

DO. No.: BSI – 8/1/PA/2019/493

Date: 30.06.2021

Dear Smt. Pandey,

In reference 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, 2021.

Department: Botanical Survey of India

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

Scientists of BSI reported **two new species** to science i.e. *Strobilanthes pushpagiriensis* (Acanthaceae) and *Glyphochloa shrirangii* (Poaceae) from the Western Ghats, India. Besides, they also reported **four taxa** as new additions to various states flora i.e. *Hedychium longipedunculatum* and *Mazus dentatus* for Meghalaya, *Olax nana* for Rajasthan and *Spigelia anthelmia* for Telangana.

Important events / programmes organized / attended:

- BSI observed "World Environment Day", 2021 with the theme "Ecosystems Restoration". On this occasion, plantation activities were performed at various regional centres. Besides, BSI organized a virtual webinar and Dr. A.A. Mao, Director, BSI delivered a talk on the role of BSI in Ecosystems Restoration. BSI, NRC, Dehradun also organized a webinar and Dr. Brijlal, Former Chief Scientist & Head, Department of High Altitude Biology, IHBT-CSIR, Palampur, HP delivered a talk on "Socio-economic and Environmental Relevance of Seabuckthorn (*Hippophae*)".
- BSI organized a virtual meeting with all the Heads of Offices regarding "Digitization of Herbarium Database in BSI" on 15th June, 2021.
- BSI organized a virtual meeting with all the Heads of Offices and scientists on 18th and 30th June, 2021 for discussion on the tentative tour schedules / area of mutual research under the MoU between BSI and NBPGR, New Delhi.
- Dr. A.A. Mao, Director, BSI and Dr. S.S. Dash, Scientist E, BSI, HQ attended a meeting with ministry officials on 23rd June, 2021 regarding information available on BSI ENVIS portal.
- Dr. A. A. Mao delivered an invited lecture on Plant Wealth of India for Bio-economy through VC One Day National Webinar: "Plant Science: Some Contemporary Issues and Challenges" organized by Burdwan University on 26th June 2021.
- Dr. M.U. Sharief, Dr. S.K. Yadav and Dr. Gopal Krishna delivered invited lectures virtually on various topics to the B.Sc. Agri. students of Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur, Kerala on 21st June, 2021.

Important scientific publications:

During this month, 3 books and 10 research publications have been published by BSI scientists in various international and national journals (**Annexure 1**).


- Important policy matter is held up on account of prolonged inter-ministerial consultation: NIL
- Compliance of COS decisions: Nothing pending
- 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 implementation of e-governance: PFMS, CPGRAMS, e-Publications, GEM Portal of *Nelumbo* etc. have already been implemented.
- Details of cases in which ACC directions have not been complied with: NIL
- Status of Public grievances:

No. of public grievances redressed during the month	No. of Public grievances pending at the end of month
Nil	Nil

- Information on the specific steps taken by the ministry/department for utilization of the space technology based tools and applications in governance and development: NIL

With regards,

Sincerely yours,


30/06/2021
A. A. MAO

To
Smt. Manju Pandey, Jt. Secretary, (CS), MoEF & CC, New Delhi – 3



List of Publications

Research Papers published: 10

1. CHAKRABARTY, T., G. KRISHNA AND A. KUMAR. 2021. *Actinodaphne lanceolata* (Lauraceae), an overlooked and misinterpreted name, replaces *A. hookeri* and the consequent typification of five names. *Phytotaxa* 508(1): 59–67.
2. KUMAR, PUNEET AND S.K. SINGH. 2021. High pollen sterility relatable to structural heterozygosity, and SEM study in Poison Devil Tree (*Alstonia venenata* R.Br.). *Cytologia* 86(2): 161–166.
3. MURUGESAN, M. 2021. New distribution records of two little known plant species, *Hedychium longipedunculatum* A.R.K. Sastry & D.M. Verma (Zingiberaceae) and *Mazus dentatus* Wall. ex Benth. (Scrophulariaceae), from Meghalaya, India. *J. Threatened Taxa* 13(6): 18675–18678. 2021.
4. NITESH R.K., PRASAD, R., MEENA, D.K. AND MEENA, K.L. 2021. *Olax nana* Wall. ex Benth. (Olacaceae): A New Record for Rajasthan, India. *Indian Forester* 147(5): 500-502. DOI: 10.36808/if/2021/v147i5/155563
5. DHOLE, P.A., MISHRA, M. AND SUJANA, K.A. 2021. Wild edible plants traditionally used by the tribes in Malkangiri district, Odisha, India. *J. Econ. Tax. Bot.*, 44 (1-4): 5-13.
6. PATIL, SAMEER. 2021. *Strobilanthes pushpagiriensis* (Acanthaceae): a new species from Western Ghats, India. *Nordic J. Botany* 39(5): <https://doi.org/10.1111/njb.03053>.
7. PRASAD, G., T. SEAL, A. A. MAO, D. VIJAYAN AND ADANI LOKHO. 2021. Assessment of clonal fidelity and phytomedicinal potential in micropropagated plants of *Bulbophyllum odoratissimum* - An endangered medicinal orchid of Indo Burma megabiodiversity hotspot. *South African J. Botany* 141 (2021) 487-497.
8. PRASAD, K., S. NAGARAJU AND A. R. CHORGHE. 2021. *Glyphochloa shrirangii* (Poaceae), a new species from Western Ghats of Maharashtra, India. *Nordic J. Botany*: e03103, doi: 10.1111/njb.03103.
9. SWAMY, J. AND V. JALANDER 2021. *Spigelia anthelmia* L. (Loganiaceae): A New generic record to the flora of Telangana, India. *Indian Forester* 147 (6): 596–597.
10. VINOTHKUMAR A, ANANTHALAKSHMI M., R. CHANDRASEKAR, V. SIVAKUMAR, P. MANOKARAN AND AMZAD BASHA KOLAR. 2021. Characterization of morphological diversity in teak (*Tectona Grandis* L.F.) germplasm in India for preparation and implementation of dustesting (Distinct, Uniform and Stable). *Intern. J. Botany Stud.* 6(3): 527-533.

Books Published: 3

1. Seaweeds of Kerala coast, India. BSI Kolkata
2. Flora of Uttar Pradesh, Vol. 2. BSI Kolkata
3. Flora of India, Vol. 30 Fascicle: Apocynaceae, BSI Kolkata