

DO. No.: BSI – 8/1/PA/2019

Date: 03.02.2020

Dear Smt. Pandey,

I am furnishing herewith the following major achievements of Botanical Survey of India for the month of January, 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 (BSI)

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

Scientists of BSI discovered a **novel species** *Impatiens sashinborthakurii* from the North East India as new to science and reported **ten** plants as new additions to different parts of India. These comprise of **three** flowering plants viz. *Paramignya scandens* (Rutaceae) from the Western Ghats, *Bulbostylis maritime* (Cyperaceae) from Kerala and *Spermacoce ocymoides* (Rubiaceae) from Andhra Pradesh and **seven** non flowering plants viz. *Cheilolejeunea birmensis*, *Cheilolejeunea intertexta*, *Cheilolejeunea udarii*, *Lejeunea anisophylla*, *Lopholejeunea sikkimensis* var. *sikkimensis*, *Lophocolea heterophylla* and *Metzgeria raoii* from the state of Maharashtra. Besides, during the month, scientists of BSI undertook **six** botanical explorations in different geographical regions of the country and vouched 494 field numbers of plants under various research projects. Under identification services, BSI identified two samples of Lichen plants, supplied by the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage, Govt. of India, Mumbai and provided information on their uses and worldwide distribution to the Directorate. BSI also identified and authenticated confiscated samples of Red Sanders Wood supplied by the Banarhat Police Station, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal.

Important meetings attended by Director, BSI during the month:

On the occasion of World Regional Rose Convention, Director, BSI and Ms Henrianne de Briey, President, World Federation of Rose Societies inaugurated the '**Rosarium**', having 248 varieties in 16 colours and spreading over 26000 sq.ft. in AJCB Indian Botanic Garden, Howrah on 12th January, 2020. The Director along with other officials of BSI, honoured Dr. S.K. Jain, Former Director, BSI on 30th January, 2020 with the **Lifetime Achievement Award** for his immense and valuable contribution in the field of Taxonomy and Ethnobotany. The Director, BSI delivered a lead lecture as chief guest in the **International Conference on Algae, Fungi and Plants: Systematics to Application** at the University of Calcutta on 24th & 25th January, 2020. Besides, BSI conducted **4th Botanical Nomenclature Course** w.e.f. 27th - 31st January, 2020 at BSI, ERC, Shillong.

Some important publications:

- GOGOI, R. SHERPA, N., MURUGESAN M. AND MEITEI L. R. 2019. *Impatiens sashinborthakurii* (Balsaminaceae) a new species of Impatiens from Meghalaya, Northeast India. *Nelumbo* 61(2):34-40.
- SUNIL, C., V.P. PRASAD AND V.N. KUMAR 2020. *Bulbostylis maritime* – A new species of Cyperaceae from coastal Kerala, India. *Phytotaxa* 430(1): 51-56.
- KAMBLE, M.Y., C.P. VIVEK AND L. J. SINGH 2019. The Genus *Nymphaea* L. (Family Nymphaeaceae) in Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India. *J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc.* Vol. 116.
- KUMAR R., C.S. PUROHIT, R.N. KULLOLI AND V. MAINA 2019. *Begonia picta* Smith (Begoniaceae) – new record for Rajasthan from Mount Abu Wildlife Sanctuary. *The Begonian* 86:214-217.
- PATRUT, A., A. GARG, S. WOODBORNE, R.T. PATRUT, L. RAKOSY AND I.A. RATIU 2020. Radiocarbon dating of two old African baobabs from India. *PLoS ONE* 15(1): e0227352.
- SINGH, S.K. AND D. SINGH 2019. An updated account of Liverworts and Hornworts of Maharashtra with seven new additions. *Phytotaxonomy* 18: 31-40.
- SUJANA, K.A. AND G. V. RAKESH, 2019. *Paramignya scandens* (Griff.) Craib (Rutaceae): A New Distributional Record to Western Ghats. *Indian Forester*, 145(12): 1216-1217.
- SWAMY, J. AND P.V. RAMANA 2019. *Spermacoce ocymoides* Burm.f. (Rubiaceae): A new Distributional Record for the state of Andhra Pradesh, India. *Indian Forester*. 145 (12): 1210-1211.


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
	3

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

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



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