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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 /261

Date: 03.07.2023

Madam,

In reply 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 herewith the following major achievements of Botanical Survey of India for the month of **June, 2023**.

Department: Botanical Survey of India

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

Scientists of BSI reported **two new species viz. *Morindopsis ashihoi*** (Rubiaceae) from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and *Litsea megamalayana* (Lauraceae), from the southern Western Ghats of India. They have also reported **two taxa as new additions viz. *Hygrophila auriculata*** (Acanthaceae) to the Flora of Andaman & Nicobar Islands and *Nervilia punctata*. (Orchidaceae) to Arunachal Pradesh. Scientists of BSI have also reported **two new cultivars** from India viz. *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* cultivar ('Janaki Ammal') and New *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* cultivar ('A.A. Mao').

Scientists of BSI conducted **9 field / local tours, 1 Herbarium Consultation Tours** and collected **575 field nos.** of specimens. Towards digitization, BSI completed metadata of **4764** herbarium specimens. During this month, **395274** visitors visited the official websites of BSI (180676 visitors referred BSI official website, 114930 visitors referred BSI archives, and 99,668 visitors visited the Indian Virtual Herbarium).

Important events / programmes organized / attended:

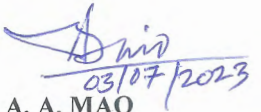
- All the regional centres/ units of Botanical Survey of India celebrated World Environment Day on 5th June, 2023 at their respective office premises. On this occasion a series of awareness programme in the form of mass rally, plantation activities, sit & draw competitions and photography competitions was organized.
- Dr. A. A. Mao, Director, Botanical Survey of India attended and represented the Indian Flora in the **26th meeting of the CITES Plants Committee** from 5th – 9th June 2023 at Centre International de Conference (CICG) at Geneva, Switzerland.
- BSI, Kolkata signed an MoU with Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH), New Delhi on 21st June 2023 at New Delhi. Dr. A. A. Mao, Director, BSI, Ms. Nameeta Prasad, JS, (CS-II), MoEF&CC and Dr. S.S. Dash, Scientist E. & Incharge, Tech. sect. HQ BSI were present from BSI side.
- The different regional centres/ units Botanical Survey of India celebrated the 9th International Yoga Day on 21st June, 2023 in which all officers and staff participated. Different Asanas and Pranayams were performed by the staff members of BSI.
- The BSI, WRC, Pune in association with the Symbiosis International University celebrated the International Yoga Day on June 21, 2023 at Pune with participation of G20 delegates from 47 countries. The event showcases the power of yoga in promoting unity, well-being, and cultural exchange among nations.
- BSI-Headquarters, Kolkata team (Dr. U.L. Tiwari, Sci-D and Dr. S.K. Yadav, Botanist) conducted the Green Audit and an awareness programme under the Mission Life campaign at Maheshwala College in Kolkata, W.B. on 21st June 2023.

During this month 17 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 are organized in 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 in 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 JUNE, 2023

1. CHAKRABORTY, D., J. SWAMY AND D. SINGH. 2023. Development and characterisation of new *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* cultivar ('Janaki Ammal') from India. *Inter. J. Hort. Food Science* 5(1): 77-80.
2. DEY D., SINGH R.K. AND DEVI, N. 2023. *Eranthemum burmanicum* (Acanthaceae), a new record for the Flora of India from Assam. *Journal of Japanese Botany* 98(3): 147-149. <https://doi.org/10.51033/jjapbot.jjapbot.ID0108>
3. GOEL, R., CHANDRA SHEKHARAN, S. AND GARG, A. 2022. Impact of Global Warming and Environmental Stress conditions on Proteins in *Triticum aestivum* L.: A Computational Analysis. *Internatl. Jour. of Plant and Environ.* 8(4): 7-13. DOI: 10.18811/ijpen.v8i04.02.
4. KHYANJEET GOGOI, KRISHNA CHOWLU AND JEEWAN SINGH JALAL. 2023. The genus *Nervilia* (Orchidaceae) in Arunachal Pradesh (India) with a new addition for the flora of this state. *Rhichardiana*. 7 (3): 78-102.
5. KOTTAIMUTHU, R. 2023. *Medinilla johnii*, a new name for *Medinilla parvifolia* Baker (Melastomataceae). *Phytotaxa* 598(3): 269-270.
6. MURUGAN, P., B. KARTHIK, M. MURUGESAN AND C. MURUGAN. 2023. Notes on the identity and taxonomic status of three endemic species in *Hedyotis* L. (Rubiaceae) from South Western Ghats, India. *Journal of the Indian Botanical Society* <https://doi.org/10.5958/2455-7218.2023.103.1.07>
7. NAIK, M.C., SINGH, L.J., DAWSON, S. AND ARRIOLA, A. 2023. *Morindopsis ashiohi* (Octotropideae; Rubiaceae), A new species from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India. *Kew Bull.* <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12225-023-10097-w>
8. P. MURUGAN, V. RAVICHANDRAN AND C. MURUGAN. 2023. The genus *Gynochthodes* (Rubiaceae, Rubioideae, Morindeae) in India. *J. Gardens' Bulletin Singapore* 75(1): 149-167.
9. PANDA, S. P., R.K. NAYAK, A. PRADHAN, C. SAHU AND H. N. SUBUDHI. 2023. *Staurochilus ramosus* (Lindl.) Seidenf. (Orchidaceae), a Rare Orchid for Tripura State, India. *Biological Forum* 15(4): 609-611.
10. PARK, D.S. *et al.* 2023. The Colonial Legacy of Herbaria. *Nature human behaviour.* <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-023-01616-7>
11. PATRUT, R.T., GARG, A., PATRUT, A., WOODBORNE, S., RAKOSAY, L. AND RATIU, I-A. 2023. Radiocarbon analysis of the Indian banyan (*Ficus benghalensis* L.) at Narora. *Current Science* 124(10): 1175-1180. Research Articles.
12. PUROHIT, C. S., VIVEK C.P., DEY, B. C. AND SINGH, L. J. 2023. *Hygrophila auriculata* (Acanthaceae): A new addition for Flora of Andaman & Nicobar Islands. India. *Journal on New Biological Reports* 12(1) 5 – 8
13. S. KARUPPUSAMY, V. RAVICHANDRAN AND P. B. S. YADAV. 2023. *Litsea megamalayana* (Lauraceae), a new species from the southern Western Ghats of India. *Journal Gardens' Bulletin Singapore* 75(1): 169-175. 2023. doi: 10.26492/gbs75(1).2023-12
14. S.S. HAMEED, V. RAVICHANDRAN, M.U. SHARIEF, R. MANIKANDAN, M. MURUGESAN AND W. ARISDASON. 2023. Notes on the taxonomy and horticultural potential of *Pritchardia pacifica* Seem. & H. Wendl. (Arecaceae), a wonderful landscape palm for the tropics. *Bioscience Discovery*, 14(2):26-32.
15. SHUKLA, A. N., GARG, A. AND TIWARI, A. P. 2023. Naro hills in Madhya Pradesh, India – A Potential Biodiversity Park. *Indian Forester* 149(4): 480-482.
16. SINGH R.K. 2023. *Pseuderanthemum imlayae* R.Kr. Singh, a replacement name for *P. axillare* J.B. Imlay (Acanthaceae). *Annales Botanici Fennici* 60 : 115. <https://doi.org/10.5735/085.060.0118>
17. SWAMY, J., D. CHAKRABORTY AND D. SINGH. 2023. Development and Characterisation of New *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* cultivar ('A.A. Mao') from India. *International Journal of Agriculture Innovations and Research* 11 (6): 135-139.