

Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB)

MANUAL I

{As per 4(1) b}

**“The particulars organization,
function and duties of GSBB”**

BACKGROUND

The Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB) is an Autonomous Statutory Body, Government of Goa. Having its office at the Department of Science, Technology & Environment premises at Saligao, Bardez, Goa. Tel No: 0832-2407032, Website: www.gsbb.goa.gov.in , Email: goanbiodiversity@gmail.com ; goa-gsbb@gov.in .

The GSBB has voluminous tasks to perform in order to effectively implement the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Biological Diversity Rules, 2004 in the State of Goa and has been **constituted in the year 2004** vide Notification No. 07/17/92/STE/PART/858, dated 02/12/2004, Published in Government Gazette No. Series II No. 37, dated 13/12/2004.

Later, Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB) has been reconstituted by Govt. of Goa on time to time times. The details with the reconstitution notification are as mentioned below:

- 1) GSBB has been reconstituted vide Notification No. 7/17/92/STE/PART/03 dated 04/04/2006, published in Government Gazette, Series II No. 02, dated 13/04/2006.
- 2) GSBB has been reconstituted vide Notification No. 7/17/92/STE/PART/568 dated 23/08/2007, published in Government Gazette, Series II No. 27, dated 04/10/2007.
- 3) GSBB has been reconstituted vide Notification No. 7/17/92/STE/PART/625 dated 29/08/2012, published in Government Gazette, Series II No. 23, dated 06/09/2012.
- 4) GSBB has been reconstituted vide Notification No. 7/17/92/STE/PART/1294 dated 14/12/2015, published in Government Gazette, Series II No. 38, dated 17/12/2015.
- 5) GSBB has been reconstituted vide Notification No. 7/17/92/STE/Part/827 dated 29/01/2015, published in Government Gazette, Series II No. 44, dated 31/01/2019.
- 6) GSBB has been reconstituted vide Notification No. 7/17/92/STE/Part/975 dated 16/12/2021, published in Government Gazette, Series II No. 39, dated 23/12/2021.
- 7) GSBB has been reconstituted vide Notification No. 7/17/92/STE/Part/1715, dated 20/12/2024, published in Government Gazette, Series II No. 39, dated 26/12/2024.

FUNCTIONS:**As per Section 23 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 the Goa State Biodiversity Board shall be to:**

- a) advise the State Government, subject to any guidelines issued by the Central Government, on matters relating to the conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of biological resources.
- b) regulate by granting of approvals or otherwise requests for commercial utilization or bio-survey and bio-utilization of any biological resource by Indians;
- c) perform such other functions as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act or as may be prescribed by the State Government.

As per Rule 6 in the Goa Biological Diversity Rules, 2017

In addition to the functions of the Board as specified in section 23, the Board may perform the following functions, namely:—

- a) lay down the procedure and guidelines to govern the activities provided under sections 23 and 24 of the Act;
- b) provide technical assistance and guidance to the Department of the Government on conservation of ecology, environment and biodiversity of any nature;
- c) facilitate updating and implementation of State Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan;
- d) commission studies and sponsor investigations and research;
- e) bio-conservation and preservation of unknown potential of every gene in every species of ecosystem;
- f) preparation of exhaustive inventory of the species available in natural habitat of useful biological communities and take steps to preserve them. Note: This exercise is referred to as Peoples Biodiversity Registers (PBRs) and detailed in the guidelines and formats laid down by the Authority and as decided by the Board, from time to time. PBRs shall be prepared by committee initially with the help of Technical Support Groups (TSGs) selected by Board. TSGs shall be for specific period not exceeding three years, for providing technical assistance. If it is necessary to engage any TSG beyond the period of three years, the Board shall seek prior approval of the Government for such an engagement. A validated PBR shall be endorsed by Member-Secretary of the Board. PBRs are the property of committee and its confidentiality shall be ensured by the committee and the Board shall ensure that the control of access to bio- resource, bio survey or bio utilization is with committee. One copy of PBR shall be maintained each, by committee, the Board and Authority;

- g) engage consultant for a specific period, not exceeding three years, for providing technical assistance to the Board in the effective discharge of its functions provided that, if it is necessary and expedient to engage any consultant beyond the period of three years, the Board shall seek prior approval of the Government for such an engagement;
- h) collect, compile and publish technical and statistical data, manuals, codes or guides relating to conservation of biological biodiversity, sustainable use of its components and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of biological resources and knowledge associated thereto;
- i) organize through mass media a comprehensive programme regarding conservation of biological diversity, sustainable use of its components and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of biological resources and knowledge associated thereto;
- j) plan and organize training of personnel engaged or likely to be engaged in programmes for the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components;
- k) take steps to build up database and to create information and documentation system for biological resources and associated traditional knowledge through Peoples Biodiversity Registers (PBRs) by utilizing suitable methods such as electronic databases and online software based secured systems for data management, to ensure effective management, promotion and sustainable use;
- l) give directions to Committees in writing and through appropriate oral means for effective implementation of the Act, and to facilitate their meaningful participation in all measures relating to conservation, sustainable use and equitable benefit-sharing;
- m) report to the Government about the functioning of the Board and implementation of the Act and the rules made there under;
- n) to devise methods to ensure protection of rights including intellectual property rights (IPR) over biological resources and associated knowledge including systems of maintaining confidentiality of such information as appropriate, including the protection of the information recorded in Peoples Biodiversity Registers (PBRs);
- o) sanction grants-in-aid and grants to Biodiversity Management Committees for specific purposes;
- p) undertake physical inspection of any area in connection with the implementation of the Act;
- q) ensure that biodiversity and biodiversity-dependent livelihoods are integrated into all sectors of planning and management, and at all levels of planning from local to State, to enable such sectors and administrative levels to contribute effectively for conservation and sustainable use;
- r) prepare the annual budget of the Board incorporating all its receipts as also the devolution from the Government and Central Government provided that the local allocation by the Central Government/ /Authority if any, shall be operated in accordance with the budget provisions approved by the Central Government/ /Authority from time to time;

- s) frame regulations for laying down terms and conditions of service of its officers and other employees and if necessary, recommend creation of posts to Government, for effective discharge of the functions by the Board:
- t) Provided that no permanent post shall be created without prior approval of the Government;
- u) perform such other functions, as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of the Act or as may be directed by the Government from time to time.