

C/49

PROCEEDINGS OF THE XVI GOA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD (GSBB)
MEETING HELD ON 25TH JANUARY 2013 AT 04:00 PM UNDER THE
CHAIRPERSONSHIP OF SMT. ALINA SALDANHA, HON' BLE MINISTER FOR
FOREST & ENVIRONMENT, AT SECRETARIAT, PORVORIM-GOA

The following members attended the meeting:

Sr. No	Name	Designation
1	Smt. Alina Saldanha Hon'ble Minister for Environment and Forest	Chairperson
2	Mr. Richard D'Souza Principal Chief Conservator of Forest	Member
3	Mr. Sandeep Nadkarni , Chief Engg. (WRD)	Member
4	Mr. Sanjeev Joglekar (Representing in place of Levinson Martins)	Member
5	Dr. Joe D'Souza	Member
6	Shri. Mahesh Kanolkar	Member
7	Dr. Nitin S. Sawant	Member Secretary

Mr. Levinson Martin MS, (GSPCB) and Director / ex – Officio Jt. Secretary (STE), **Mr. Satish Tendulkar**, Director, Directorate of Agriculture, Member, and **Shri. Celso Dias** could not attend the meeting and were granted leave of absence.

At the outset, Smt. Alina Saldanha, Hon'ble Minister for Environment and Forest/Chairperson, GSBB welcomed the members.

Agenda item 1: Confirmation of the proceedings of the last (XV) meeting held on 26th November 2012 at Secretariat.

The proceedings of the XV meeting of the GSBB held on 26th November 2012 were placed before the Board and they were confirmed. Subsequently and with due permission from the Chair, Dr. Nitin Sawant, Member Secretary (GSBB) proceeded further with the agenda.

Agenda item 2: Action taken on the suggestions/recommendations made during the XV GSBB meeting

Member Secretary (GSBB) apprised the Board of the action taken on the decisions taken during previous meeting. He informed the Board that Staff recruitment process is almost complete and the staff will join in February, 2013. Once the staff is in place, the Board will be in the process of forming BMCs & PBRs which is the core area of GSBB. Dr. Nitin also informed the Board that the Hon'ble Chairperson has been kind enough in facilitating and supporting him to carry on the activities by the Board.

Agenda item 3: Status of recruitment of staff on contract basis

Member Secretary informed the Board that the process of recruitment of staff is almost completed. Interviews were conducted on 14th January 2013 and a formality through proper channel has been sought. Presently we are recruiting five staff members on contractual basis (Project Assistant II, Accounts Clerk, Stenographer, LDC, and one Peon), for one year. The Project Assistant I could not be selected as committee did not find any satisfactory candidate among those who attended the interview. Committee recommended re-advertising for the post again.

Agenda item 4: Discussion on Biodiversity Rules for the State

The Board approved the existing draft of rules and requested Member Secretary to send the same for further suggestions/modification to NBA. Board members also recommended that any changes or amendments required would be addressed in future.

Agenda item 5: Requirement of Accountant

Member Secretary suggested that it is essential to have an Accountant (Retired), experienced in government sector. Shri Richard D'Sousa, Mr. Sandeep Nadkarni and Mr. Mahesh Kandolkar suggested on taking services of Mr. Pramod Ramani or Mr. Damu Naik (Retired Accountant) of Government, on temporary basis to handle the accounts of GSBB. This was agreed by the Board.

Agenda item 6: Formation of PBR & BMC

Member Secretary informed the Board that once the staff and rules are in place it will start the formation of BMCs & PBRs all over the state, in phases. He also informed the Board that two days orientation workshop has been proposed by NBA to address the issues pertaining to the smooth functioning of the Board and on the second day there will be discussion with other stakeholders which includes, NGOs, Scientific community, Educational Institutes, Universities etc. The proposal has been accepted and the Board started working on the same. The dates have been finalized as the 25th and 26th of February, 2013.

Agenda item 7: Purchase of vehicle.

Member Secretary informed the Board that NBA is willing to provide grant- in- aid towards office use. During the visit of Shri. Achalendor Reddy, Secretary (NBA), he suggested the purchase of a vehicle for the Board. Due to constrain in transferring the amount from personnel to purchase vehicle, the Board suggested to either transfer one vehicle to GSBB from DST&E or a request may be made to provide a new vehicle from Government.

Agenda item 8: Action orientation on biodiversity concern areas on priority

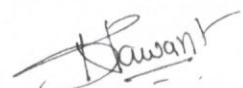
Member Secretary informed the Board that there is a need to act proactively as violations in the Eco-sensitive areas are increasing day by day. He further suggested that there is a communication gap as well as lack of coordination from other concerned Departments in addressing these issues.

Agenda item 9: Discussion on any other matter with prior permission of the chair.

- (a) Mr. Sandeep Nadkarni suggested to go in a stepwise manner to achieve the goals of GSBB
- (b) Mr. Sandeep Nadkarni suggested to register all the BMCs & PBRs under Societies Act to avoid any mismanagement of funds and better functioning of the same.
- (c) Dr. Joe D'Souza suggested to have a logo for the Biodiversity Board, it was further suggested by other members to have a competition to get the best logo.
- (d) Dr. Joe D'Souza, suggested to provide identity cards to all the Board members, but the suggestion was rejected as there might be a possibility of misusing the same by members as this has happened in the past.
- (e) Mr. Richard D'Souza showed the concern on financial aspect and asked Member Secretary to collect the copy of financial guidelines from him.
- (f) Mr. Richard D'Souza informed the Board that ICAR is in the process of publishing a book by different authors on Biodiversity of Goa. He further recommended to see the possibility of sponsoring the same through GSBB/NBA.
- (g) The Board jointly took a resolution that all the administrative decisions should be strictly taken up by Hon Chairperson, which was accepted.
- (h) Member Secretary informed the Board that as per his discussion with NBA Secretary, the minutes should be circulated before finalizing the minutes. But all the members refused the same and requested Member Secretary to finalise the minutes on his own and the same can be discussed and confirmed during next Board meeting.

Chairperson suggested that Member Secretary should convene next meet within 60 days, so as to finalise the rules and other matters of the Board. It was agreed upon by all the Board members.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.



Dr. Nitin S. Sawant