

c/23

DRAFT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE 24TH MEETING OF GOA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD (GSBB) HELD ON 10TH April 2015 AT 10.00 AM IN THE CHAMBER OF HON. MINISTER FOR FOREST AND ENVIRONMENT AT THE SECRETARIAT, PORVORIM, BARDEZ-GOIA UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF SMT. ALINA SALDANHA, HON. MINISTER FOR FOREST AND ENVIRONMENT, CHAIRPERSON, GOA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD.

The following members attended the meeting:

Sr. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Smt. Alina Saldanha Hon. Minister for Forest and Environment	Chairperson
2.	Shri. Srinet Kothwale Director, Department of Science, Technology and Environment	Member
3.	Shri. S. K. Agarwal, IFS Principal Chief Conservator of Forest	Member
4.	Shri. A.G. Bhagwat Representative from Department of Water Resources	Member
5.	Shri. Sanjeev Joglekar Representative from Goa State Pollution control Board	Member
6.	Smt. Ana Camara Representative from Directorate of Agriculture	Member
7.	Dr. Joe D'Souza	Member
8.	Shri. Celso Dias	Member
9.	Dr. Bhiva Malik	Member
10.	Dr. Nitin Sawant	Member Secretary
11.	Shri. Benjamin Silva Hon'ble MLA of Velim Constituency	Special Invitee

Shri. Mahesh Kandolkar (member) could not attend the meeting and was granted leave of absence.

At the outset, Smt. Alina Saldanha, Hon'ble Minister for Forest and Environment; Chairperson, Goa State Biodiversity Board welcomed the members.

Agenda 1: Confirmation of the minutes of 23rd Board meeting held on 12th December 2014 and Special meeting held on 18th February 2015

Dr. Joe D'Souza queried regarding his submissions made on the minutes of the 24th Board meeting. It was informed that the comment related to the re-advertising of the posts was taken up during the special meeting held on 18th February 2015 and the

submission related to inclusion of Shri. Francis Coelho in Thematic Expert Committees was complied with.

The Board approved the minutes of the 23rd Board meeting and special meeting held on 12th December, 2014 and 18th February 2015 respectively and reviewed the compliance.

Agenda 2: Action taken report of 23rd Board meeting held on 28th November 2014 and special meeting held on 18th February 2015.

The action taken report of 23rd Board meeting and Special meeting was circulated during the meeting and the members were requested to review the same.

Agenda 3: Celebration of International Day for Biological Diversity 22nd May 2015 on the theme – Biodiversity for Sustainable Development

The Member Secretary informed the Board regarding the theme of the IBD 2015 to be celebrated on 22nd May 2015 and invited suggestions from the members to conduct activities for the said event. After discussion and due deliberation it was decided to organize a one day seminar on the theme "Biodiversity for Sustainable Development" and conduct competitions for School/college students.

Agenda 4: Status of BMC formation & PBR

The Board was appraised on the status of BMC's and was informed that 14 PBR's have been initiated till date.

Agenda 5: Issues:

a) Colva lake-NGT matter – Biodiversity assessment study (Annexure III)

The Board was informed that the matter was discussed during the Special meeting held on 26th March 2015 and it was decided to invite expression of interest. After discussion and due deliberation it was resolved that since the Goa University has not been able to take up the study on time and also TERI has expressed its inability to conduct the study the Board may invite Expression of Interest and scrutinize the proposals received by constituting expert committee.

b) Complaint from Colva Civic & Consumer Forum regarding Construction of illegal road in CRZ between approximately between 50 to 500 meters of the HTL threatening the last Bastion of rich Biodiversity in the Colva-Sernabatim Coastal Belt.

With regards to the complaint received from Colva Civic Forum it was resolved to conduct site inspection.

022

ie
n.
ng
nt,

rater

e said

ant
(GSBB)

a State

c) **Comments from Rony Dias regarding Concretization of Lakes – Sappu Tolem – Velim & SaipemTolem – Navelim from Salcete Taluka.**

With regards to the comments submitted by Shri. Rony Dias it was decided to forward the same to the Water Resources Department. Further the Hon'ble MLA, Velim Constituency (special invitee) requested the Board to permit the Water Resources Department to carry out the pending project of Sappu tollem. He further informed that the said project is in public interest and as the Monsoon is approaching the project needs to be completed on urgent basis this was seconded by the Water Resource Department representative. It was further informed that only one wall (bund) will be concretized wherever required. The other three sides and the bottom of the lake will be naturally maintained in its present state without any changes. After discussion and due deliberation it was resolved that since the project is in the interest of the public and that only one wall will be concretized and the bottom and other sides of the lake will be naturally maintained in its present the said project may be permitted.

Agenda 6: Letter sent to GSPCB to carry out water sample analysis of the Lake in Velim

It was informed that, pursuant to the meeting held on 01/01/2015 between the Hon'ble MLA of Velim Constituency; Chairperson, GSBB; Member Secretary, GSBB and Shri. Abhijeet Prabhudesai (complainant) the GSBB had requested the GSPCB to analyze the quality of water from the Velim lake and submit the report to GSBB. The representative of GSPCB informed that the same will be submitted by next week.

Agenda 7: The Chairperson, Member Secretary and Scientific Officer attended the States Forest and Environment Ministers Conference at New Delhi from 6th to 7th April 2015.

The Board was informed regarding the participation of the Chairperson, Member Secretary, and Scientific Officer in the States Forest and Environment Ministers Conference at New Delhi.

Agenda 8: Preparation Goa State Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

The Member Secretary informed the Board that the Goa Foundation (NGO) has already prepared the State Biodiversity Action plan. He further proposed that the GSBB may adopt the same with prior permission of Goa Foundation and modify it if necessary. The Board approved the same.

c/20
119

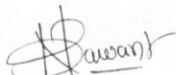
Agenda 9: Identification of sites for BHS declaration

It was informed that during the States Forest and Environment Ministers Conference at New Delhi the Chairman, NBA enquired regarding the number of Biodiversity Heritage Sites (BHS) declared by the States and has urged the states to expedite the same. In this regards the Chairperson sought the opinion of the Board members and requested to suggest sites that can be declared as BHS. After discussion and due deliberation it was decided to invite suggestion from the BMC's.

Agenda 10: Any other points with the permission of the Chairperson

- a) **The unfounded allegation regarding the educational qualification of the Member Secretary of the Board appearing in the weekly newspaper "The Goan on Saturday" (28th February 2015).**

The chairperson informed the Board that the said matter was discussed during the Special meeting held on 26th March 2015 and circulated the clarification issued by the Goa University amongst the members.


Dr. Nitin Sawant
(Member Secretary)