



GOA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD

C/o Department of Science, Technology & Environment
Opp. Saligao Seminary, Saligao, Bardez, Goa – 403511.

Website: www.gsbb.goa.gov.in E-mail: goanbiodiversity@gmail.com

Phone No-(0832) 2407032 Fax-2407033

No. 7/17/2019-20/GSBB/Meet/007/178

Dated: 18.07.2019

To,

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Panaji - Goa
2. The Chief Engineer, Water Resources Department, Porvorim- Goa
3. The Director, Directorate of Agriculture, Panaji - Goa
4. The Director, Directorate of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services, Panaji- Goa.
5. The Director, Directorate of Fisheries, Panaji- Goa.
6. Shri. Nirmal Kulkarni, Mapusa– Goa
7. Shri. Parag Rangnekar, Vasco-da-Gama - Goa
8. Shri. Rajendra Kerkar, Keri, Sattari- Goa.
9. Dr. Chandrashekhkar Rivonkar, Department of Marine Sciences, Goa University.

SUB: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE 30TH BOARD MEETING (REGULAR MEETING) OF GOA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD (GSBB)

Sir,

With reference to our letter no. 7/17/2019-20/GSBB/Meet/007/133 dated: 17th June 2019 regarding above mentioned subject, kindly be informed that till date no comments were received from any Board members of GSBB.

Hence same are considered as approved and shall be read as “Minutes of the Meeting of the 30th Board Meeting (Regular Meeting) of the Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB) held on 13th June 2019, under the Chairmanship of Shri. Nilesh Cabral, Hon’ble Minister for Environment; Chairperson, GSBB.

Thanking you.



Yours faithfully,

**Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam
Member Secretary, GSBB**

Enclosed: Minutes of the Meeting of the 30th Board Meeting (Regular Meeting) of the Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB) held on 13th June 2019 for your perusal and office records.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE 30TH BOARD MEETING OF GOA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD (GSBB)

TYPE OF MEETING: REGULAR MEETING

DATE: 13TH JUNE 2019;

TIME: 3:30 PM ONWARDS

VENUE: "CONFERENCE HALL", MINISTERIAL BLOCK, SECRETARIAT, PORVORIM, BARDEZ, GOA

MEETING WAS CHAIRED BY SHRI. NILESH CABRAL, HON'BLE. ENVIRONMENT MINISTER, GOVERNMENT OF GOA, CHAIRPERSON, GOA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD.

The following members attended the meeting:

| Sr. No. | Name | Designation |
|----------------|---|--------------------|
| 1. | Shri. Nilesh Cabral, Hon'ble. Environment Minister, Government of Goa, Chairperson, Goa State Biodiversity Board. | Chairperson |
| 2. | Shri. Ravi Jha, IAS, Director, Department of Environment, Porvorim- Goa . | Special invitee |
| 3. | Director, Directorate of Panchayats, was represented by Smt. Siddhi Haldankar, Addnl. Director & Smt. Fiona Cardozo. | Special invitee |
| 4. | Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, was represented by Shri. Santosh Kumar, IFS, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, | Ex Officio Member |
| 5. | Chief Engineer, Department of Water Resources, was represented by Shri. B.V.Pujari | Ex Officio Member |

(Signature) (P)



| | | |
|-----|--|-------------------|
| 6. | Director, Directorate of Agriculture, was represented by Smt. Rena Menezes, Assistant Director, Directorate of Agriculture | Ex Officio Member |
| 7. | Shri. Vinesh V. Arlenkar, Director, Directorate of Fisheries | Ex Officio Member |
| 8. | Dr. Santosh V. Desai, Director, Directorate of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services | Ex Officio Member |
| 9. | Shri. Parag Rangnekar | Expert Member |
| 10. | Shri. Nirmal Kulkarni | Expert Member |
| 11. | Shri. Rajendra Kerkar | Expert Member |
| 12. | Dr. Chandrashekher Rivonker | Expert Member |
| 13. | Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam | Member Secretary |

At the onset, Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam, Member Secretary, Goa State Biodiversity Board extended a warm welcome to the members of the Board. He briefed the members about various activities of GSBB including Thematic Expert Committees. As decided during 29th Board meeting, State Biodiversity Conservation Awards for 2018-19 were conferred during celebration of International Day for Biological Diversity held on 8th June 2019. He also requested Ex-Officio GSBB members to attend public consultations whenever conducted, especially during International Day for Biological Diversity and also to extend their support in taking ahead the advisory (providing priority conservation focus programs derived from PBR) communicated by GSBB after final validation of People's Biodiversity Register (PBR).

Chairperson of GSBB, Hon'ble. Minister for Environment, Shri. Nilesh Cabral, extended warm welcome to the Board members and special invitees. All the members and special invitees introduced themselves.

Agenda 1: Confirmation of the proceedings of the 29th Board Meeting (Regular/Ordinary Meeting) of Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB) held on 04th October 2017 and same was continued on 23rd October 2017.



The minutes of the 29th Board Meeting were confirmed by the Board Members present at the meeting, Proposed by – Shri. Parag Rangnekar & Seconded by Dr. Santosh Desai.

Agenda 2: Action taken report of 29th Board Meeting (Regular/Ordinary Meeting) of Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB) held on 04th October 2017 and same was continued on 23rd October 2017:

Only the significant points in progress were discussed. The other complied points were circulated for information and compliance was intimated to GSBB Board members.

Agenda 3: Trailing/pending points from Action Taken Report of 29th Board Meeting to be discussed.

Most significant points are:

- **Agenda 12: B) Permanent Skeletal Staff at GSBB.**

This point is taken up freshly ahead in Agenda 4 (a) and was discussed in detail.

- **Agenda 18: d) AYUSH project to be discussed and concept to be approved during meeting.**

MS, GSBB, explained about letter written to Hon'ble. AYUSH Minister Shri. Shripad Naik regarding possibility of utilizing funds and schemes of AYUSH Ministry / Goa State Medicinal Plant Board through BMC and develop sustainable livelihood models including development of open spaces & other available areas as herbal and biodiversity gardens. One such project already executed in Penha de Franca was informed. To this Hon'ble. Chairperson GSBB, assured that further follow up could be done with AYUSH ministry.

- **Agenda 18: a) Possibility of utilizing CAMPA funds for PBR, TSGs or BMCs directly for maintenance of Green Cover, strengthening of TSGs by way of providing tool kits, GPS, camera, etc.**



MS GSBB explained that the above point was discussed in the last Board meeting and response is awaited from Forest Dept. Shri. Parag Rangnekar suggested that restoration of certain degraded forest lands could be taken in association with local BMCs.

Shri. Santosh Kumar, IFS, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, informed that new guidelines are issued for the utilization of CAMPA funds and hence the proposal needs to be submitted to Forest Dept. for assessing the eligibility for funding. During the discussion, MS GSBB also informed that the suggestions were submitted to Forest Dept. to address human animal conflict and that joint efforts could be taken by adopting active BMCs from South and North district. APCCF assured to check with the office and do the needful.

To this Hon'ble. Chairperson GSBB, insisted follow up and action.

Agenda 4: Approval of Board to be sought for below given points:

- a) Permanent Skeletal Staff Pattern at GSBB: Existing staff may be regularized and the procedure may be expedited.**

This point was discussed in detail. The need for having permanent skeletal staff was unanimously agreed by all the Board members. MS, GSBB, informed about the existing workload, existing staff, need to mentor all BMCs, PBR and other activities of GSBB. Required positions were discussed as one scientist C, one scientist B, (post graduates in life sciences with desired qualifications) two scientific assistants (graduates in life sciences with desired qualifications), one technical assistant (IT – computer science), two LDCs, one accountant, one legal assistant, two field assistants and driver (since GSBB has its own vehicle). Above positions were approved by the Board members unanimously. Board members approved and Hon'ble. Chairperson GSBB, agreed for the same.

The detailed proposal as discussed above with details will be moved on file for further processing. To this Hon'ble. Chairperson, GSBB, assured to take all the efforts to seek Govt. approval.



b) Approval for financial proposal towards GIA for Outsourcing/Contract personnel by Goa SBB.- Reg. change of pattern

MS GSBB informed about existing outsourced staff supported by National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) grants. He informed that NBA through its letter has expressed that State has liberty to decide the pattern. Hence he said that there is need to continue this staff by utilizing full grants and continue Scientific cum Administrative Officer, Program Officer or Field Assistant within existing grants and ensure proper financial augmentation. Director Environment suggested that this arrangement could be continued with above changes and should not be mixed with staff supported under State Grant in Aid (GIA). Board members approved and Hon'ble. Chairperson GSBB, agreed for the same.

c) Premises of GSBB to be renovated, additional space of at least 20000 square meters for seed bank by GSBB.

MS, GSBB, explained that GSBB has requested for 20000 square meters space for seed bank in existing campus of Director of Science, Technology & Environment (DST). The file is under process and the same needs to be approved. He informed that seed bank committee has been constituted and is preparing the proposal for Government approval. Hon'ble. Chairperson, GSBB, and the board members approved the same unanimously.

MS, GSBB, also informed that file regarding renovation of existing premises of GSBB, is already processed, is approved and is awaiting execution. Hon'ble. Chairperson GSBB, assured to expedite the process.

d) Goa State Biodiversity Action Plan – NBAP guidelines shall be followed relevant to Goa - Committee.

Hon'ble. Chairperson, GSBB, inquired about the present status of this point. Shri. Rajendra Kerkar informed that Goa State Biodiversity Action Plan was prepared prior to notification of Biodiversity Act, 2002. MS, GSBB, explained that a small committee of Board members had met to discuss the



same and there is need to ensure alignment to National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP). Hon'ble. Chairperson suggested to relook at the same to be in alignment to NBAP, continue the efforts of expert committee members, do the needful and present it to next Board meeting for approval.

e) Peoples Biodiversity Register (PBR) – approval of three level validation system – BMC, Gram Sabha and GSBB

MS, GSBB, informed about the uniqueness of three level validation system of Peoples Biodiversity Register started by GSBB and that it was appreciated whenever presented at National levels and International level by MS, GSBB. And hence needs to be endorsed by all the Board members. Director Environment explained the process adopted in three level validations i.e. at BMC level (with assistance of Technical Support Group – TSG), Gram Sabha level and at State level by GSBB through validation committee. This was endorsed and approved unanimously by all the Board members including Hon'ble. Chairperson, GSBB.

f) Providing further financial support for further stages of Peoples Biodiversity Register (PBR), conservation and sustainable utilization of bioresources to BMCs with assistance of Thematic Expert Committees (TECs) and Technical Support Groups (TSGs) by taking programs specific to village since the Access Benefit Sharing (ABS) potential of the State is less.

MS GSBB deliberated on the above point. Hon, Chairperson GSBB, opined that there is need to identify the conservation fund available in respective departments and allocate certain portion of the schemes for conservation through BMCs as mentioned in above point. He further stated that departments should also participate and involve BMCs in execution of their schemes. To this Director Environment mentioned that Goa Coastal Zone Management Authority (GCZMA) has given some work to GSBB for execution of restoration jobs which could be implemented through BMCs. Hon, Chairperson GSBB, also cited an example how some jobs are executed across departments like Agriculture (soil conservation division) and WRD.



BMCs could also avail technical support available within Panchayat systems and identify local specific conservation works that could be taken up by the BMCs. He asked to prepare proposal in this regard in collaboration with various departments and present in the next Board meeting for approval.

- g) To advise Directorate of Panchayats to include BMC functioning report as compulsory Agenda point at every Gram Sabha. PBR conservation focus derived to be communicated to line departments for integration on priority with the schemes.**

MS, GSBB, deliberated on the need to include agenda of BMC progress at each Gram Sabha. It was suggested by the Board members that GSBB could write to Director, Directorate of Panchayats to incorporate the above point. Hon'ble. Chairperson, GSBB, also agreed for the same.

- h) Conducting BMC meetings on specific dates to ensure 4 meetings in year, auditing and other systems to be streamlined.**

This point was discussed along with previous point 4 g), regarding conducting of BMC meetings on specific dates at every quarter to ensure 4 meetings in a year, Board members authorized MS, GSBB, to propose the dates and convey to Director of Panchayats to ensure the same. Hon'ble. Chairperson, GSBB, also agreed for the same.

- i) Secretary for the BMCs of Local bodies (VP secretary or equivalent) and Urban local bodies (ULBs) and corporations (Chief Officer / Commissioner).**

While discussing above point, Hon'ble. Chairperson, GSBB, opined that Director of Municipal Administration (DMA) and Director of Panchayats both should be members of this meeting and part of the board. Since ULBs have vast areas, it is even more important to constitute BMCs at Municipal level at the earliest. Further MS GSBB informed that in addition to VP Secretaries, even other government servants having equivalent salaries to VP Secretaries are functioning as BMC secretaries in three villages. It was



unanimously approved that in Urban local bodies (ULBs) and corporations, Chief Officer or Commissioner respectively to function as secretaries.

j) Honorarium for Secretaries of BMC on annual basis subject to satisfactory performance. Amount may be proposed and approved.

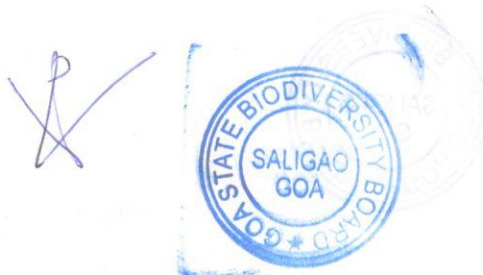
MS, GSBB, informed that during various meetings, the question was raised regarding honorarium for Secretaries of BMCs on annual basis. Hon'ble. Chairperson, GSBB, and other Board members felt that criteria have to be developed such as, (a) Meetings attended by GSBB and conducted in BMCs, (b) Support provided to BMCs, (c) Timely submissions and compliance to statutory and legal requirements and (d) Overall participation as well as relations with BMC members. It was decided that those who fulfill the criteria may be rewarded or felicitated annually with suitable award including monetary reward of Rs 5000/- (5 nos. in South Goa and 5 nos. in North Goa) rather than providing such honorarium to all the secretaries. This was approved unanimously by all the Board members including Hon'ble. Chairperson, GSBB.

k) ABS concerns - Cashew Kernel Oil (Cashew nut oil) – Edible & Nut shell liquid (CNSL) oil extraction to be brought under ABS.

Hon'ble. Chairperson, GSBB, inquired about the present system of taking decisions in this regard. MS, GSBB, provided details including availability of ABS committee. It was decided that the decision could be taken by processing the matter over file. This was approved unanimously by all the Board members including Hon'ble. Chairperson, GSBB.

l) Approval for appointment of various agencies (e.g. Hiring of vehicle, IEC, Video filming) for the period of three years.

Hon'ble. Chairperson, GSBB, inquired about the present system and said that for hiring vehicles GTDC services could be availed and other service providers could be selected in transparent way by inviting EOI and



comparing the same. This was approved unanimously by all the Board members of GSBB.

m) Purchase of two wheeler or four wheeler for GSBB.

MS, GSBB, informed that it is important to use the available Bolero for local delivery of letters, correspondence etc. Also there is need to reduce the carbon foot prints. Hon'ble. Chairperson, GSBB, advised to purchase electric two wheeler. This was approved unanimously by all the Board members of GSBB.

Agenda 5: Issues: Complaints received and action taken by GSBB (list was provided for information and inputs during the meeting).

MS, GSBB, informed that various complaints are received by GSBB which are out of purview of legal mandate of GSBB. In this regard Director Environment said that if the same complaint is received by the concerned department then there is no point in forwarding it again to the same Dept. Rather GSBB should convey the inapplicability of the legal mandate. Hon'ble. Chairperson GSBB directed that such issues should be categorized by Expert members and the strategy to deal with the same may be decided by treating the existing complaints as sample. The same may be placed before the Board in next meeting. This was approved unanimously by all the Board members of GSBB.

Agenda 6: Significant activities of GSBB for information:

- Celebration of International Day for Biological Diversity 2019 (short program was held on 22nd May, 2019, Major State Level Celebration on 08th June 2019)... *for information*
- Goa State Wetland Authority (GSWA): Functioning of GSBB as Nodal Agency for GSWA... *for information*
- Appreciation for the toolkit for PBRs received from Assam SBB & West Bengal SBB.... *for information.*



- MoU between Govind Ramnath Kare College of Law, Margao, Salgaocar Law College, Miramar and Goa University... *for information*

MS GSBB informed all the above points and the same were appreciated by the Board members of GSBB and Hon'ble. Chairperson GSBB.

Agenda 7: Regional Advisory Group Meeting of NABARD.

MS, GSBB informed that for the first time NABARD has identified BMCs as important points for State credit policy. The same were appreciated by the Board members of GSBB and Hon'ble. Chairperson GSBB.

Agenda 8: Proposal for Natural History Museum from Shri. Parag Rangnekar, Expert Member, GSBB.

Shri. Parag Rangnekar, Expert Member, GSBB suggested that natural history of Goa State is not depicted anywhere and also the various specimen samples are spread all over the country. The central place would be advisable if provided in Goa State Museum which is under process. Hon'ble. Chairperson, GSBB, suggested that the proposal could be made and submitted to the Museum and he would make efforts for the same. The Board unanimously approved the same.

Agenda 9: Implementing schemes of State Medicinal Plant Board (SMPB) for various BMCs

MS, GSBB, informed about the correspondence made to Hon'ble. AYUSH Minister, Govt. of India to explore the possibility of developing open spaces and implement the schemes of Goa State Medicinal Plant Board (GSMPB) through BMCs. To this APCCF said that if the proposals could be sent to Forest Dept. then they will get the Central funding. However Hon'ble. Chairperson, GSBB, suggested that he would make efforts to meet Hon'ble. AYUSH Minister, Govt. of India to expedite if the schemes of GSMPB could be routed through GSBB.



Agenda 10: Any other point with permission of Hon'ble. Chairperson GSBB.

MS, GSBB, informed that for the first time GSBB was recognized by MoEFCC to represent the country at 14th Conference of Parties (COP) in Sharm el Shaikh in Egypt whereby presentations were made by MS, GSBB, in UNEP GEF MoEFCC project platform and the initiatives of GSBB especially Biodiversity Tag, Three level PBR validation and other efforts were widely appreciated. Hon'ble. Chairperson GSBB, further inquired about the overall scenario at COP. The Board members of GSBB and Hon'ble. Chairperson GSBB expressed their satisfaction over the same.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks proposed by Hon'ble. Chairperson, GSBB.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Pradip Sarmokadam".

Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam
Member Secretary, GSBB