



NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY

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

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NBA/Tech/EC/9/14/35/19/23-24/ 1646

Date: 22 September, 2023

OFFICE ORDER

Sub: Constitution of the Expert Committee to examine the extant Biological Diversity Rules, 2004 and ABS Regulation, 2014 in the light of the introduction of BD (Amendment) Bill in the current session of the Parliament and to suggest required modifications thereof - reg.

Ref: 1) Office Order No. NBA/Tech/EC/9/14/35/19/22-23/4506, dt: 22.03.2023
2) Office Order NBA/Tech/EC/9/14/35/19/23-24/, dt: 11.09.2023

In exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 read with Rule 11 of the Biological Diversity Rules, 2004, and pursuant to the decision of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change on revision of Biological Diversity Rules 2004 and ABS Guidelines 2014 in accordance with the Biological Diversity (Amendment) Bill, 2021 as reported by the Joint Committee; an Expert Committee is constituted as under to examine the extant Biological Diversity Rules, 2004 and ABS Regulation, 2014 and to suggest modifications thereof.

2. This order is issued in partial modification of O/o no. NBA/Tech/EC/9/14/35/19/22-23/4506, dt: 22.03.2023.

1	Shri. A. K. Goyal, IFS (Retd.), Former Special Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj, New Delhi [Chair]
2	Prof. Dr. M. K. Ramesh, Former Professor, National Law School, Bangalore [Co-Chair]

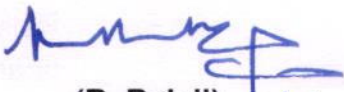
Members	
3	A representative of Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi
4	A representative of Department of Agriculture, Co-operation and Farmers Welfare, New Delhi
5	A representative of Ministry of AYUSH, New Delhi
6	Dr. Sarat Babu Gidda, Former Secretary, NBA and Ex- Senior Programme Management Officer and Head Biodiversity Science Policy and Governance, SCBD.
7	Dr. Sujata Arora, Former Advisor, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Govt. of India.
8	Shri. Anil Kumar Ganeriwala, IFS (Retd), Ex-PCCF & HoFF and Former Principal Secretary, Department of Cultural Heritage, Sikkim
9	Dr. Shivendu K. Srivastava, IFS (Retd.), Former Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Madhya Pradesh
10	Shri. Liandawla, IFS (Retd.) Former PCCF and Principal Secretary (Forest), Government of Mizoram
11	Shri. Sreenivasa Murthy, IFS (Retd.), Former Member Secretary, Madhya Pradesh State Biodiversity Board, Madhya Pradesh
12	Dr. Chandrashekar Reddy Gopidi, IFS, Vice Chairman & Managing Director, Telangana State Forest Development Corporation.
13	Shri. T. Rabikumar, IFS, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Jammu & Kashmir and Former Secretary, NBA.
14	Shri. Kunal Satyarthi, IFS, Advisor (Policy & Plan), NDMA, New Delhi
15	Dr. Sairam Bhat, Professor of Law, NLSIU, Bangalore
16	Dr. K. Sankar, Former Director, Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History
17	Dr. L. Pushpakumar, Professor of Law, University of Delhi
18	Dr. Parasuraman.N, Principal Archivist & Knowledge Manager, M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai.
19	Dr. Rahul Mungikar, Deputy Director, Srushti Conservation Foundation, Pune
20	Dr. Gouri Joshi, ESG and Enviro- legal Consultant, Pune, Maharashtra
21	Dr. M. Selvanayagam, Director, LIFE, Loyola College, Chennai

The Secretary, NBA will be the focal point.

2) **Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Committee shall be as under: -**

- (a) To review the Biological Diversity Rules, 2004 and Guidelines on Access to Biological Resources and Associated Knowledge and Benefit Sharing Regulations, 2014, in light of the BD (Amendments) Bill, 2021; Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefits Sharing and other related issues for effective implementation of the Biological Diversity Act; and to suggest appropriate modifications in the Rules and ABS regulations, if any;
 - (b) To frame model Rules for the management of Biodiversity Heritage Sites as required under Section 37 of the Biological Diversity Act
- 3) The NBA may amend the ToRs, if required.
- 4) **The tenure of the committee shall be extended for Six months from the date of issue of this order.**
- 5) The EC shall work on amending BD Rules and ABS guidelines after passage / notification of BD (Amendment) Bill by the Parliament.
- 6) The guidelines for the Expert Committee shall be as referred to in Annexure.
- 7) The Chairman, in consultation with the Secretary, NBA can (i) invite additional experts in the subject matter, if required to the meeting of EC as a special invitee, (ii) to hold or conduct meeting in any part of India if it is deemed fit, to expedite the task assigned in consultation with NBA.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.


(B. Balaji)
Secretary, NBA 22/9/23

GUIDELINES


The following guidelines are issued for proper conduct of the meeting to achieve the expected outcomes.

- 1) The expert committees are being constituted mainly to advise NBA on technical, techno-legal, administrative, scientific, statutory and miscellaneous matters as NBA does not have the required in-house expertise and experience in various disciplines. The role of expert committee is more or less similar to that of 'Amicus Curiae' in the court of Law.
- 2) The Chair of the EC is authorized to decide the mode of the meeting to be convened either physical or through virtual mode or Hybrid mode.
- 3) The Chairman and members are requested to kindly make it convenient to attend the meeting at the fixed venue and time. The NBA will arrange transport from Airport / Railway station / bus stand to and from the venue of the meeting.
- 4) The travel cost by Air (economy class) / train (AC- I class / AC II tier)., incurred by the Chairman and the members / invitees shall be reimbursed on production of the tickets and boarding pass along with bills in the prescribed format provided by NBA. The lodging and boarding will be provided by the NBA. The AC taxi fare will be reimbursed as and when the bill is produced with TA-Bill. Alternatively, road mileage will be paid based on declaration of Kms.
- 5) As per the directions issued by the Ministry of Finance vide O.M. no. No.19024/ 2212017-E. IV, dated 19th July, 2017, the Members are required to purchase the ticket from three authorized travel agents viz. M/s Balmer Lawrie & Company limited (BLCL), M/s Ashok Travels & Tours (ATT) and Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd. (IRCTC). The submission of boarding pass shall be mandatory for reimbursement by the NBA.
- 6) As per OM. No.: C-12025/3/2022-CS.III dated 15.03.2022 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, the Chair, Co-Chair are entitled for Rs.6000/per day of sitting and all members of the EC may be entitled for Rs.4000/per day of sitting.
- 7) The Chairman and members may preferably arrive at the city of venue one day in advance before the scheduled date of meeting.
- 8) The committee is requested to submit the proceedings / minutes to the NBA duly authenticated by all the members. In order to finalize and submit proceedings / minutes of the meeting on the same day, outstation members are requested to plan their return journey on the next day of the meeting. Under exceptional circumstances the Chairman may get the proceedings / minutes

finalized at later dates and send the document to NBA duly authenticated by all members who were present in the meeting. In such case, a lump sum of Rs.2000/- will be paid to the Chairman to meet the postal expenses, mobile, internet charges and cost of secretarial assistance at his place of stay on request. For payment of lump sum, a self-declared certificate to the effect that the expenditure has been incurred for the above purpose has to be furnished by the Chairman.

- 9) In the absence of Chairman, the Co-Chair will conduct the proceedings of the meeting.
- 10) The committee is requested to kindly go through the subject area and refer BD Act 2002 and Rules made thereunder, the Guidelines on access to biological resources and / or associated knowledge regulations, 2014, relevant laws, scientific articles, and books, browse internet to facilitate lively and useful discussion on the subject.
- 11) The Chairman and members may kindly exchange notes and views through internet on the subject area to be discussed during the meeting.
- 12) Given the sensitivity and nature of deliberations of the Committee, members are requested not to engage in any bilateral discussion with the non-members regarding to subject matter. However, they can collect information from non-members working in similar autonomous and statutory bodies that may be useful for the expert committee.
- 13) The Secretary, NBA is authorised to invite any other experts/professionals to the meetings of the expert committee as special invitees, after taking prior approval of the Chairman, NBA.
- 14) The Chairman, NBA may include additional members in to the EC, as appropriate.
- 15) The Chairman, NBA reserves the right to disband the committee without assigning any reason.

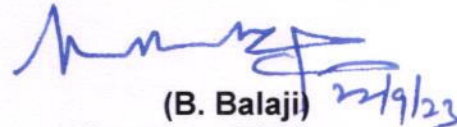
This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.


(B. Balaji)
Secretary, NBA 22/9/23

To

- 1) **Shri. A.K. Goyal IFS (Retd.)**, Former Special Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj, New Delhi. Mobile: 9888083749, Email: akg@nic.in; akg1901@gmail.com [**Chair**]
- 2) **Prof. Dr. M. K. Ramesh**, Former Professor, National Law School, Bangalore. Mobile: 09483190062, Email: mkramesh13@gmail.com [**Co-chair**]
- 3) **Dr. Narsi Ram Meena**, Director, Department for Promotion of Industries & International Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi-110011. Email: narsi.bodh@gov.in (*Representative of Department for Promotion of Industries & International Trade*)
- 4) **Dr. M. Gunasekran**, Deputy Commissioner (Seeds), Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Krishi Bhawan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi - 110001. Email: m.gunasekran@nic.in (*Representative of Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*)
- 5) **Dr. Kousthuba Upadhyaya**, Advisor, Ministry of Ayush, Ayush Bhawan, New Delhi-110023. Email: adviser-ayush@gov.in; iskg-ayush@gov.in (*Representative of Ministry of Ayush*)
- 6) **Dr. Sarat Babu Gidda**, Former Secretary, NBA and Ex-Senior Programme Management Officer and Head Biodiversity Science Policy and Governance, CBD- Secretariat. Mobile: 9391201474, E-mail: sarat.gidda@gmail.com
- 7) **Dr. Sujata Arora**, Former Advisor, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi. E-mail: arorasujata@gmail.com
- 8) **Shri. Anil Kumar Ganeriwala, IFS (Retd.)**, Ex-PCCF & HOFF, and Former Principal Secretary, Department of Cultural Heritage, Sikkim. Email: anilganeriwala86@gmail.com
- 9) **Dr. Shivendu K. Srivastava, IFS (Retd.)**, Flat no. 607 Block A2, Shalimar Fortleza, Near Aashima Mall, Hoshangabad Road, Bhopal-462026, Email: shivenduifs@gmail.com
- 10) **Shri. Liandawla, IFS (Retd.)** Former PCCF and Principal Secretary (Forest), Department of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of Mizoram, Aizawl- 796001. Mobile: 9436143396, Email: dawla1961@gmail.com
- 11) **Shri. Sreenivasa Murthy, IFS (Retd.)**, Former Member Secretary, Madhya Pradesh State Biodiversity Board, Madhya Pradesh. Mobile: 9644004102, 9424790077, Email: rseenu60@gmail.com
- 12) **Dr. Chandrashekar Reddy Gopidi, IFS**, Vice Chairman & Managing Director, Telangana State Forest Development Corporation, 3rd Floor, UNI Building, AC Guards, Hyderabad – 500004. Mobile: 9948919666, Email: vcmd.tsfdcl@gmail.com; chandrasreddyg@gmail.com

- 13) **Shri T. Rabikumar IFS**, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (Working Plan, Research & Training), Office of the Pr. Chief Conservator of Forest, Forest Complex, Sheikh Bagh, Near Lal Chowk, Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir. Mobile: 9500069020, Email: trabikumar@gmail.com
- 14) **Shri Kunal Satyarthi, IFS**, Joint Secretary (Policy & Plan), National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), NDMA Bhawan, A-1, Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi - 110029. Phone: 011-26701747, Email: jspp@ndma.gov.in; kunalsatyarthi@gmail.com
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- 19) **Dr. Rahul Mungikar**, Deputy Director, Srushti Conservation Foundation, Pune, Maharashtra. Mobile: 9822611128, Email: rahul.mungikar76@gmail.com
- 20) **Dr. Gouri Joshi**, Environmental legal Consultant, Anuradha, Sanjeevraje Nagar, Phaltan, Pune - 415523, Maharashtra. Mobile: 9225613409, Email: bonjaee.envirolegal@gmail.com; bonjaee@gmail.com
- 21) **Dr. M. Selvanayagam**, Director, Loyola Institute of Frontier Energy, Chennai, Tamil Nadu. Phone: 044-2817 8332, Email: selvam.mariadoss@gmail.com


(B. Balaji) 22/9/23
Secretary, NBA