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निदेशक
A. A. Mao
Director



सत्यमेव जयते

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 /203

Date: 03.05.2023

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 April, 2023.

Department: Botanical Survey of India

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

Scientists of BSI reported (2) two taxa as **new to science** viz. *Impatiens neo-orchioides* V.Ravich., Murug., B.Karthik, Tharani & Premk. (Balsaminaceae) and *Symplocos sisparensis* B. Karthik, Murug., Anusuba, Premkumar & R. Tharani (Symplocaceae) from the Western Ghats. They have also reported **two taxa** as **new additions** viz. *Anoectochilus medogensis* H.Z.Tian & Y.Jin (Orchidaceae) to India and *Chilocarpus* Blume (Apocynaceae) a new generic record to Tamil Nadu.

Scientists of BSI conducted 13 field / local tours and 3 Herbarium Consultation Tours and collected 1026 field nos. of specimens. Towards digitization, BSI completed metadata of 7726 herbarium specimens. During this month, 3,51,941 visitors visited the official websites of BSI (134721 visitors referred BSI official website, 110030 visitors referred BSI archives, and 107190 visitors visited the Indian Virtual Herbarium).

Important events / programmes organized / attended:

1. A two days national workshop on *Herbarium Techniques and Plant Nomenclature* was organised on 11th & 12th April, 2023 by BSI-Central National Herbarium, Howrah in collaboration with Vedanta College, Kolkata.
2. BSI celebrated Earth Day on 22nd April 2023 by distributing saplings and organizing several awareness programmes. On this occasion, a short movie, prepared by a team of Junior Research Fellows of the BSI was also released.
3. Dr. A.A. Mao, Director, BSI, Dr. S.S. Dash, Scientist E, BSI HQ attended and delivered lectures in the *International Conference on Biodiversity, Food Security, Sustainability, and Climate Change (ISBFSCC-2023)* on 25th April, 2023. Further, BSI-Arunachal Pradesh Regional Centre, Itanagar organised an awareness campaign at the Assam Agriculture University, Jorhat, Assam on 25th April, 2023.
4. A week-long field training and orientation workshop was organized for the 32 newly recruited JRFs of the Botanical Survey of India at the West Bengal Forest School, Dowhill, Kurseong (WB) which was inaugurated by Mr. Ujjwal Ghosh, IFS, Additional PCCF (North Bengal) in the presence of Senior Scientists of BSI, Dr. S. S. Dash and Dr Rajib Gogoi. The programme was designed to impart training on Plant identification and documentation of floral biodiversity as well as to share field expertise with the JRFs.

During this month 13 research publications have been published by BSI scientists in various International and National research journals (Annexure 1).

2. **Important policy matter held up on account of prolonged inter-ministerial consultations:** NIL
3. **No. of cases of 'Sanction for prosecution' pending for more than 3 months:** NIL
4. **Particulars of cases in which there has been a departure from the Transaction of Business Rules or established policy of the government:** NIL
5. **Status of ongoing Swachhta Abhiyaan (Progress under Special Campaign):** Under outreach activities, regular cleaning drives and public awareness campaigns are organized in BSI.
6. **Status of Rationalization of Autonomous Bodies:** NIL
7. **Information on the specific steps taken for utilization of the space technology based tools and applications in governance and development:** NIL
8. **Vacancy position of senior level appointments in the Ministry/ Department, including Autonomous Bodies/ PSUs:** Communicated in the Ministry separately.
9. **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 APRIL, 2023

1. SWAMY, J., L. RASINGAM AND S. GAYATRI 2023. A note on the taxonomy and occurrence of broad leaf wild rice (*Oryza latifolia*: Oryzeae, Poaceae) in Eastern Ghats, India. *Indian J. of Forestry*. 45(2): 98-100. <https://doi.org/10.54207/bsmps1000-2022-NBBS00>
2. CHOWLU, K., A. BHATTACHARJEE AND A.N. RAO. 2023. *Anoectochilus medogensis* (Orchidaceae), An Endangered 'Jewel Orchid' Reported for the first time India. *Japanese J. Taxonomy*. 98 (2): 83-87.
3. KUMAR P., P.K. DEROLIYA H. SINGH AND S.K. SINGH 2023. Additions to the flora of Chamba district from Sechu Tuan Nalla Wildlife Sanctuary, Himachal Pradesh (India). *Indian J. Forest*. 45(2): 101-112.
4. KOTTAIMUTHU, R. 2023. *Colea madagascariensis* nom. nov. replaces *C. ramiflora* Zjhra (Bignoniaceae). *Annales Botanici Fennici* 60: 71
5. ARIGELA R.K., SINGH R.K. & REDDY C.S. 2023. Morphological variability in *Cyanotis fasciculata* (Commelinaceae) in different habitats in India and lectotypification of its ten heterotypic synonyms. *Annales Botanici Fennici* 60: 7-22.
6. V. SAMPATH KUMAR 2023. Lectotypification of three names in the Tribe Mentheae (Labiatae) *J. Econ. Taxon. Bot.* 47: 30-31.
7. SREEJA K AND K. A. SUJANA 2023. *Chilocarpus* Blume (Apocynaceae: Rauvolfioideae)- A new generic record to Tamil Nadu. *Indian Forester*, 149 (3): 358-257
8. V. RAVICHANDRAN, M. MURUGESAN, R. THARANI, B. KARTHIK AND M. PREM KUMAR 2023. *Impatiens neo-orchioides*, a striking new balsam (Balsaminaceae: Scapigeraceae) from Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, Western Ghats, India. *Taiwania* 68(2):161–135.
9. B. KARTHIK, M. MURUGESAN, V. ANUSUBA, M. PREMKUMAR AND R. THARANI 2023. *Symplocos sisparensis* (Symplocaceae), a new species from the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, India. *Phytotaxa* 589 (1): 83–90.
10. DUBEY, R. AND A. D. PANDEY 2023. Saprobic Litter Fungi: New Additions to Indian Mycobiota. *J. New Biol. Rep.* 12 (1): 10 – 14.
11. DUBEY, R. AND A. D. PANDEY 2023. New records of microfungi from Sanjay Gandhi National Park (SGNP), Maharashtra, India. *J. New Biol. Rep* 12 (1): 1 – 4.
12. KUMAR, A. AND S.BANDYOPADHYAY 2023. (223–224) Proposals to remove redundancy in Recommendation 40A concerning indication of type. *Taxon* 72(2): 456.
13. BANDYOPADHYAY, S. AND A. KUMAR 2023. Type of *Bauhinia corymbosa* Roxb. ex DC. and *Bauhinia corymbosa* Roxb. (Leguminosae: Cercidoideae) revisited. *Kew Bulletin*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12225-023-10100-4>.