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Date: 03.09.2026

Respected Sir,

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 August, 2026.

Department: Botanical Survey of India

Important policy decisions taken, Major achievements during the month:

Scientists of BSI described six (06) taxa as new to Science from India viz. *Hedychium zubeengargianum* (Zingiberaceae); *Ophiorrhiza chownai* (Rubiaceae); *Nothosmyrnum arunachalensis* (Apiaceae); *Lactarius vinaceopurpureus* (Russulaceae); *Physalis himachalensis* (Solanaceae) and *Bupleurum elongiradiatum* (Apiaceae). Besides, Scientists of BSI have also reported seven (07) taxa as new additions to India from different states viz. *Nothosmyrnum* (Apiaceae)- first record of the genus from India, genus *Calopogonium* Desv. (Fabaceae) for the flora of Meghalaya; *Physospermopsis shaniana* (Apiaceae), *Physalis cordata* Houst. ex Mill. (Solanaceae) from Tamil Nadu; *Dendrobium herbaceum* subsp. *singarajanum* (Orchidaceae) from Central India; *Hydrocotyle bonariensis* Lam. (Araliaceae) from Mizoram and *Gayliella transversalis* – a marine red algae (Rhodophyceae) from Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Scientists of BSI conducted 13 field / local tours and 3 Herbarium Consultation Tours and collected 924 field nos. of specimens. BSI prepared metadata of 1,120 herbarium specimens. During this month, 2,41,591 visitors referred the official websites of BSI (2,16,006 visitors referred official webpage and 25,585 visitors visited Indian Virtual Herbarium). Besides, 1193 students / visitors visited the gardens and herbaria of BSI, and generated the revenue of about Rs. 79,973/- during this month.

Important events / programs organized / attended:

1. Dr. Kanad Das, Director, BSI attended as chief guest and delivered a lecture on 'Demystifying wild Mushroom in the molecular era' at Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU), Itanagar on 21st August 2026. He also inaugurated the *Arboretum*, having more than 40 native tree species and over 200 saplings, at the Arunachal Pradesh Regional Centre (APRC), BSI, Itanagar on 22nd August 2026. Besides, the Director, BSI also attended a meeting with the Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, Lt. Gen. K. T. Parnaik (Retd.) at Lok Bhavan, Itanagar and held discussions on the rich botanical wealth of the State and strategies for strengthening its conservation.
2. Dr. S. S. Dash, Scientist-F & In-charge, Tech. Section, BSI attended a meeting of the Subgroup on Biodiversity Accounts in India, held on 18th August, 2026 at Khurshid Lal Bhawan, New Delhi.
3. The 10th Review Meeting of the ABG Programme was held online on 27th August, 2026, under the Chairmanship of Shri Ved Prakash Mishra, JS, MoEF&CC, New Delhi and other expert members.
4. BSI, APRC, Itanagar celebrated its Foundation Day on 08 August 2026 with great enthusiasm.
5. BSI Directorate and all its regional centres celebrated 150th anniversary of Vande Mataram by organising a collective rendition of the national song on 14th August 2026.
6. BSI Directorate and all its regional centres observed the 80th Independence Day of India with great patriotism and enthusiasm on 15th August 2025 by organizing different event throughout the country.
7. BSI, APRC, Itanagar organised a One-Day Training Programme on "Plant Taxonomy with Special Emphasis on Mushrooms" on 20th August, 2026. The programme aimed to create awareness and enhance knowledge about mushroom taxonomy, identification, documentation and their significance in biodiversity studies, conservation and sustainable utilisation.
8. BSI Directorate and all its regional centres celebrated the National Sports Day from 28.08.2026 to 31.08.2026 to mark the birth anniversary of the legendary Indian Hockey player Major Dhyan Chand, under the theme "Khelega Bharat – Jeetega Bharat". On this occasion, various sports events were organized to promote physical fitness, teamwork, discipline and a healthy lifestyle among the employees.
9. During this month, 41 publications, including 39 research papers and two books were published by BSI scientists in International and National journals of repute (Annexure 1).
1. 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
3. Particulars of cases in which there has been a departure from the Transaction of Business Rules or established policy of the government: NIL
4. Status of Rationalization of Autonomous Bodies:-NA-
5. Information on the specific steps taken for utilization of the space technology based tools and applications in governance and development: NIL
6. Vacancy position of senior level appointments in the Ministry/ Department, including Autonomous Bodies/ PSUs: Communicated to the Ministry separately.
7. List of cases in which ACC directions have not been complied with: NIL

With regards,

Sincerely yours,

(Kanad Das)
Director

To, Shri.Ved Prakash Mishra, JS, (CS-II), MoEF&CC, New Delhi – 3

PUBLICATION OF AUGUST 2026RESEARCH PAPERS:

1. BHANDARI, P., M. BHAUMIK AND J. GHOSH 2026. New distributional record of *Physospermopsis shaniana* (Apiaceae) in India. *Nelumbo*. 68 (1): 99-103. DOI: 10.20324/nelumbo/v68/2026/173588
2. BHAUMIK, M., PRIYANKA BHANDARI AND J. GHOSH. 2026. First record of the genus *Nothosmyrnum* (Apiaceae) in India with description of a new species. *Nelumbo*. 68 (1): 36-46. DOI: 10.20324/nelumbo/v68/2026/173597
3. CHAKRABORTY, D., J. SWAMY AND D. SINGH. 2026. First record of *Hibiscus macverryi* (Malvaceae: sect. Lilibiscus) in Indian gardens with notes on horticulture, ex-situ conservation and propagation. *International Journal of Horticulture and Food Science*. 8(8): 27-31. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.33545/26631067.2026.v8.i8a.829>
4. CHOWLU, K., CHANDRAMOHAN, K. AND TAID, S., 2025. *Ophiorrhiza chownai* (Rubiaceae): A new species from Arunachal Pradesh, India. *Indian J. Forestry*, 48(4): 314-317. <https://doi.org/10.54207/bsmps1000-2026-M11UV5>
5. DAS, M., S. LAHIRI AND S. S. DASH. 2026. Revisiting the typification of two names in tribe Persicarieae (Polygonaceae). *Nelumbo*. 68(2): 15-18. DOI: [10.20324/nelumbo/v68/2026/173631](https://doi.org/10.20324/nelumbo/v68/2026/173631)
6. DATTA, S., A. BOSE AND K. DAS. 2026. A new species of *Lactarius* subg. *Lactarius* from Indian Himalaya with vinaceous brown latex. *Kavaka* 62(2): 58 – 65.
7. DOGRA, K.S., K. AMBRISH, R.K. SINGH, AND V. RANJAN, 2026. A new species of *Physalis* (Solanaceae) from Himachal Pradesh, India. *Discov. Plants* 3, 285. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s44372-026-00763-1>
8. DUBEY RASHMI AND S. JASH. 2026. Understanding *Astrocystis bambusae* (Fam. Xylariaceae) in India: Detailed Morphology and first Molecular Data from the Western Ghats. *Kavaka* 62(2): 89-96 DOI: <https://doi.org/10.36460/Kavaka/62/2/2026/89-96>
9. GHOSH, J., M. BHAUMIK, PRIYANKA BHANDARI AND S. ROY 2026. *Bupleurum elongiradiatum* (Apiaceae) – a new species from Arunachal Pradesh, India. *Nelumbo*. 68 (1): 23-29. DOI: 10.20324/nelumbo/v68/2026/173596
10. JALAL, J.S., A. SHARIEF, Y. ROUT, A. P. SINGH AND LALIT K. SHARMA 2026. Developing pilot ecological indicator framework for detecting climate refugia, instability, and extinction debt using orchids. *iScience* 29, 117011 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.isci.2026.117011>
11. JALAL, J.S., D.K. AGRAWALA & P. KUMAR 2026. *Stichorkis torta*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2026: e.T15052228A15055139.
12. JALAL, J.S., D.K. AGRAWALA AND P. KUMAR 2026. *Bulbophyllum caudatum*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2026: e.T180442816A219054349.
13. JALAL, J.S., D.K. AGRAWALA AND P. KUMAR 2026. *Bulbophyllum jeosephii*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2026: e.T218989227A218989275.
14. JALAL, J.S., D.K. AGRAWALA AND P. KUMAR 2026. *Bulbophyllum moniliforme*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2026: e.T218989587A218989591.
15. JALAL, J.S., J. JAYANTHI, D.K. AGRAWALA & P. KUMAR 2026. *Schoenorchis smeeana*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2026: e.T218988661A218988844
16. JALAL, J.S., J. JAYANTHI, D.K. AGRAWALA AND P. KUMAR 2026. *Habenaria suaveolens*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2026: e.T13425209A13425213.

17. KHARSYNTIEW, B., H.T. LALMUANKIMA, VIJAY, P. SHARMA AND R. SINGH 2026. New distribution record of *Hydrocotyle bonariensis* Lam. (Magnoliopsida: Apiales: Araliaceae) from India. *J. Threat. Taxa* 18(7): 29345–29349.
18. KHUNTE, N., R. SAHU, T.L. SAHU, A. DIXIT, J.S. JALAL, B. SAO, S. TIWARI, S. GAUTAM, A. PRAKESH, V. DANSENA AND P. SAHU 2026. Diversity, Host Specificity and Dus-Based Qualitative Morphological Characterization of Orchids in Chhattisgarh Plains. *Plant Arch.* 26. Supplement 2, 1847-1856.
19. KOSHONI B. PEKOSII, SANJOY SINGH NINGTHOUJAM AND DEEPU VIJAYAN. 2026. Identification of bioactive compounds and *in vitro* antioxidant activity of leaf and pericarp extracts of *Zanthoxylum armatum* DC.—A medicinal plant of Manipur. *Next Res.* 11:102131. DOI: 10.1016/j.nexres.2026.102131
20. KOTTAIMUTHU, R. 2026. Validation of the name *Habenaria subalpina* M.W.Chase, X.H.Jin & Schuit. (Orchidaceae). *J. Biodiv. Conserv.* 10(2): 82–84.
21. KOTTAIMUTHU, R. AND C. RAJASEKAR 2026. Transfer of eight Chinese species from *Spiradiclis* to *Ophiorrhiza* (Rubiaceae). *Bioinfolet* 23(2): 218–219.
22. KOTTAIMUTHU, R. AND Y. MAHESH 2026. Nomenclatural novelties in *Rubus* L. (Rosaceae: Rubeae). *International J. Botany Stud.* 11(3): 150–152.
23. KOTTAIMUTHU, R., Y. MAHESH, HAREKRUSHNA SWAIN AND R. LY TAN 2026. A new replacement name, *Eugenia santhoshii* Kottaim, Y. Mahesh & Lytan (Myrtaceae), for the illegitimate *Eugenia malabarica* Sivu, Neethu & Ratheesh. *International J. Botany Stud.* 11(3): 282–284.
24. MAHESH, Y., R. KOTTAIMUTHU, B.B.T. THAM AND N. ODYUO 2026. *Calopogonium* Desv. (Fabaceae): A new generic record for the flora of Meghalaya, India. *Nelumbo* 68(1): 214–215.
25. MITRA AISHWARYYA AND MANAS RANJAN DEBTA. 2026. Lectotypification of Two Names in the Family Zingiberaceae. *J. Jap. Bot.* 101(\$): 217-221. doi: <https://doi.org/10.51033/jjapbot.ID0341>
26. MONDAL AJAY, M.R. PRADHYUMNAN, C. MURUGAN AND S. D. RAJKUMAR. 2026. Taxonomy of *Euonymus vagans* Wall. and nomenclature note on *Euonymus vagans* Wall. subsp. *Macrophyllus* Kanjilal, P. C. Kanjilal, Das and Purkayastha (Celastraceae: Celastroideae). *Vegetos* <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42535-026-01871-9>.
27. NAYAK, S. K., P. BHATTACHARYYA, C. PRADHAN, P. S. TRIPATHY, S. R. PADHY, S. P. PARIDA, A. MOHARANA, M. RATH, A. NAYAK, S. S. DASH, S. K. DAS AND H. PRIYA 2026. Identification of key carbon-fixation pathways and underlying genes for higher CO₂ fixation of mangrove-associated microalgae. *3 Biotech* 16: 350. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13205-026-04986-7>
28. PIRITHA, R., R. KOTTAIMUTHU AND C. RAJASEKAR 2026. *Physalis cordata* Houst. ex Mill. (Solanaceae): A new record to Tamil Nadu. *Indian Forester* 152(5): 504–506.
29. PUROHIT, C. S., C. P. VIVEK, , B. C. DEY, K. JAIN AND L. J. SINGH. 2026. Impact of climate change on Endemic tree species of genus *Garcinia* at Andaman & Nicobar Islands. *International Journal of Global Science Research* 13 (1): 9139-9151.
30. PUROHIT, C. S., C. P. VIVEK, B. C. DEY AND L. J. SINGH. 2026. Present status of *Pubistylus andamanensis* Thoth. in Andaman Islands and its IUCN Red List Assessment. *Indian J. Plant Genet. Resour.* 39(2): 100-104.
31. PUROHIT, C.S., C. P. VIVEK., B. C. DEY AND L. J. SINGH. 2026. Present status of *Pubistylus andamanensis* Thoth. in Andaman Islands and its IUCN Red List Assessment. *Indian J. Plant Genet. Resour.* 39(2): 100-104. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.56093/ijpgr.v39i2.178050>.

32. RAJWADE, R.K., D.K. PATEL, AND R. PRASAD 2026. New record of *Dendrobium herbaceum* subsp. *singarajanum* (Orchidaceae) from Central India. *Phytotaxonomy*. 5(1): 05–10. <https://doi.org/10.63589/pt.5.1.2026.05-10>.
33. RASINGAM, L. AND P. HARIKRISHNA 2026. Three Additions to the Flora of Telangana State from Pakhal Wildlife Sanctuary, India. *Journal of Economic and Taxonomic Botany*, 50(1-2): 15–17, <https://doi.org/10.61080/JETB/V50/i1-2/2026/15-17>
34. ROUT, Y., J.S. JALAL AND D.K. AGRAWALA 2026. *Brachycorythis iantha*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2026: e.T251544275A251544993.
35. ROUT, Y., J.S. JALAL, D.K. AGRAWALA AND J. JAYANTHI 2026. *Brachycorythis splendida*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2026: e.T13417358A15054804.
36. ROY, D.K., R. LY TAN AND N. ODYUO. 2026. *Hedychium zubeengargianum* (Zingiberaceae), a new ginger lily from Northeastern India. *Phytotaxonomy*. 5(1): 39-45.
37. SAGARIKA K. AND L. J. SINGH. 2026. Red List Assessment of three endemic species of Andaman & Nicobar Islands. *Phytaxonomy* 5(1):26-38.
38. SRIVASTAVA, R. AND S.K. DAS 2026. *Gayliella transversalis* – a new generic record of marine red algae (Rhodophyceae) from Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India. *Phytotaxonomy* 5(1): 14–20.
39. VIJAYAN DEEPU, SUBHANKAR BISWAS AND PRATIBHA GUPTA. 2026. Cyanobacteria for Sustainable Food Production: A Critical Review of Nutritional Value, Process Integration, Safety and Scale-Up. *Asian J. Biology* 22(8):10-27. DOI: 10.9734/ajob/2026/v22i8680

BOOKS:

1. KUMAR SHASHI AND SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH. 2026. *Lejeuneaceae of North East India* (Schizostipous Genera). Botanical Survey of India, Kolkata.
2. LEPCHA, P.T., G.CHHETRI, J.H. FRANKLIN BENJAMIN, N. SHERPA, R. GOGOI, J. DAS, R. PATEL, A. BORA, K.S. NAKHURU AND B.J. GOGOI. 2026. *Wild Edible Plants of Sikkim & Darjeeling Himalayas: A Pictorial Field Handbook*. Defence Research Laboratory, Tezpur and Botanical Survey of India, Sikkim Himalayan Regional Centre, Gangtok. ISBN: 978-81-950725-7-6. PP 332.