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निदेशक
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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 / 877

Date: 01.09.2023

Madam,

In response to OM no. 24011/08/2019 – GC dtd. 25.03.2019 regarding monthly DO letter from Secretary (MoEF&CC) to the Cabinet Secretary, I am furnishing the following major achievements of Botanical Survey of India for the month of August, 2023.

Department: Botanical Survey of India

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

Scientists of BSI reported *Pedicularis revealiana* (Orobanchaceae) as new to science and *Tripogon nallamalayanus* (Poaceae: Chloridoideae: Tripogoninae) a new distributional Record to the Flora of South India. Scientists of BSI conducted 17 field / local tours and 4 Herbarium Consultation Tours and collected 373 field nos. of specimens. Towards digitization, BSI completed 4680 herbarium specimens. During this month, 372361 visitors visited the official websites of BSI (160879 visitors referred BSI official website, 109315 visitors referred BSI archives, and 102167 visitors visited the Indian Virtual Herbarium).

Important events / programmes organized / attended:

- Hon'ble Secretary, MoEF&CC, Ms. Leena Nandan, IAS on 10th August, 2023, inaugurated, "Nature Trail" at AJCBIBG, BSI.
- On 15th August, 2023, Staffs of Botanical Survey of India celebrated the 77th Independence Day with great enthusiasm and patriotic fervor and plantation of 76 saplings belonging to 40 species of Gymnosperms and Angiosperms was planted at Pinetum section of AJCB Indian Botanic Garden.
- Awareness programmes were conducted by BSI EIACP PC RP, at CNH, Howrah on Mission LiFE among the students of Panitras High School (H.S.), Panitras, Bagnan, Howrah, Egra S.S.B. College, Egra, Purba Medinipore, Debra Thana Sahid Kshudiram Smriti Mahavidyalaya, Chakshyampur, Debra, Paschim Medinipore. Leaflets on 7 Mission LiFE themes distributed among the students. Students and Teachers have also taken the pledge.
- Staffs of CNH & ISIM of BSI, actively participated in the 26th National Exhibition "Contribution to Make Advanced Powerful and Great India," organized by the Central Calcutta Science & Cultural Organization for Youth at Central Park, Salt Lake City, Kolkata, from 24th -27th August, 2023.
- Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances were identified from 11 samples and revenue of Rs. 27,500/- was earned for the public service rendered at BSI.
- Central Botanical Laboratory, Howrah got the ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management Certificate on August 25, 2023, from DBS CERT, accredited by the United Accreditation Foundation.
- Northern Regional Centre, BSI along with FSI & ZSI conducted a four-days training program from 8th to 11th August, 2023 for the identification of Plant, Animal, and Hands-on Training for Zonal Staff of FSI under the NIRANTAR vertical of MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
- On August 25, 2023, 5 BMCs (Biodiversity Management Committees) from five villages of East Khasi Hills, collaborated with BSI, ERC, Shillong, and Meghalaya Biodiversity Board, organized a tree plantation drive in which 1500 saplings provided by BSI ERC, were planted with the active participation of the residents of the villages.
- Three persons as Botanical Assistants, got recruited and joined duty in BSI during this month,

During this month, 18 research publications have been published by BSI scientists in various International and National research journals (Annexure 1).

- Important policy matter held up on account of prolonged inter-ministerial consultations: NIL
- No. of cases of 'Sanction for prosecution' pending for more than 3 months: NIL
- Particulars of cases in which there has been a departure from the Transaction of Business Rules or established policy of the government: NIL
- Status of ongoing Swachhta Abhiyaan (Progress under Special Campaign): Under outreach activities, regular cleaning drives and public awareness campaigns were organized in Head Quarters and all the regional centers of BSI.
- Status of Rationalization of Autonomous Bodies: NIL
- Information on the specific steps taken for utilization of the space technology based tools and applications in governance and development: NIL
- Vacancy position of senior level appointments in the Ministry/ Department, including Autonomous Bodies/ PSUs: Communicated to the Ministry separately.
- 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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LIST OF PUBLICATIONS FOR AUGUST, 2023

1. JALANDER, V., J. SWAMY, L. RASINGAM AND P.V. RAMANA.2023. *Tripogon polyanthus* Naik and Patunkar (Poaceae: Chloridoideae, Cyanodonteae, Tripogoninae): A new Distributional Record to the Flora of South India. *Indian Forester* 149 (7): 779-780. DOI: 10.36808/if/2023/v149i7/169127.
2. CHAKRABORTY, D., J. SWAMY AND D. SINGH 2023. Development and Characterisation of a New *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* L. Cultivar ('Krishna's Radiance') from India. *Journal of Experimental Agriculture International* 45 (9): 188-194. DOI: 10.9734/JEAI/2023/v45i9219
3. MAZHAR, Z., R. BHADRA, M. PAL, H.J NOLTIE AND K. KARTHIGEYAN. 2022. Historical Paintings at the Central National Herbarium In: Das Kanad & al. (ed.) EIACP Newsletter 27(3): 1-7. [ISSN – 0974 – 1992]
4. MAZHAR, Z. AND K. KARTHIGEYAN.2023. Jack in The Box Tree In: Das Kanad & al. (ed.) EIACP Newsletter 27(4): 3. [ISSN – 0974 – 1992]
5. MAZHAR, Z., K. KARTHIGEYAN AND S. GANTAIT.2022. Report on visit to Kendriya Vidyalaya, Ballygunge, Kolkata In: Das Kanad & al. (ed.) EIACP Newsletter 27(2): 5. [ISSN – 0974 – 1992]
6. SINGH, R.K. & R.K. ARIGELA.2023. *Aeschynanthus murthyianus* nom nov. (Gesneriaceae), a replacement name for *A. cordifolius* Kraenzlin. *Phytotaxa*, 607 (3), 225–227.,2023
7. SINGH R.K.2023. *Columnnea karstenianum* R.Kr.Singh, a new name of *C. picta* H.Karst. (Gesneriaceae). *Phytotaxa* 606 (2): 169. 2023
8. Garg, A. AND A. N. Shukla.2023. A new hemiparasitic species of *Pedicularis* (Orobanchaceae) from North Sikkim, India. *Nordic Journal of Botany*. 2023 (26 July - e03966):1–10. (doi: 10.1111/njb.03966). (IF: 0.931; NAAS: 6.93).
9. GARG, A. 2023. Phytodiversity Conservation for Disaster Risk Reduction in Bhoj Ramsar Site, Madhya Pradesh. *Indian Forester* 149(7): 747–752. (NAAS: 5.1).
10. SRIVASTAVA, N., S. MUKHERJEE, AND A. GARG.2023. Medicinal Plant Wealth of Family *Poaceae* in Chhattisgarh State of India. *Indian Forester* 149(7): 788-791 (NAAS: 5.1).
11. KOTTAIMUTHU, R. 2023. *Dyschoriste charlesii*, a new name for *Dyschoriste erecta* C.B.Clarke (Acanthaceae). *Phytotaxa*.609(1): 69–70.
12. GNANASEKARAN, G., A.F.J. KING, AND W. ARISDASON. Why is it essential to critically study allied taxa while describing those new to science? A case study based on *Lepidagathis keralensis* (Acanthaceae) in *Current Science* 125(3): 247–252. Published on 10.08.2023.
13. MAZHAR ZEESHAN, R. BHADRA, M. PAL, H. J. NOLTIE & K. KARTHIGEYAN.2023. 'Historical Paintings at the Central National Herbarium', ENVIS Newsletter Vol. 27(3): 2-7.
14. CHAKRABARTY, T. AND A. KUMAR.2023. A synopsis of Indo-Burmese *Combretaceae*. *Brittonia*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12228-023-09756-w>. Impact factor: 0.9
15. CHAKRABARTY, T., A. KUMAR AND P.P. GHOSHAL 2023. A revision of the genus *Phoebe* (Lauraceae) in the Indo-Burmese region. *Phytotaxa* 606(1): 29–42. Impact factor: 1.1
16. MAJI, A., T. SHIL AND K. KARTHIGEYAN.2022. Know your Botanist: Charles Baron Clarke. *Envis Newsletter* 27(2): 11.
17. PALANISAMY, M. AND ARON SANTHOSH KUMAR Y. 2023. Account on *Rhodophyceae* and their monetary potentiality from the Coastline of Andhra Pradesh, India. *Nelumbo*65(1): Article No. 40
18. SHIL, T., A. MAJI AND K. KARTHIGEYAN. 2022. *Typhonium trilobatum* (L.) Schott (Araceae) – a lesser known edible leafy vegetable in West Bengal. *EIACP Newsletter* 27(4): 7-8.