

डॉ. कनाद दास
Dr. Kanad Das
निदेशक
Director



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

DO. No.: BSI – 8/1/PA/2019

Date: 06.03.2026

Respected Sir,

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 February, 2026.

Department: Botanical Survey of India

Important policy decisions taken, Major achievements during the month:

Scientists of BSI described **eight (8) taxa as New to Science** from India viz. Genus *Bazzania* (Marchantiophyta: Lepidoziaceae), *Neoboletus deodarae*, *Sutorius paurianus*, *Harrya indosubalpina*, *Dicliptera pakhalica* (Acanthaceae), *Justicia balakrishnaniana* (Acanthaceae), *Scurrula neoraindica* (Loranthaceae) and *Solanum pandeyi* (Solanaceae). Besides, Scientists of BSI also reported **four (04) taxa as new additions** to the different states of India including *Bacopa aquatica* (Plantaginaceae), a new record for Asia from Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India; *Calamagrostis gaoligongensis* (Poaceae), *Bondarzewia zonata* (Polyporaceae) from the state of Arunachal Pradesh and *Oreorchis micrantha* Lindl. (Orchidaceae), an addition to the orchid flora of Nagaland, India. Besides, Scientists of BSI have also **rediscovered** a rare orchid species namely *Bulbophyllum depressum* King & Pantl. (Orchidaceae) from Meghalaya, India after a gap of 127 years.

Scientists of BSI conducted 7 field / local tours and 3 herbarium consultation tours and collected 303 field nos. of specimens. BSI prepared metadata of 2719 herbarium specimens. During this month, 13,50,497 visitors referred the official websites of BSI (9,64,420 visitors referred official webpage, 2,40,342 visitors referred archives, and 1,45,735 visitors visited Indian Virtual Herbarium). Besides, 1671 students / visitors visited the gardens and herbaria of BSI, and generated the revenue of about Rs. 1,07,986/- during this month.

Important events / programs organized / attended:

1. Botanical Survey of India and all its regional centres observed **World Wetland Day** on 02.02.2026. On this occasion, BSI, Kolkata, was honored with the Second Position at the **Swachhata Pakhwada 2025 Awards**, recognizing the institution's commitment to cleanliness and environmental dedication."
2. BSI-AJCBIBG, Howrah hosted the "**Flower Show 2026**" from 3–5 February 2026, which was inaugurated on by the Hon'ble Chief Guest, Dr. Himadri Sekhar Debnath, Chairman, West Bengal State Biodiversity Board, in the presence of several eminent dignitaries, including the Director, IEST Shibpur; the Director, ZSI, including senior scientists, officers and invited guests.
3. BSI-The Central National Herbarium (CNH), Howrah, hosted **Forest Range Officer trainees** from the Tamil Nadu Forest Academy, Coimbatore, as part of their North East India **Study Tour** (2024–26 Batch). A total of 35 officer trainees, accompanied by a faculty member, visited the Herbarium and the AJC Bose Indian Botanic Garden, Howrah, and got insights into India's plant diversity, herbarium techniques, and the scientific role of BSI in documenting and conserving the Nation's Flora.
4. BSI observed its **137th Foundation Day** on 13th February, 2026. On this occasion a Scientific Review Meeting was held at BSI, Western Regional Centre, Pune, where all the scientist and officers of BSI presented the progress of their research projects.
5. Dr. Kanad Das, Director, BSI, attended as 'Guest of Honour' in the **100 Years' Celebration** of the IEST Shibpur & Garden Co-operative Credit Society Ltd. at the Institute Hall, IEST Shibpur, Howrah on 18 February 2026.
6. Dr. Kanad Das, Director, BSI and Dr. S. S. Dash, Scientist-F & In-charge, Tech. Section, BSI attended the High Powered Steering Committee (HPSC) meeting of **NIRANTAR** on 28th February, 2026 at IIFM, Bhopal.
7. Dr. Kanad Das, Director, BSI delivered two invited talks namely '*Taxonomy of Wild Mushrooms in the Molecular Era*' in the Department of Botany, Savitribai Phule Pune University under Dr. Janaki Ammal Lecture Series in Botany on 12.02.2026 and '*Wild Mushrooms: Diversity & Discovery*' in the PM SHRI KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA Fort William, Kolkata under Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan on 19.02.2026.
8. Mr. Norbu Sherpa, Senior Preservation Assistant, BSI, SHRC, Gangtok, has been conferred with the "**Keshab Ram Deka Best Presentation Award**" during the Annual Conference of the Botanical Society of Assam (BSA) and the National Conference on "Indian Knowledge System and Sustainable Development Goals", held from 20–21 February 2026, held at Mangaldai College, Darrang, Assam.
9. Dr. Sudhir Kumar Yadav, Sci. B, HQ, Kolkata attended and presented a research paper titled "*Taxonomic account of the red marine macro algae (Rhodophyta) of India and its economic perspectives*" in the **International Conference on Algal and Cyanobacterial Biology** (ICACB-2026) at BHU, Varanasi, during February 19-21, 2026.

During this month, **30 publications including 29 research papers and one book** were published by BSI scientists in International and National journals of repute apart from participating in scientific lectures and publishing seminar abstracts and Book chapters (Annexure 1).

1. Important policy matter held up on account of prolonged inter-ministerial consultations: NIL
2. No. of cases of 'Sanction for prosecution' pending for more than 3 months: NIL
3. Particulars of cases in which there has been a departure from the Transaction of Business Rules or established policy of the government: NIL
4. Status of Rationalization of Autonomous Bodies:-NA-
5. Information on the specific steps taken for utilization of the space technology based tools and applications in governance and development: Inputs on Leveraging Space Technology & Application for Viksit Bharat 2047 were provided by BSI to the Ministry
6. Vacancy position of senior level appointments in the Ministry/ Department, including Autonomous Bodies/ PSUs: Communicated to the Ministry separately.
7. List of cases in which ACC directions have not been complied with: NIL
With regards,

Sincerely yours,

(Kanad Das)
Director
06/03/2026

To,

Shri.Ved Prakash Mishra, JS, (CS-II), MoEF&CC, New Delhi – 3

PUBLICATION OF FEBRUARY 2026

1. ALI, SK NASIM., DEVENDRA SINGH AND SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH. 2026. A new species of the genus *Bazzania* (Marchantiophyta: Lepidoziaceae) from Northeast India. *Phytotaxa*. 739 (3): 296–300
2. ARI, V.H., H. SINGH AND A. A. KABEER. 2026. *Calamagrostis gaoligongensis* (Poaceae: Agrostidinae)—An Addition to the Flora of India. *Feddes Repertorium* 137(1). <https://doi.org/10.1002/fedr.70059>(Indexed in Scopus)
3. BERA, SUKDEB, S. ARUMUGAM AND K. KARTHIGEYAN 2025. Know Your Botanist: Robert Wight (1796–1872). *EIACP Newsletter* 30(3): 1.
4. BHATTACHARYYA, S., SAMEER PATIL AND S. K. SINGH. 2026. A note on nomenclature of three Königian names published in Plants of the Coast of Coromandel. *Botany Letters* 1–13. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23818107.2026.2624003>.
5. BHEEMALINGAPPA, M., C. MURUGANAND VINAY RANJAN. 2026. Wildflowers: A Comprehensive Review of Ecological, Nutraceutical and Socio-Economic Aspects. *Bionature* 46(1):82-88.
6. CHAKRABORTY, S., S. SARKAR, A. BHATTACHARJEE, D.K. AGRAWALA AND D. MAITY 2026. A new synonym of *Neottia alternifolia* King & Pantl.) Szlach. (Orchidaceae) and lectotypification of its basionym. *Adansonia*, sér. 3, 48(4): 21–28. <https://doi.org/10.5252/adansonia2026v48a4>
7. DATTA, S., K. DAS, U. SINGH AND A. VIZZINI 2026. Unveiling three new species in Boletaceae (Boletales, Basidiomycota) with multigene molecular phylogeny and morphological evidence from India. *Mycological Progress* 25: 11. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11557-026-02120-8>
8. DEORI, C. 2025. Wild dendrobiums of Northeast India. Submitted to EIACP for brochure publication.
9. DHOLE, P.A., A. MIDIGESI K., G. A. EKKA, AND L. J. SINGH. 2025. Observation on the occurrence of the Brazil jute plant, *Malachra* L. (Malvaceae) in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India. *Journal of the Andaman Science Association* 30 (2): 134-137.
10. GEORGE N. MATHEW AND T.A.M. JAGADEESH RAM 2025. Brigantiaeaceae (Lichenized Fungi) of Agasthyamalai Biosphere Reserve, India. *Indian Journal of Forestry* 48(1): 102–107.
11. KOTTAIMUTHU, R. 2026. A new name for extant *Diospyros lei* Yan Liu, Song Shi & Y.S.Huang (Ebenaceae). *Feddes Repertorium* 137(1)-e70061: 1–2. <https://doi.org/10.1002/fedr.70061>
12. KULDIP S. DOGRA, RITESH K. SINGH, KUMAR AMBRISH, PUNEET KUMAR, BRAJESH MEENA AND YOUTHVEER, 2026. German Ivy (*Delairea odorata* Lem.): A new invasive alien species from North-West Himalaya, India. *Indian Forester*, 152 (1): 80-82. DOI: 10.36808/if/2026/v152i1/170993.
13. MAHESH, Y., R. KOTTAIMUTHU AND N. ODYUO 2026. Rediscovery of *Bulbophyllum depressum* King & Pantl. (Orchidaceae) after a lapse of 127 years from Meghalaya, India. *Ecology, Environment and Conservation* 32 (Suppl.): 30–34.
14. MIDIGESI A. K., A. K. DAS, P. A. DHOLE, G. A. EKKA, C. SIVAPERUMAN AND L. J. SINGH. 2025. *Bacopa aquatica* Aubl. (Plantaginaceae): a new record for Asia from Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India. *Journal of the Andaman Science Association* 30 (2): 138-142.
15. MONDAL A., A. SAVINOV I., C. MURUGAN AND S. D. RAJKUMAR. Typification of two names in the genera *Euonymus* L. and *Glyptopetalum* Thwaites and the correct taxonomic position of *Hippocrateaangulata* Griff. (Celastraceae). *Adansonia*, sér.3,48(3):13-20. <https://doi.org/10.5252/adansonia2026v48a3>.
16. PARIHAR, A & M.E. HEMBROM (2026). Notes on Nomenclature status and Validation of six names of boletes. *Feddes Repertorium*, 137:e70062. <https://doi.org/10.1002/fedr.70062>
17. PARIHAR, A AND A. GHOSH, 2026. First report of *Bondarzewia zonata* (Polyporaceae) from Arunachal Pradesh, India. *Indian Journal of Forestry*, 48(1), pp.108-110

18. PARTHIBAN A., L. RASINGAM AND SANDHYA DEEPIKA D. (2026) *Justicia balakrishniana* (Acanthaceae), a new species from Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India. *Ann. Bot. Fennici* 63: 5–8.
19. PARTHIBAN A., RASINGAM L., SANDHYA DEEPIKA D. AND H.P. BHARATHAN (2026) Two new heterotypic synonyms in *Rotala* (Lythraceae) from India. *Ann. Bot. Fennici* 63: 17–25.
20. PARTHIBAN, A., L. RASINGAM, AND S. D. DEVARA, (2026): Taxonomic insights into Indian *Rotala* (Lythraceae) species with verticillate phyllotaxy. *Nordic Journal of Botany* e05070. <https://doi.org/10.1002/njb.05070>
21. PILLAI, BASUNDHARA AND TAPAN SEAL. 2025. Amino acid profiling of *Houttuyniacordata* and *Solanumkurzii*: wild edible plants from Northeast India using HPLC. *Journal of Phytopharmacol*, 14(6):511-517
22. PURTI, N., L. J.SINGH, AND A.K. PANDEY. 2025. Poaceae taxa offered as Larval Food Influences Fecundity of Andaman Long branded Bushbrown, *Mycalesis visala andamana* Moore in an island ecosystem. *Journal of the Andaman Science Association* 30 (2): 116-127.
23. RASINGAM, L., P. HARIKRISHNA, A. PARTHIBAN, ET AL. (2026) *Dicliptera pakhalica* (Acanthaceae) – A New Species from Telangana, India. *Brittonia*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12228-025-09869-4>
24. SAGARIKA, K., D. K. AGRAWALA, S. BHAKTA AND L. J. SINGH. 2025. Red List assessment of *Carissa andamanensis* L.J. Singh and Murugan (Apocynaceae): an endemic flowering plant of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India. *Journal of the Andaman Science Association* 30 (2): 186-192
25. SAGARIKA, K., P. SOURABH, AND L. J. SINGH. 2025. Taxonomic Notes on *Vincetoxicum cissoides* (Blume) Kuntze (Apocynaceae). *Journal of the Andaman Science Association* 30 (2): 193–201.
26. SARKAR, S., R.M.R. LAYOLA, D.K. AGRAWALA, D. MAITY AND A. BHATTACHARJEE 2025. *Oreorchis micrantha* (Orchidaceae), an addition to the orchid flora of Nagaland, India. *Indian Journal of Forestry* 48(1): 99–101.
27. SHIL, T. AND C. DEORI 2025. The role of *Shorea robusta* C.F. Gaertn. in forest ecosystems and rural livelihoods of Jharkhand, India. *EIACP Newsletter* 30(3): 9–10.
28. SINGH, L. J., RANJAN, V., KUMAR, A. AND KRISHNA, G. A new species of *Scurrula* L. (Scurrulinae: Loranthaceae) from India. 2025. *Taiwania* 70 (3): 459–469
29. SINGH, L.J. AND S. KASANA. 2025. A New Species of *Solanum* L. (Solanaceae) From the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India: Taxonomic and Phylogenetic Insights. *Feddes Repertorium*. 136 (3): 202-217.

Book published

- MURUGAN, C. AND C. P. VIVEK. 2025. *Flora of Little Nicobar Island – A Pictorial Guide*. Kolkata Botanical Survey of India. pp. 1–468. ISBN 978-81-987352-0-1