

Date: 29.05.2020

DO. No.: BSI – 8/1/PA/2019

Dear Smt. Pandey,

I am furnishing herewith the following major achievements of Botanical Survey of India for the month of **May, 2020** in reply to OM no. 24011/08/2019 – GC dtd. 25.03.2019 regarding monthly DO letter from Secretary (E & F) to the Cabinet Secretary.

Department: Botanical Survey of India

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

Scientists of BSI reported **4 novel plant species new to science** viz. *Dipcadi coimbatorensis* (Asparagaceae), *Eugenia sphaerocarpa* (Myrtaceae), *Memecylon nervosum* (Myrtaceae) from the Western Ghats and *Ceropegia khasiana* (Apocynaceae) from the North East India. They also reported **3 plant species** as new additions to the flora of India / state namely *Spermacoce alata*, *Ipomoea sagittifolia* and *Rhynchosia nummularia* for Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh respectively and **rediscovered** an endangered tree *Psydrax ficiformis* (Rubiaceae) after a century from the Kodaikanal WLS, Tamil Nadu. In addition, BSI completed 11 volumes of **Flora of India** viz. Vols. 10, 19, 21, 25 & 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 & 32.

Important event organized during the month:

Observed the **International Biodiversity Day 2020** with the theme "**our solutions are in nature.**" On this occasion, various online competitions of drawing, poetry etc. were organized by involving school students and making awareness towards biodiversity conservation.

Important publications:

- MURUGESAN, M. A.A. MAO, L.R. MEITEI AND S.S. KAMBALE 2020. *Ceropegia khasiana* (Apocynaceae: Ceropegieae), a new species from Meghalaya, Northeast India. *Gardens' Bulletin Singapore* 71 (2): 519–525 2019.
- RAVICHANDRAN, V. R. KR. SINGH AND C. MURUGAN 2020. *Dipcadi coimbatorensis* (Asparagaceae), a new species from the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, India. *Kew Bull.* 75:1-8.
- VADHYAR R.G., SUJANA K. A., J.H.F. BENJAMIN AND G.V.S. MURTHY 2020. *Eugenia sphaerocarpa* (Myrtaceae), a new species from Western Ghats of Kerala, India. *Phytotaxa*, 442 (2): 121–127.
- SINGH, V., S.K. SRIVASTAVA AND L.M. TEWARI 2020. *Spermacoce alata* Aubl. (Rubiaceae)- A new record to the flora of Uttar Pradesh from Tikri Reserve Forest, Gonda district, India. *Indian J. Forestry*, 42(3): 201-203.
- SWAMY, J. AND P.V. RAMANA 2020. *Rhynchosia nummularia* (L.) DC. (Fabaceae): An Addition to the Flora of Andhra Pradesh, India. *Indian Forester* 146 (4): 361-362.
- PUROHIT C.S. 2020. *Ipomoea sagittifolia* Brum. f.- Addition for Flora of Rajasthan and Status of family Convolvulaceae in Todgarh-Raoli Wildlife Sanctuary, Rajasthan. *Int. J. Sci. Res. Sci. Technol.* 7(3): 49 – 65.
- ARIGELA, R.K. AND R. K. SINGH 2020. Rediscovery of endangered tree *Psydrax ficiformis*, lectotypification of two names and a new combination in the genus *Psydrax* (Rubiaceae). *Indian Forester* 146 (2): 108–112.
- KUMAR, ANAND, S. SACHAN, T. SHIL AND O.N. MAURYA 2020. An annotated checklist of the vascular plants of the Udaipur Wildlife Sanctuary, West Champaran, Bihar, India. *Trop. Pl. Res.* 7(1): 209–228.
- YADAV, S.K. AND K. MAJUMDAR 2020. *Diversity and distribution of seaweeds at Digha coast, West Bengal, India.* *J. Algal Biomass Utiln.* 11 (1): 27-33.

2. Important policy matter is held up on account of prolonged inter-ministerial consultation: NIL

3. Compliance of COS decisions: Nothing pending

4. No. of cases of 'Sanction for prosecution' pending for more than 3 months: NIL

5. Particulars of cases in which there has been a departure from the Transaction of Business Rules or established policy of the government: NIL

6. Status of implementation of e-governance: MIS module is yet to be introduced in BSI

7. Details of cases in which ACC directions have not been complied with: NIL

8. Status of Public grievances:

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

9. 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,


A. A. MAO 29/05/20

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



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