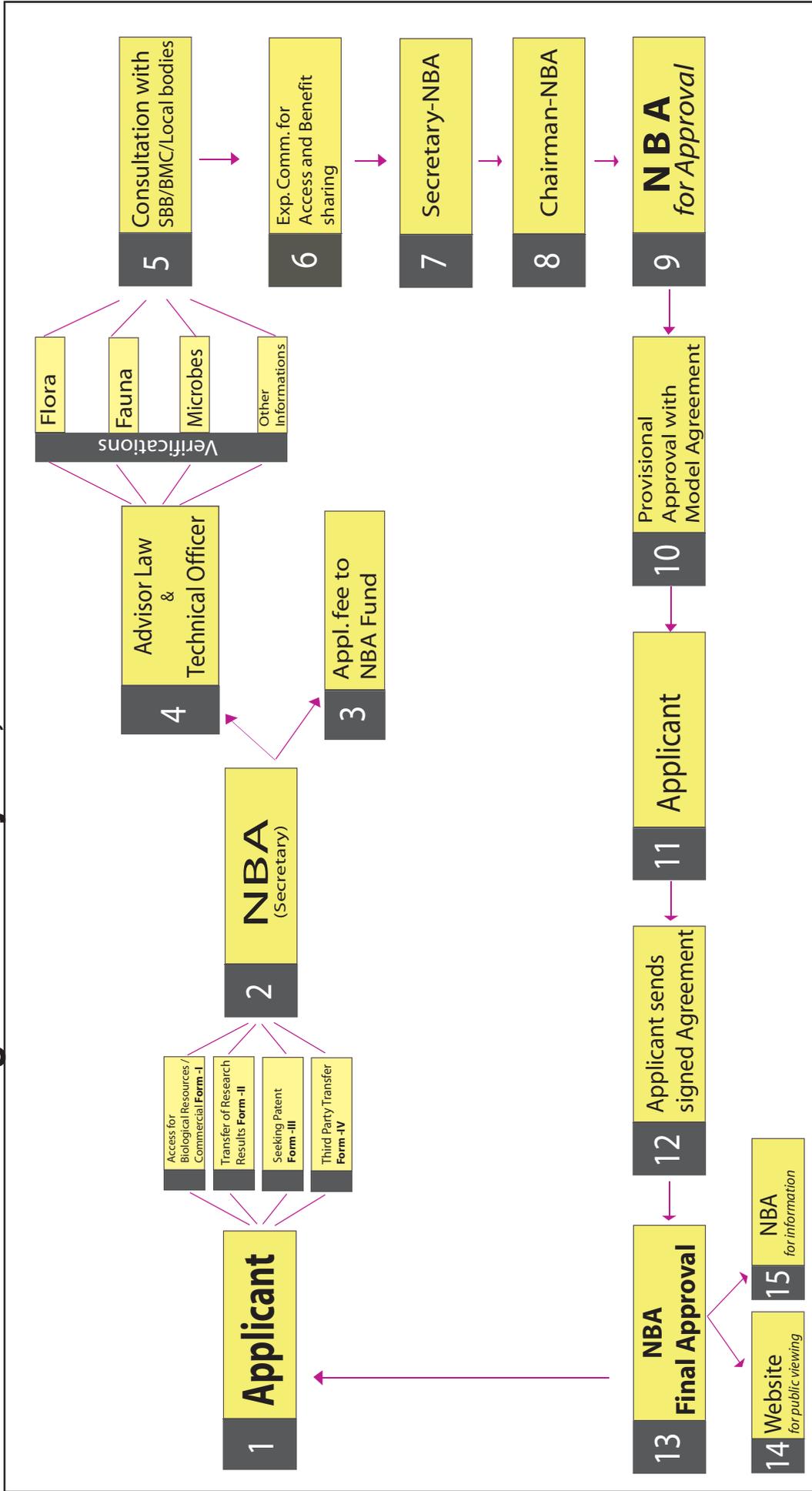
EC on ABS will evaluate each application and give its recommendation which will be then placed before the Authority for final decision.

### 3.6 Realization of Benefit Sharing

During the reporting period, NBA has received an amount of Rs. 555/- in the form of royalty /benefit sharing through ABS agreements. The amount stands credited into the National Biodiversity Fund and will be ploughed back to the BMCs/benefit claimers from whom the bioresources were accessed by the applicants.

A schematic presentation involving the process of ABS applications received from various applicants for approval of access to biological resources and/ or associated traditional knowledge is shown next page.

# Schematic Presentation of Processing of Applications under Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Rules 2004



\* For details please go through Biological Diversity Act, 2002 & Rules, 2004

Table 1 – Receipt of applications under different categories

Form	Category	Applications Received since 2004
Form I	Access to biological resources and/ or associated traditional knowledge for research / commercial utilization ( non-Indian, NRI, foreign entity or Indian entity having non-Indian participation in share capital or management)	152
Form II	Transferring results of research for monetary consideration or otherwise. (Any Indian / non-Indian or entity to any non-Indian, NRI, Foreign entity or Indian entity having non-Indian participation in share capital or management)	36
Form III	Seeking no objection to obtain intellectual property rights (Any Indian / non-Indian or entity)	600
Form IV	Third Party transfer of accessed biological resources and/ or associated knowledge. (Any person who obtained approval of NBA in Form I, II or III to Indians / non-Indians or entities)	76
	Not applied in prescribed Form	13
<b>Total</b>		<b>877</b>

Table-2 Status of the applications received by NBA during 2013-2014

Details	Received	Cleared *	Under process	Agreement Signed *
Form I	21	0	21	1
Form II	3	0	3	0
Form III	63	8	63	14
Form IV	6	1	6	2
Total	93	9	93	17

\* Includes applications received in the previous years.

# ***Activities and Achievements***

NBA has taken steps relating to various aspects of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity during the period. The details are shown in the Annexure - 6.

## **4.1 Signing of MoU for establishing the Centre for Biodiversity Policy and Law (CEBPOL).**

The National Biodiversity Authority, Government of India and the Directorate of Nature Management, Government of Norway signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish the first ever Centre for Biodiversity Policy and Law (CEBPOL) in India on 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2013 at NBA, Chennai. The objective of CEBPOL is to function as resource centre for providing professional support and expertise to the Governments of India and Norway on matters relating to biodiversity policy and law. The centre is focusing on policy and law that caters to the needs of national and international rule-making and subsequent implementation on issues of biodiversity.

## **4.2 International Day for Biodiversity**

The International Day for Biodiversity is celebrated worldwide to commemorate the adoption of the Convention on Biological Diversity on May 22, 1992 at the Rio Earth Summit. NBA celebrated the International Biodiversity Day - 2013 with the theme 'Water and Biodiversity'. Prof. M.S.Swaminathan, Founder Chairman and Chief Mentor, MSSRF was the Chief Guest. Dr.K.G.Sivaramakrishnan, UGC, Emeritus Fellow, Madras Christian College made a presentation on "An integrated approach for the conservation of Aquatic insect diversity in montane streams and rivers of the Western Ghats – a clarion call". Prof. Paul Appasamy, Former Vice Chancellor, Karunya University outlined on "Economics of Fresh Water and Biodiversity".

The theme 'Water and Biodiversity' was chosen to coincide with the designation of 2013 as the International Year of Water Cooperation by United Nations, A report on "Watering Biodiversity, Ecosystem Management" was released on the occasion.

### **4.3 Celebration of 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of National Biodiversity Authority on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> January 2014.**

The 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of National Biodiversity Authority was held on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> January 2014. The occasion was graced with the participation of various dignitaries.

Dr. Sam Pitroda, Chairman, National Innovation Council (NIC) addressed the delegates through Skype. He pointed out that the conservationists and environmental community are very proud of India being one of the 17 mega biodiversity countries. This biodiversity, he pointed out, contributes to the very survival of the country in terms of providing food, fodder, medicine, water, soil, and the air. Dr. Balakrishna Pisupati, Chairman, NBA released the special publication “ A Decade for Biodiversity” and a set of animation films on biodiversity targeting pre-school children.

The meeting also deliberated upon the

discussion at the highest level of the Government to establish a National Innovation Council on Biodiversity in the country and to showcase the same as an achievement during India’s presidency to the Conference of Parties in the forthcoming meeting of the CoP. An update of the preparation of the National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) was presented during the meeting and it was pointed out that the updating of the NBAP was prompted by the need for the countries to align their national targets with that of CBD targets as well as to factor in the new scenario such as the Aichi Biodiversity targets.

### **4.4 Establishment of Biodiversity Management Committees and Biodiversity Heritage Sites**

During the reporting period, 1956 Biodiversity Management Committees were formed to reach a total of 34,135 BMCs and 3 Biodiversity Heritage Sites were proposed for notification and 69 BHSs were identified.

## 4.5 Publications

The National Biodiversity Authority brought out several publications to enhance awareness on issues related to the Act, Rules, BMCs and PBRs, as detailed below.

### Guideline for Operationalization of Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs)



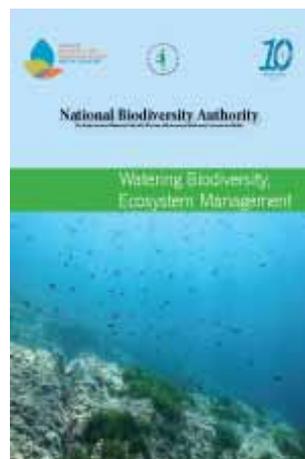
This booklet was issued by NBA to help facilitate informed activities at State and local levels in establishing the BMCs as per sec. 41 of the BD Act and Rule 22 of the B.D. Rules.

### The Year in Progress (2012-13).



This publication summarises, with figures, the various activities of the NBA and the progress made in implementing the BD Act during the year 2012-2013.

### Watering Biodiversity Ecosystem Management.



This report was prepared to commemorate the International Day for Biodiversity 2013 on the theme 'Water & Biodiversity'.

### Century in ABS Factsheets.



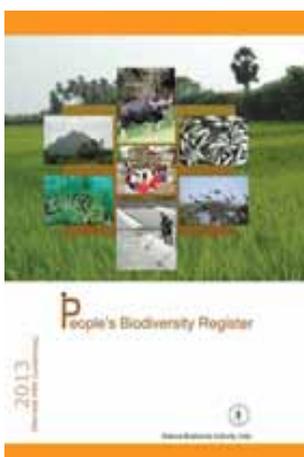
This is a set of eight pamphlets dealing with ABS issues.

Explaining and Defining Traditional Knowledge Terminology.



This booklet clarifies the concept of traditional knowledge elaborating the terms and terminologies, bringing focus on key issues related to traditional knowledge.

Peoples' Biodiversity Register 2013-Revised PBR Guideline.



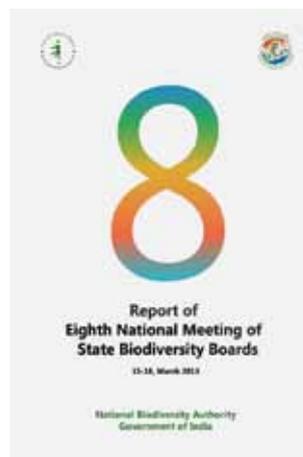
Revised guidelines on preparation of People's Biodiversity Register are set out in this publication.

A Decade for Biodiversity- 10 years of NBA.



This booklet was brought out during the 10th anniversary celebrations of NBA on 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> January 2014 detailing the decade of NBA's activities.

Report of 8th National Meeting of State Biodiversity Boards.



This is a report on the VIII National Meeting of the State Biodiversity Boards held on 15th & 16th March 2013.

# ***State Biodiversity Boards-Programmes and Activities***

The NBA has been carrying out its activities in constant dialogue with the SBBs in implementing the Biodiversity Act. Continuous engagement and constant relationship with SBBs as well as strengthening of institutional framework is an important step towards the effective implementation of the Act. Keeping this in view, NBA has been convening national meetings of State Biodiversity Boards periodically in order to discuss various aspects of implementation of the B.D. Act and the practical problems/shortcomings faced by the SBBs.

## **5.1 The 9th National Meeting of State Biodiversity Boards**



The Ninth National Meet of the State Biodiversity Boards (SBBs) was held on 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2014 at NBA Chennai. The NBA organized the Ninth National Meet of SBBs

to mark and commemorate an important milestone in its history i.e. 10 years of its establishment to implement the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Rules, 2004. The tenth anniversary celebration of NBA served to review the collective experiences of the implementation of the Biological Diversity Act at National, State and Local levels as well as the extraordinary strides made both by NBA and the SBBs to effectively implement the Act. The meeting had the participation of Nineteen SBBs out of Twenty Eight SBBs established at that time.

The major agenda of discussions include issues relating to strengthening of SBBs, constitution of BMCs and preparation of PBRs. The meeting in particular reviewed the progress made in the strengthening of the institutional framework in the effective implementation of the Act. Dr. Balakrishna Pisupati, Chairman, NBA released the Hindi translations of guidelines relating to BMCs, PBRs and BHS brought out by the Rajasthan Biodiversity Board and a special publication commemorating “ A Decade for Biodiversity “ was also launched during this event.

## 5.2 Key achievements of State Biodiversity Boards

### 5.2.1 Andhra Pradesh



The State Biodiversity Board conducted two board meetings. Three BHSs were proposed to Government for notification and another five BHSs were identified. 217 BMCs were constituted during the report period bringing the total number of BMCs to 439 by the end of the year. 10 PBRs were documented during the year under report reaching a total of 17 PBRs. A documentary film on Biodiversity both in Telugu & English was prepared and a Newsletter was also released on the occasion of International Day for Biodiversity 2013. The Board has organized 13 training programmes on awareness of Biological Diversity Act for the members of BMCs wherein the functioning of BMCs and preparation of PBRs and issues on ABS were explained.

### 5.2.2 Arunachal Pradesh

In the State of Arunachal Pradesh there are 20 BMCs and three PBRs under preparation.

It has approved one application under section 24(1). Training for BMC members was conducted on PBR preparation.

### 5.2.3 Assam

The State Biodiversity Board conducted four board meetings in the reporting period. Five zonal workshops were held to sensitize the stakeholders with active support of forest department. The Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Assam Biological Diversity Rules, 2010 were published in Bengali and Bodo languages. A booklet "Glimpses of Biodiversity in Assam" was released during International Day for Biological Diversity 2013. During the year, 74 BMCs were constituted at Block /Taluk level to make the total to 131. Under Section 24(1), 22 applications (Research proposals) were approved and the SBB also provided consent for six Form III applications Under Sec. 23(b).

### 5.2.4 Chhattisgarh

The State Biodiversity Board celebrated biodiversity week throughout the State at different levels. Forest officials and experts on the subject and local people took part in various workshops, cycle rally and nature camp organized during this report year.

### 5.2.5 Goa

The State Biodiversity Board conducted four board meetings and three special meetings.



11 BMCs were constituted during the report period. Three posters and one pamphlet with the theme 'Water and Biodiversity Conservation' and a book on 'Flora and Fauna of Raj Bhavan' were published. In addition to awareness programme and workshops on aspects of bio-resources, orientation programme was also conducted for 18 members of Village Panchayats. Six applications under Section 23(b) of the Act were approved.

#### 5.2.6 Gujarat

The State Biodiversity Board met once in the reporting period. SBB has identified 4 BHSs and formed 875 BMCs at Village Panchayat level to make a total of 2267 BMCs at village level and one at municipal corporation level. Documentation of 80 PBRs was completed totalling 81 PBRs so far.

The SBB published a book titled "Protected Areas and Natural Heritage of Gujarat" by Dr H.S.Singh, IFS, PCCF, and Chairman, Gujarat Biodiversity Board and printed calendars on the theme "Mother & Child Relationship". The Forest Department brought out calendars

on the theme " Forests and Environment". Under Section 23(b), seven applications were received & are under process and Under Section 24(1), 10 applications were approved and another 5 are under scrutiny. State Government has instituted Awards of Rs. 51,000, Rs. 21,000 and Rs. 11,000 for Biodiversity Conservation and Development. The Board has sanctioned a total of 12 survey and documentation projects on biodiversity to create a database for flora and fauna of Gujarat.

To enhance awareness at grass root level, 'Radio programmes' of 104 episodes with 20 minutes slot twice a week were organized. Now telecasting of 13 episodes on television has been planned on a sponsorship basis with Doordarshan.

#### 5.2.7 Haryana

The State Biodiversity Board celebrated the International Day for Biological Diversity on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2013 at Herbal Park, Yamuna Nagar. 200 students of Eco-clubs from various Districts visited the " Biodiversity Special " at Ambala.

#### 5.2.8 Himachal Pradesh

The State Biodiversity Board conducted 5 awareness meetings between September 2013 and March 2014 at Block level on various aspects of Biodiversity Act, Rules,

formation of BMCs, and issues related to ABS. Interaction meeting with BMCs were held in September, October and November 2013 in which members of BMCs and officials of Block Development participated. International Day for Biological Diversity 2013, was celebrated involving students and faculty members of Colleges and presentations were made on 'Biodiversity of Himachal Pradesh' and 'Flora of Shimla and around Shimla'. Live discussions through Doordarshan and All India Radio was organized on the theme 'Water and Biodiversity' and scientists from State Council of Science, Technology and Environment, participated. In each District Headquarters the International Day for Biological Diversity was celebrated with debates, lectures, quiz, painting, competitions etc., Eco-Clubs established by the State Council also celebrated International Day for Biological diversity. Awareness-cum-demonstration programme was conducted to convert Pine needles biomass into briquettes, to farmers at block levels, in March 2014.

Himachal Pradesh one of the States implementing UNEP-GEF-MoEF Project with focus on ABS issues, developed list of tradable bio-resources and documentation through PBRs. Interactive meetings was held in July 2013 followed by a training programme in August 2013 on functions of BMCs in conservation and sustainable use of

bio-resources and ABS.

The SBB conducted two workshops on the Economic Valuation of Bioresources and Biological Diversity Act & ABS. It also conducted orientation programmes and interaction meetings for members of BMCs on Preparation of PBRs.

During the report period, 89 BMCs were formed to reach a total of 106 BMCs. In respect of PBRs three are under process. The SBB has approved two applications under Section 23(b).

#### 5.2.9 Jammu and Kashmir

The State Biodiversity Board was constituted during the year under report .

#### 5.2.10 Jharkhand

The State Biodiversity Board met once in the reporting period. Formation of 36 villages/ panchayat level BMCs and preparation of 11 PBRs are under process.

#### 5.2.11 Karnataka

The Karnataka Biodiversity Board met once in the reporting period. 144 BMCs were formed during the reporting period (118 Panchayat, 26 Taluk) and the total number of BMCs reached 4502 (4393 village level, 96 taluk level and 13 zilla level). Documentation of 30 PBRs was completed taking the total to 297 PBRs. The Newsletter of SBB is

published in electronic form and a blog spot [karnatakabiodiversityboard.wordpress.com](http://karnatakabiodiversityboard.wordpress.com) was opened. The SBB organized 56 awareness programmes.

### 5. 2.12 Kerala

The State Biodiversity board held four board meetings. Guidelines for identification, notification and management of BHS, and for eco-restoration of urban and rural ponds were issued. Government notified the BMCs as authorities to prevent local environmental depletion. For effective realization of the objectives of Biological Diversity Act 2002 in Kerala, the institutional capacity of local self governments was enhanced by establishing BMCs in all 978 Panchayats, 60 Municipalities and 5 Corporations. With the support of NBA, 21 capacity building campaigns were conducted. PBR training sessions resulted in completion of documenting of 155 PBRs in the reporting period and as of March 2014, 596 PBRs have been documented and 229 PBRs are under process.

The SBB also made documentary films and published regular newsletter and brochures in local vernacular titled Sacred Groves, Forests of Kerala, Mangroves-Biodiversity treasures, Wetlands of Virtue, When Sea gets Polluted, Inheritors of Seeds, When Frogs perish, Dragon flies- wonders of Nature. It also published books on Marine Gastropods,

Mangroves and Mangroves associates of Kerala, Biodiversity Manual 2014 and 11 scientific publications.

The State Board organized celebrations on International Day for Biodiversity and World Environmental Day. Meeting were conducted for Members of BMCs, Farmers, NGOs and Environmentalists. Workshops on “Invasive and threatened fishes of Kerala,” “Invasive Alien and Threatened species (Flora & Fauna) of Kerala”, “Crowd Sourcing of *in situ* data for Remote Sensing and Modeling of Environment”, “Culture and Heritage for Environment Management”, etc., were conducted.

Awareness and orientation programmes on biodiversity were conducted for presidents of Panchayats, Student Volunteers, NGOs, and teacher coordinators. Biodiversity Management Committee of Thrikkakara Municipality’ was selected in the first round of assessment for the Second GoI-UNDP India Biodiversity Award. The SBB also instituted 12 awards for Best BMC for Environment Conservation, Conservation of Traditional Knowledge, Conservation of Indigenous varieties and Medicinal plants, Organic Farming, Conservation of Indigenous Cattle varieties, Non Government Organization, School, Media Person (Malayalam, English & Electronic Media) and Government Organizations.

### 5.2.13 Madhya Pradesh

During this period, 16 PBRs have been documented in addition to 584 PBRs in previous year. A Film on historical background of “Mowgli” for screening at Mowgli Bal Utsav 2013 with the objective of creating awareness among children, was developed. With an aim to create awareness on biodiversity conservation amongst school children, a series of workshops were organized in several Navodaya Schools.

### 5.2.14 Maharashtra

The State Biodiversity Board met twice in the report period. 263 BMCs have been formed in the report period to reach a total of 603 BMCs as of March 2014. A book on “The Threatened Birds of Maharashtra” was published in collaboration with Bombay Natural History Society.

International Biological Diversity Day was celebrated with focus on creating awareness. Workshops were organized for members of BMCs with a view to sensitize them on formation of Biodiversity Management Committees and the preparation of People’s Biodiversity Registers. Regional consultative meet of five States- Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim and West Bengal was held to share experiences of ABS provisions.

The State Government supported conservation works of bio-resources of 21 BMCs with release of Rs. 30.90 Lakhs and Vidyapeeth Institute of Environment, Education and Research, Pune supported short term study projects involving Rs. 14.40 lakhs concerned with biodiversity.

### 5.2.15 Manipur

The State Biodiversity Board met once in the reporting period, and formed four BMCs at Panchayat level to make a total of 49 BMCs. Three PBRs were documented during the period under report. It brought out one calendar and a poster. International Day for Biological Diversity was celebrated by organising competition (painting and drawing) for school students and winners were honoured with certificates and prizes.

### 5.2.16 Meghalaya

The State Biodiversity Board conducted two Board meetings during the reporting period. There are 84 village level BMCs in the State. The work of documenting 15 PBRs commenced. A book on “Butterflies of the Garo Hills” was released on Biodiversity day.

### 5.2.17 Mizoram

The State Biodiversity Board formed Technical Support Group for eight Districts. There are 221 BMCs in the State and three PBRs have been documented of which one is in draft stage. International Day for Biological

Diversity was celebrated in two locations (i.e), Mizoram University and Aizwal, where students of University, and selected higher secondary schools and NGOs participated.

#### 5.2.18 Odisha

The State Biodiversity Board constituted 20 BMCs at Panchayat level in the reporting period. One-day seminar was conducted on formation of BMCs and preparation of PBR. With the support from M.S.Swaminathan Research Foundation, Jeypore and Regional Plant Resource Centre, 20 PBRs have been prepared. International Day for Biological Diversity was celebrated by organising photo and art exhibition.

#### 5.2.19 Punjab

There are 33 Village level BMCs and 22 BMCs at District level. Action has been initiated to prepare PBRs. The SBB was consulted by NBA on two applications on IPR. The SBB organized 12 training-cum-meets at District level for BMCs and TSGs. District level training programme for students with expert lectures on documentation of local flora and fauna was conducted to benefit students, Members of BMC and TSG. SBB organized exhibition and workshops to raise awareness on different themes viz., 'Biodiversity Conservation outside Protected Areas', 'Biodiversity: Importance and its Conservation', 'Role of Conservation of

Biodiversity in Health Science', 'Conservation of Water and Biodiversity' and 'Biodiversity in Punjab'.

The State Biodiversity Board proposed eight floral and five faunal species as threatened species for approval by the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

#### 5.2.20 Rajasthan

The State Biodiversity Board convened three meetings during the period. Totally there are 26 BMCs in the State. Booklets on constitution and working of BMCs, guidelines to prepare PBRs and on identification, notification and management of BHS were published. Public awareness programmes were conducted in all Districts of the State. Divisional level workshops were organized in all seven divisions to sensitize the elected representatives of local bodies, officials and NGOs on importance of biodiversity for its conservation and effective implementation of the Biological Diversity Act and Rules.

#### 5.2.21 Sikkim

The State Biodiversity board met once during



the reporting period. International Day for Biological Diversity was celebrated in schools and local institutions, across the State. During the reporting period 7 BMCs were constituted in this State.

#### 5.2.22 Tamil Nadu

The State has formed 15 BMCs. To constitute Biodiversity Management Committees and for documentation of People's Biodiversity Register, the State has identified 26 civil society organizations/ non-government organizations and institutions. It has plans to form BMCs in six select Districts and identified eight sites as BHS. The State Biodiversity Board was consulted on four applications received in NBA Under Section 3 and 6 of BD Act.

#### 5.2.23 Tripura

The State Biodiversity board met once during the reporting period. There are 60 BMCs at village level, eight at block level to make 178 at the end of report period. During the period 50 PBRs were documented making a total of 60 PBRs completed in the State. The State has approved one application Under Section 24(1) of BD Act.

#### 5.2.24 Uttar Pradesh

The State Biodiversity Board convened three board meetings. During the reporting period two BMCs were constituted to make the total

of nine BMCs. In respect of PBRs, two were documented with a total of six PBRs in the State. The SBB was consulted by NBA on four applications U/S(6) of BD Act & U/S(18) of BD Rules. Training Programmes on 'Biodiversity: Law and Policy', 'Legal aspects of Conservation of Biological Diversity', 'Biodiversity and its Conservation' were conducted. The celebrations on 'Save the Frog Day', 'Science Express-Biodiversity Special Train at Bareilly', 'Biodiversity Festival', 'International Day for Biodiversity', 'World Environment Day', 'Van Mahotsava', 'International Day for Vulture awareness', 'Wildlife Week', 'World Wetlands Day', 'World Sparrow Day', etc were organised.

#### 5.2.25 Uttarakhand

A brochure on "Legal Obligations of



Institutions under Biological Diversity Act 2002 was published.

During the year, 124 BMCs were formed at village/ panchayat level, and 1 at block/ taluk/ mandal level, there are 734 BMCs in the State. Documentation of 13 PBRs

has commenced and seven are in draft. Awareness campaign was carried out on “Plantation & Adoption of Sacred Trees (in urban areas)”, for the Stakeholders.

### 5.2.26 West Bengal

The State Biodiversity Board convened four



board meetings in the reporting period, 35 Block level BMCs and five Municipal level BMCs were formed to reach a total of 93 BMCs. The SBB approved eight applications Under Section 23(b).

It also brought out four brochures in English, one leaflet in Bengali and six posters on Biodiversity of the State.

To enhance general awareness and publicize SBB's activities and achievements, E-Newsletters were published along with technical articles related to biodiversity. The State published 'Field Guide on Common Butterflies of Bengal' (in Bengali), 'People's Biodiversity Register-methodology manual (in Bengali), 'Biological Diversity: Origin, Evolution, and Conservation', 'Atlas of Insects of Buxa Tiger Reserve' and 'Wetland Faunal

Diversity of West Bengal. The SBB instituted awards and during the International Day for Biodiversity three BMCs were honoured with the awards.

The SBB conducted a series of programme / awareness meet / Radio programme / Live TV programme / rally on environmental awareness / exhibition, etc.

West Bengal is one of the five States implementing UNEP-GEF-MoEF project which focusses on ABS mechanism. SBB organized a State level workshop on “Understanding the ABS provisions highlighting the Biological Diversity Act and Rules” and awareness programmes. Discussions and workshops were held on related topics of ABS viz., “Intellectual Property Rights & Traditional Knowledge”, “Gap Analysis on Policy Issues and Awareness for Implementation of ABS provisions within the Biological Diversity Act”, “Understanding the valuation methodology for different ecosystems and its use in decision making”, “Economic Valuation of Bio-resources for Access & Benefit Sharing”. 24 youths were trained for PBR preparation. One State level meet involving bio-resource based industries of West Bengal was held and 50 members participated.





# Review of Legal and Regulatory framework

## 6.1 Notification of Threatened Species

Section 38 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 empowers the Central Government, in consultation with the concerned State Government, to notify species of plants and animals which are on the verge of extinction or likely to become extinct in the near future as a threatened species and prohibit or regulate collection thereof for any purpose and take appropriate steps to rehabilitate and preserve those species.

The MoEF & CC had notified species of plants and animals which are on the verge of extinction or likely to become extinct in the near future as threatened species in the State of Punjab vide S.O 402 (E) dated 4th February, 2014, thus taking the number of notifications to 16 States, viz. Bihar, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Punjab

and the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

## 6.2 Designation of Repositories

Section 39 of Biological Diversity Act provides for designation of institutions/organizations as national repositories to keep in safe custody, the voucher specimen and new taxon, if any, identified by the applicants during their research. During the reporting period, the MoEF & CC has designated Microbial Culture Collection (MCC), National Centre for Cell Science (NCCS), Pune in July 2013 as the repository for depositing micro organisms. As of now, there are 15 such institutions designated as repositories under different categories of biological resources.

## 6.3 Legal Cell

During the year 17 ABS Agreements have been signed between the users and NBA.

Total Applications entered into agreement					
Year Wise	Form I (Access to resources / traditional knowledge)	Form II (Transfer of research result for commercial purpose)	Form III (Prior approval for applying IPR)	Form IV (Third party transfer of resources / Knowledge)	Total
2013 - 2014	1	0	14	2	17

## 6.4 Litigations pursued by NBA

NBA pursues judicial proceedings by or against the NBA/MoEF & CC before various courts and tribunals and take active steps against violation of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and directions issued under the Act.

### List of Pending cases in NBA before various courts/tribunals

Sl.No	Court Details	Number of Cases
1	National Green Tribunal, Central Zone, Bhopal	15 (Appeals 5, Application 10)
2	High Court of Karnataka, Dharwad	2
3	Principal District and Sessions Judge, Dharwad	1

## 6.5 Revision of SBB Rules

NBA advises the States' in drafting and reviewing the States' Biodiversity Rules for its conformity with Biological Diversity Acts and Rules. NBA analysed States' Biodiversity Rules, issued for 18 States' viz. Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Uttar Pradesh, Tripura, West Bengal and Jharkhand and provided its observation to SBBs for further action.

# ***Externally-aided Projects***

## **7.1 UNEP-GEF-MoEF-ABS Project**

The Global Environment Facility project with support from United Nations Environment Programme and the Ministry of Environment and Forests & Climate Change, concentrates on Access and Benefit Sharing aspects of Biological Diversity Act and Rules. The project is implemented in 5 States- Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh and Sikkim with funds of GEF and GoI. NBA executes the project in co-ordination with the State Biodiversity Boards.

The project involves identification of potential areas rich in biodiversity for their valuation in selected ecosystems-forest, agriculture, wetlands, and development of system, methods, guidelines, frameworks for implementing ABS provisions of the Biological Diversity Act. Piloting agreements on ABS, and implementation of policy regulatory framework at national level will contribute to international policy issues.

Identification and Valuation of bio-resources of forest, agriculture and wetlands necessarily involves scientists, professionals from

respective fields. Training of local people and technical support staff through workshops, discussions, inter-active meets, awareness programme etc in the States benefitted the participants in identifying and valuation of bio-resources. Potential bio-resources of ecosystem of forest, agriculture and wet lands were developed to initiate the process and later a template for seeking list of potential bio-resources for ABS and TK was circulated and it was responded well by three States. The project facilitates formation of BMCs, preparation of PBRs and opening of Local Biodiversity Fund in potential areas. Meeting of consumers of bio-resources with BMCs was also organized to initiate the process on Mutually Agreed Terms.

## **7.2 Strengthening the implementation of Biological Diversity Act and Rules with focus on its Access and Benefit Sharing provisions.**

Global Environment Facility Trust Fund supports the national requirements to meet the obligation as parties to the CBD which involves preparation of revised National Biodiversity Action Plan, preparation of 5th National Report and developing Clearing

House Mechanism.

### 7.2.1 Revision of NBAP

The basic principles set out in “The National Environment Policy, 2006” aims at arriving at a consensus, so that development process to meet the demands does not affect conservation aspects of bio-resources and concerns of humanity, which will form the framework of National Plan. The Convention on Biological Diversity in the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of Parties Nagoya, Japan agreed that previous biodiversity protection target could not be achieved and decided to come up with revised plans and targets. It is a ten year frame-work titled “Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020”.The plan addresses the causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across the government and society, reducing the

pressures on biodiversity and promoting sustainable use, improving the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystem, species and genetic diversity to enhance the benefit to all from biodiversity and ecosystem.

National Biodiversity Authority is involved in revising the target in consultation with Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun. Preparation of plan involves extensive stakeholder consultation, review of Result Framework Document of 55 ministries of the Government, funding support by ministries on biodiversity related activities, etc.

India’s 12 National Biodiversity Target, in harmony with the CBD’s Strategic Plan 2011-2020 and Aichi Biodiveristy Targets, are conceptualized as follows.

12 National Biodiversity Targets	
Target 1	By 2020, a significant proportion of the country's population, especially the youth, is aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.
Target 2	By 2020, values of biodiversity are integrated in National and State planning process, development programmes and poverty alleviation strategies.
Target 3	Strategies for reducing rate of degradation, fragmentation and loss of all natural habitats are finalized and actions put in place by 2020 for environmental amelioration and human well-being.
Target 4	By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and strategies to manage them developed so that populations of prioritized invasive alien species are managed.
Target 5	By 2020, measures are adopted for sustainable management of agriculture, forestry and fisheries.
Target 6	Ecologically representative areas on land and in inland waters as well as coastal and marine zones, especially those of particular importance for species, biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved effectively and equitably, on the basis of protected area designation and management and other area based conservation measures and are integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes, covering over 20% of the geographic area of the country, by 2020.
Target 7	By 2020, genetic diversity of cultivated plants, farm livestock, and their wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.
Target 8	By 2020, ecosystem services, especially those relating to water, human health, livelihoods and well-being, are enumerated and measures to safeguard them are identified, taking into account the needs of women and local communities, particularly the poor and vulnerable sections.

Target 9	By 2015, Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair & Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization as per the Nagoya Protocol are operational, consistent with national legislation.
Target 10	By 2020, an effective, participatory and updated National Biodiversity Action Plan is made operational at different levels of governance.
Target 11	By 2020, National initiatives using communities' traditional knowledge relating to biodiversity are strengthened, with a view to protecting this knowledge in accordance with national legislations and international obligations.
Target 12	By 2020, opportunities to increase the availability of financial, human and technical resources to facilitate effective implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the National Targets are identified and the Strategy for Resource Mobilization is adopted.

### 7.2.2 Preparation of 5th National Report

Fifth National Report to the Convention on Biodiversity focuses on the status and trends in Biological Diversity, threats to biodiversity and implications to human well being. It outlines the process of updating National Biodiversity Action Plan and its implementation and reports on the progress achieved towards meeting the Aichi biodiversity target and on relationships with fulfillment of India's commitment to Millennium Development Goals. Observations made by institutions, individuals and State Biodiversity Boards were incorporated. The goals proposed include the strategy for management of medicinal plants, updates in respect of endemism in different plant groups, germplasm holdings, species discoveries etc.

### 7.2.3 Developing National Clearing House Mechanism (NCHM)

The National Clearing House Mechanism is country's obligation to Article 18(3) of the Convention on Biological Diversity. It provides effective information services to facilitate implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan. The information to be made available are details relating to flora, fauna, microbes, hotspots, forest cover, protected areas & endangered species of flora and fauna. The portal will provide linkages with various ministries, departments and

institutions that are related to biodiversity. The information to be provided includes biodiversity related conventions, biodiversity strategies and action plans, national indicators, threats to biodiversity and genetic resources data.

### 7.3 Establishment of Centre for Biodiversity Policy and Law

India is having a number of organizations and institutions, both within and outside the government set up, dealing various aspects of biodiversity such as research, education, awareness etc. However, there is no organization in the country that specializes in policy and legal issues relating to biodiversity. Therefore, there was a need for setting up of a specialized Centre for Biodiversity Policy and Law (CEBPOL), that could inter alia provide advice and support to the government on all biodiversity policy related issues, including the complex negotiations on ABS and traditional knowledge and governance issues at the international level which are currently going on and subsequently contribute to effective implementation of the international agreements relating to them. In addition, the centre can also catalyse expertise and support for regional and appropriate global biodiversity policy and legal issues on both current and emerging issues. In this background, a decision has been taken in the Government of India to set up a Centre

of Excellence in the country, housed within the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) that oversees national action on biodiversity related issues as a statutory body set up under the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate change.

After a series of informal discussions on bridging the gap between strategic thinking and research to deal with emerging and current biodiversity governance issues and policy as well as law making, Governments of Norway and India decided to collaborate in the establishment of CEBPOL based in Chennai, India.

The Ministry of Environment, Forests (MoEF) has established a Centre for Biodiversity Policy and Law (CEBPOL) at National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai as a joint initiative under Indo-Norwegian Cooperation to focus on Biodiversity Policy and Law that address the needs of national and international rule making and subsequent implementation on issues of biodiversity.

#### CEBPOL has the following goals

- \* To provide professional support, advice and expertise to the Government of India and Norway on a sustained basis on matters relating to biodiversity policies and law at national level as well as in international negotiations relating to biodiversity in multilateral forums.

- \* To develop professional expertise in biodiversity related policies and laws, inter alia through encouragement of research, development and training in matters relating to Convention of Biological Diversity as well as its interface with other multilateral environmental agreements and United Nations bodies.
- \* To develop and implement an array of capacity building programmes through multidisciplinary research and customize training programme for a wide range of stakeholders focusing on human resource development.
- \* To facilitate interactive information sharing through web conferencing, web seminars and virtual meetings involving relevant centre and environmental law association within India, Norway and other countries where such expertise is available.
- \* To help develop India as a regional and international resource centre for Biodiversity Policy and Law through provision of training and human resource development.

The 10 thematic areas identified are - ABS, Updating NBSAPs, Operationalising the TEEB in National context, CoP-11 and beyond, Mainstreaming of biodiversity, Amendments to Biological Diversity Act, and its Rules, Invasive Alien Species, Interface with other

multilateral agreements, Bio-safety and Natural Index.

The work under CEBPOL shall be done on same identified themes such as ABS, mainstreaming of biodiversity, Invasive Alien Species, Interface with other multilateral environmental agreements, Nature Index etc. Capacity building & awareness raising is a component that is common for all the identified themes under CEBPOL.



# Financial Performance

NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY  
TARAMANI, CHENNAI -600113

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2014

(Amount in Rs)

Receipts	Current Year: 2013-14		Previous Year: 2012-13		Payments	Current Year: 2013-14		Previous Year: 2012-13	
	Plan	Non-Plan	Plan	Non-Plan		Plan	Non-Plan	Plan	Non-Plan
<b>I. Opening-Balances:</b>					<b>I. Expenditures:</b>				
a) Cash in hand	25,000	0	15,000	0	a) Establishment-Expenses	2,48,68,259	0	1,78,92,847	0
b) <b>Bank Balances:</b>					b) Administrative-Expenses	5,58,13,832	0	7,35,82,045	0
(i) In Current A/c	-5,000	0	19,198	0	<b>II. Payment made towards Funding for Various Projects</b>	40,50,668	0	2,14,99,196	0
(ii) In Deposit A/c	97,44,140	0	85,00,000	0					
(iii) In Savings A/c	3,46,26,396	0	2,18,83,883	0	<b>III. Investments &amp; Deposits Made:</b>				
c) GEF Bank A/c	4,21,80,964	0	1,32,47,673	0	a) Out of Earmarked / Endowment funds	0	0	0	0
d) UNDP Cash	0	0	1,353	0	b) Out of own	0	0	0	0
UNDP Bank	0	0	26,290	0	<b>IV. Expenditure on Fixed Assets &amp; Capital Work -in- Progress</b>				
<b>II. Grants-Received:</b>					a) Purchase of Assets	14,88,952	0	16,75,390	0
a) From Government of India (MoEF)	35,90,88,057	0	14,91,44,766	0	b) Expenditure on Capital Work-in Progress	98,63,967	0	0	0
b) From State Government	0	0	0	0	<b>V. Refund of Surplus money / Loans</b>				
c) From other Sources	0	0	39,57,236	0	a) To the Govt. of India for CoP-11	52,87,608	0	0	0
<b>III. Income on-Investments from</b>					b) To the State Government	0	0	0	0
a) Earmarked / Endowment Funds	9,56,108	0	7,50,386	0	c) To other providers of	0	0	0	0
b) Own Funds (Other Investments)	0	0	0	0	<b>VI. Finance - charges (Interest)</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>IV. Interest received</b>					<b>VII. Other Payments</b>				
a) On Bank S.B.A/c	55,61,600	0	11,36,028	0	Security/Telephone Deposits Paid	5,000	0	63,000	0
b) Loans, Advances, etc.	0	0	0	0					
<b>V. Other incomes:</b>									
a) Application Fees	6,21,978	0	3,63,945	0					
b) Royalty Fees	2,988	0	1,11,230	0					
c) Miscellaneous-Income	0	0	7,355	0					
d) Sale of Newspapers	4,084	0	3,225	0					
e) Sale of Assets	--	0	--	0					
f) RTI filing fees	130	0	888	0					
<b>VI. Amount - Borrowed</b>	0	0	0	0					

Receipts	Current Year: 2013-14		Previous Year: 2012-13		Payments	Current Year: 2013-14		Previous Year: 2012-13	
	Plan	Non-Plan	Plan	Non-Plan		Plan	Non-Plan	Plan	Non-Plan
<b>VII. Other Receipts:</b>					SBBs.Share of Royalty	112	0	0	0
Earnest Money / Security Deposit / Ret.Money recd.from Tele.Deposit (Refund)	3,81,419	0	10,62,000	0	GIA for Strengthening of SBBs.	3,45,57,092	0	2,74,30,671	0
NBA CPF Bank A/c (Contributions recd.)	20,532	0	0	0	GIA for PBRs.Preparation	11,61,06,375	0	0	0
NBA Staff CPS Bank A/c (Contributions recd.)	1,76,000	0	1,84,000	0	CPF Bank A/c (Contributions Transfd.)	1,76,000	0	1,84,000	0
African Tk.Workshops	1,12,476	0	6,21,434	0	NBA Staff CPS Bank A/c (Contributions Transfd.)	1,12,476	0	6,21,434	0
Asian Workshops	0	0	24,76,110	0	CEBPOL Project A/c	1,82,214	0	0	0
GEF on NBSAP Project	0	0	30,64,318	0	African Tk.Workshops	0	0	32,06,694	0
SAARC Meetings	0	0	13,72,727	0	Asian Workshops	0	0	30,64,318	0
CBD-HLP Meetings	0	0	10,28,281	0	GEF on NBSAP Project	27,62,664	0	13,72,727	0
GEF.Project A/c	8,04,920	0	0	0	SAARC Meetings			10,28,281	0
UNDP.Project A/c	1,40,35,883	0	4,39,66,144	0	CBD-HLP Meetings	14,32,422	0	0	0
	0	0	37,36,677	0	CoP-11 Related Expenses	32,80,373	0	0	0
					GEF.Project A/c	3,37,38,244	0	1,50,32,853	0
					UNDP.Project A/c	1,41,095	0	34,55,191	0
					<b>VIII. Closing - Balances</b>				
					a) Cash in hand	30,000	0	25,000	0
					b) Bank Balances:				
					(i) Current A/c	0	0	-5,000	0
					(ii) In deposit A/c	0	0	97,44,140	0
					(iii) Savings A/c	15,19,61,719	0	3,46,26,396	0
					c) GEF Cash & Bank A/c	2,24,78,603	0	4,21,80,964	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>46,83,37,675</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25,66,80,147</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>46,83,37,675</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25,66,80,147</b>	<b>0</b>

Sd/-

ACCOUNTS OFFICER

Sd/-

SECRETARY

Sd/-

CHAIRMAN



**NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY  
TARAMANI, CHENNAI -600113**

**Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st March, 2014**

(Amount in Rs.)

<b>CORPUS / CAPITAL FUND AND LIABILITIES</b>	<b>Sch. No.</b>	<b>Current Year: 2013-14</b>		<b>Previous Year: 2012-13</b>	
		<b>Plan</b>	<b>Non-Plan</b>	<b>Plan</b>	<b>Non-Plan</b>
CAPITAL FUND	1	1,50,41,179	0	77,84,551	0
RESERVES AND SURPLUS	2	0	0	0	0
EARMARKED / ENDOWMENT FUNDS	3	1,19,89,115	0	1,09,58,723	0
SECURED LOANS AND BORROWINGS	4	0	0	0	0
UNSECURED LOANS AND BORROWINGS	5	0	0	0	0
DEFERRED CREDIT LIABILITIES	6	0	0	0	0
CURRENT LIABILITIES AND PROVISIONS	7	15,43,35,166	0	3,77,37,857	0
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>18,13,65,460</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,64,81,131</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>					
FIXED ASSETS	8	2,21,14,248	0	81,72,280	0
INVESTMENTS--FROM EARMARKED/ ENDOW MENT FUNDS	9	0	0	0	0
INVESTMENTS – OTHERS	10	0	0	97,44,140	0
CURRENT ASSETS,LOANS,ADVANCES ETC.	11	15,92,51,212	0	3,85,64,711	0
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE (To the extent not written off or adjusted)		0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>18,13,65,460</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,64,81,131</b>	<b>0</b>
SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES	24				
CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND NOTES ON ACCOUNTS	25				

Sd/-

**ACCOUNTS OFFICER**

Sd/-

**SECRETARY**

Sd/-

**CHAIRMAN**

# Annual Plan 2014- 2015

The basic principles set out in The National Environment Policy, 2006 aims at arriving to a consensus, so that development process to meet the demand does not affect conservation aspects of bio-resources and concerns of humanity, which will form the framework for National Plan. The Countries under Convention on Biological Diversity decided in the 10th meeting to revise the target and to adopt “Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020” a ten year frame work. India’s National Biodiversity Target in harmony with the CBD’s Strategic Plan 2011-2020 and Aichi Target was conceptualized to focus on 12 areas of which 7 areas will be part of NBA’s target as detailed below:

- \* In achieving the Aichi Target by 2020, National Biodiversity Authority and State Biodiversity Boards will be involved in the following activities.
- \* Promoting awareness at local level and its effectiveness towards operationalising Biodiversity Management Committees and increasing number of People’s Biodiversity Registers.
- \* Valuation of biodiversity and its reflection in planning process.
- \* Ecologically representative areas of importance are conserved effectively with positive change in number of area and BHSs.
- \* Access to Genetic Resources and a Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits as per Nagoya Protocol are operational with legislation.
- \* Preparation of effective National Biodiversity Action Plan for implementation at different level of governance.
- \* Strengthen communities’ traditional knowledge, traditional practices and protect by appropriate training of community and BMC members.
- \* Possibilities of increasing the availability of financial, human and technical resources and mobilizing resources for effective implementation of strategic plan to achieve the National Biodiversity Target.

# **Annexure - 1**

## **1. Citizen's Charter**

### **1.1 Vision**

Conservation and sustainable use of India's rich biodiversity and associated knowledge with people's participation, ensuring the process of benefit sharing for the well-being of present and future generations.

### **1.2 Mission**

Ensure effective implementation of Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and the Biological Diversity Rules, 2004, for conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of utilization of genetic resources.

### **1.3 Mandate**

Reaffirm the sovereign rights over the bio-resources of India and contribute towards prevention of misappropriation of bio-resources and/ or associated knowledge.

Provide policy and support relating to conservation, sustainable use of its components and equitable sharing of

benefits arising out of utilization of biological resources.

Regulate activities by formulation of guidelines, extension materials for access to biological resources and for reaching the stakeholders and ensuring fair and equitable benefit sharing in accordance with the provisions of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

Take measures to oppose the grant of intellectual property rights to persons in other countries on any biological resources of India or knowledge associated with such biological resources.

Advise the State Governments concerning their area specific biodiversity, and in notifying heritage sites and also suggest measures for their management and sustainable use.

Provide guidance, technical and financial support to Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) for preparing People's Biodiversity Registers (PBRs) in the areas falling under their respective jurisdiction.

Perform such other functions as may be necessary to implement the provisions of Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

## 1.4 Stakeholders

Biodiversity is a multidisciplinary subject involving diverse activities, initiatives and stakeholders. The stakeholders in biological diversity include the Central Government, State Government, Union Territories, Institutions of Panchayat Raj and Civil Society Organizations, Industries, NGOs, Research and Development Institutions, Universities and public at large.

## 1.5 Services Offered

### **Promotion of Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.**

Coordination of the activities of the State Biodiversity Boards and Biodiversity Management Committees, Sponsor studies and adaptive /operational investigation and necessary research by providing technical guidance, and commissioning of studies as found necessary.

Advise Government of India on matters relating to conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components and equitable sharing of benefits of biological resources.

Grant approval for access to biological

resources occurring in India or associated knowledge, for transferring the results of research, seeking intellectual property right, third party transfer of accessed bio-resource.

Facilitate access to bio-resource by all stakeholders and ensure equitable benefit sharing between users and conservers of biodiversity in a transparent manner.

## 1.6 Grievances Redressal Mechanism

Administrative Officer, National Biodiversity Authority, is the designated officer for redressal of public grievances. Any grievances can be addressed to:

### **The Administrative Officer,**

National Biodiversity Authority,  
TICEL Bio Park,

5th Floor, CSIR Road, Taramani,  
Chennai- 600 113.

Phone: 044-2254 2777, 1075 | Extension: 27

Fax: 044-2254 1200

Email: [admn@nba.nic.in](mailto:admn@nba.nic.in)

## 1.7 Expectations from the Citizens/ Clients

To abide by the provisions of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Rules made thereunder and imbibe and promote the spirit of conservation of biological resources and respect for the laws of nature and extend cooperation for carrying out the above activities by NBA and SBBs in the overall interest of human kind.

## Annexure - 2

### Members of the Authority

The members of the authority as per Section 8(4a) of the Biological Diversity Act 2002 are as follows:

CHAIRPERSON	PERIOD
Shri. Hem Pande, IAS, Addl. Secy MoEFCC Full Addl. Charge as Chairman, NBA	From 6th Feb 2014 onwards.
Dr. Balakrishna Pisupati	From 12th August 2011 to 5th Feb 2014
Shri. M. F. Farooqui, IAS	11th Nov 2010 to 11th Aug 2011
Dr. P. L. Gautam	31st Dec 2008 to 3rd Nov 2010
Shri. P. R. Mohanty, IFS	01st Oct 2008 to 31st Dec 2008
Shri. G. K. Prasad, IFS	20th May 2008 to 30th Sep 2008
Dr. S. Kannaiyan	20th May 2005 to 19th May 2008
Shri. Viswanath Anand, IAS	01st Oct 2003 to 14th July 2004

The present Ex-Officio Members of the authority as per Section 8(4 b, c) are as under:

SI.No	EX-OFFICIO MEMBER	REPRESENTED BY
1	Joint Secretary or an officer of an equivalent rank to the Government of India in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.	<b>Smt. Nivedita IFS,</b> Director, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Shastri Bhavan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi - 110 001.
2	Additional Director General (Forests) Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India.	<b>Shri A K Srivastava, IFS</b> Addl. Director General of Forests, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India Indira Paryavaran Bhawan Vayu Block, Second Floor, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi - 110 003

3	Joint Secretary to the Government of India dealing with the subject in the Ministry of Environment and Forests.	<b>Shri. Bishwanath Sinha, IAS,</b> Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Vayu Block, 2nd Floor, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi - 110003.
4	Joint Secretary or an officer of an equivalent rank to the Government of India dealing with the subject in the Agriculture Research and Education, Ministry of Agriculture.	<b>Shri. Atanu Purkayastha, IAS</b> Joint Secretary (Seeds), Dept. of Agriculture and Cooperation, Room no. 244, Krishi Bhawan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi - 110 001.
5	Joint Secretary or an officer of an equivalent rank to the Government of India dealing with the subject in the Department of Biotechnology.	<b>Dr. Renu Swarup,</b> Advisor, Department of Biotechnology CGO Complex, Block No. 2, Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110 003.
6	Joint Secretary or an officer of an equivalent rank to the Government of India dealing with the subject in the Department of Ocean Development.	<b>Dr.P. Madeswaran,</b> Director, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Block -12, CGO Complex, Lodhi Raod, New Delhi - 110 003.
7	Joint Secretary or an officer of an equivalent rank to the Government of India dealing with the subject in the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation.	<b>Dr. Swapan Kumar Datta,</b> Deputy Director General (Crop Science) Division of Crop Science, ICAR Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi - 110 001.
8	Joint Secretary or an officer of an equivalent rank to the Government of India dealing with subject in the Department of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homeopathy.	<b>Shri. Jitendra Sharma, IFS</b> Chief Executive Officer, National Medicinal Plant Board, Department of AYUSH, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, 3rd Floor, AYUSH Bhawan, B Block, G.P.O. Complex, I.N.A., New Delhi - 110 023.

9	Joint Secretary or an officer of an equivalent rank to the Government of India dealing with the subject in the Department of Science and Technology.	<b>Dr. B. Harigopal,</b> Advisor, Department of Science & Technology, Technology Bhavan, New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi – 110 016.
10	Joint Secretary or an officer of an equivalent rank to the Government of India dealing with the subject in the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.	<b>Department of Scientific and Industrial Research,</b> Ministry of Science & Technology, Technology Bhawan, New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi – 110 016. (No incumbent)

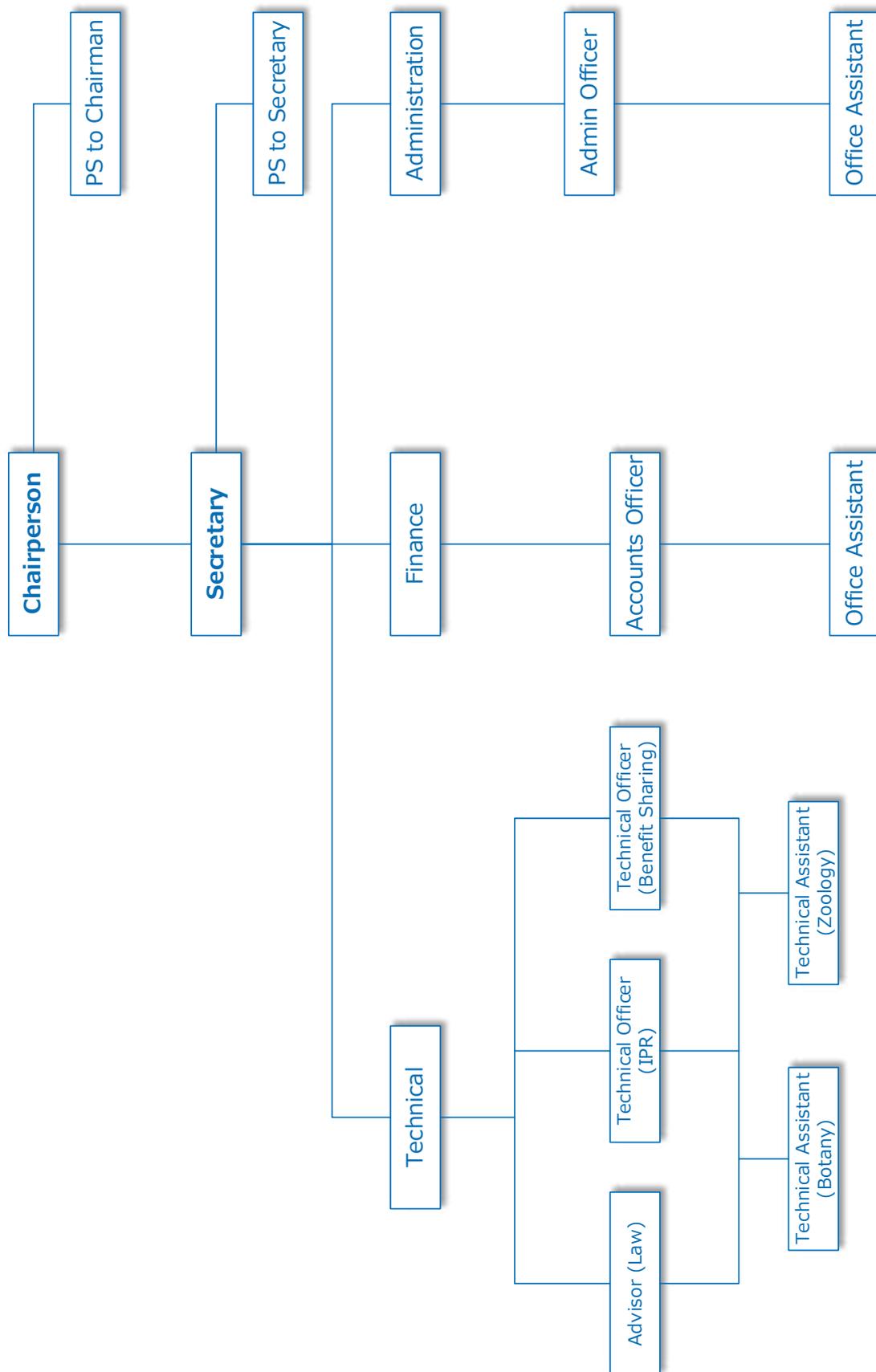
NON-OFFICIAL MEMBERS (From 17 <sup>th</sup> October, 2013 to 16 <sup>th</sup> October, 2016)	
Sl. No	Details
1	<b>Dr. S. Subramaniyan</b> 54, VGP, Golden Sea View, Part-II, 2nd Main Road, 5th Cross Street, Palavakkam, Chennai - 600 041.
2	<b>Dr.R.S.Rana, Chairman,</b> Bio-Link, D-43, Indraprastha Apartments, Sector 14, Rohini, New Delhi - 110 025.
3	<b>Prof. M. K. Ramesh, Professor of Law,</b> National Law School of India, Nagarbhavi, Bangalore - 560 072.
4	<b>Dr. Biswajit Dhar, Professor of Economics,</b> Jawaharlal Nehru University, I Block, 1796A Chittaranjan Park, New Delhi - 110019.

Secretary to the Authority under Section 9 of Biological Diversity Rules-2004

**Shri C. Achalender Reddy, IFS from 12<sup>th</sup> March 2009 to 11<sup>th</sup> March 2014**

# Annexure - 3

## Organizational Structure



## **Annexure - 4**

### **Staff Strength of NBA**

Post	Sanctioned	Filled	Vaccancy
Chairperson	1	1	-
Secretary	1	1	-
PS to Chairperson	1	1	-
PS to Secretary	1	1	-
Admin. Officer	1	1	-
Accounts Officer	1	1	-
Technical Officer	2	1	1
Advisor (Law)	1	1	-
Office / Comp. Asst	2	2	-
Technical Assistant	2	2	-
Steno "C"	1	1	-
Steno "D"	1	-	1
MTS	1	1	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>2</b>

# Annexure - 5

## Audit Report

### कार्यालय प्रधान निदेशक लेखापरीक्षा वैज्ञानिक विभाग, नई दिल्ली-02

सं.प्र.नि.वै.वि./प.ले./एस.ए.आर./NBA- Chennai /2014-15/860-64

दिनांक: 11-11-2014

सेवा में,

The Secretary,  
National Biodiversity Authority,  
TICEL BIO PARK,  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Taramani Road,  
Taramani, Chennai-600113

विषय: वर्ष 2013-14 के लिए National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai का पृथक लेखापरीक्षा प्रतिवेदन

महोदय,

मुझे वर्ष 2013-14 के लिए National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai का पृथक लेखापरीक्षा प्रतिवेदन अग्रेषित करने का निर्देश हुआ है।

संसद के दोनों सदनों में प्रस्तुत करने से पहले वर्ष 2013-14 के वार्षिक लेखों को संस्थान के शासी निकाय द्वारा अनुमोदित किया/अपनाया जाए तथा इस संबंध में शासी निकाय द्वारा जारी किया गया रेजोल्यूशन ऑडिट को भेजा जाए। प्रत्येक दस्तावेज जो संसद में प्रस्तुत किया जाए उसकी तीन प्रतियाँ इस कार्यालय तथा दो प्रतियाँ भारत के नियंत्रक महालेखापरीक्षक को अग्रेषित की जाए। संसद के दोनों सदनों में प्रस्तुत करने की तिथियाँ भी इस कार्यालय को सूचित की जाए।

संलग्नक:- पृथक लेखापरीक्षा प्रतिवेदन

भवदीय,

के माथु 11/11/14  
निदेशक (पर्या.ले.)

**Separate Audit Report Report of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India  
on the Accounts of National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai for the year ended  
31 March 2014.**

We have audited the attached Balance Sheet of National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai as at 31 March 2014, Income & Expenditure Account and Receipts & Payments Account for the year ended on that date under Section 19(2) of the Comptroller & Auditor General's (Duties, Powers & Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 read with Section 29(2) of Biological Diversity Act. These financial statements are the responsibility of the National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

2. This Separate Audit Report contains the comments of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India (CAG) on the accounting treatment only with regard to classification, conformity with the best accounting practices, accounting standards and disclosure norms, etc., Audit observations on financial transactions with regard to compliance with the Law, Rules & Regulations (Propriety and Regularity) and efficiency-cum-performance aspects, etc., if any, are reported through Inspection Reports/CAG's Audit Reports separately.

3. We have conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in India. These standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatements. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidences supporting the amounts and disclosure in the financial statements. An Audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of financial statements. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

4. Based on our audit, we report that

- i) We have obtained all the information and explanations, which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit.
- ii) The Balance Sheet, Income & Expenditure Account and Receipts & Payments Account dealt with by this report have been drawn up in the format approved by the Ministry of Finance, Government of India.
- iii) In our opinion, proper books of accounts and other relevant records have been maintained by the National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai as required under Section 29 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 in so far as it appears from our examination of such books.
- iv) we further report that

**A. Income and Expenditure Account.**

**A.1. Depreciation Rs.22.94 lakh.**

Fixed Assets computer peripherals worth Rs 519540 were purchased in March 2014, which attracted only 30 percent depreciation of Rs 155862, but full depreciation of 60 percent was provided under the schedule, thereby overstating the depreciation by Rs 155862 and understating the net value of Fixed Assets to that extent.

**B. General**

**Grants-in-aid.** Out of grants and other receipt of Rs.4683.38 lakh during the year 2013-14, the Authority could utilized a sum of Rs.2938.68 lakh leaving an amount of Rs.1744.70 lakh as unutilized grants.

**C. Management Letter.**

Deficiencies which have not been included in the Audit Report have been brought to the notice of the National Biodiversity Authority through a Management Letter issued separately for remedial/corrective action.

- (v). Subject to our observation in the preceding paragraphs, we report that the Balance Sheet, Income & Expenditure Account and Receipts & Payments Account dealt with by this report are in agreement with the books of accounts.
- (vi) In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the said financial statement read together with the Accounting Policies and Notes on Accounts and Subject to the significant matters stated above and other matters mentioned in Annexure I to this Separate Audit Report, give a true and fair view in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in India.
- a. In so far as it relates to the Balance Sheet, of the state of affairs of the National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014.
  - b. In so far as it relates Income & Expenditure Account of the surplus for the year ended on that date.

**For and on behalf of C&AG of India**

  
**Principal Director of Audit(SD)**

**Place :New Delhi**

**Date : ~~11-11-2014~~ 11-11-2014**

## Annexure

### 1. Adequacy of Internal Audit System.

Internal audit of NBA was conducted for the period upto 2008-09. The Inspection Report pertaining to the above internal audit contained 21 paragraphs, which were pending for want of remedial action on the part of NBA

### 2. Adequacy of Internal Control .

#### 2.1. Non-segregation of duties of preparation and passing of bills.

At NBA both the duties of preparation and passing of bills was performed by the Accounts Officer ,thereby diluting the internal control mechanism.

#### 2.2. Non-adherence to procedures relating to drawal and passing of bills prescribed in the Receipts & Payments Rules.

The full accounts head of classification, the amount of budget allotment under the head and also the appropriation being made in the current bill are not being noted on the bills in NBA, thereby diluting the internal financial control mechanism.

### 3. System of physical verification of fixed assets:

NBA had conducted physical verification of stores /inventory during the year 2013-14 and old, obsolete, unserviceable items had been identified, however further course of action of disposal of these items had not been initiated .

**4. System of physical verification of inventory:**Physical verification of inventory had been carried out at regular intervals.

**5. Regularity in payment of statutory dues:**The Authority was regular in payment of statutory dues.

के.म. 11/11/14  
Director (EA)



**Gurveen Sidhu**

कार्यालय :

प्रधान निदेशक, लेखा परीक्षा

वैज्ञानिक विभाग

ए० जी० सी० आर० भवन, इन्द्रप्रस्थ एस्टेट  
नई दिल्ली-110 002

OFFICE OF THE :

PRINCIPAL DIRECTOR OF ADULT,  
SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENTS,

A.G.C.R. BUILDING, I.P. ESTATE,  
NEW DELHI-110 002

D.O. No. Pr. DA (SD)/EA/SAR/NBA-Chennai/  
2013-14/ 860-64 Dated: 11-11-2014

Dear *Shri Pande,*

I have audited the annual accounts of National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai for the year 2013-14 and have issued the Audit Report thereon vide letter dated *11-11-14*. During the course of audit, some deficiencies were noticed (as per Annexure A) which are of a relatively minor nature and were, therefore not included in the Audit Report. These are being brought to your notice for remedial and corrective action.

Encl: As above

Yours Sincerely,

*Shri Hem Pande, IAS.*  
**Chairman,**  
National Biodiversity Authority,  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor, TICEL Park  
CSIR Road, Taramani  
Chennai- 600 113

### Annexure-A

Based on audit of accounts of your Institute by this office, the following points are brought to your kind notice for corrective action.

#### 1. Bank Reconciliation Statement.

It was observed from the Bank Reconciliation Statement for April 2014 that the following cheques were issued by NBA but not encashed by the parties.

S.No.	Cheque No.	Date	Amount	Name of the party
1.	113742	3.1.2013	271719	PAO, MoEF, New Delhi
2.	360059	19.2.2013	3265	Anil Kumar Tiwari, Bhopal
S3.	609784	26.4.2013	1000	Krishna Kumar
4.	609786*	26.4.2013	1820	N. Muthuvelayutham
5.	409319	14.5.2013	602	BSNL Accounts Officer (Cash)
6.	*392825	1.8.2013	7443	Dr. A.P. Singh
7.	392830	1.8.2013	7443	Sh.S.H. Rajeev
8.	505624	19.9.2013	4850	S. Adinarayana
		Total	298142	

All the above cheques are no longer valid and either revalidation or cancellation of the cheques is required and consequent corrections made in the accounts. Necessary action may be taken in this regard.

#### 2. Status of pending Utilisation Certificates.

During the year 2013-14, NBA received Rs 1875.00 lakh towards preparation of People's Bio diversity Register, from which it disbursed Rs1161.06 lakh (62 percent) and the balance of Rs 713.94 lakh remained unutilized. Similarly Rs.882.50 lakh was received towards Strengthening of State Biodiversity Boards out of which only Rs. 345.57 lakh i.e., only 39 percent was disbursed and the balance of Rs 536.92 lakh remained unutilized. This shows that huge amounts were unutilized.

As regards the UCs, as against 334 agencies to whom amounting to Rs.10.95 crore were released during the years 2005-06 to 2012-13, Utilisation Certificates were pending from 59 agencies towards grants amounting to Rs.2.44 crore. This shows that UCs were pending more than 15% of the agencies, pertaining to more than 20% of the grants released. Similarly for the year 2013-14 as against grants released to 110 agencies amounting to Rs.11.44 crore. Utilisation Certificates were pending from 99 agencies for an amount of Rs.11.11 crore. This shows that UCs were pending from more than 90% of the agencies pertaining to more than 97% of the grants released.

Details of the Utilisation Certificates pertaining for more than three years has not been disclosed in the Notes of Accounts appended to the Annual Accounts thereby accounts not reflecting the true and fair picture of the system of accounting of the grants released. NBA replied that the receipt of UCs was being pursued vigorously and assured that details of pending UCs for more than 3 years will be shown in the Notes of Accounts from next financial year.

#### 3. Guidelines for utilization of funds.

As stipulated in Section 27 of Biological Diversity Act, NBA constituted a separate National Biodiversity Fund. The sum accumulated under this fund is to be

applied for channeling benefits to the benefit claimers, conservation and promotion of biological resources and development of areas in consultation with the local bodies concerned. The sums accumulated under the fund amounting to Rs.1.20 crore was kept idle as at March 2014. NBA clarified that out of Rs 1.20 crore, only Rs 43 lakh pertained to benefit claimers and the balance were the accumulation of application fees which included Rs 20 lakh given as one time grant. Necessary steps may be taken to disburse the funds to the beneficiaries.

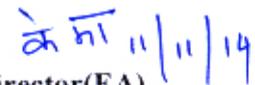
4. **Outstanding Advances** It was observed that the following advances were paid but so far not adjusted, one of them being more than 1 year old:

Statement Showing list of Outstanding Advances for the F.Y. 2013-14.					
Name of the Staff	Bill No	Date of Payment	Purpose	Amount (Rs.)	
PAO,DIT Chennai	104/2013-14	18.04.2013	Advance for WAS Audit	112360	
Shri C.A.Reddy, Ex. Secretary	1575/2013-14	11.03.2014	T.T.A	229675	
-do-	1583/2013-14	11.03.2014	Pay Advance	67920	
<b>Total Amount (Rs.)</b>				<b>409955</b>	

NBA needs to take speedy action to adjust/recover the outstanding advances.

#### 5. Provisions under Gratuity, accumulated Leave encashment

In the wake of a previous audit observation on non-provision of funds under above heads, provision has now been made during 2013-14. Since the calculations had been done by NBA itself, audit was unable to ascertain as to whether the same was done in accordance with the actuarial valuation table. A certificate or a mention to this effect should be made in Notes to accounts, by which the Management takes the responsibility of the correctness of the provisions of funds made under the heads.

  
 Director(EA)

## **Annexure - 6**

### **Activities and Achievements of National Biodiversity Authority**

The Chairman presented special address and participated in the following meetings during the reporting period.

08.04.2013 & 09.04.2013	Convened and attended 4th Meeting of NBA Expert Committee on Agro biodiversity and Meeting of the National Repositories at Hyderabad, organized by National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai.
22.04.2013 & 23.04.2013	Convened and participated in the signing ceremony of Memorandum Of Understanding between NBA, Govt. of India and Division of Nature Management, Govt. of Norway to establish the first ever Centre for Biodiversity Policy and Law (CEBPOL) in India at Chennai.
26.04.2013	Convened and participated in the Expert Committee Meeting / key stake holder consultation on “ Strategies for up-scaling domestic and international trade in Herbal Products & Medicinal plant resources in the 12 <sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan” at Taj Hotel, Taj Club House, Chennai.
02.05.2013	Attended an inter-ministerial-cum Expert Meeting on Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing in Ministry of Environment and Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi.
11.05.2013	Convened and attended the 24th Meeting of the Expert Committee on Access and Benefit Sharing at National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai.
15.05.2013	Met Hon’ble Chief Minister & Environment Minister of Assam and attended a Meeting of State Biodiversity Board, Assam along with the officers of other departments.
19.05.2013	Met the State Biodiversity Board officials of Assam and visited Kaziranga National Park.

22.05.2013	Convened and participated in the celebrations of International Day for Biodiversity held at Conference Hall, TICEL Bio park, 1st Floor, Chennai.
27.05.2013 to 31.05.2013	Attended the Seventh Trondheim Conference held in Trondheim organized by the Government of Norway in cooperation with the CBD, UNEP, FAO and UNDP as a Member of Delegation led by Hon'ble Minister of State (IC) for Environment and Forests, Government of India.
03.06.2013 to 05.06.2013	Attended the Expert Meeting to Develop a Draft Strategic Frame Work for Capacity-building and Development in Support of the Effective Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol held by the Convention on Biological Diversity in Montreal, Canada.
15.06.2013	Convened and attended the 25 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of NBA Expert Committee on Access Benefit Sharing held at Conference Hall, National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai.
18.06.2013	Attended Inter-ministerial Meeting on Normally Traded Commodities organized by Ministry of Environment and Forests, Paryavaran Bhawan, MoEF, New Delhi.
12.07.2013	Convened and participated UNEP GEF Project Meeting - Discussed effective implementation of the Biological Diversity Act at the grass-root level through Biodiversity Management Committees at Thoraipakkam, Chennai, organized by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF), Ministry of Environment and Forests, Chennai.
17.07.2013	Attended meeting to exchange various issues of implementation of Biological Diversity Act and PPV & FR Act, organized by PPV & FR Authority along with NBA officials at NASC Complex, New Delhi.
18.07.2013	Convened and attended Interactive session with all CGIAR Centres in the country at NASC Complex, New Delhi.

30.07.2013	Attended meeting on First Stakeholder Consultation on India's Fifth National Report and for developing national targets on biodiversity for updating of National Biodiversity Action plan at New Delhi organized by Wildlife Institute of India (WII) & Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi.
30.07.2013	Convened and participated in the discussion-cum-planning meeting on microbial diversity organized by National Biodiversity Authority in RIS Conference Hall, New Delhi.
31.07.2013	Convened and participated in meeting of SBBs Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Jharkhand organized by National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai.
01.08.2013	Convened and participated in Meeting of SBBs Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Goa, Gujarat and Maharashtra organized by National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai.
07.08.2013	Attended the 25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Foundation of the MS Swaminathan Research Foundation, Taramani, Chennai.
21.08.2013	Convened and attended 26th meeting of NBA Expert Committee on Access and Benefit Sharing at Chennai.
02.09.2013	Attended GEF Project inception meeting entitled "Mainstreaming Agrobiodiversity Conservation and Utilization in Agricultural Sector to Ensure Ecosystem Services and Reducing Vulnerability" at NASC Complex, New Delhi organized by Biodiversity International, New Delhi.
12.09.2013	Participated as a Special guest at the consultation-cum-discussion meeting on implementation of the Biological Diversity Act in Andaman and Nicobar Islands at Port Blair, organized by National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai.
13.09.2013	Participated as Chief Guest in the Workshop on Value of Biodiversity in Island Biosphere Reserve held at Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), Port Blair organized by ZSI Port Blair.

23.09.2013	Delivered key note address in the National Seminar on “Tree Biotechnology 2013: Emerging opportunities in Forestry and Tree Science” at IFGTB, Coimbatore.
27.09.2013	Chaired a session in the National Consultation on Alleviating Poverty and Malnutrition in Agrobiodiversity Hotspots at New Delhi organized by MSSRF, Chennai.
03.10.2013	Delivered inaugural Address in National Study Conference on “Forest Livelihood and Tribal Development”, organized by Department of Social Work, Madras Christian College, Tambaram, Chennai.
10.10.2013	Attended 4th Meeting of National Advisory Board for Management of Genetic Resources in National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Insects (NBAII), Bangalore.
18.10.2013	Attended meeting on 2nd National Knowledge Network Annual Workshop 2013 organized by Indian Institute of Science at Bangalore.
24.10.2013	Chaired a panel discussion on Economic Valuation of Bioresources and launch of dissemination papers at Dr.Marri Channa Reddy Human Resources Development Institute of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.
30.10.2013 & 31.10.2013	Had a meeting with the Kerala State Biodiversity Board officials and visited Munnar in connection with the formation of Natural Biodiversity Garden (NBG) and Traditional Knowledge Centre in Kochi, Kerala.
06.11.2013	Participated and addressed in the 13th Workshop of the IOBC Global Working Group on Mass Rearing and Quality Assurance as a Chief Guest at Bangalore, organized by National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Insects, Bangalore.
15.11.2013	Attended RBS “Earth Heroes” Awards 2013 Ceremony organized by the Royal Bank of Scotland N.V at New Delhi.

19.11.2013	Attended the National Consultation on Communicating for Access and Benefit Sharing meeting held at Centre for Environment Education (CEE) Campus, Ahmedabad, Gujarat through NBA – UNEP – GEF –MoEF ABS Project via Skype from Mumbai. Had a meeting with Hon'ble Minister of Forest, The Forest Secretary, to Government of Maharashtra along with Chairman, Maharashtra SBB and other Officials.
21.11.2013 & 22.11.2013	Convened and participated in the 27 <sup>th</sup> Expert Committee Access and Benefit Sharing Meeting at National Biodiversity Authority Conference Hall, Chennai.
26.11.2013	Delivered Key Note address at the 3rd International Congress of Global Warming on Biodiversity of Insects: Management and Conservation Strategies” organized by Bharathiar University at Coimbatore.  Delivered a lecture entitled “Knowing the Biological Diversity Act” in Coimbatore organized by Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore.
02.12.2013 to 04.12.2013	Attended the second meeting of the second phase of the High-level Panel on the Global Assessment of Resources for Implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 at Chennai.
03.12.2013 to 06.12.2013	Attended the East, South and South-East Asia Sub-regional Capacity-Building Workshop on the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing at Chennai.
04.12.2013 to 06.12.2013	Attended the second Meeting of the Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development at Chennai.
09.12.2013 & 10.12.2013	Convened the National Consultation Meeting on “Economic Valuation of Bio-resources for Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)” at NBA, Chennai.

11.12.2013	Attended Project Steering Committee Meeting of UNEP – GEF -MoEF – Project - “Strengthening the Implementation of the Biological Diversity Act and Rules with Focus on ABS provision” held in the Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi.
21.12.2013	Attended meeting with Hon’ble Minister for Environment and Forests & Chairperson and Member Secretary, Goa State Biodiversity Board and other officials to discuss issues related to effective implementation of Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and enhancing support to the State Biodiversity Board in undertaking the biodiversity actions.
27.12.2013	Delivered keynote address at inaugural session of XXIII Annual Conference of the Indian Association Angiosperm Taxonomy and National Seminar on “Recent Advances in Plant Taxonomy Research” organized by Department of Botany, Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University, at Nagpur.
03.01.2014	Attended the Brainstorming Session to resolve issues regarding Biological Diversity Act & Rules and ABS, organized by Ayurvedic Drugs Manufacturers Association (ADMA), in NBA, Chennai.
13.01.2014	Convened and attended the launch ceremony of a Special Publication “Telling the Story of Biodiversity” developed through Shristi Art School, Bangalore as a part of NBA’s communication and outreach programme to reach school children under UNEP-GEF-MoEF-ABS Project held at India International Centre, New Delhi.
16.01.2014	Delivered inaugural address in the National Conference on Biodiversity issues Concern and Future Strategies in Kolkata, West Bengal organized by the West Bengal State Biodiversity Board.

17.01.2014	Attended Book Release Ceremony, Fauna of Tamil Nadu (Part I & II) by Dr.K.Rosaiah, His Excellency Governor of TN at Raj Bhavan, Chennai organized by Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata at Chennai.
20.01.2014 & 21.01.2014	Convened 9 <sup>th</sup> State Biodiversity Boards Meeting and 10th Anniversary Celebrations of NBA at National Biodiversity Authority Conference Hall, Chennai.
23.01.2014 & 24.01.2014	Delivered Inaugural Address in National Level Conference on “Zoology for future Education and Research” at Chennai organized by Department of Zoology, Queen Mary’s College and Zoological Survey of India, Chennai.
28.01.2014 to 31.01.2014	Delivered Keynote address on “ Managing Traditional Knowledge and New Approaches” in the National Workshop on Ethnobotany Traditional Knowledge & Access to Benefit Sharing at Tirupati organized by SPW Degree & PG College TTD, Tirupati.
03.02.2014	Attended as Guest of Honour in the Fifth International <i>Casuarina</i> Workshop to be held at Mamallapuram, Chennai organized by Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore.
12.03.2014 & 13.03.2014	Review Meeting of the National Biodiversity Authority at Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi along with Secretary and other officials.

25.03.2014	Met Chief Secretary, Andhra Pradesh and discussed matters relating to Biodiversity Museum etc.
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The Secretary presented special address and participated in the following meetings during the reporting period.

08.04.2013 & 09.04.2013	Attended EC meeting on Agro Biodiversity in Hyderabad.
02.05.2013	Attended meeting on Nagoya Protocol on ABS and BD Act 2002 at MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
15.05.2013 to 17.05.2013	Attended Regional Workshop on Awareness Raising and Capacity Building to support ABS mechanism under CBD Nagoya Protocol in China.
09.05.2013 & 10.05.2013	Attended National Consultation on Legal and Policy Framework for Medicinal Plants and Associated Training Knowledge at MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
02.06.2013	Inspected Nallur Tamarind BD Heritage Site in Bangalore.
30.06.2013 to 27.07.2013	Attended the 9th Course of Phase V Mid Career Training Programme for IFS Officers including training abroad in Bangalore, New York and Dehradun.
30.09.2013	Attended PSC GEF Direct Access Project and NBSAP Meeting at MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
07.10.2013 to 18.10.2013	Attended 8th meeting of 8j Working Group, Workshop on GEOBON Working Group and SBSTTA-17 Meetings at Montreal, Canada.

09.11.2013 to 12.11.2013	Meeting with AP SBB, Meetings at MoEF & CC on Ruchi Soya case, CBD follow up of Review Meeting held on 31.10.14 and 69th meeting of EAC for River Valley and Hydro Electric Projects in Hyderabad and New Delhi.
15.11.2013 to 18.11.2013	Attended meeting on proposed Biodiversity Museum in Hyderabad.
10.12.2013 & 11.12.2013	Attended GEF-UNEP PSC meeting in New Delhi.
16.11.2013 to 17.12.2013	Attended Special Authority Meeting of NBA in New Delhi.
29.01.2014 to 31.01.2014	Attended ABS Dialogue meeting at Cape Town, South Africa.
10.01.2014	Attended ITPGRFA meeting at MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
09.02.2014 & 10.02.2014	Follow up meeting on implementing ABS mechanism of Red Sanders with GEF UNEP ABS Project staff in Hyderabad.

## **Annexure - 7**

### **Abbreviations**

ABS	:	Access and Benefit Sharing
BD Act	:	Biological Diversity Act
BHS	:	Biodiversity Heritage Site
BMC	:	Biodiversity Management Committee
BSI	:	Botanical Survey of India
CBD	:	Convention on Biological Diversity
CEBPOL	:	Centre for Biodiversity Policy and Law
CGIAR	:	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
CoP	:	Conference of Parties
EC	:	Expert Committee
FRLHT	:	Foundation for Revitalization of Local Health Traditions
FoB	:	Free on Board
GEF	:	Global Environmental Facility
GoI	:	Government of India
I-AIM	:	Institute of Ayurveda and Integrative Medicine
IBD	:	International Day for Biodiversity
IBIS	:	Indian Biodiversity Information System
ICAR	:	Indian Council of Agricultural and Research
IISc	:	Indian Institute of Science
INBIF	:	Indian Biodiversity Information Facility
IPR	:	Intellectual Property Rights
MoEFCC	:	Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change

NBA	:	National Biodiversity Authority
NBAII	:	National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Insects
NBPGR	:	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources
NGOs	:	Non-Governmental Organizations
NPV	:	Net present value
NTC	:	Normally Traded Commodities
PBRs	:	People's Biodiversity Registers
PCCF	:	Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
PPVFR	:	The Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights
RET	:	Rare, Endangered and Threatened
RIS	:	Research and Information System for Developing Countries
R&D	:	Research and Development
SBB	:	State Biodiversity Board
TEEB	:	The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity
TK	:	Traditional Knowledge
ToR	:	Terms of Reference
TSG	:	Technical Support Group
UGC	:	University Grants Commissions
UNDP	:	United Nations Development Programme
WCCB	:	Wildlife Crime Control Bureau
ZSI	:	Zoological Survey of India



## About NBA

The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) was established in 2003 to implement India's Biological Diversity Act (2002). The NBA is a Statutory, Autonomous Body and it performs facilitative, regulatory and advisory functions for Government of India on issues of conservation, sustainable use of biological resources and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of biological resources.

The Biological Diversity Act (2002) mandates implementation of the Act through decentralized system with the NBA focusing on advising the Central Government on matters relating to the conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of biological resources; and advising the State Governments in the selection of areas of biodiversity importance to be notified under Sub-Section (1) of Section 37 as heritage sites and measures for the management of such heritage sites.

The State Biodiversity Boards (SBBs) focus on advising the State Governments, 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.

The SBBs also regulate, by granting of approvals or otherwise requests for commercial utilization or bio-survey and bio-utilization of any biological resource by Indians. The local level Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) are responsible for promoting conservation, sustainable use and documentation of biological diversity including preservation of habitats, conservation of land races, folk varieties and cultivars, domesticated stocks and breeds of animals and microorganisms and chronicling of knowledge relating to biological diversity.

The NBA with its headquarters in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, delivers its mandate through a structure that comprises of the Authority, Secretariat, SBBs, BMCs and Expert Committees.

Since its establishment, NBA has supported creation of SBBs in 28 States and, facilitated establishment of 34,135 BMCs at local level.



## National Biodiversity Authority

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Tamil Nadu, India.

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