

Minutes of 21st Meeting of Assam State Biodiversity Board held on 19th August 2017
at conference hall, Aranya Bhawan, Panjabari

The 21st meeting of the Assam State Biodiversity Board was presided over by Shri D. Mathur, IFS, Chairman of the Board. A list of the Members and invitees present in the meeting is at **Annexure-1**.

At the outset the Board extended welcome and felicitated the new Expert Members nominated by the government. Thereafter, the Chairman for the benefit of the new Members present in the meeting requested the Member Secretary of the Board to make a brief introduction about the mandate and activities of the Board. Agenda-wise discussions were then taken up and the proceedings are as under:

1. The Minutes of the 20th Board Meeting were confirmed.
2. The Board was informed of the actions taken on agenda of previous meeting as below:
 - i. The following proposals of the Board were 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 representative to look into the matter and assist the Board in getting necessary approvals on the above proposals.
 - ii. The following proposals approved by the Board in the last Meeting have been launched:
 - a. Enhancing conservation efforts in Hoollongapar Gibbon wildlife sanctuary: A proposal received from Shri Udayan Borthakur, Head of Wildlife Genetics Division, Aaranyak.
 - b. Orchid Diversity of Assam: Proposal of publication received from Shri Khyanjeet Gogoi, Orchid Society of Eastern Himalaya, NGO, Guwahati
 - iii. The recommendations of the 7th Productivity Pay Commissions have been adopted and implemented by the Board.
3. Progress made / Matters for Information of the Board:
 - i. The Board was informed about reconstitution of the Board by the Government of Assam by including following new Expert Members:
 - a. Dr. Bijoy Neog, Professor & HoD, Dept. Of Life Science, Dibrugarh University, Dibrugarh
 - b. Dr. Ajit Kumar Das, Associate Professor, Dept of Ecology & Environmental Science, Assam University, Silchar
 - c. Dr. (Mrs) Nirmali Medhi, Associate Professor & HoD, Dept. Of Zoology, Handique Girls College, Guwahati
 - d. Dr. Bibhab Kumar Talukdar, Secretary General, Aaranyak, Guwahati.

- ii. The Board was informed that three (3) Technical Support Groups (TSG) met and approval of 13 People's Biodiversity Registers (PBR) belonging to Jorhat, Bongaigaon and Nalbari Districts. The list of approved PBRs is at **Annexure-II**.
- iii. The Board was informed about the start of 2nd Internship Program on Biodiversity Conservation with 20 students from 7th of August, 2017.
- iv. Regarding Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs), the Board was informed about the following status:
 - a. BMCs have been constituted in all the 189 Anchalik Panchayats of the state.
 - b. BTAD: Against 21 Forest Ranges 16 BMC notifications have been received.
 - c. KAAC: Against 10 Forest Ranges 10 BMC notifications have been received.
 - d. DHAC: 9 under process.
- v. The Board noted the following status on preparation of People's Biodiversity Registers (PBR):
 - a) Approved by the TSGs : 25
 - b) Final draft received : 43
 - c) On-going works : 65

A suggestion was made that TSG meetings for vetting of the available draft of the PBRs be completed within a time frame of 6 months. Further, it was suggested that attempts be made to assist the remaining BMCs in preparation of their PBRs within a year's time.

- vi. The Board also noted the status of formation of Technical Support Group in the State:
 - a. TSG constituted : 20 Districts
 - b. Yet to be formed : 13 (List at **Annexure-III**)

The Board also suggested that attempts be made to complete constitution of TSGs at the remaining districts as soon as possible. For this purpose, a communication may be made from the government also.

- vii. On the status of Projects Undertaken, the Board was informed that:
 - a. Final Report in the 'Insect Fauna Documentation Project' was received and being edited for publication.
 - b. A comprehensive draft Final Report of 'Fish Diversity Project' was received and was under examination of the Expert Committee.
 - c. The 1st six month report in the 'Plant Diversity Assessment of Dima Hasao' District in Assam' was received.
 - d. The draft of 'Assam Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan (ABSAP)' had been received from the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun. The Expert Committee examined this draft and made certain observations that have been duly communicated to the WII. The Final Report was expected within 30 days time.

vii. The Board was informed about the Assam Biodiversity Portal, a Database being developed by the French Institute of Pondicherry (IFP), funded by Assam Project on Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Society. The Board noted the progress on the assignment.

viii. The Board was informed that after the declaration of Majuli as 'Biodiversity Heritage Site' a BHS Management Committee was Notified which will develop a Management Action Plan. The composition of BHS Management Committee is at **Annexure-IV**.

It was suggested to undertake documentation of floral and faunal diversity of Majuli which has been declared a Biodiversity Heritage site. For this collaboration with organisations like ZSI, BSI, various Universities and Research Institutes may be worked out.

ix. It was informed that following Grants were received by the Board in the 1st quarter (April, 2017 to June, 2017)

- From APFBC: Rs. 47.70 lakh
- From NBA: Rs. 14.15 lakh
- From bank interest: Rs. 18.15 lakh
- From others :

- NTPC: Rs. 1.86 crore * Liability (The Board is currently the custodian of NTPC fund parked at the Board account which is our liability and which need to be returned as and when required)

x. The Board was informed about celebration of "International Day for Biological Diversity on 22nd May, 2017 at Parbatjhora Forest Division, Kokrajhar on the theme "Biodiversity and Sustainable Tourism".

xi. The Board noted launch of 1st issue of English Newsletter 'Amulya Jaibabaichitra -Precious Biodiversity' during celebration of International Day for Biological Diversity on 22nd May, 2017 at Parbatjhora Forest Division. The Board was also informed about the on-going progress for publication of 2nd Volume.

xii. The Board was informed that a two days workshop on 'Mainstreaming of Biodiversity- National Biodiversity Action Plan, National Biodiversity Targets and India's sixth National report to CBD' was organized by NBA and MoEFCC with assistance from ASBB on 17th & 18th August 2017 at Hotel Lily, Guwahati. The Board also noted visit of NBA Secretary and other NE SBB delegates to the Board office on 18th August 2017 for an informal discussion.

xiii. The Board noted the engagement of one Accounts Assistant on contract basis from NBA fund.

xiv. Regarding publication of the Board:

- A copy of 1st issue of the Newsletter 'Amulya Jaibabaichitra' was placed before the Board..
- The Annual Report 2015-16 was circulated to the members.

xv. The draft Audit Report for FY 2016-17 was approved by the Board.

4. The Board ratified the following:

- i. Expenditure incurred: 1st Quarter: April, 2017 to June, 2017
- | | | |
|--------------------|---|------------------------------|
| a. State Grant | : | Rs. 19,39,164/- |
| b. NBA Grant | : | Rs. 6,83,006/- |
| c. APFBC Grant | : | Rs. 8,04,374/- |
| d. NTPC | : | Rs. 56,33,100/-* (Liability) |
| e. Application Fee | : | Rs.37,83,607/-* (Liability) |

Total : Rs 1,28,43,251/-

- ii. Permissions granted by the Board to the following applications:
1. Shri Biswajit Singh, Ph.D. Research Scholar, Assam Univerity: Access to bio-resources 'Pharye's leaf monkey (*Trachypithecus phayrei*) in and around inner line RF of Cachar District' Assam'.
 2. Shri Paris Basumatary, PhD Research Scholar, Bodoland University: Access to bio-resources "*Spider Fauna*" of Chirang RF, Assam."

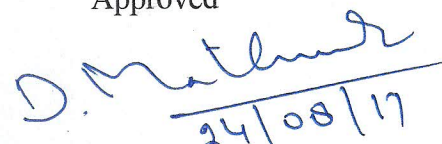
5. Other Issue:

- i. The Board recorded its appreciation for its Chairman Shri D. Mathur, IFS who will demit office on 29th August, 2017. It was decided to organize a farewell meeting for the outgoing Chairman and for the outgoing Expert Members on 28th August 2017 at 3.00 pm at the Board office.
- ii. It was suggested that the Board may initiate a 'Biodiversity Research Scheme' for sponsoring Theme based research. Detailed guidelines may be framed for examination and sanction of the research proposals. The Members of the Board were requested to provide inputs in this regard.
- iii. It was suggested that the Board in collaboration with the Department of Panchayat & Rural Development organize awareness generation programmes at Gaon Panchayats.
- iv. Apart from celebration of International Day for Biological Diversity, the Board may also celebrate some other important events (such as Bird festival, NE wildlife festival) for generating awareness amongst different stakeholders.

6. The date and venue for the next meeting to be decided in due course.

The meeting ended with thanks from the Chair to everyone present.

Approved


24/08/17

(D. Mathur)

PCCF & Chairman-ASBB



Member Secretary-ASBB

Annexure-1**Members/ Invitees present in the 21th Meeting of Assam State Biodiversity Board: 19th August, 2017**

Sr.	Name	Designation	Contact No.	E-mail Id
Official Members				
1	Shri D. Mathur, IFS	PCCF-Assam & Chairman, ASBB	0361-2333917	dmathur003@gmail.com
2	Dr. K. K. Dwivedi, IAS	Commissioner & Secretary, Environment and Forest Dept., Assam	0361-2237273	kkdwivedi@outlook.com
3	Shri M. Medhi, ACS	Joint Secretary, Environment & Forest Department, Assam	9435552456	manabendramedhi@gmail.com
4	Smt. D. Jeme, ACS	Joint Secretary, P & RD Dept., Assam	9435054459	damarisjeme92@gmail.com
5	Shri A. K. Johari, IFS	Member Secretary-ASBB	8876565345	johari60@yahoo.com
Ex- Officio Members				
6	Dr. P. C. Bhattacharjee	Expert Member- ASBB	9435148702	bhattapc@gmail.com
7	Dr. Ajit Kumar Das	Expert Member- ASBB	9435077427	dasajitkumar15@gmail.com
8	Dr. Nirmali Medhi	Expert Member- ASBB	9435011083	nirmali_medhi@yahoo.com
9	Dr. Bibhab Kr. Talukdar	Expert Member- ASBB	9435113139	bibhab@aaranyak.org
Special Invitees				
10	Shri H. Kalita, ACS	Joint Secretary, Finance Department, Assam	9854325706	hareswarkalita@gmail.com
Permanent Invitees				
11	Dr. Ranjana Gupta, IFS	PCCF (Wetlands)- Assam	8876565344	ranjanagupta2001@yahoo.com
12	Shri Utpal Bora, IFS	CCF (HQ)- Assam (Representative from PCCF & HoFF- Assam)	9435146167	ubora_forest25@yahoo.com

List of Peoples' Biodiversity Registers approved by the concerned Technical Support Group (TSG):

A. Jorhat Division:

1. Titabor Anchalik BMC
2. Madhya Jorhat Anchalik BMC
3. 5 no. Jorhat Anchalik BMC, Baghchung
4. Kaliapani Anchalik BMC
5. Uttar Pachim Anchalik BMC
6. East Jorhat, Selenghat Anchalik BMC

B. Aie Vally Division:

7. Dangtal Anchalik BMC
8. Boitamari Anchalik BMC
9. Manikpur Anchalik BMC

C. North Kamrup Division

10. Tihu Block BMC
11. Barkhetri Block BMC
12. Pachim Nalbari Block BMC
13. Pub Nalbari Block BMC

List of Districts where Technical Support Group (TSG) yet to be constituted

1. Chirrang
2. Darrang
3. Udalguri
4. Dibrugarh
5. Baksa
6. South Salmara-Mankachar
7. Hojai
8. Charaideo
9. Biswanath
10. Karbi Anglong
11. West Karbi Anglong
12. Majuli
13. Dima Hasao



ASSAM STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD

ARANYA BHAWAN, 2nd FLOOR
PANJABARI, GUWAHATI-781037
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ABB/BHS/ 2015/469

Tel- 0361- 2333917; Fax: 2333788

Email: assambioboard@gmail.com

Date: 03/05/2017

NOTIFICATION

The following committee is hereby constituted for management of Majuli Biodiversity Heritage Site under section-37 of the Biological Diversity Act 2002:

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1. Padmashree Sri Jadav Molai Payeng, Forest man of India | Advisor |
| 2. Deputy Commissioner, Majuli | Chairman |
| 3. Sri Anil Kr. Goswami, Expert Member-ASBB | Member |
| 4. Conservator of Forests (EAC) | Member |
| 5. Chairman- Majuli AP Biodiversity Management Committee | Member |
| 6. Member Secretary Majuli AP BMC | Member |
| 7. Chairman- Ujani Majuli AP Biodiversity Management Committee | Member |
| 8. Member Secretary Ujani Majuli AP BMC | Member |
| 9. Satra Adhikar, Uttar Kamalabari Satra, Majuli | Member |
| 10. Satra Adhikar, Samaguri Satra, Majuli | Member |
| 11. Satra Adhikar, Auniati Satra, Majuli | Member |
| 12. Satra Adhikar & Sri Krishna Kanta Goswami, Auwa Satra, Majuli | Member |
| 13. Satra Adhikar, Dakhinpat Satra, Majuli | Member |
| 14. Dr. Prasanna Kr. Pathak, Associate Director, AAU, Jorhat | Member |
| 15. Dr. Dandeswar Dutta, Scientist B, RFRI, Jorhat | Member |
| 16. Dr. B. S. Bhau, Principal Scientist, CSIR-NEIST, Jorhat | Member |
| 17. HoD, Department of Botany, Majuli College | Member |
| 18. HoD, Department of Zoology, Majuli College | Member |
| 19. Dr. Ananda Hazarika, Dept. of Geography, Majuli College | Member |
| 20. Dr. Debojit Saikia, Principal, Majuli College | Member |
| 21. Sri Ranjit Kalita, Teacher, Economics Dept., Lohitporya J. College | Member |
| 22. One representative from Biomix Nature Club, Nayabazar, Majuli | Member |
| 23. One representative from Heritage Majuli Samiti, Majuli | Member |
| 24. Dr. Debabhuson Borah, Aranya Suraksha Samiti, Majuli | Member |
| 25. One representative from SADVABNA, Garmur, Majuli | Member |
| 26. One representative from IMPACT-NE, Kamlabari, Majuli | Member |
| 27. Mrs Madhabi Das, Social Activist, Kamalabari, Majuli | Member |
| 28. Mrs Minoti Saikia, Social Activist, Garmur, Majuli | Member |

29. Mrs Rinumala Dutta, Social Activist, Garmur, Majuli
30. Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Jorhat Forest Division
31. Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Social Forestry, Golaghat

Member
Member
Member Secretary

The committee may co-opt any member as felt necessary.

The committee is responsible for preparing a management plan of the Majuli Biodiversity Heritage Site. The Member Secretary of the Committee shall raise requisitions for conduct of such meetings as deem necessary for management of the BHS, payment of sitting fees and transportation allowances etc. to the Chairman/Members of the committee.

This issues with the approval of the Chairman-ASBB

A.K. Johari
03/05/2017

(A.K. Johari)

Member Secretary-ASBB

Copy for information to:

1. All members of the Committee
2. Notice Board

A.K. Johari
03/05/2017

(A.K. Johari)

Member Secretary-ASBB