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**Minutes of 2<sup>nd</sup> Board meeting of Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board held at Tirunelveli on 01.03.2013 at 11.00 A.M.**

As per the Government Letter No.1738/FR5/2013-1 dated 8.2.2013, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Board meeting was held at Tirunelveli on 1.3.2013.

The Hon'ble Minister (Forests), Chairman of Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board presided the meeting and following ex-officio members and members attended the meeting.

S.No.	Name of Officers	Designation
1	Thiru K.T.Pachamam, Hon'ble Minister (Forests)	Chairperson
2	Thiru Gautam Dey, IFS., Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF)	Ex-officio Member
3	Thiru Bhagwan Singh, IFS., Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Chief Wildlife Warden	Ex-officio Member
4	Thiru V.Palani, IFS Chief Conservator of Forests (Biodiversity)	Member Secretary
5	Dr.D.Narasimhan, Associate Professor Centre for Floristic Research Department of Plant Biology and Plant Biotechnology Madras Christian College, Tambaram, Chennai 3	Member
6	Dr.Juliet Vanitharani Professor and Head Zoology Department and Research Centre (Recognized Research Centre under Manonmanium Sundaranar University) Tirunelveli Sarah Tucker College (Autonomous) Tirunelveli 627 007	Member
7	Dr.G.Balan Samson, IFS (Retd) Former Principal Chief Conservator of Forests 2F, Sreshta Euphoria, 63 Nerkundram Road Chinmaya Nagar, Chennai 600 092	Member



8	Prof. Dr.M.B.Viswanathan Principal Investigator DBT Project Centre for Research and Development of Siddha- Ayurveda Medicines, (CRDSAM) Department of Plant Sciences, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli 620 024	Member
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The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) welcomed the Hon'ble Minister (Forests) and Board Members.

Thiru.V.Palani, IFS., Chief Conservator of Forests (Biodiversity) briefed about richness of biodiversity in the State of Tamil Nadu including different forest types areawise in the State.

He also made a brief Power Point Presentation about the activities of Tamil Nadu State Biodiversity Board. After presentation, Items were taken for discussion and following decisions arrived.

**Agenda-I : Follow-up action taken on Board meeting held on 29.10.2012**

**Item 1 :** The Chief Conservator of Forests (Biodiversity) in his letter TNBB/30/12 dated 28.12.12 has requested BARF for providing detailed Management Plan regarding works to the tune of Rs.32.25 lakhs to be carried out in 14 villages of Ramnad District. The National Biodiversity Authority will release the fund only on authentication by Tamil Nadu State Biodiversity Board.

**Item 2 : Allotment of land for construction of Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board office at Chemmenchery village, Sholinganallur Taluk, Chennai**

National Biodiversity Authority is not in favour of housing Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board office in their building as per their letter no.NBA/3/3/04/Genl/4392 dated 20.2.2013. The Board has decided that the State Biodiversity Board office may be accommodated in one portion of the Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Conservation and Greening Project (TBGP) office. (under construction at Nanmanagalam).



### Item 3. Employing all staff in the office of Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board

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Out of 8 staff sanctioned, 4 retired persons have been engaged as per G.O.(Ms).No.187, Environment & Forests (FR 5) Department dated 27.7.2012. 3 posts namely, 1 Superintendent and 2 Assistant are vacant. The Hon'ble Minister desired that new staff is to be recruited rather than engaging retired persons. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Biodiversity) may kindly move the suitable proposals to Government to get sanction for new staff rather than engaging retired persons.

### Item 4. Creation of State Biodiversity Fund

Dr.Juliet Vanitha Rani agreed to form 15 Biodiversity Management Committees in the Districts of Kanyakumari, Tirunelveli and Tuticorin @ 5 in each District. This was agreed upon by the Board. Hence, the Chief Conservator of Forests (Biodiversity) may kindly move proposal to National Biodiversity Authority for getting fund for 15 Biodiversity Management Committees in Kanyakumari, Tirunelveli and Tuticorin. Board also decided to allot following Districts to expert members for formation of Biodiversity Management Committees.

Name of Expert Member	District where BMCs to be formed
Dr. D.Narasimhan	Chennai, Kancheepuram, Tiruvallur, Vellore, Villupuram, Tiruvannamalai, Cuddalore
Dr.Juliet Vanitharani	Kanyakumari, Tirunelveli, Tuticorin, Virudhunagar, Ramanathapuram, Sivaganga
Dr.M.B.Viswanathan	The Nilgiris, Coimbatore, Erode, Tiruppur, Salem, Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri
Dr.V.Arivudai Nambi	Namakkal, Tiruchi, Thanjavur, Nagapattinam, Perambalur, Ariyalur, Tiruvarur
Dr.G.Balan Samson	Theni, Dindigul, Madurai, Pudukottai, Karur

### Item 5. Constitution of Biodiversity Management Committees :

The Board agreed that Constitution of Biodiversity Management Committees in 32 Districts shall be co-ordinated by the Expert Members.

The Expert Members of State Biodiversity Board are requested to give name of Panchayat where they are going to form Biodiversity Management Committee to Chief Conservator of Forests (Biodiversity) to enable him to move National Biodiversity Authority for obtaining required fund for formation of Biodiversity Management Committees.



#### **Item 6. Establishment of People's Biodiversity Register :**

Dr.D.Narasimhan and Dr.V.Arivudai Nambi were requested (Dr.Nambi could not attend the meeting due to unavoidable circumstances) to give a list of academicians / NGOs to help Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board for preparation of People's Biodiversity Register. They will give the list shortly.

#### **Item 7 :Framing Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Rules**

The Draft Rules under Single File System have been received from Government by Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Chief Wildlife Warden on 4.1.2013 with certain observations by Law Department. The file will be resubmitted to Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Environment & Forests Department shortly.

#### **Item 8 : Granting of permission for access to Bioresources under Section 3 of Biological Diversity Act, 2002**

All the 25 applications received from National Biodiversity Authority (2 applications with same name) have been examined by Sub-Committee consisting of Thiru R.K.Upadhyay, IFS., Dr. D.Narasimhan and Dr.V.Arivudai Nambi and same was placed for consideration of the Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board.(Annexure --II of the Agenda) The Sub-committee has recommended 22 applications and 3 applications were not recommended since they were incomplete. The subject was discussed in Item no. 6 of the Board Meeting.

#### **Item 9. Draft guidelines for Biodiversity Management Committee prepared by BMC Task Force**

The Draft guidelines for Biodiversity Management Committee is yet to be approved by National Biodiversity Authority.

#### **Item 10. General -Launching of Website for Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board**

Hon'ble Minister (Forests) desired that website of Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board may be launched at the earliest. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Biodiversity) is in touch with M/s.ELCOT for designing website. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Biodiversity) may expedite.



## **Agenda 2. Formation of one Heritage Site**

Board approved Senthirankillai sacred groove (Cuddalore District) to be declared as Biodiversity Heritage Site. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Biodiversity) is requested to obtain panchayat consent/ resolution to declare Senthirankillai sacred groove as Heritage Site. He may move proposal under section 37 of Biological Diversity Act, 2002 to Government for declaring it as a Heritage Site after passing of resolution by the concerned panchayat.

Board also desired that the Chief Conservator of Forests (Biodiversity) may inspect Vagaikulam area (Tirunelveli District) about feasibility of declaring it as Heritage site. He may come with suitable proposal in next meeting. Board also requested that the Chief Conservator of Forests (Biodiversity) may examine other suitable sacred groove or any unique biodiversity spot in the State to be notified as Heritage Site.

## **Agenda 3. Formation of 15 BMCs and preparation of PBRs with technical help from scientific institutions**

Dr. Juliet Vanitha Rani, Member, Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board has come forward for formation of 15 Biodiversity Management Committees in Tirunelveli, Kanyakumari and Tuticorin Districts. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Biodiversity) may obtain fund from National Biodiversity Authority for formation of Biodiversity Management Committees in these three Districts, once the list of panchayats are given by Dr. Juliet Vanitha Rani.

## **Agenda 4 : Providing infrastructure facilities to Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board**

Board has agreed to provide 5 Computers with Printer and one scanner at an approximate cost of Rs.3.25 lakhs. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Biodiversity) may procure through M/s.ELCOT.

## **Agenda 5 : Payment of TA and Honorarium to the Experts**

Board has approved Rs.1000/- per day Honourium for the Board Member (non-officials) for attending Board meeting, AC-2 Tier Train fare from their residence to Board meeting, Local conveyance (actual) and hotel accommodation upto Rs.3000/- per day including boarding and lodging.



**Agenda 6 : Granting of Permission for access to Bio-resources under Section 3 of Biological Diversity Act, 2002**

The Board examined and approved 22 applications recommended by Sub - Committee consisting of Thiru R.K.Upadhyay,I.F.S., Dr. D.Narasimhan and Dr.V.Arivudai Nambi. These 22 applications may be forwarded to National Biodiversity Authority. The remaining three applications namely Sl.no.8 (Dr.M.Paramathama, TNAU, Coimbatore), Sl.No.14 - (Dr.T.Srinivasan, Chennai) and Sl.No.24 (Thiru M.K.Janarthanan, Professor, Goa University, Goa.) has not been recommended by sub-committee as they were incomplete. All these three applications may be returned to applicant.

**Agenda 7 : Any other item with permission of Chair**

The Honorable Minister suggested that Board may prepare a database on biodiversity of Tamil Nadu. A brief coffee table book on "Tamil Nadu Biodiversity" may be prepared and kept in lounge at Airport of Coimbatore, Chennai, Tiruchi and Madurai.

The Honourable Minister also desired that two vehicles may be provided to Tamil Nadu State Biodiversity Board. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Biodiversity) may kindly move suitable proposal to Government and obtain sanction.

The Chief Conservator of Forests (Biodiversity) proposed a vote of thanks and meeting was concluded.

**K.T.PACHAMAL  
MINISTER FOR FORESTS**