

**Minutes of the 11th Board Meeting of the Assam State Biodiversity Board held on
6th May 2014.**

The 11th Meeting of the Board was held at Board Office, Rehabari Guwahati from 11.30 hrs onwards. List of the Members and Invitees present in the Meeting is at **Annexure-1**.

Agenda item-wise proceedings of the meeting are given below:

1. Action taken on agenda items of previous meetings:

- a. The Board agreed to the proposal for engagement of taxonomist and zoologist from the Grant provided by the NBA for PBR preparation.
- b. An animation video and write-up on the logo of the Board was seen and accepted.

2. Matters for Information of the Board:

- a. The Board noted progress in organizing Workshops and in implementing projects.
- b. The Board noted information on receipt of grant by the Board from the State Government (Rs. 50.00 lakh) & from the NBA (Rs 12.40 lakh).
- c. The Board was in agreement with the proposal for Celebration of International Biological Diversity Day, 22nd May, 2014 at Burhachapori Wild Life Sanctuary.

3. Board ratified the following:

- a. No Objection granted by the Board to Shri Tapan Hira of Sivasagar District on his application for IPR on : "*A herbal composition for treatment of Pneumonia*".
- b. Expenditure incurred: (Rupees in lakh)

1. 3rd Quarter (Oct.-Dec.):

i. From the State Grant:	Rs. 1.65
ii. From NBA Grant:	Rs 4.24
Total:	Rs 5.89

2. 4th Quarter (Jan.-Mar.):

i. From the State Grant:	Rs. 1.63
ii. From NBA Grant:	Rs. 2.03
Total:	Rs. 3.66

4. Award of works:

1. **Fish Diversity Proposal: Dolphin Foundation, Guwahati:** Board accepted the recommendations of the Expert Committee and suggested to inform the proponent accordingly.
2. **Insect Inventory: By Department of Zoology, University of Science and Technology, Meghalaya:** The Board agreed to award the work.
3. **Awareness: Asian Institute of Management, Guwahati:** The Board suggested that to begin with award only a part of the proposal, i.e. one or two awareness programmes. It was further suggested that the programmes may be done in full consultation with and prior intimation to local Panchayat institutions

4. Awareness: Resource Centre for Sustainable Development, Guwahati:

The Board was of the view that as far as possible the awareness programmes may be organized by the Board only through cooperation of other government departments.

5. The Board approved the following:

- A. **The consolidated Amendment Proposal and the Cabinet memorandum for amendment to the Assam Biodiversity Rules-2010:** The Rule-14(xxii) was discussed in details agreed to be amended as below:

Original version: *Recommend creation of posts to the Government for the effective discharge of functions by the Board and to create such posts. Provided that no such posts of any nature, whether temporary or permanent, shall be created without the prior approval of the Government.*

Revised version: *Create posts for effective discharge of functions. Provided that no such posts of any nature, whether temporary or permanent, shall be created without the prior approval of the Government.*

- C. **Recommendation of HR Committee:** The Board accepted the report of the Committee and suggested that the organizational structure as proposed for the Board along with draft Service Regulations may be forwarded to the Government for approval.

The Board, however, suggested that, to begin with, the positions may be filled on contractual basis only.

D. Constitution of a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of the Board with following composition:

1. Two expert members from the Board
2. One Official Member of the Board from the relevant discipline.
3. Representative of the PCCF & HoFF-Assam
4. Representative of the PCCF Wildlife Assam
5. Two subject-matter-specialist to be co-opted by the Committee with approval of the Chairman of the Board.

E. Biodiversity Research Associate Programme (BRAP): to promote young talent to work for short durations for the Board on specified themes. Following programmes were suggested:

- i. 3 months Program (Rs 5,000/- pm): three (3) slots.
- ii. 6 months Program (Rs 5,000/- pm): three (3) slots

Contingency expenses towards field visits, documentation etc may be provided by the Board on actual basis.

F. Biodiversity Volunteer Initiative: for encouraging voluntary contributions from freelance professionals, amateurs and students in the form of published papers, publications, photographs etc. The Board suggested that Such contributions may be screened for ascertaining their authenticity and be acknowledged through the website and publications of the Board.

6. Revision of remuneration of Contractual staff of the Board: Considering the Grant made available by the NBA, the Board agreed to the revision of monthly remuneration of the contractual staff as below

Scientific Officer	Rs 25,000/-
Junior Administrative Assistant (Accounts)	Rs 20,000/-
Junior Administrative Assistant (P.S.)	Rs 20,000/-
Office Attendant / Dak-Runner	Rs 10,000/-

7. Following Issues were taken up as additional Agenda items:

- a. Collaborations by the Board under corporate-social-responsibility with tea and oil industries: It was agreed to attempt collaboration
- b. Access fee on resources like tea etc: the Board was of the view that a study may be made of all existing provisions of law and thereafter an approach paper may be prepared based on legally correct approach on the issue.

8. All the Members and Invitees of the Board were invited to the celebrations of the International Biological Diversity Day being organized at Burhachapori Wildlife Sanctuary on 22nd May 2014.
9. The Meeting with thanks to everyone present.

Few photographs of 11th Board Meeting



List of members present in the 11th Meeting of Assam State Biodiversity Board 6th May 2014

Sr. No	Name	Designation	Contact No.	E-mail Id
Official Members				
1	S. C. Das, IAS	Chairman-ASBB & Addln. Chief Secretary, Assam	0361-2237054	subhashdas55@gmail.com
2	A. K. Johari, IFS	Member Secretary, ASBB	8876565345	johari60@yahoo.com
3	Simanta Thakuria, IAS	Secretary, P & RD Deptt.	9435149743	
4	Nafifa Ahmed, IAS	Secretary, Environment & Forests Deptt.		
5	Lily Choudhury, ACS	Deputy Secretary, P & RD Deptt.		singer10me@yahoo.com
6	Dr. S. Purkaystha	Joint Director, Fishery Deptt.	9435115971	sadhu293@rediffmail.com
7	Kasturi Bharali, ACS	Joint Secretary, P & RD deptt.	9864017078	
8	Dr. Kabindra Borkakati	Director- Agriculture Deptt.	9435091415	k_borkakati@yahoo.com
9	H. N. Tahbaldar	SDAO, Planning- Agriculture Deptt.	9435554367	
Ex- Officio Members				
10	R. C. Goswami, IFS (Retd.)	Member-ASBB	9435044818	rcgoswami37@gmail.com
11	Dr. Sarat Borkataki	Member- ASBB	9435063014	saratdipika@gmail.com
Special Invitees				
12	V. K. Vishnoi, IFS	PCCF & HoFF-Assam, Rehabari	9435530031	pccfassam@gmail.com
13	R. K. Agarwalla, IFS	PCCF (Wildlife)- Assam, Basistha	9435049534	
14	Md. M. U. Ahmed	Commissioner & Secretary- A H & Veterinary Deptt.	9435046600	mahtabahmd@gmail.com
15	Dr. R. M. Dubey, IFS	Chairman, Pollution Control Board- Assam	9435067690	rudramanidubey@yahoo.com
16	Dr. Ranjana Gupta, IFS	CCF (Wetlands)	8876565344	ranjanagupta2001@yahoo.com