

Karnataka Biodiversity Board
Proceedings of the 38th Board Meeting
Venue: Meeting room, Ground floor, Vanavikas Building,
18th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560003

The 38th Board meeting was convened at 11.00 AM on 26/07/2018 in the Karnataka Biodiversity Board, Ground floor, Vanavikas Building, 18th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru– 560 003.

Members Present:

Sl. No	Board Members	Designation
1	Sri. S.P. Sheshadri, Karnataka Biodiversity Board, 18 th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560003	Chairman
2	Shri Sandeep Dave, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Forest, Ecology and Environment Department, MS Building, Bengaluru-560001	Ex-officio Member
3	Sri. Ramachandra, IFS, Principal Secretary to Government (Ecology and Environment), Forest, Ecology and Environment Department, MS Building, Bengaluru-560001	Ex-officio Member
4	Sri. P. Sridhar, IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Aranya Bhavan, 18 th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560003	Ex-officio Member
5	The Director, Indian System of Medicine & Homeopathy, Dhanvantari Road, Ananda Rao Circle, Bengaluru, represented by Dr. H.Y Rathod	Ex-officio Member
6	Dr. M. Mahadeva Murthy, Prof. Dept. of Forestry and Environmental Science, University of Agricultural Sciences, GKVK, Bangalore-560065	Non-officio Member
7	Dr. C.G. Kushalappa, Prof. & Dean, Forestry College, Kunda Road, Ponnampet-571216, Kodagu	Non-officio Member
8	Dr. Niranjana Murthy, Prof. & Scheme Head, AICRN on Potential Crops, RIOF Bldg., UAS, GKVK, Bengaluru-560065	Non-officio Member
9	Prof. M. Narayana Swamy, M.V.Sc., Ph.D. Prof.& Head, Dept. of Veterinary Physiology, Veterinary College, Hebbal, Bengaluru - 560024	Non-officio Member
10	Smt. Anita, K. Arekal, IFS. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Social Forestry), Aranya Bhavan, 18 th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560003	Special Invitee
11	Drugs Controller, Drugs Controller Department, Palace Road, Near Karnataka Public Service Commission, Bangalore, represented by Mrs. Naazia, Assistant Drugs Controller.	Special Invitee
10	Dr. Virender Singh, IFS, Member Secretary, Karnataka Biodiversity Board, Ground Floor, Vanavikas, 18 th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560003.	Member Secretary-Convener

Leave of absence was granted to the following members:

Sl. No	Board Members	Designation
1	Sri. M. Maheshwar Rao, IAS, Secretary to Government, Agriculture Department, MS Building, Bengaluru-560001	Ex-officio Member
2	Dr. M. Jayakara Bhandary, Associate Professor and Head, Dept. of Botany, Govt. First Grade College, Car Street, Mangaluru- 575001	Non-officio Member

The Member Secretary, Karnataka Biodiversity Board, welcomed the members to the 38th meeting of the Board. The Chairman, Karnataka Biodiversity Board, welcomed the Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment (DFEE) and the members present. The agenda points were taken up for discussion.

38/1 - Reading and recording of Proceedings of the 37th Board Meeting:

The proceedings of the 37th Board Meeting held on 27/03/2018, were communicated to all the members. The proceeding, as reported in Annexure-I of agenda notes, was adopted.

38/2 - Action taken on 37th Board meeting proceedings.

Action taken on the proceedings of 37th Board meeting, as reported in Annexure-II of the agenda, was noted by the Board.

Action points discussed:

37/4: Establishment of Biodiversity parks in the State:

The members discussed the concept of Biodiversity Parks and Tree Parks. The reply received from the office of the PCCF (HoFF) regarding non-availability of budget during 2018-19 for the Biodiversity Parks was also discussed. Regarding re-naming the Tree Parks constituted by the Forest Department as Biodiversity parks, the ACS, DFEE, suggested that a specific proposal be prepared on the number of Tree Parks that can be converted into Biodiversity Parks. It was also suggested to draw up criteria for Biodiversity Park and circulate to the PCCF (HoFF) for evaluation of existing Tree Parks so as to include all the components required for Biodiversity Parks and the proposal can be presented in the next meeting of the Board for discussion.

38/3 - Status of Formation of Biodiversity Management Committees (BMC) and Preparation of People's Biodiversity Registers (PBR):

The members reviewed the information and recommended that:

1. The list of BMCs constituted, re-constituted and to be re-constituted may also be presented in the next meeting of the Board.

2. The Chairman, KBB, suggested that a workshop may be organised for the members of the BMCs, Zilla Panchayats and the Taluk Panchayats of the State for creating awareness of the provisions of the Act. The same was accepted by the ACS, FEE and it was recommended that the trainings/workshop may be through the SATCOM facility of the Abdul Nazir Sab State Institute of Rural Development (ANSSIRD), Mysore, which is both cost effective, interactive and can address a large gathering at the same time. These trainings may also be organised Revenue Division-wise. Further, it was also suggested that the training material should include more pictorial depiction, simple and should be in vernacular language.

3. Dr. Mahadeva Murthy suggested that the PBRs documented may need to be reviewed before acceptance by the Board. It was briefed that the PBRs are reviewed both at the level of the co-ordinators, who document the PBRs, the Technical Executives of the Board and during the vetting exercise of the Technical Expert Committee at the Taluk Level, before being accepted by the BMCs. Any updates to the documented PBR may also be done by the jurisdictional BMC.

The Board suggested that Dr. Mahadeva Murthy and Dr. Niranjana Murthy may provide recommendations in relation to documentation of PBRs in consultation with the non-officio members of the Board.

4. The fund-flow for PBRs documentation was discussed and it was decided that the funds for the documentation of PBRs are to be routed through the office of the PCCF(HoFF) to the concerned DCF(SF) so that the Head Office, Aranya Bhavan, can review the progress in monthly or quarterly review meetings.

38/4 – Strengthening of Biodiversity Management Committees:

The members discussed the matter in detail and resolved that a detailed proposal may be sent to the Government for necessary action to amend the rules.

38/5 - Karnataka Identification, Notification, Management and Conservation of Biodiversity Heritage Sites Rules, 2018 (Draft)

The Member Secretary briefed the Board regarding the draft Rules prepared by the Expert Committee and it was resolved to submit the draft of the Karnataka Identification, Notification, Management and Conservation of Biodiversity Heritage Sites Rules, 2018, it was decided to submit the draft rules for further examination to the Principal Secretary, E&E, for further action.

38/6 - Areas of interest on calling for research proposals:

The matter was discussed and it was resolved that research proposals shall be invited from recognised academic institutions in the field of biodiversity for which general criteria may be worked out by the MS before inviting the proposals. The proposals so obtained may then be examined by the Technical Expert Committee of the Board before awarding the study.

38/7- Legal action against defaulting entities and filing of complaints:

The Board noted that, since filing of complaints against 20 entities, apart from the 5 complaints that are already filed in the jurisdictional Courts, is in progress and also considering the fact that there is only one advocate with the Board for the filing of complaints, it was resolved to focus on the cases that are being filed and pursue legal action against traders after disposal of the same.

It was also resolved that the authorised officer of the Board shall be the litigating officer for the cases in and around Bangalore and the authorised officers of the Forest Department (as per the Gazette of India notification dated 12th January 2009) shall be filing cases in locations/jurisdictions away from Bangalore.

Further, the ACS, DFEE, suggested a condition to be included in the industrial licenses issued by the competent authorities like, Drugs Controller Department and Industries and Commerce Department, so that the Biological Diversity Act is enforced more efficiently, for which, a specific proposal examining the relevant Act of that Licensing Authority be sent to the Government for issue of directions in this regard.

38/8 - ABS Agreement document for access to biological resources for commercial utilization:

The Board noted the matter and approved the same.

38/9 - Auction of the confiscated Red Sanders by Karnataka Forest Department:

The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), following its 41st Authority meeting, forwarded the report of the Expert Committee on Red Sanders, wherein it was recommended that the benefits accrued from the sale of confiscated Red Sanders (seized/confiscated other than in AP-source unknown), may be shared in the ratio of 70% to Andhra Pradesh and 30% to the NBA. The report of the same was marked by the NBA as information to the Board.

The matter was discussed in detail. As per Section 18 (3)(a) of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002, the NBA's function is to advise the Central Government on the matters related ABS for further acceptance or otherwise. In the event of acceptance by the Central Government, a Notification has to be issued by the GoI under Section 64 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 to this effect. Since, there is no such Notification issued, the Board decided to seek clarification from MoEF&CC as to how to deal with such cases.

38/10 – Legal Advice for the Board:

The Member Secretary briefed the Board that there are issues in practical operationalising some of the provisions of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and that the advocate Mr. H.K. Vasanth is for the litigations on behalf of the Board. After detailed deliberation, the Board resolved to seek legal advice on a case-by-case through a panel of legal experts.

38/11 – Salary Enhancement of Supporting Staff and Research Associate (Zoology):

The Board noted that the supporting staff and the research associates of the Board are hired through manpower agencies and therefore are not eligible for the recommendation of the Sixth Pay Commission. Any revision in the salary may be done as per the agreement with the manpower agency and, therefore, decided and suggested to prepare a revised proposal and presented in the next Board Meeting.

38/12 – Revision of TA and DA for Technical Staff:

The Board noted the matter and approved the same.

38/13 – Continuation of the services of Staff of ABS Cell:

The Board resolved to call for a re-notification for the post of the Consultant (ABS) with the approval of the Government as per Rule 13(vii) of the Karnataka Biological Diversity Rules, 2005.

38/14 - UNEP-GEF-MoEF-ABS Project on “Strengthening the implementation of the Biological Diversity Act and Rules with focus on its ABS Provisions”

The Board noted the matter.

38/15 – Any other subject with the permission of the Chair.

It was suggested in the Board meeting that an action plan indicating the list of activities and programs for the financial year should be prepared and shall be placed for approval at the next Board meeting. Further, the activities taken up as per the action plan shall also be presented in every meeting of the Board as an agenda.

It was suggested to hold the next Board meeting in the month of September, 2018.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks by the Member Secretary to the Chair and all the members present.

Sd/-
Chairman
Karnataka Biodiversity Board
Bengaluru

Sd/-
Member Secretary
Karnataka Biodiversity Board
Bengaluru