

**MINUTES OF THE 40<sup>TH</sup> BOARD MEETING OF GOA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD**

**TYPE OF MEETING: Regular**

**DATE: 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2022**

**TIME: 4.00 PM**

**VENUE: CONFERENCE HALL, SECRETARIAT PORVORIM GOA**

**MEETING WAS CHAIRED BY SHRI NILESH CABRAL, HON'BLE MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE, GOVERNEMENT OF GOA , CHAIRPERSON, GOA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD.**

The following members attended the meeting:

<b>Sr.no.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>
1	Shri Nilesh Cabral, Hon'ble Minister for Environment & Climate Change, Chairperson Goa State Biodiversity Board	Chairperson
2	Shri. Dasharath Redkar, Director, Department of Environment & Climate Change	Ex-officio Member
3	Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam, Member Secretary, Goa State Biodiversity Board	Member Secretary, Goa State Biodiversity Board & Convenor
4	Captain Venzy Viegas ,Hon'ble. MLA Benaolim Constituency	Special Invitee
5	Director, Directorate of Panchayat represented by Deputy Director of Panchayat Smt. Fiona Cardozo	Special Invitee
6	Director, Directorate of Municipal Administration represented by Junior Engineer Smt. Eleane Lisa Da Costa	Special Invitee
7	Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forest represented by Deputy Conservator of Forest Smt. Yashodha & Shri. Amit Gemawat, IFS, ACF representative of Forest Department	Expert Member
8	Director, Directorate of Fisheries , represented by Shri. Chandresh Haldankar, Supdt. Fisheries	Ex-officio Member
9	Director, Directorate of Agriculture represented by Asst. Director of Agriculture Shri Anant Hoble	Ex-officio Member
10	Director, ICAR-CCARI represented by Shri Dr. Raizada & Dr. A. R. Desai	Expert Member
11	Dr. Baban Ingole	Expert Member
12	Shri. Rajendra Kerkar	Expert Member



13	Arch.Hyacinth Pinto, Sustainable Architect, PWD	Special Invitee
14	Shri John Fernandes, RFO, Forest Department	
15	Ecocare Ecology Conservators (EEC) Mumbai representative Dr. Abhay Hule	Special Invitee
16	EEC Mumbai representative Shri. Prakash Khetekar	Special Invitee
17	EEC Mumbai representative Shri. Bruno M. Fernandes	Special Invitee
18	Shri.Suzie Fernandes, Sarpanch, Village Panchayat of Colva	Special Invitee
19	Shri Amol Tilve, Secretary, Village Panchayat of Colva & Sernabatim, Vanelim, Colva & Gandaulin Biodiversity Management Committee (SVColva G BMC)	Special Invitee
20	Shri Greyson Serrao, Colva Village Panchayat	Special Invitee
22	Shri.Pio Furtado, Colva Village Panchayat	Special Invitee
23	Shri.P.M. Fernandes, Colva Village Panchayat	Special Invitee
24	Smt. Judith Almeida, President, Colva Consumer & Civic Forum	Special Invitee
25	Smt. Shakuntala Mesquita, Member SVColva G BMC, Colva Village Panchayat	Special Invitee
26	Smt. Melini D'Costa Gracias, Chairperson, SVColva G BMC, Colva Village Panchayat	Special Invitee
27	Shri. Jovek Cardozo, representative SVColva G BMC, Colva Village Panchayat	Special Invitee
28	Shri Snowkon Gonsalves, Colva Village Panchayat	Special Invitee
29	Shri.Rodrigues Carmo, Colva Village Panchayat	Special Invitee

At the onset, Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam, Member Secretary (MS), Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB) extended a warm welcome to the members of the Board. Board members observed one minute silence to condole the death of Dr. Joe D'souza, past Board Member, GSBB & Dr. Irene Furtado, Microbial Diversity Sub Committee member of GSBB's Committee for preparation of Goa State Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan.

**Agenda 1: Confirmation of the proceedings of 39<sup>th</sup> Board meeting of Goa State Biodiversity Board held on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

The Minutes of the 39<sup>th</sup> Board meeting were presented to the members of the Board Present.





Proposed by Shri. Rajendra Kerkar

Seconded by Shri Baban Ingole

**Agenda 2: Action Taken Report (ATR) of the 39<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting**

MS GSBB presented ATR 39<sup>th</sup> Board meeting to the members present. He briefed about the points which are already complied with. Further regarding Proposed Biodiversity Heritage Site (BHS) at Chicalim the communication from MPT is awaited. Regarding Proposed BHS at Rivona Board members unanimously decided to draft notify the BHS without acquiring the area.

Regarding the ABS proposals of Mrugaya Retreat the Board collectively decided to further study the proposal through a small committee comprising of Board Members and representative of forest department, the same committee will monitor the progress of the projects sanctioned by GSBB. FPO formation is in final stages. The Agarwada land is proposed to be leased by GSBB, MS, GSBB informed that he is exploring other options too. MS, GSBB informed that regarding Theme Park at Mopa Director Civil aviation is consulting Government Approval for the same.

MS, GSBB further informed that Grievance committee meeting to address the objections received for Draft Notification of Curtorim BHS is scheduled to be on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022.

**Agenda 3: Regarding Constitution of BMCs at every Local Body Level**

MS, GSBB informed that the communication regarding the constitution of BMCs is sent to the Panchayats. Clearing the apprehension of Dy. Director of Panchayat MS GSBB also informed that if more than 6 individuals are interested in becoming part of BMC then they can be part of sub committees of the BMC. Also it was communicated to the representative of Director Panchayat that training needs to be conducted for the secretaries of the Panchayat, Dy. Director of Panchayat informed that the time and date will be conveyed.

**Agenda 4: Regarding constitution of Municipal Council BMCs- Municipalities to ensure that the BMC member selected are environmentalists/Biodiversity Enthusiast or having sound knowledge of BD act & Environment.(Mapusa, Margao&Ponda BMCs yet to be constituted , Rest all constituted)**

MS, GSBB informed that the communication regarding the constitution of BMCs is sent to the Municipalities, and the BMCs constituted should take active part in Biodiversity conservation.



**Agenda 5: Colva Lake Study –Resolution from the Board to convene meeting to conduct hearing between Colva Civic Forum & Village Panchayat by giving 15 days notice. This meeting is to be held in presence of sustainable architect.**

MS, GSBB brief the board members present for the meeting regarding the original application of Colva Civic forum Vs. Village panchayat Colva before the National Green Tribunal, wherein the Court directed GSBB to take decision giving due importance to Environment as well as children's right to play. The TSG appointed by GSBB gave a brief presentation on the various options available.

The representative from Panchayat presented a revised plan with the following modifications:

1. 3 more culverts
2. Constructing a reservoir in the ponds area
3. Biodiversity Parks
4. Parking area with pavers
5. Lesser area is considered.
6. Average 1meter of filling

The representative of the Colva Civic Forum raised a query about whether the area was bunded when the study was conducted. She presented the view that the area under consideration is a catchment area and is an important area for groundwater recharge. If any modification is done then it will have adverse repercussions on the surrounding area and will endanger water security and food security. However, options with pro-biodiversity improvements can be considered.

Hon'ble MLA of Benaulim constituency Shri. Venzy Viegas presented the view that even if filling on average 1 meter is done it will not affect the flow of water due to the provision of 3 more culverts and if the floods occur then the children won't play during that brief period.

Dr. Baban Ingole also put forth the point that impact on the salinity levels should be looked at as it might affect the agriculture of the area.

Board members unanimously decided that option 4 and 7 needs to be relooked by the sustainable architect with minimal use of concrete and also adhere to the NGT verdict. Board Members decided to give final decision in the next Board meeting.

**Agenda 6: Project Proposal- Understanding & Evaluation of ecological aspects of spring water resources- case study of Pomburpa –by Govt. college of arts science & commerce Khandola Marcela ( Circulated vide email to Board Members)**





Board members unanimously decided that the decision regarding the above agenda will be given after a thorough thought is given by the members on the email and will be considered in the next board meeting.

**Agenda 7: Presentation by Dr. Nandkumar Kamat, GSBB's consultant on Microbial Diversity, on activities and progress (Requested to postpone to December 2022)**

MS, GSBB informed that the presentation by Nandkumar Kamat, GSBB's consultant on Microbial Diversity will be presented in the December 2022 as per his request.

**Agenda 8: Progress of Goa State Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan (GSBSAP)**

MS, GSBB informed the Board that more than 16 committees are working on GSBSAP and the work is ongoing. The presentation regarding various topic will be soon published on website to receive inputs from public and various departments.

**Agenda 9: Communication received from PWD regarding compensatory plantation**

MS, GSBB informed regarding communication received from PWD about compensatory plantation, Chairperson GSBB informed that GSBB will monitor such plantation on similar grounds as done in the case of plantation with reference to Mopa Airport Project.

**Agenda 10: Communication received from Green Ray Foundation.**

MS, GSBB informed to the Board regarding communication received from Green Ray Foundation. The Board decided that the long standing lease could be signed between GSBB and Green Ray Foundation and the further improvements could be done like a learning centre.

**Agenda 11: Progress of Land at Agarwada.**

The above agenda already discussed in ATR of 39<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

**Agenda 12: Advisory to be issued towards ecological destructive practices observed in Goa e.g Fire Crackers, etc.**

Board members collectively directed GSBB to explore the options of Green Crackers and other options.

**Agenda 13: Status of other projects of GSBB: GoVan Project/ SFURTI/ Atmanirbhar Bharat-SwayampurnaGoem:**



MS, GSBB informed the Board that 4 SFURTI Clusters are approved and second MPC at Pontemol is inaugurated.

**Agenda 14: Presentation of Statement of Expenditure of GSBB till date. (State GIA-DECC, NBA funds, Other funds – DCA, GMR, DOITC, GCZMA, GSL)**

MS, GSBB informed that all the past pending 36 Utilisation Certificates since the constitution of Board are regulated. The funds received from various departments by GSBB are also properly audited. The Board members collectively decided to use the state funds till the funds from National Biodiversity Authority are received.

**Agenda 15: Any other point with permission of Chairperson:**

**1. Inviting proposals for Book Publication (Upcoming publications of GSBB- Book on Pteridophytes of Goa & Kharphuti Book in Marathi with Konkani & English translation with Mangrove Society)**

MS, GSBB informed that book publications of GSBB- Book on Pteridophytes of Goa & Kharphuti Book in Marathi with Konkani & English translation with Mangrove Society is in final stages.

**2. Five year compendium of Annual Report.**

MS, GSBB put forth the information that GSBB is coming up with five year compendium of Annual Report.

**3. Compilation by GSBB of information sought on oldest trees in Goa by Hon'ble. Governor of Goa, through Forest Department.**

MS, GSBB informed the Board regarding information sought on oldest trees in Goa by Hon'ble. Governor of Goa, through Forest Department, the Board unanimously agreed to the proposal and approved access to PBR to gather information on oldest trees in the state.

**4. Regarding engaging services of N. D. Agarwal for creating Act on Management of Bioresources of Goa.**

MS, GSBB put forth the point that separate act could be devised for Management of the Bioresources of Goa with the help of N.D. Agarwal regarding which inputs will be sought from Board members vide email.

**5. Report received from Birbal Sahani Institute of Paleosciences, Lucknow, on study to verify the presence of Petrified Forest area (Petrified Wood) in Cotorem village, Taluka Sattari, Goa.**





MS, GSBB informed that regarding petrified Wood claims, GSBB is awaiting a detailed report from Birbal Sahani Institute of Paleosciences, Lucknow.

**6. Major activities of GSBB to be circulated to Board members for information.**

MS, GSBB briefed the Board about the major activities and successes of the Goa State Biodiversity Board.

**7. Approval of resolution for the formation of FPO as per format received from Company Secretary according to procedures of Ministry.**

The above agenda already discussed in the ATR of 39<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

Meeting ended with Vote of Thanks by MS, GSBB.



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