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A. A. Mao  
Director



भारत सरकार  
पर्यावरण वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
भारतीय वनस्पति सर्वेक्षण  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST  
& CLIMATE CHANGE  
BOTANICAL SURVEY OF INDIA

DO. No.: BSI - 8/1/PA/2019

Date: 04.04.2025

Madam,

In reply to OM no. 24011/08/2019-GC dated. 25.03.2019 regarding monthly DO letter from Secretary (MoEF&CC) to the Cabinet Secretary, I am furnishing herewith the following major achievements of Botanical Survey of India for the Month of March, 2025.

Department: Botanical Survey of India

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

Scientists of BSI described two (02) taxa as new to Science from India viz. viz. *Russula deodarae* D. Chakr. & A. Ghosh from India and *Russula rajmahalensis* A. Ghosh, Hembrom & D. Chakr. from Jharkhand State, India. They also reported four (04) taxa as new additions to India and states viz. *Graphiola phoenicis* (Moug. ex Fr.) Poita false smut associated with *Phoenix* species from Andaman and Nicobar Islands; *Eremochloa ciliaris* (L.) Merr. (Panicoideae: Poaceae) and *Mitrasacme* Labill. (represented by *M. pygmaea* R.Br. var. *pygmaea*) both reported from South Cinque Island of Cinque Wildlife Sanctuary, South Andaman and *Dinetus malabaricus* (C.B.Clarke) Staples (Convolvulaceae), an Indian endemic species from Nauni, Solan district, Himachal Pradesh (Annexure I).

Scientists of BSI conducted 9 field / local tours and collected and identified 362 field nos. of specimens. BSI prepared metadata of 4708 herbarium specimens. During this month, 14,79,402 visitors referred the official websites of BSI (12,05,688 visitors referred official website, 1,69,688 visitors referred archives, and 1,04,026 visitors visited Indian Virtual Herbarium). Besides, 834 students / visitors visited the gardens and herbaria of BSI and generated the revenue of about Rs. 59,214.00 during this month.

**Important events / programs organized / attended:**

1. Botanical Survey of India, NRC, Dehradun, under the patronage of MoEF&CC, New Delhi organized a three days BMC workshop for Pilot Capacity Building Training course on **Biodiversity Management** from 05.03.2025 to 07.03.2025, where women participants from different tribal communities from remote areas of Uttarakhand participated.
2. Botanical Survey of India, and all its regional centres/ units observed **International Women's Day 2025** on March 8<sup>th</sup> with great enthusiasm recognizing the devoted service provided by the women in this organization.
3. Botanical Survey of India, and all its regional centres/ units observed the **International Forest Day** on March 21, 2025 with a focus on the vital role that forests play in sustaining life and enhancing food security, in alignment with the theme "Forests and Foods".
4. BSI, India Industrial Section of Indian Museum (ISIM), Kolkata team of three officials led by Dr. D.D. Pramanick, Scientist-D, participated as resource persons in a two-day workshop on "**Natural Dye and Tie-Dye**." The workshop was organized by the University of Sussex, UK, and took place from March 21st to 22nd, 2025, on Bali Island in Gosaba, Sundarbans.
5. Dr. A. A. Mao, Director, BSI attended a 7<sup>th</sup> **National Board for Wildlife (NBWL)** meeting on 03.03.2025 at Sasan-Gir, Gujarat, under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India. He also attended and served as a panelist in the **National Conference on Biodiversity, 2025**, organized by the NGT and the MoEF&CC at New Delhi on 30.03.2025.
6. Dr. S. S. Dash, Scientist-F & Incharge, Tech. Sect., BSI delivered an invited lecture in the workshop on "**Sustainable Solutions for Plant Diversity Conservation: Bridging Policies and Innovations**" at the Integral Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology (IIAST) Integral University, Lucknow on 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2025.

During this month 4 books and 19 research papers were published by BSI scientists in International and National publications apart from participating in scientific lectures and publishing seminar abstracts. (Annexure I).

2. **Important policy matter held up on account of prolonged inter-ministerial consultations: NIL**
3. **No. of cases of 'Sanction for prosecution' pending for more than 3 months: NIL**
4. **Particulars of cases in which there has been a departure from the Transaction of Business Rules or established policy of the government: NIL**
5. **Status of Rationalization of Autonomous Bodies:-NA-**
6. **Information on the specific steps taken for utilization of the space technology based tools and applications in governance and development: NIL**
7. **Vacancy position of senior level appointments in the Ministry/ Department, including Autonomous Bodies/ PSUs: Communicated to the Ministry separately.**
8. **List of cases in which ACC directions have not been complied with: NIL.**

With regards,

Sincerely yours,

A. A. Mao

To  
✓ Ms. Nameeta Prasad, JS, (CS-II), MoEF&CC, New Delhi - 3



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## Research Publications: 18

- CHAKRABARTY, T., A. KUMAR AND P.P. GHOSHAL 2025. Notes on the Taxonomic Status of *Litsea nigrescens* (Lauraceae). *Annales Botanici Fennici*. 62(1):35-37
- CHAKRABORTY, D. AND A. GHOSH (2025) *Russula deodarae*: A New Species of *Russula* Sect. *Ingratae* (Russulaceae) from India Based on Morphology and Molecular Data. *International Journal of Plant & Soil Science* 37 (2):154-163.
- CHOWLU, K., J. TSERING, A. SHENOY, A. N. RAO, A. RAY AND K.A.A. KABEER. 2024. Addition of two holomycotrophic orchids to the flora of Arunachal Pradesh, India. *Journal of Economic and Taxonomic Botany*. Vol. 47 (4):181-191. <https://doi.org/10.61080/JETB-V47/i4/2023/17>
- DEROLIYA, P.K., P. KUMAR, S.K. SINGH, AND P. GHOSH, 2024. An account of pteridophytes of Rajaji National Park, Uttarakhand India. *Indian Journal of Forestry*. 47(3):127-134.
- DOGRA, KULDIP S., BHAGWATI P. SHARMA, SANGEETA CHANDEL, KUMAR AMBRISH, RITESH K. SINGH, YODHVEER AND BRAJESH MEENA (2025). *Symphyotrichum subulatum* (Michx.) G.L. Nesom (Asteraceae): Addition to the Flora of Himachal Pradesh, India. *Indian Forester*, 151(2): 181-182.
- GHOSH, A., M. E. HEMBROM, K. DAS, AND D. CHAKRABORTY (2025) *Russula rajmahalensis*: A New Species of *Russula* (Russulaceae, Russulales) from Jharkhand State, India. *Archives of Current Research International* 25 (3):172-79. <https://doi.org/10.9734/acri/2025/v25i31106>
- GOSWAMI S., PULIYAKODE S., MAITY R. AND DASH S. S. 2025. Typification of three names in Indian Justiciinae Nees (Acanthaceae). *Adansonia*, Ser. 3, 47 (6): 41-46. <https://doi.org/10.5252/adansonia2025v47a6>. <http://adansonia.com/47/6>
- KAMBLE, M. Y., J. V. DALAVI, R. R. THAKUR, A. MONDAL AND P. S. BHAGURE (2025). Seed Germination Biology and Frugivory of an Endemic and Endangered Wild Nutmeg – *Myristica magnifica* Bedd. (Myristicaceae). *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* (JBNHS). 122(1). <https://doi.org/10.17087/jbnhs/2025/v122/170908>
- KUMAR A., K. S. DOGRA, P. KUMAR, B. MEENA AND V. RANJAN. 2024. *Dinetus malabaricus* (Convolvulaceae): A new record for Himalaya with specific notes on its identity. *Indian Journal of Forestry* 47(1): 61-62.
- KUMAR, M.A., G. A. EKKA, P. A. DHOLE AND L. J. SINGH. 2025. New Record for the Flora of India: *Eremochloaciliaris* (L.) Merr. (Panicoideae: Poaceae). *Feddes Repertorium*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/fedr.202400044>
- KUMAR, M.A., G. A. EKKA, P.A. DHOLE AND L.J. SINGH. 2024. *Mitrasacme* (Loganiaceae): A new generic record to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India. *Indian Journal of Forestry* 47(2): 118-121.
- MADHAV N., J. V. DALAVI, M. YALATOOR, KV. GOSAVI, AN CHANDORE AND M.Y. KAMBLE (2025). Occurrence of Narrow Endemic Shevaroy Rattlepod *Crotalaria shevaroyensis* Gamble (Fabaceae) In Himalaya. *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 122(1). <https://doi.org/10.17087/jbnhs/2025/v122/170970>.
- MAHADEVAKUMAR, S., K. R. SRIDHAR, M. MAHESH, AND S. CHANDRANAYAKA. 2025. Morpho-molecular characterization of false smut on *Phoenix*

- sp.: a new record from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. *Indian Phytopathology*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42360-025-00874-5>
14. NILESH APPASO MADHAV, JAGDISH VISHNU DALAVI, YALATOOR MAHESH, KUMAR VINOD CHHOTUPURI GOSAVI, ARUN NIVRUTTI CHANDORE AND MAYUR YASHWANT KAMBLE. 2025. Occurrence of narrow endemic Shevaroy rattlepod *Crotalaria shevaroyensis* Gamble (Fabaceae) in Himalaya. *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 122(1): <https://doi.org/10.17087/jbnhs.2025.v122i1.0970>.
  15. PATHAK, A., R. DAS, D.VIJAYAN, N. ODYUO, L.D. BAITE AND A.A. MAO (2025) *Illigera grandiflora* W.W. Sm. & Jeffrey (Hernandiaceae): a potent source of antioxidants and in silico molecular docking analysis as vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) pathway regulator. *Vegetos*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42535-025-01172-7>
  16. RAJPUT, S., D. CHAKRABORTY, K. DAS, A. GHOSH AND YASH PAL SHARMA (2025) First report of *Calohaletus panniformis* (Boletaceae) from India. *Indian Phytopathology*. Doi: 10.1007/s42360-025-00828-3
  17. SINGH, S. K. AND SAMEER PATIL. 2024. Clarying the *Caulokaempferia* vs. *Monolophus* Nomenclature Dilemma. *Phytotaxa* 693(1): 107-111.
  18. Y. MAHESH AND CHAYA DEORI. 2024. A note on the extended distribution of *Nervilia infundibulifolia* Blatt. & Mccann (Orchidaceae) in Meghalaya, Northeast India. *Journal of Orchid Society of India*. 38: 43-44.
  19. YADAV, S.K. AND M. PALANISAMY, 2025. Taxonomy of *Asparagopsis taxiformis* (Delile) Trevis. (Family: Bonnemaisoniaceae) in India. *Bioinfolet* 22 (1): 11 - 14.

#### BOOKS: 4

1. BENNIAMIN, A., JESUBALAN D AND BAGATH SINGH.C. 2025. Fernscape India: Mapping Pteridophyte Diversity Vol – I. ISBN 978-81-945812-8-4 Laser park Publishing House.
2. BAGATH SINGH C, BENNIAMIN,A AND JESUBALAN D. 2025. Lycophytes and Ferns of Biligirirangaswamy Temple (BRT)tiger Reserve. A Verdant Pictorial Guide - ISBN 978-81-945812-3-9 by Laser park Publishing House.
3. BENNIAMIN, A., MAYUR Y KAMBLE AND JAGDISH DALAVI. 2025. Flowering Plants of Botanical Survey of India, Western regional Centre, Pune ISBN 978-81-985834-7-5 by Prarup publication.
4. SARAVANAN, R. 2025. Floristic and Ethnobotanical Studies of Kuldiha Wildlife Sanctuary, Odisha. Botanical Survey of India. ebook.