

**MINUTES OF THE 12<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE GOA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD,  
HELD ON 26/02/2007 AT SECRETARIAT, PORVORIM – GOA**

The 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB) was held in the Conference Hall (Ministerial Block) of the Secretariat, Porvorim-Goa on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2007 at 11.30am. Dr. Wilfred de Souza, Hon'ble Dy. Chief Minister/Chairman (GSBB) chaired the said meeting.

The following members attended the meeting

Sr. No	Name	Designation
1.	Dr. Wilferd de Souza, Hon'ble Dy. Chief Minister /Minister for Environment	Chairman
2.	Dr. Irene Furtado, Reader, Dept. of Microbiology, Goa University, Bambolim Goa	Member
3.	Dr (Mrs) Kasturi Desai, Reader, Dept. of Botany, PES College, Ponda Goa	Member
4.	Dr. Benjamin Vargis, Zonal Director, Fishery Survey of India	Member
5.	Shri Joseph S. Rauto de Souza	Member Secretary

In addition, the following officials attached to GSBB, also attended the said meeting.

1. Shri Deepak K. Parab
2. Mrs. Pansy Pinho

The following members expressed their inability to attend the said meeting due to pre-occupation.

- i. Director, National Institute of Oceanography,
- ii. Dr. Baban Ingole, Senior Scientist, NIO.
- iii. Director, Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR), Old Goa
- iv. Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt of Goa
- v. Director of Animal Husbandry, Govt. of Goa
- vi. Director of Fisheries, Govt. of Goa
- vii. Dr. M.K.Janarthanam, Reader, Dept. of Botany, Goa University, Bambolim Goa

Dr. Wilfred de Souza, Chairman GSBB, welcomed the members. Thereafter, the Member Secretary expressed regrets for the inability to convey the meeting at an earlier date.

1. **Agenda No.1: Confirming of the 11<sup>th</sup> Board meeting minutes:** The minutes of the 11<sup>th</sup> Board meeting were read and approved by the members
2. **Agenda No. 2: Finalization of the laying foundation stone for establishment of "Medicinal & Herb Park" at DST&E, Saligao, Bardez, Goa:** The Chairman desired that the foundation stone could be laid in the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of March. It is informed that a date would be communicated.

3. Agenda No. 3: Review of activities and progress of Goa State Biodiversity Board:

- a. Teachers Training Workshop: The Members were appraised on the proposal to conduct the collaborative "Teachers Training Workshop" on the topic "Biodiversity" with CPRE Chennai.
- b. Beach Cleaning Drives: it was suggested to organize beach-cleaning drives in selected beaches in Goa as a collaborative programme with the help of school students.
- c. Need for Awareness On Climatic Change: The Chairman suggested that an in-depth awareness programme on Global Warming, vis-à-vis, Climatic Change is the need of the hour and the board should initiate appropriate awareness drives in the state. He further suggested that the grants could be obtained from the DSTE, Govt. of Goa. The members agreed to the same.
- d. Awareness Programme On Waste Disposal And Recycling: Dr. Kasturi Desai suggested that due to the menace of waste across the state, suitable school level awareness programme should be initiated. The members agreed to the same and suggested that the DST&E could extend support to the proposal.
- e. Establishment of Herbal/ Medicinal Park: The members opined that the proposed park at DST&E, Saligao could be used for educational & academic purposes. The Member Secretary informed that a grant-in-aid of Rs. 4.00 lakhs has been released to the Goa state Council for Science & Technology by the MEOF, Gol, for establishment of Botanical Garden. The MS suggested that that the garden could form part of the herbal / medicinal park. The chairman suggested that the expertise of the Forest Dept & PWD could be utilized for park in lines with the park developed at Margao. The members welcomed the suggestion.
- f. Development of the Website: Dr. Kasturi Desai suggested that various data and research work undertaken on flora & fauna in the state could be documented in a web page proposed to be developed by the GSBB.
- g. Framing of Biodiversity Rules: The Member Secretary informed that the file of Framing of State Biodiversity Rules is submitted to the Government for consideration. The chairman opined that he would follow up the matter.

- h. Release Of Sitting Fees Of The Board Members: The members desired that the sitting fees for the meeting attended be released. The same was agreed to.
- i. Appointment of Contractual/ Work arrangement staff for GSBB: The Chairman suggested that the staff be appointed on "contract basis" due to economic measures and administrative procedures of the Government. Furthermore, as the board did not have any employee / official, at its disposal, the members agreed to the proposal to utilize the services of Mrs. Prateema Kothakar and Mrs. Pansy Pinho could be utilized for the board on contract basis as "Computer Operator @ Rs. 6000/-pm" and "Scientific Assistant @ Rs. 8000/-pm". As the GSBB had no funds, it was also agreed that the financial liability on the salaries could be incurred from the grant-in-aid received from National Biodiversity Authority.
- j. Release of Grant-in-Aid & financial assistance to the GSBB. The M.S informed that he file on the pattern of assistance /grant-in-aid was under submission to the government and the approval was awaited. The chairman informed that he would look in the matter personally and expedite the same.
- k. Recoveries of outstanding dues from Shri Satej Kamat AAO of Agriculture Department. The progress in the matter was sought. The Member Secretary informed that the matter has been referred to the Directorate of Agriculture and response is awaited.

**Agenda No.4: Formation of Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC) and Peoples Biodiversity Registrars (PBR) for the Municipal councils and village Panchayat:**

The members suggested that an awareness workshop and meeting be organized at Panchayat and Municipal levels on the need for formation of "Peoples Biodiversity Registers" and "Biodiversity Management Committees". This would appraise the concerned officials on the need for the establishing the PBR & BMC. It was also suggested to interact with the NGO's for the said purpose.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.