



DO. No.: BSI – 8/1/DO/2025-26/1990

Date: 08.05.2026

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 April, 2026.

Department: Botanical Survey of India

Important policy decisions taken, Major achievements during the month:

Scientists of BSI described **two (02) taxa as New to Science** from India viz. *Miliusa saddlepeakensis* Sukd. Bera & Karthig. (Annonaceae) and *Pimpinella pygmaea* A. Sajan, Navya & Sujana (Apiaceae). Besides, Scientists of BSI reported **seven (07) taxa as new additions** to the different states of India viz. *Seligeria* Bruch & Schimp. (Bryophyta: Seligeriaceae) to the Indian Bryoflora, *Liparis mengziensis* J.D. Ya & Lei Cai (Orchidaceae) from Arunachal Pradesh, *Gastrodia huapingensis* (Orchidaceae, Epidendroideae) from East Kameng district of Arunachal Pradesh, *Notoseris scandens* (Hook.f.) N.Kilian var. *arunachalensis* (Asteraceae) from the Eastern Himalayas of Arunachal Pradesh, *Polyalthia moulmeinensis* (Craib) Sukd.Bera & Karthig. (Annonaceae), to the Flora of India, *Dipcadi reidii* Deb & S. Dasgupta (Asparagaceae: Scilloideae) to the Flora of Himachal Pradesh and *Cynanchum tunicatum* (Retz.) Alston (Apocynaceae) to the flora of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India.

Scientists of BSI conducted 13 field / local tours and 2 herbarium consultation tours and collected 815 field nos. of specimens. BSI prepared metadata of 1488 herbarium specimens. During this month, 6,40,416 visitors referred the official websites of BSI (3,19,849 visitors referred official website, 1,80,568 visitors referred archives, and 1,39,999 visitors visited Indian Virtual Herbarium). Besides, 1034 students / visitors visited the gardens and herbaria of BSI, and generated the revenue of about Rs. 90,356 during this month.

Important events / programs organized / attended:

- Dr. Kanad Das, Director, BSI attended the meeting with the Chief Controller of Accounts, MoEF&CC at ZSI, Headquarters on 16.04.2026 and discussed budget related issues of BSI in details. Further, he has also attended the Meeting with the team of Indra Gandhi National Centre for The Arts, Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India for providing guidance to set up a *Ficus*-based Museum in Vadodara on 20.04.2026.
- Botanical Survey of India organized a one-day brainstorming workshop on “Plant-Based Wildlife Health Management” at Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi on 6th April 2026. Director, BSI attended the event and chaired the Workshop for some time. The workshop witnessed the participation of 50 delegates from various regional centres of BSI, fostering meaningful discussions on the integration of botanical knowledge in wildlife health and conservation.
- BSI, Central Botanical Laboratory, Howrah organized and celebrated 72nd Foundation Day of Central Botanical Laboratory on 13th April, 2026 at CBL, Howrah.
- BSI-Southern Regional Centre, Coimbatore celebrated the World Health Day 2026 by partnering with IIT Madras to host a “Comprehensive Cancer Awareness & Screening Program” for early detection of common cancers in both men and women.
- Botanical Survey of India celebrated International World Earth Day on 22nd April 2026 with the theme “Our Power, Our Planet.”
- On 22nd April 2026, Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, Director of the Zoological Survey of India, along with Dr. Nandita Chatterjee, Chairperson, RAMC (ZSI), and a team of ten scientists, visited BSI, Sikkim Himalayan Regional Centre, Gangtok.

During this month, **35 publications, including 31 research papers and 2 books** 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*).

- 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 Rationalization of Autonomous Bodies:-NA-
- 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
- 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,

(Kanad Das)
Director

To,

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