

Punjab Biodiversity Board

Sub: Minutes of the 4th meeting of Punjab Biodiversity Board held under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Punjab on 25.8.2010 at 6.00 PM at Punjab Bhawan, Sector 3, Chandigarh.

Present: List of attendees at **Annexure – I.**

Item No. 4.1: Confirmation of Minutes of 3rd meeting of Punjab Biodiversity Board held on 3.2.2010.

Confirmed.

Item No.4.2: Follow up action on the Minutes of the 3rd meeting of Punjab Biodiversity Board held on 3.2.2010.

Noted.

Item No.4.3: Mega Event: Three day meeting of MoEF-GOI, National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) & State Biodiversity Boards (SBBs) in Punjab on 'Implementing Biodiversity Act,2002'.

Approved. Hon'ble CM was apprised that confirmation of participation of Shri Jairam Ramesh, Union Minister for Environment had been received from his office. Chairman & Secretary, NBA and Additional Secretary & Joint Secretary, MoEF had also confirmed. In addition, 8 Chairmen and 21 Member Secretaries from various State Biodiversity Boards had confirmed their participation which included Minister-Environment, Manipur; Chief Secretary, Mizoram and Additional Chief Secretary, Himachal Pardesh. The organization of exhibition was being monitored by Hon'ble Chief Secretary, Punjab and Secretary, Science Technology & Environment at their level.

Hon'ble Chief Minister desired that the Punjab Biodiversity Board may put its best foot forward. Officers at the appropriate level be got declared as State Guests and a formal dinner on behalf of Hon'ble CM be organized along with an appropriate cultural programme. Separate file be put up to AD.

Item No.4.4: Constitution of BMCs and preparation of PBRs.

Noted.

Item No.4.5: Declaration of 1st Biodiversity Heritage Site in Punjab.

Members of the Board were informed that the matter had been taken up with DC, Hoshiarpur by SSTE. The area had been surveyed twice and the tentative value for acquiring land had been estimated to be between Rs.1.75 to Rs.2.00 crore. A provision was required to be made in the State Plan for the purpose. MS, PBB also informed that in the meeting held with Advisor, Planning Commission in April, 2010, a provision of Rs.2.91 crore had been proposed by the Commission for activities of the Board and Biodiversity Heritage sites. Provision for this was needed to be made in the State Plan either out of untied funds or during preparation of Excess & Surrender Statement of the State Plan. CM desired that file may be put up accordingly so that the matter can be taken up with State Planning Board and FD.

Item No.4.6: Celebration of International Year of Biodiversity and International Biodiversity Day.

Noted.

Item No.4.7: Identification of threatened species in the State.

Approved.

Item No.4.8: Restructuring of Staff – PBB.

Members of the Board were informed that presently the PBB had only one Scientist. Core staff was required to enable it to implement its mandate. A proposal for restructuring had been submitted for consideration of AD. Hon'ble CM desired that the Board be strengthened by providing adequate manpower and funds for which proposal be submitted to FD at the earliest.

Further proposals for rectification in notification of the Board ('Member Secretary' in place of 'Member Convener' as desired by MoEF-GOI) and creation of post of Asstt. Manager (Finance-cum-Admn) were approved in principle. However, since funds for the same were not available, as proposed, Jr. Accounts Executive, PSCST be given additional charge (as the Board is presently serviced by PSCST) as AMFA, PBB with appropriate honorarium (amounting to Rs.770/- p.m.) as per Rule 2.30 and 4.24 of the Punjab Civil

Services Rules, till a provision is made in the State Budget and regular AMFA is appointed.

Item No.4.9: Delegation of Powers to SSTE.

Approved for routine administrative matters like, personnel matters wrt Class-I employees, hiring of contractual staff, sanction of leave, tours etc. and financial matters upto Rs.1.00 crore. However, Authority for appointment, disciplinary action etc. of Class-I employees and financial matters beyond Rs.1.00 crore would remain with the Chairman.

Item No.4.10:Project on Inventorising Industries involved in Exploitation of Biodiversity in Punjab.

Appreciated. CM desired that the Board should subsequently take up measures to promote cultivation of medicinal plants which are in maximum demand by the industry, especially those species which are required to be imported from other States.

Item No.4.11:Compliance of Biological Diversity Act while accessing bioresources.

Approved.

Item No.4.12:Nomination of Member Secretary, Punjab Biodiversity Board in Task Force (Expert Committee) for preparation of guidelines on creating structures, running administration and maintaining of accounts and other related matters pertaining to Biodiversity Management Committees.

Noted.

Item No.4.13:Participation of Member Secretary, Punjab Biodiversity Board in meetings of NBA and other State Biodiversity Boards.

Noted.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.

Annexure-I

Sub: **List of attendees.**

1. Mr. R.C. Nayyar, IAS
Financial Commissioner,
Department of Forests & Wildlife,
Govt. of Punjab.
2. Mr. Viswajeet Khanna, IAS
Secretary, Science, Technology & Environment,
Govt. of Punjab.
3. Mr. Ashok Kumar Gupta, IAS
Secretary, Agriculture,
Govt. of Punjab.
4. Dr. G.S. Kalkat
Chairman, Punjab State Farmers Commission,
Ex. Vice Chancellor, PAU, Ludhiana.
5. Prof. A.S. Brar
Vice Chancellor,
Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar.
6. Mr. Surjeet Pal Singh
OSD to CM, Punjab.
7. Dr. S.S. Gosal
Director of Research,
Punjab Agricultural University,
Ludhiana.
8. Dr. S.K. Srivastava
Deputy Director, Botanical Survey of India,
Dehra Dun.
9. Dr. Anjana Pant
Senior Coordinator,
WWF- India, New Delhi.
10. Dr. (Mrs.) Neelima Jerath
Member Secretary, Punjab Biodiversity Board &
Executive Director, PSCST.
11. Mr. Gurharminder Singh
Senior Scientific Officer (Env), PSCST.