

भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE
CHANGE

भारतीय वनस्पति सर्वेक्षण / BOTANICAL SURVEY OF INDIA
सी.जी.ओ. कॉम्प्लेक्स / CGO COMPLEX
तृतीय एम. एस. ओ. भवन / 3RD MSO BUILDING
पाँचवाँ और छठा तल / 5TH & 6TH FLOOR
डी एफ ब्लॉक, सेक्टर 1 / DF BLOCK, SECTOR I
साल्टलेक, कोलकाता-६५ / SALT LAKE, KOLKATA – 700064
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DO. No.: BSI – 8/1/PA/2019 / 27

Date: 03.12.2024

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 November, 2024.

Department: Botanical Survey of India

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

Scientists of BSI described **three plant taxa as new to science viz. *Ischaemum prasannae*** Nagaraju, Pamarthi & R.Kr.Singh (Poaceae) from the state of Telangana; *Crinum andhricum* L. Rasingam, G. Susmitha, J. Ranjana, P. Ranjithkumar & A. Parthiban (Amaryllidaceae) from the Northern Eastern Ghats of Andhra Pradesh and *Phlegmacium didnaense* A. Bose & K. Das (Cortinariaceae) from the states of Sikkim and Uttarakhand. Besides Scientists of BSI have also reported **two fungal taxa as new record to India viz. *Phlegmacium ophiopus*** (Peck) Niskanen & Liimat. and *Phlegmacium largum* (Fr.) Wünsche (Cortinariaceae) from Sikkim and Uttarakhand.

Scientists of BSI conducted **11 field / local tours and one HCT and collected 192 field numbers**. BSI prepared **metadata of 6682** herbarium specimens. During this month, **8,99,073** visitors visited the official websites of BSI (**7,20,537** visitors referred official website, **91,455** visitors referred archives, and **87,081** visitors visited Indian Virtual Herbarium).

Important events / programs organized / attended:

- BSI, Kolkata, in collaboration with the Chhattisgarh State Biodiversity Board, Raipur organized the 2nd phase of the skill development training in para-taxonomy & biodiversity conservation at Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh w.e.f. 13-27 Nov., 2024. Dr. S.S. Dash, Scientist-F & In-charge, Tech. Sect., BSI-Kolkata and Dr. A. Benniamin, Scientist-F & HoO, WRC, Pune attended the inaugural function of the program, while other scientists delivered lectures as resource persons.
- BSI, Kolkata in collaboration with the Department of Life Sciences, Dibrugarh University, organized the Assam Botany Congress-03 and International Conference on Biodiversity and Climate Change: Challenges and Opportunities for Nature-Based Solutions, at Dibrugarh Assam. Dr. A. A. Mao, Director, BSI and Dr. S.S.Dash, Scientist F & Incharge, tech. Sect and other scientists of BSI attended and delivered their talks in the conference on 11th of November, 2024.
- BSI, Kolkata in collaboration with the Indian Association for Angiosperm Taxonomy (IAAT) organized the XXXIV Annual Conference of the IAAT and International Seminar on Botanical Syphony – Perspectives and current challenges in Angiosperm Systematics, organized at Assam University, Silchar, Assam from 23 – 25 Nov., 2024. Dr. C. Murugan, Scientist-F & HoO and Dr. S.S.Dash, Scientist F & Incharge, tech. Sect, BSI Kolkata delivered invited talks, while the other officials and research scholars also attended and presented their research works.
- Under 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' campaign initiated by the Hon'ble PM, Dr. A. A. Mao, Director, BSI, attended an event led by Dr. C.V. Ananda Bose, Hon'ble Governor of WB at Raj Bhawan, Kolkata, West Bengal on November 23, 2024 and planted tree saplings of *Elaeocarpus lacunosus* Wall. ex Kurz and *Ficus krishnae* C.DC. at Rahbhavan. Besides, BSI, AJCBIBG, Howrah organized a mass plantation programme on 27th November, 2024 under this campaign.
- BSI, CNH, Howrah organized a special invited talk (virtual cum physical) of Ms. Jennifer De Muria, a distinguished fellow at the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., USA. on 19th November 2024. All Scientist and scientific officials of BSI attended this event.
- BSI, NRC, Dehradun organized a workshop on "Women Sexual Harassment Prevention, Prohibition and Prevention" on 21 November 2024.
- BSI and all its regional centres observed Constitution Day 2024 on 26th November, 2024.
- BSI, CNH, Howrah organized a one-day Hindi workshop on the topic "Use of Raj language Hindi in Constitutional Concept" on 26th November 2024.
- During this month 28 research papers and book chapters were published by BSI Scientists in various International and National publications (**Annexure 1**).

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,

C. MURUGAN
Director (i/c), BSI

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

1. CHOWLU, K., J. TSERING, A. RAY, A.N. RAO, A. PERTIN, S.S. DASH AND K.A.A. KABEER. 2024. *Gastrodia lohitensis* sp. nov. (Orchidaceae, Epidendroideae) from India. *Nor. Jour. Bot.* doi: 10.1111/njb.04556.
2. CHOWLU, K. AND K.A.A. KABEER. 2024. Orchid diversity of Arunachal Pradesh in Changing Climate. Assam Botanical Congree 2024, Dibrugarh University.
3. KUMAR, P., A. SURMAL, B. KUMAR, P.K. DEROLIYA AND S.K. SINGH. 2024. IAPT chromosome data 43/2. In: Marhold K., Kučera J. (eds.) & al., IAPT chromosome data 43. *Taxon*73. <https://doi.org/10.1002/tax.13282>.
4. NAGARAJU, S., R.K. PAMARTHI AND R.K. SINGH. 2024. A new species of *Ischaemum* (Poaceae) from Telangana, India. *J. Jap. Bot.* 99(5): 310–317.
5. GUPTA, P. 2024. New Records of Cyanoprokaryotes and Algae from Brattnevet Peninsula of Larsemann Hills, East Antarctica. *International Journal of Biological Innovations* 6(2): 143-148.
6. DEBNATH, SUPARNA AND DEEPU VIJAYAN. 2024. Conservation priority and a new locality record of *Hedychium aureum* (Zingiberaceae): An Endangered Species of Meghalaya, India. *Ecology Environment and Conservation*. 30: 223-228. <http://doi.org/10.53550/EEC.2024.v30i06s.033>
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9. BOSE, A., P. UNİYAL, A. VIZZINI AND K. DAS. 2024. Morphotaxonomy and molecular phylogeny unveil one new species and two new records of *Phlegmacium* (Cortinariaceae) from India. *Nordic Journal of Botany* 2024: e04552.
10. PARIHAR, A., M.E. HEMBROM, V. ANTONÍN AND K. DAS. 2024. Combined Study of Morphology and Molecular Phylogeny Unveils the First Report of the Mushroom Genus *Singerocybe* (Tricholomataceae) from India. *Kavaka* 60(2): 17–23.
11. RASINGAM, L., G. SUSMITHA, J. RANJANA, P. RANJITHKUMAR AND A. PARTHIBAN 2024. A New Species of *Crinum* (Amaryllidaceae) from the Eastern Ghats of Andhra Pradesh, India. *Phytotaxa*. 671(2); 205-210. DOI: 10.11646/PHYTOTAXA.671.2.10
12. NETHAJI, K., J. RANJANA, G. SUSMITHA, P. RANJITHKUMAR, G. VARSHINI AND L. RASINGAM. 2024. A note on the extended distribution of *Salvia misella* (Lamiaceae) in Andhra Pradesh, India. *Indian Journal of Forestry*, 47(1): 51-53.
13. RANJITHKUMAR, P., G. SUSMITHA, J. RANJANA, A. PARTHIBAN AND L. RASINGAM. 2024. A note on the distribution of *Sagittaria guayanensis* subsp. *lappula* (Alismataceae) in Andhra Pradesh, India. *Journal of Economic and Taxonomic Botany* 48(3):1-3.
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15. MEHALA DEVI, M., S.P. NITHYA, M. PREMKUMAR AND R. MANIKANDAN, 2024. *Tephrosia roxburghiana* (Fabaceae) - A new record for Tamil Nadu, India. *Indian Forester* 150 (11): 1116-1117.
16. KUMAR AMBRISH, K.S. DOGRA, PUNIT KUMAR, BRAJESH MEENA AND VINAY RANJAN. 2024. *Dinetus malabaricus* (Convolvulaceae): A new record for Himalaya with specific note on its identity. *Indian Journal of Forestry* 47(1). :61-62.

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23. NAVYA S. AND K. A. SUJANA 2024. Threat Status of endemic angiosperms in the Shola habitat and significance of Conservation. In the proceedings of 31st Swadeshi Science Congress, 7-9 November 2024, Kochi, 154 pp.
24. SAMPATH KUMAR, V. 2024. Why the online plant nomenclatural databases should be followed prudently – an example from *Boraginaceae*: *Cordia gharaf* vs. *Cordia sinensis*. *J. Econ. Taxon. Bot.* 48 (3): 124–128.
25. NITHYA, S.P., MANIKANDAN, R., KARTHIK, B., MURUGAN, C. AND ARISDASON, W. Flowering Plant Diversity in Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park, Tamil Nadu, India after 2004 Tsunami. In: *Plant Taxonomy: Tracking Changes over Time for Biodiversity Conservation and Human Welfare*. International Conference Program Book, Kampus FMIPA UI Depok, West Java. p. 70
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