



GOA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD

C/o Department of Science, Technology & Environment

Opp. Saligao Seminary, SaligaoBardez, Goa – 403511.

Website: www.gsbb.goa.gov.in Email: goanbiodiversity@gmail.com

No. 20-1-2024/GSBB/Meet/ 906

Dated: 03.03.2025

To,

1. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Goa Forest Department, Van Bhavan Panaji Goa.
2. The Director, Department of Environment & Climate Change,
4th Floor, Dempo Tower, Patto Panaji- Goa.
3. The Director, Directorate of Fisheries, Panaji- Goa
4. The Director, Directorate of Agriculture, Toncar, Panaji-Goa
5. The Chief Engineer, Water Resources Department, Porvorim Goa
6. Dr. Parveen Kumar, Director, ICAR-CCARI,
Old Goa, Tiswadi- Goa
7. Dr. Baban Ingole, Bambolim-Goa
8. Shri. Rajendra Kerkar, Keri, Sattari- Goa
9. Shri. Parag Rangnekar, Vasco, Goa
10. Shri. Nirmal Kulkarni, Mapusa-Goa

Members of the
GSBB as on 19th
December 2024
as per
notification
no.7/17/92/STE/
Part/975 dated
23rd December
2021

Sub: Minutes of the 44th Board Meeting (Regular meeting) of Goa State Biodiversity Board, held on 16th December 2024 at Conference hall, Ministerial Block, Secretariat- Porvorim, Goa.

Sir/Madam,

Please find attached vide email the Minutes of the 44th Board Meeting (Regular meeting) of Goa State Biodiversity Board, held on 16th December 2024 at Conference hall, Ministerial Block, Secretariat- Porvorim, Goa, for your inputs if any. If no inputs are received in a week time, then the same will be considered as deemed.

Please note that the hard copy of the Minutes shall not be circulated unless specifically requested. Kindly acknowledge the receipt of this communication.

Thanking you.



Yours faithfully,

Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam
Member Secretary, GSBB

जीववैविध्यरक्षास्यात्जनानां भाविभूतये

ध्यानसेसंवर्धनजैव-विविधताका
उज्ज्वलभवितव्यहोगाअगलीपीढीका

जतनायेनसांवाळजैव-विविधतायेचो
परजळीतफुडारफुडलेपिळगेचो

काळजीपूर्वकजनजैव-
विविधतेचंउज्ज्वलभवितव्यपुढच्यापिढीचं

Careful Conservation of Biodiversity
Bright Future for Prosperity!



MINUTES OF THE 44TH BOARD MEETING OF GOA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD

TYPE OF MEETING: Regular

DATE: 16th December 2024

TIME: 03.00 PM

VENUE: FIRST FLOOR "CONFERENCE HALL", MINISTERIAL BLOCK, PORVORIM, GOA

THE MEETING WAS CHAIRED BY SHRI ALEIXO SEQUEIRA, HON'BLE MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE, GOVERNMENT OF GOA, CHAIRPERSON, GOA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD.

The following members attended the meeting:

Sr. No.	Name	Designation
1	Shri Aleixo Sequeira, Hon'ble Minister for Environment & Climate Change, Chairperson Goa State Biodiversity Board	Chairperson
2	Shri. Johnson B. Fernandes, The Director, Department of Environment & CC	Ex-officio Member
3	The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Goa Forest Department, Van Bhavan, Panaji Goa rep. by CF (Conservation)	Ex-officio Member
4	Director, Directorate of Fisheries was represented by Shri. C.D. Velip. Dy. Director	Ex-officio Member
6	Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam, Member Secretary, Goa State Biodiversity Board Goa	Member Secretary, Goa State Biodiversity Board
7	Dr. Baban Ingole	Expert Member
8	Shri. Rajendra Kerkar	Expert Member

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The Director, Directorate of Agriculture, Tonca, Panaji Goa (Ex officio Member), the Chief Engineer, Water Resources Department, Porvorim, Goa (Ex officio Member), Shri. Nirmal Kulkarni (Expert Member), Shri. Parag Rangnekar (Expert Member) & Dr. Parveen Kumar, Director, ICAR-CCARI, Old Goa (Expert Member) were not present for the 44th Board meeting of Goa State Biodiversity Board.

In addition, the following special invitees were present for the meeting as members / team leaders of the Core Committee of Goa Strategy & Biodiversity Action Plan (GSBSAP):

Prof. Malapati Janarthanam

Prof. I.K.PAI

Prof. Manoj Borkar

Dr. Dattaram B. Desai

Mr. Dipak Bowalkar (Representative for Dr. Nitin Sawant)

Dr. Basudev Tripathy, ZSI, Pune

Dr. Charlette Elvina Fernandes, Asst. Dir.(Dept. of A.H & V. S)

Dr. Rajiv K. Chaturvedi (BITS)

Shri. Suhas J. Godse

Arch. Kamalakar Sadhale

Mrs. Gulab Borkar

Dr. Geetanjali Sardessai Kare (IDSP DHS)

Dr. Rajendra Kanekar (IDSP DHS)

Penha De Franca Biodiversity Committee Chairperson & Member: Shri. Ganpat V. Sidhaye & Shri. Ghanashyam P. Naik were invited to give presentation on the proposed BHS of Penha de Franca.

At the onset, Shri Aleixo Sequeira, Chairperson of Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB), Hon'ble Minister for Environment and Climate Change, extended a warm welcome to the members of the Board for the 44th Board Meeting of Goa State Biodiversity Board and other invitees.

All members present in the meeting introduced themselves, and with the permission of Chairperson GSBB, M.S. GSBB presented the agenda to all the members of the Board for detailed discussion and deliberation.



Agenda 1: Confirmation of the proceedings of the 43rd Board Meeting of Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB) held on 29.08.2024.

The Minutes of the 43rd Board meeting were presented by M.S. of GSBB to all the members of the Board present for the meeting. The same were unanimously approved. Proposed by – Dr. Baban Ingole, Expert Member, GSBB and Seconded by – Shri. Johnson B. Fernandes, Director, Department of Environment &CC, Ex-Officio Member, GSBB

Agenda 2: Action Taken Report of 43rd Board Meeting held on 29.08.2024.

The action taken report was presented by MS, GSBB, following points were discussed in detail:

Mhadei River Diversion: it was suggested by the Hon'ble Minister to get the draft resolutions of GSBB checked by WRD in consultation with the Environment Department with respect to ESA contents before handing them over to the Dept. of WRD.

Sustainable Harvesting Guidelines: It was resolved to take comments from Forest Department and send forward.

Guidelines for managing Biodiversity Heritage Sites: Since the Board approved and it is resolved to send the same to the Law Department for vetting.

Conservation Restoration Cell: the need to establish the Conservation-Restoration Cell was once again reiterated by MS, GSBB. However, it was suggested that any work involving construction and demolition work should be given to PWD or WRD under the supervision of GSBB's Green Skilling Committee.

Benefits to GSBB staff: It was resolved to check the benefits provided by other Government departments and apply the same to GSBB staff.

Agenda 3: Regarding status/progress of Biodiversity Heritage Sites in Goa and detailed deliberation on each proposed BHS was given in the order as given below:



- a. **Curtorim Biodiversity Heritage Site:** Ralloi tollem to Zuari - integrated traditional agro-pisci-ecosystem issues/grievances of stakeholders pending for resolving. Grievance Committee meeting held on 05.12.2024.

It was informed that further action in this matter will be taken as decided in the grievance meeting held on 05.12.2024.

Chicalim Bay: Habitat of endangered species of Goa- Window pane oyster (*Placuna placenta*) - pending for meeting with Mormugao Port Trust to resolve ownership issue of the designated site.

It was decided to deliberate with the Chicalim BHS committee to study the consequences if any of notification of Chicalim Bay as BHS on industries existing in the bay area which are likely to be affected, for which it is necessary to study the report submitted by the 12 member BHS committee. Further it was decided to request Captain of Ports & other relevant departments to submit list of industries existing in the bay area.

- b. **Rivona plateau:** Unique flora of Goa, *Dipcadi goaense* – On inquiry from Hon'ble Chairperson, GSBB about the reason that this site is pending BHS declaration, MS GSBB replied that since land belongs to Comunidade of Rivona they are in the process of obtaining NOC from Comunidade and same is pending. Chairperson, GSBB opined that when the Biological Diversity Act authorises to declare any land with significant biodiversity importance why separate NOC is required, GSBB can go ahead and declare and notify the same as BHS. It was hence decided to explore the possibility of notifying the area without having to acquire the same by the Government.

- c. **Penha de Franca BHS "Sateri Lake- Sacred Grove",** Haliwada, Britona, Penha de Franca – BMC of Penha de Franca approval from the Board is sought to move the file for the draft notification of the BHS. Shri. Ganpat Sidhaye, Chairperson of Penha de Franca (PDF) BMC gave a detailed presentation of the need to notify the Sateri Sacred Grove as BHS. He was accompanied by Shri. Ghanashyam Naik, PDF BMC Member. During the ensuing deliberations, it was suggested to reconsider notifying the entire



area as BHS as against considering a smaller area – survey number wherein the Sateri sacred grove is located. Further, the Board declined BHS proposal to consider giving annuity to owners of the land to be declared as BHS.

New proposals received for BHS by GSBB are as follows:

- a. **Golden Jackal habitat at Surla**—The area to be designated is yet to be finalized, and further formalities are pending.
- b. **Sacred grove at Rivona** - The owner has expressed willingness to donate the area of pandanus grove regarded as sacred, but formal proposal from BMC is yet to be received.
- c. **Sacred grove/tank at Bom Viagem hill Calangute** - Formal proposal from BMC is yet to be received.

MS, GSBB, explained briefly regarding each of the newly proposed BHS's. In addition to the above-mentioned sites, MS, GSBB also informed about considering the proposed BHS i.e. Cave at Verna —Mormugao, the Matoma grove at Quellossim—Mormugao, and the Sandalwood grove at Bandora—Ponda.

Agenda 4: Management of notified BHS sites, BHS rules and scheme or way ahead.

MS, GSBB explained the need for preparing and notifying rules for Management of notified BHS sites. Board members were requested to provide inputs for drafting the same.

Agenda 5: Presentation of draft Goa State Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan for approval to be released in public by core committee – plan for consultations to be approved.

The team leaders & members of sub committees of Goa State Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan (GSBSAP) joined the meeting for this agenda. With the permission of the Chair, M.S. GSBB requested all these special invitees to introduce

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themselves. The M.S. GSBB presented draft Goa State Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan in form of power point presentation. M.S. GSBB explained all the targets of action plan along with its timeline. He requested all members to add their inputs to the targets within a stipulated time. He further requested all to finalize their assigned chapters of of Goa State Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan (GSBSAP) and same need to be sent for further approval and notification.

Agenda 6: Any other point with the permission of the Chairperson.

Chairman of GSBB directed that, henceforth, for GSBB board meeting all the HODs who are members of Board must attend the meeting.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks by Chairperson GSBB.



Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam
Member Secretary, GSBB