

* The BMCs and local committees are responsible for ensuring the protection of the knowledge recorded in the People's Biodiversity Registers especially to regulate its access to outside agencies and individuals.

* The BMCs are to advise on any matter referred to it by the State Biodiversity Board for granting approval, to maintain data about the local Vaid/ Bez/ Ojha and practitioners using biological resources.

Other responsibilities of BMC:

The BMCs shall be responsible to maintain local Biodiversity fund and utilized the same for the mandated functions of the committees. They shall maintain proper accounts to be audited and incorporated into the annual reports to be submitted to the local bodies.

Tenure of BMC:

The Chairperson and the non-official members of the Biodiversity Management Committee shall have tenure of five years or coterminous with the tenure of the local elected body whichever is lesser.

Financial Resources for BMCs:

The BMCs shall generate funds through the following modes:

- * Receipts (grants and loans) from National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), State Biodiversity Board (SBB) and State Government.
- * The BMCs may access funds from various sources including raising donations, line departments of Government of India and State Governments, other Central and State Boards, institutions and corporate bodies.
- * Receipts from fee, license fee, levies, royalties and other receipts.

Operation of Local Biodiversity funds:

The local Biodiversity Fund shall be deposited in a Nationalized Bank approved by the Biodiversity Management Committee and it shall be operated by the Chairperson under his seal and signature or any other officer of the Biodiversity Management Committee as may be authorized in this behalf.

Making complaint and manner of giving notice:

If violation of any provision of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 is detected or observed by any person or groups of persons or communities or local bodies or BMCs in matters falling within the jurisdiction of the State Biodiversity Board, a complaint may be made to the State Biodiversity Board of Assam in Form- VII appended to these Rules by giving a thirty days' time.



The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was negotiated and signed by nations at the Earth Summit at Rio de Janeiro in Brazil on June 5, 1992. The convention came into force on December 29, 1993. India became a party to the convention on February 18, 1994. At the present there are 193 Parties to this Convention. Under the convention there are two protocols: Cartagena Protocol (to deal with bio-safety issues) and the Nagoya Protocol (on Access and benefit Sharing).



For further details please contact:

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অসম ৰাজ্যিক জৈব-বৈচিত্ৰ্য পৰিষদ
ASSAM STATE BIO-DIVERSITY BOARD



ASSAM STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD

(A Statutory Body of Government of Assam)



Our Vision
"Bountiful, secured and economically-rewarding biodiversity"

Our Mission
"Ownership rights to local people for conservation and wise-use of biological resources and equitable share in benefits on its commercial utilization".



ASSAM STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD

Biological diversity is the variability among living organisms from all sources including terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this include diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems. In short, Biodiversity is the vast array of all the plants, animals, insects and micro-organisms inhabiting the earth either in the aquatic or terrestrial habitats. The human civilization depends directly or indirectly upon this biodiversity for their very basic needs of survival- food, fodder, fuel, fibre, fertilizer, timber, liquor, rubber, leather, medicines and several raw materials. This diversity is the condition for the long term sustainability of the environment, continuity of life on earth and the maintenance of its integrity. People are now aware of the fact that habitat degradation, loss of wild stock is association with loss of local traditional knowledge led to rapid degradation of biological resources all over the globe.

Thus, the growing concerns for depletion of overall biological diversity world-wide led to the establishment and adoption of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in 1992. This Convention recognizes the sovereign rights of the states over their biological resources. Taking the Convention's provisions and to deal with management of our biological resources, Government of India has enacted the Biological Diversity Act, 2002. The Act provides for conservation of Biological Diversity, sustainable use of its components and fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the use of biological resources and knowledge. At the national level, National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) has been established to implement the Act with headquarters in Chennai (Tamil Nadu) under Sec. 8 of the Act. The State Biodiversity Boards (SBBs) are formed at state level and Biodiversity Management committees (BMC) are constituted by the local bodies to decentralize the implementation of the Act.



In exercise of powers conferred under sub-section (1) of Section 22 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 (Act 18 of 2003), the Government of Assam constituted the "Assam Biodiversity Board" on 29th September 2010 to promote biodiversity conservation in the State of Assam, sustainable use of its components and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of biological resources of the state and traditional knowledge associated with these resources and matters incidental thereto or connected therewith.

Members of the Board:

The Assam State Biodiversity Board (ASBB) is headed by a Chairperson who is the Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam. It consists of five Ex-officio members from related Departments of Government of Assam and five Expert Members who are experts in different aspects of biodiversity management.

Functions of the ASBB:

- * Advise the government on any matter concerning 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;
- * Regulate by granting of approvals or otherwise requests for commercial utilization or bio-survey and bio- utilization of any biological resource by Indian Nationals;
- * Inventorization, cataloguing of biodiversity, monitoring the rate of depletion, awareness creation in public, decision makers and planners and initiating scientific, administrative, legal and socio-economic measures for the protection of biodiversity;
- * Co- ordinate the activities of the Biodiversity Management Committees;
- * Give directions to Biodiversity Management 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;

Biodiversity Management Committees (BMC):

The Biodiversity Act and Rules provide that the local bodies shall constitute Biodiversity Management Committees within its area of jurisdiction. The Assam State Biodiversity Board proposes to facilitate constitution of BMCs at Anchalik Panchayat level in the state. These committees shall work for the purpose of promoting conservation, sustainable use and documentation of biological diversity including preservation of habitats, conservation of land races, folk varieties and cultivars, domesticated stocks and breeds of animals and microorganisms and chronicling of knowledge relating to biological diversity.

Members of BMC:

The Biodiversity Management Committees constituted under sub-rule (1) shall have seven persons nominated by the local body headed by a Chairperson, of which not less than one third shall be women. Seven local knowledgeable persons being so nominated should be drawn amongst the herbalists, agriculturalists, Non-Timber Forest produce collectors, community workers, fisher folks, representatives of user associations, community workers, academicians and any person/representative of organization whom the local body trusts that he/she can significantly contribute to the mandate of the Biodiversity Management Committee. The proportion of members belonging to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe shall not be less than Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe population percentage of the district where such a committee is set up. All the above should be residents within the said local body limits and be in the voter's list.

Functions of the Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC):

- * The BMCs shall facilitate preparation of People's Biodiversity Registers (PBR) in consultation with local people; which comprises of comprehensive information on availability and knowledge of local biological resources, their medicinal or any other use or any other traditional knowledge associated with them.

