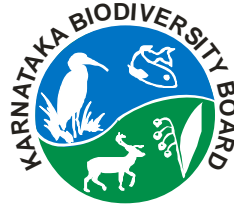


KARNATAKA BIODIVERSITY BOARD

(Forest, Ecology and Environment Department)



24th BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Date: 04/09/2014 Time: 3.00 PM

Venue:

**KFDC Board Meeting Hall.
2nd Floor, Vanavikas,
18th Cross, Malleswaram
Bangaluru-560003**

Agenda Notes for the 24th Board Meeting

1. Reading and recording of 23rd Board Meeting.

The proceedings of the 23rd Board Meeting held on 24/06/2014 were communicated to all the members, and as there were no comments from the members, the proceeding may be adopted. (Annexure-I)

2. Action taken on 23rd Board Meeting Proceedings.

Action taken on proceedings of 23rd Board Meeting is placed in Annexure-II.

3. World Biodiversity Congress.

World Biodiversity Congress is organized at Colombo from 24th November to 27th November. An invitation is received in the Board to participate in the World Biodiversity Congress (Annexure-III). Since there will be deliberations about current issues on Biodiversity, it is proposed to approve the name of Sri. A.G. Thimmaiah, Deputy Director, Agriculture who is on deputation to KBB from Agriculture Department to represent the Board in the Biodiversity Congress. The total cost involved for the participation may be about Rs. 50000 which may be easily met out of the allocations for the current year.

For deliberations and decisions of the Board.

4. Regulating activities around Nethrani Island.

The island is known for its richness in Corals. The island features two types of coral reefs, also has seven species of seaweeds, 12 jelly fish species, six sponge species, 92 finfish species, 17 crab species, four lobster species and three sea snake species, among others. This island was being used by Indian Naval Forces for target practice causing disturbance to local biodiversity and ecology. Unexploded shells were found in the waters. Looking into the importance of the island from Biodiversity angle, the KBB proposed the area to be declared as a Heritage site, the first notification was published in the Gazette Dtd. 17 February, 2010. There were objections from the Indian Navy against declaration of the area as a Heritage site and they consider the island for security reasons (Annexure-IV is a letter from Commodore-in-charge, Karwar to chief Secretary, GOK). In the meantime a PIL was filed by A.N Karthik and others (W.P. 39065 of 2011) against using the island as a ground for target practices. The Karnataka High Court on 23.11.2012 has issued orders staying the target practice by the Navy, which is in force (Annexure-V). Any further action can be taken on the issue after the orders of the Hon'ble court are received.

During a meeting of academicians at Science Centre, Karwar on 30.08.14, it was brought to the notice of Member Secretary, Karnataka Biodiversity Board (Annexure-VI) that after the stay on target practice, some adventure sports agencies located in Goa and Murudeshwar are using the island for diving activities, which has gone up. It is also reported that the activity is not regulated and it is kind of free for all situations. Under the circumstances and as the area can be categorized as district forest, the Board may recommend to the Government to advise the

Forest Department to step in and control all such activities which are detrimental to the ecology and biodiversity of the island

The matter is submitted to the Board for deliberation and suitable direction.

5. Draft report on Chamrajnagar District, Biodiversity Action Plan.

As resolved during 21st Board meeting, Dr. M.S. Swaminath and Dr. M.D. Subash Chandran were requested to prepare one model district action plan on Biodiversity for Chamrajnagar district, in pursuance thereof a draft guidelines for preparation of Action plan is submitted. These draft guidelines were circulated among the Board Members on 28-June-2014, seeking their valuable suggestions. This plan recommends taking up various studies. The chapter-9 on research and extension and related action plan is appended for deliberation and necessary decision (Annexure - VII). In addition to the studies recommended in Chapter-9, following are some of the studies recommended to be taken up:

1. Man-animal conflict *vis a vis* invasive species.
2. Study on effect of forest mono culture.
3. Study and documentation of sacred groves, sacred stretches of water and other natural sacred sites and trees.
4. Documentation and conservation of *Michelia champaka*.
5. Study on special forests (Riparian forests) along river/major stream courses.

For deliberations and decisions of the Board to take up the recommended studies so that the input from such of the studies can be used to finalize the district action plan.

6. Any other subject with the permission of the chair.