



# Peoples' Biodiversity Registers Guidelines

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# PBRs IN BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY ACT (2002)

## SECTION - 41 (1)

Every local body shall constitute a Biodiversity Management Committee within its area for the purpose of promoting conservation, sustainable use and **documentation of biological diversity** including preservation of habitats, conservation of land races, folk varieties and cultivars, domesticated stocks and breeds of animals and microorganisms and **chronicling of knowledge** relating to biological diversity.



# PBRs IN BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY RULES (2004) RULE - 22 (6)

The main function of the BMC is to prepare People's Biodiversity Registers in consultation with local people. The Register shall contain **comprehensive information** on **availability** and **knowledge** of local biological resources, their medicinal or any other use or any other **traditional knowledge** associated with them.



# **PEOPLES' BIODIVERSITY REGISTERS (PBRs)**

**Peoples' Biodiversity Register is a document which contains comprehensive information on locally available Bio-resources including landscape and demography of a particular area or village.**

**Bio-resources mean plants, animals and micro organisms or parts thereof, their genetic material and by-products (excluding value added products) with actual or potential use or value but does not include human genetic material.**



## PBRs— RULE - 22(8)

The **Authority** and the **State** shall take steps to specify the **form** of the People's Biodiversity Registers and the particulars it shall contain and the **format** for electronic database.



## **PBRs — RULE - 22(9)**

The National Biodiversity Authority and the **State Biodiversity Boards** shall provide **guidance** and **technical support** to the Biodiversity Management Committees for preparing People's Biodiversity Registers.



## PBRs - RULE – 22 (10)

The Peoples' Biodiversity Registers shall be **maintained** and **validated** by the Biodiversity Management Committees.



## PBRs - RULE – 22 (11)

The Committee shall also maintain **a Register** giving information about the **details** of the **access** to biological resources and **traditional knowledge** granted, details of the collection fee imposed and details of the benefits derived and the mode of their sharing.





## PBRs - SECTION – 41 (2)

The National Biodiversity Authority and the State Biodiversity Boards shall **consult the Biodiversity Management Committees** while taking any decision relating to the use of biological resources and knowledge associated with such resources occurring within the **territorial jurisdiction** of the Biodiversity Management Committee.



## PBRs - SECTION – 41(3)

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The Biodiversity Management Committees may levy charges by way of collection fees from any person for accessing or collecting any biological resource for commercial purposes from areas falling within its territorial jurisdiction.



# ISSUES IN PREPARATION OF PBRs

## PBR jurisdiction

- ❖ Different PBRs for Gram Panchyat's, Taluk's, District's / Zilla's, Corporation / Municipalities
- ❖ All lands including Forest lands to be covered, where possible

## Role of departments / Institutes / Scientists / Industries

- ❖ Govt departments to provide secondary data
- ❖ Technical Support Group(TSG) to facilitate the PBR preparation
- ❖ Cooperation from Panchayats & participation of Local People



# ISSUES IN PREPARATION OF PBRs

## Survey and sampling

- ❖ Seasonal variation and species availability
- ❖ Collection of specimen/photograph
- ❖ Use of BRs by nomadic communities
- ❖ Identifying Industries accessing BRs within the GP (directly or through traders/suppliers)
- ❖ Questionnaire/Interview
- ❖ Quantification/inventory of biological resources



# ISSUE A PBR CAN CONTRIBUTE TO

## Conservation and Management

- ❖ Sustainability of Biological resources used by local people.
- ❖ PBR addresses the major objectives of BD Act- conservation, sustainable use, ABS & safeguarding Traditional Knowledge?
- ❖ Linking PBR with management plans of Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs).
- ❖ Mainstreaming of BD issues-Linking PBR to planning process of Local bodies and Working Plans
- ❖ Income Generating Groups - linkage in PBR
- ❖ Using PBR for securing livelihoods
- ❖ Focus on conservation of Threatened species.



# SOME SUGGESTIONS

- ❖ PBR is not a mere documentation exercise but be used to develop an agenda for conservation action, based on local knowledge and BRs
- ❖ Linkage to school curriculum is critical
- ❖ PBR can also be as part of secondary/tertiary education/curriculum
- ❖ Fellowships for taxonomists by Boards/NBA and their recruitment to State Boards need to be thought of



# SOME SUGGESTIONS

- ❖ PBR should serve as Biodiversity impact assessment tool for developmental activities/mining.
- ❖ PBR should emphasize on sustainable management of bio resources and ways to accrue benefits (ABS) to the community.
- ❖ Prior informed consent (PIC) of local community (BMC) be made mandatory for BR access.



# SOME SUGGESTIONS

- ❖ Workshops highlighting scientific information a for PBR preparation
- ❖ PBR should be used as a base to set a standard for Bio prospecting
- ❖ Capacity building at the levels of policy, execution, supervision and implementation.
- ❖ Materials like charts, hand books & pictures are needed to create awareness among BMCs
- ❖ Dissemination of relevant information through mass media.
- ❖ A PBR is a legal document that needs to be endorsed by the State Biodiversity Board.