

DO. No.: BSI - 8/1/PA/2019/1150

Date: 30.05.2025

Madam,
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 May, 2025.
Department: Botanical Survey of India

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

Scientists of BSI described four (4) taxa as new to Science from India viz. *Bambusa sharendnegiana* Naithani & Kandwal, *Bambusa lepchaena* Naithani & Kandwal, *Impatiens mukurthiana* Tharani, R., M. Murugesan, V. Ravichandran, V. Anusuba & B. Karthik and *Aspidistra pangtiensis* D.K. Roy, Y. Mahesh, N. Odyuo & N. Tanaka. They have also reported two (02) taxa as new additions to states viz. *Nidula shingbaensis* K. Das & R.L. Zhao from Arunachal Pradesh and *Impatiens monticola* (Balsaminaceae) from Assam (Annexure I).

Scientists of BSI conducted 10 field / local tours and 1 HCT and collected 211 field nos. of specimens. BSI prepared metadata of 4418 herbarium specimens. During this month, 8,86,882 visitors referred the official websites of BSI (5,52,630 visitors referred official website, 2,33,125 visitors referred archives, and 1,01,087 visitors visited Indian Virtual Herbarium). Besides, 785 students / visitors visited the gardens and herbaria of BSI and generated the revenue of about Rs. 51,397 during this month.

Important events / programs organized / attended:

1. Dr. A. A. Mao, Director, Dr. S. S. Dash, Scientist-F & Incharge, Tech. Sect., Dr. D.K. Agrawala, Scientist-E & Incharge, Publ. Sect., Kolkata and Dr. S.L. Meena, Scientist E & HoO, AZRC, Jodhpur attended an event "Gujarat Gaurav Divas 2025 on the occasion of Gujarat state foundation day, held at Godhra on 1st May 2025, wherein BSI publication on Flora of Gujarat (in three volumes) was released by the Hon'ble Governor and the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat.
 2. Dr. A. A. Mao, Director, BSI and Dr. S. S. Dash, Additional Director/ Scientist-F & In-charge, Technical Section, BSI-Hqrs, attended the Quarterly Meeting of NIRANTAR at RFRI, ICFRE, Jorhat, Assam on 19th May, 2025 and presented the status report of Vertical -I : Ecosystem Survey & Analysis. Besides, they also attended a meeting with the Joint Secretary, MoEF&CC at New Delhi on 15th May 2025 regarding office procedures.
 3. Dr. S. S. Dash, Scientist-F & In-charge, Technical Section, BSI, Dr. J. Jayanthi, Scientist-F, Dr. K. Karthigeyan, Scientist-F and Dr. D. K. Agrawala, Scientist-E & In-charge, Publication Section, BSI delivered comprehensive lectures as resource person on the proposed modules related to RET species to impart training to the DFO, ADFO & Senior Officers of Forest Directorate of West Bengal, targeting all groups including Mangroves at the Office of the Conservator of Forests, Aranya Bhawan, Kolkata on 28th May, 2025.
 4. BSI signed three Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with other institutions / organisations such as (1) The Counter Insurgency and Jungle Warfare School, (Indian Army), Mizoram on 7th May, 2025 for collaboration of research projects in the Indian Himalayan region; (2) CSIR-National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI), Lucknow on 16th May, 2025 at Lucknow and (3). VIBGYOR N.E. Foundation, Guwahati, Assam on 27th May 2025 for collaborative research.
 5. BSI, ANRC, Port Blair organized Hands-on Training on Recent Trends in Collection, Preservation & Identification of Seaweeds for students of M.Sc. Marine Biology and Ocean Studies at office from 06.05.2025 to 10.05.2025.
 6. BSI, ISIM, Kolkata organized and celebrated a programme on 'International Museum Day 2025' on 18.05.2025, in which 28 members from the 'Centre for Ecological Movement' and the 'South Calcutta Trekkers' Association, Calcutta attended.
 7. BSI and all its regional centres / units observed the International Day for Biological Diversity on 22.05.2025, with the theme "Harmony with Nature and Sustainable Development". On this occasion, various programmes such as Plantations, Sit & Draw Competition and awareness activities were organized in various regional centres, throughout the country.
- During this month 21 publications including 2 books and 19 research papers were published by BSI scientists in International and National publications apart from participating in scientific lectures and publishing seminar abstracts (Annexure I).
- Important policy matter held up on account of prolonged inter-ministerial consultations: NIL
2. 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 Rationalization of Autonomous Bodies:-NA-
 6. Information on the specific steps taken for utilization of the space technology based tools and applications in governance and development: NIL
 7. Vacancy position of senior level appointments in the Ministry/ Department, including Autonomous Bodies/ PSUs: Communicated to the Ministry separately.
 8. List of cases in which ACC directions have not been complied with: NIL

With regards,

Sincerely yours,


A. A. Mao 30/05/2025

To, Ms. Nameeta Prasad, JS, (CS-II), MoEF&CC, New Delhi - 3



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Publications for the Month of May, 2025

Research Publications: 21

RESEARCH PAPERS: 19

1. BERA, S. AND K. KARTHIGEYAN 2024. Know Your Botanist: Richard Henry Beddome. *ELACP Newsletter* 29(3): 11.
2. BERA, S. AND K. KARTHIGEYAN 2025. Reassessing the nomenclatural status of the names *Popowia ramosissima* and *P. beddomeana* (Miliuseae: Malmeoideae: Annonaceae). *Kew Bull.* <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12225-025-10273-0>
3. BORAH, O., A. K. DAS, AND D. VIJAYAN 2025. Chemical composition, antioxidant potential and GC-MS analysis of methanolic extracts of leaves and stems of *Dendrobium jenkinsii* Wall. ex Lindl. – a lesser known medicinal orchid from Northeast India. *Vegetos.* <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42535-025-01260-8>
4. DALAVI, J. V., MAYUR KAMBLE, NILESH MADHAV, JETTI SWAMY (2025). Floral Ecology and Autogamy in Endemic Lesser Mallow (*Hibiscus hirtus* L.): Malvaceae. *Phytomorphology: An Int. J. for Plant Morphologist* 75 (1&2): 1-10.
5. DEROLIYA, P.K. AND S. L. MEENA. A new combination and lectotypification in Indian *Ayenia* (Malvaceae). *Ann. Bot. Fennici* 62: 95–99. <https://doi.org/10.5735/085.062.0115>. 2025.
6. KADAMBINI D., NIBEDITA J., NITHANIYAL S., TEKAMEREN W (2025) A comprehensive review on medicinal and ecological values of *Mimosa pudica* L. (Fabaceae). *J. Biodiversity Conservation* 9 (1): 159-165.
7. KUMAR, PUNEET, P.K. DEROLIYA AND S. K. SINGH. 2025. Pteridophytes of Sechu Tuan Nalla Wildlife Sanctuary, Chamba district, Himachal Pradesh, (India). *Int. J. Plant and Environment* 11(1) DOI: 10.18811/ijpen.v11i01.10
8. MISHRA, M., S. K. SINGH AND B. KUMAR. 2024. *Bidens cernua*: a lesser-known species from Ladakh, Trans-Himalaya. *Indian J. of Forestry.* 47 (3): 183–185.
9. NAGARAJU S., A. D. PANDEY, RAVI KIRAN ARIGELA, C. SUDHAKAR REDDY 2025. Ecological Patterns and Composition of Plant Diversity in Grasslands of Deccan Plateau, India. *Asian J. Environment & Ecology* 24 (5): 356-77. <https://doi.org/10.9734/ajee/2025/v24i5717>
10. NAITHANI, H. B. AND M. KANDWAL. 2025. Two new species of Bamboo from India. *Indian Forester* 151(4): 317-323.
11. NITHANIYAL S., BENNIAMIN A., KAUSHIK S 2025. Recovery of DNA signatures from historical herbarium specimens using chloroplast and nuclear barcodes. *Ecological Genetics and Genomics* 35: 100356
12. PANDEY, A. D, RASHMI DUBEY, SUJANA KANJIRAPARAMBIL ARJUNAN 2025. Bridging Species Richness and True Diversity: A Quantitative and Ratio Analysis Approach from Indian Biodiversity Studies. *Asian J. Environment & Ecology* 24 (5): 291-310. <https://doi.org/10.9734/ajee/2025/v24i5712>
13. PARIHAR, A. AND A. GHOSH 2025. *Nidula shingbaensis*: A New Generic Record for Arunachal Pradesh, India. *Journal of Plant Development Sciences* 17(3): 111-114.
14. PUROHIT, C. S., BISHNU CHARAN DEY, GAUTAM ANUJ EKKA AND LAL JI SINGH. 2025. A Note on Occurrence of *Alpinia zerumbet* (Zingiberaceae) from Campbell Bay, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India. *International Journal on Emerging Technologies.* 16(1): 54–56.
15. ROY, DILIP KR., YALATOOR MAHESH, NRIPEMO ODYUO AND NORIYUKI TANAKA. 2025. *Aspidistra pangtiensis* (Aspragaceae), A new species from north-eastern India. *Phytotaxa.* 700: 288-294
16. SARMA, J., KHYANJEET GOGOI, YALATOOR MAHESH AND DILIP KUMAR ROY. 2025. A new record of *Impatiens monticola* (Balsaminaceae) to the flora of Assam, India with a key to known species. *Mongolia Journal of Biological Sciences.* 23: 9-14.

17. SWAMY, J., DEVENDRA SINGH, SIULEE MANDAL, ZEESHAN MAZHAR, BISHNU CHARAN DEY, AND SATTOM DASGUPTA. 2025. "Standardization of Media for Seed Germination and Seedling Growth of *Garcinia Indica*: An Endemic and Threatened Plant of Western Ghats, India". *Journal of Biology and Nature*. 17 (1): 178-87. <https://doi.org/10.56557/joban/2025/v17i19291>
18. THARANI, R., M. MURUGESAN, V. RAVICHANDRAN, V. ANUSUBA AND B. KARTHIK 2025. *Impatiens mukurthiana* (Balsaminaceae) – A New species from the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, India. *Indian Forester* 151(4): 390–393.
19. WALTER D., NITHANİYAL S., VIMAL P., RAMESH U. (2025) Divergence dating and species authentication of the Indian rainbow trout stocks. *Current Science*, 128(4)

BOOKS: 2

1. FLORA OF INDIA VOLUME 31. Botanical Survey of India, Kolkata
2. FLORA OF INDIA VOLUME 32. Botanical Survey of India, Kolkata