

Deposition of microorganisms in foreign repositories for claim of novel species in accordance with the International Bacteriological Code of Nomenclature

Background

Indian researcher/ scientists are required to deposit microorganisms in foreign repositories for claim of novel species for publication in journals, as required under the International Bacteriological Code of Nomenclature. The International Bacteriological Code of Nomenclature stipulates under Rule 27 & 30, mandatory deposition of novel Microbial species in at least two Internationally recognized culture collection, one in the country of origin and the other in a foreign country. When a new taxon is published, viable culture of that strain must be deposited in at least two publicly accessible culture collections located in different countries.

Applicability of BD Act, 2002

In the 36th Authority meeting under agenda item no. 36.16.04, the Authority decided that the deposition of micro-organisms by Indian researchers/scientist in other country repositories for claim of his novel species for publication in journals, as required under the International Bacteriological code of Nomenclature, does not come under the purview of the BD Act 2002.

2. Subsequently, the Authority in its 37th meeting under agenda item 37.14.02, the Authority decided that the Indian researcher/ scientist shall provide prior intimation to the NBA in **Form -C.**

3. Any non-Indian person/ entity accessing the deposited Indian biological resource from the foreign repository should obtain the prior approval of NBA as per Section 3 of the BD Act, 2002.

(Decisions taken in the 36th Authority meeting held on 6th January, 2016 under agenda item no. 36.16.04 & 37th Authority meeting held on 22nd March, 2016 under agenda item no: 37.14.02)