



Dr. A. A. MAO
Director

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE
BOTANICAL SURVEY OF INDIA
CGO COMPLEX, 3RD MSO BUILDING, BLOCK F, 5TH & 6TH FLOOR
DF BLOCK, SECTOR I, SALT LAKE
KOLKATA – 700 064

DO. No.: BSI – 8/1/PA/2019

Date: 30.09.2019

Dear Smt. Pandey,

I am furnishing herewith following major achievements of Botanical Survey of India for the month of September, 2019 in reply to OM no. 24011/08/2019 – GC dtd. 25.03.2019 regarding monthly DO letter from Secretary (E & F) to the Cabinet Secretary.

Department: Botanical Survey of India

1. Important policy decisions taken, major achievements during the month:

Scientists of BSI discovered two new species of plants viz. *Impatiens tanyae* (Balsaminaceae) from the Western Ghats of India and a macro fungus *Lactifluus indovolemus* (Russulaceae) from Arunachal Pradesh in the North East India. Besides, they also reported three new additions to the Indian flora viz. *Ruellia nudiflora* (Acanthaceae) and two macro fungi viz. *Lactifluus acicularis* and *L. crocatus*, and three new additions from different parts of the country viz. *Merremia umbellata* ssp. *orientalis* (Convolvulaceae) from Andaman Islands, *Eugenia argentia* and *Eugenia shettyana* (Myrtaceae) from Tamilnadu.

Field Tours conducted:

Scientists of BSI conducted nine botanical explorations in various phytogeographical regions of the country and collected plant samples for taxonomic study in connection with various projects.

Important meetings/ programs attended by Director, BSI during the month:

Director, BSI along with other officials of BSI, attended the CoP14 meeting and side events of BSI at India Expo Mart, Greater Noida, New Delhi from 2nd to 7th Sept 2019. He also attended the Man & Biosphere (MAB) committee meeting at MoEF & CC, New Delhi on 18.09.2019 and as expert for setting up Biological Parks meeting held at CPCB, New Delhi on 27.09.2019. Dr. Avishek Bhattacharjee, Sci. C represented BSI as part of Indian Delegation in CITES CoP 18 held in Geneva, Switzerland w.e.f. 19th to 28th August, 2019. He also served as panel member in the side event on NDF of plants and provided inputs to improvise the 9-step NDF guidelines. BSI, AZRC, Jodhpur participated in "Kisan Mela avam Krishi Navachar Divas", organised by Central Arid Zone Research Institute (ICAR), Jodhpur on 16th Sept. 2019. Dr. Manas Bhaumik, Sci. E and Dr. A.K. Sahoo, Sci. E attended a meeting on 'Environmental Accounts of India' at ZSI, Kolkata on 12.9.2019. Dr. Dilip Kr. Roy, Botanist attended the Governing Body Meeting of Meghalaya State Medicinal Plants Board (MSMPB), on 16th Sept, 2019 in the Office of the Chief Secretary, Govt. of Meghalaya, Shillong. Prof. Peter J. Mathews, Field Sciences Laboratory, National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka, Japan delivered a talk on *Research on the origins and domestication of taro (Colocasia esculenta)*, Araceae at CNH on 19th Sept., 2019. Shri Ravi Agarwal, IRS, Additional Secretary, MoEF&CC, visited BSI, CNH and held a meeting with BSI officials on 20th Sept. 2019. Scientists of BSI ERC participated and displayed BSI activities in the Science exhibition: *Science Fest* on 20th September, 2019, Theme: *Climate Change and its effects on Living Organism* at Shillong, Meghalaya. All the regional centres and units of BSI observed Hindi Day / Fortnight and World Ozone Day on 14th & 16th September, 2019 respectively.

Some important publications:

- ARIGELA, R.K., R.K. SINGH AND K.A.A. KABEER 2019. *Impatiens tanyae* (Balsaminaceae), a new species from Western Ghats, India. *Kew Bull.* 74: 48.
- BERA, I. AND K. DAS. 2019. One new species and two new records in the *Lactifluus volemus* complex from India. *Nordic J. Botany*. DOI:10.1111/njb.
- Arumugam, S., R. Mehala Devi & M. Anantha Lakshmi. 2019. Two Myrtaceous species additions to the Flora of Tamil Nadu. *Indian J. Forestry*. 42 (2):191-194.
- LAL JI SINGH AND MUDAVATH CHENNA KESAVULU NAIK, 2019. *Merremia umbellata* ssp. *orientalis* (Hallier f.) Ooststr. - A New Addition to Indian Convolvulaceae from Andaman Islands, India. *Indian J. Forestry*. 42(2): 119-122.
- WANG X-H, DAS K, BERA I, CHEN Y-H, BHATT, RP, GHOSH A, HEMBROM ME, HOFSTETTER V, PARIHAR A, VIZZINI A, XU T-M, ZHAO C-L & BUYCK B (2019). Fungal Biodiversity Profiles 81-90, *Cryptog. Mycol.* 40 (5): 57-95.
- GUPTA PRATIBHA 2019. Occurrence of Genus *Microcystis* Lemmerm. from Water Bodies of Maldah District West Bengal. *Trop. Pl. Res.* 6(2): 233 - 240.

2. Important policy matter is held up on account of prolonged inter-ministerial consultation: NIL

3. Compliance of COS decisions: Nothing pending

4. No. of cases of 'Sanction for prosecution' pending for more than 3 months: NIL

5. Particulars of cases in which there has been a departure from the Transaction of Business Rules or established policy of the government: NIL

6. Status of implementation of e-governance: MIS module is yet to be introduced in BSI

7. Details of cases in which ACC directions have not been complied with: NIL

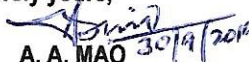
8. Status of Public grievances:

No. of public grievances redressed during the month	No. of Public grievances pending at the end of month
	3

9. Information on the specific steps taken by the ministry/department for utilization of the space technology based tools and applications in governance and development: NIL

With regards,

Sincerely yours,


A. A. MAO 30/9/2019

To,
Smt. Manju Pandey, IPoS, JS (CS), MoEF&CC, New Delhi – 3