

Minutes of the 19th Meeting of Assam State Biodiversity Board held on 29th November 2016 at Conference Hall of Chief Secretary, C- Block, Assam Secretariat, Dispur

The 19th meeting of Assam State Biodiversity Board was presided over by Shri V. K. Pipersenia, IAS, Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam and Chairman of Assam State Biodiversity Board. A list of members and invitees present in this meeting is at **Annexure-I**.

After welcoming the members and invitees present in the meeting, the Chairman requested the Member Secretary of the Board to initiate Agenda-wise discussions.

The Agenda-wise proceedings and decisions are as under:

1. The Minutes of the 18th Board meeting were confirmed.
2. The Board was informed of the actions taken on agenda of previous meeting as below:
 - i. Under Biodiversity Research Associate Program, 10 Fellows completed their term. Nine (9) Fellows have submitted their final draft PBR that are under examination.
 - ii. The Internship Program on Biodiversity Conservation was launched and a Panel of Experts prepared for assisting the programme.
 - iii. The following proposals of the Board were still under consideration of the Government:
 - a. Amendment to the Assam Biodiversity Rules-2010.
 - b. Organizational structure and draft Service Regulation of the Board.
 - c. Notification of Threatened Taxa u/s 38 of BD Act 2002 for Assam.

The Chairman requested the Forest Department for immediate action on all the three proposals and sought a status report within 15 days time.

- iv. The final draft of English translation of Assamese Documentary "Amulya Jaibabaichitra" was received.
 - v. The work of preparation of Assam Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan (ABSAP) by Wildlife Institute of India was progressing as planned and stakeholders' meetings have been planned in BTAD and DHAD.
 - vi. A 'Working Group' has been constituted for addressing the problem of Alien Invasive Species in the State. The Group would meet shortly.
3. The Board was informed that:
 - i. The Biodiversity Management Committees (BMC) were functional in all 189 Anchalik Panchayats in the State. Regarding the 3 Autonomous Councils, it was noted that:
 - a. 4 BMCs have already been constituted and 12 more will be constituted within a fortnight in the Bodoland Territorial Council against a total of 21 BMCs to be formed at Forest Range jurisdictions.

