



सत्यमेव जयते

डॉ. ए. ए. माओ/Dr. A. A. MAO
निदेशक/Director

भारत सरकार/ GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण एवम् वन मंत्रालय/MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS
भारतीय वनस्पति सर्वेक्षण/BOTANICAL SURVEY OF INDIA
सी.जी.ओ. कॉम्प्लेक्स, तृतीय एम.एस.ओ. भवन/CGO COMPLEX, 3RD MSO BUILDING
ब्लॉक एफ, पाँचवां और छठा तल/BLOCK F, 5TH & 6TH FLOOR
डी एफ ब्लॉक, सेक्टर १, साल्ट लेक/DF BLOCK, SECTOR I, SALT LAKE
कोलकाता - ६४/KOLKATA - 700 064

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

Date: 02.07.2019

Dear Smt. Pandey,

I am sending herewith following major achievements of BSI for the month of June, 2019 in reply to OM no. 24011/08/2019 - GC dtd. 25.03.2019 regarding monthly DO letter from Secretary (E & F) to Cabinet Secretary.

Department: Botanical Survey of India

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

Scientists of BSI discovered a novel species of *Habenaria* (Orchidaceae) from Western Ghats. They reported genus *Elatostemma* (a gregarious herb from family Urticaceae) from Rajasthan and *Saccharum bengalense* (a tall is a perennial herb from family Poaceae) from Andhra Pradesh for the first time. They also reported five species, namely *Synedrella nodiflora*, *Lindenbergia grandiflora*, *Balanophora polyandra*, *Maoutia puya* and *Isachne pulchella*, for first time from Arunachal Pradesh.

Field Tours conducted:

Two botanical explorations were conducted to Agasthiamalai Biosphere Reserve and Megamalai Wildlife Sanctuary during the month. 21 endemic plants collected and 135 Field Numbers vouched respectively. Besides, a macrofungal survey and collection tour was undertaken to different parts of Uttarakhand namely, Baram, Kanar, Bahman, Tejam Khaaiar, towards Chipla-kedar of Kumaon Himalaya and Joshimath, Malari, towards Kuntibanar glacier and surroundings of Garhwal Himalaya for survey and collection of alpine Caterpillar fungi. About 30 caterpillar fungi belonging to Ophiocordycipitaceae were collected from two major localities of Kumaon and Garhwal Himalaya. All the collected fungi are well preserved and under study.

Observance of World Environment Day:

World Environment Day is observed throughout BSI on June 5 to raise global awareness to take positive environmental action to protect nature and the planet Earth. The theme for 2019 is "Air Pollution". All the regional centres and units of BSI celebrated the World Environment Day on 5th June, 2019, wherein all the scientists and staff members actively participated in the event with great zeal. A large number of students from several schools were invited to attend the function and to participate in Sit and Draw competition on the theme "Air Pollution". Programme of free sapling distribution and mass children rally have also been conducted in all the regional centres of BSI during the World Environment Day. Two books of BSI, namely 'Orchids of India: a pictorial guide' and 'Plant Discoveries, 2018' were released by Hon'ble Minister, MoEF & CC at New Delhi on 6th June 2019.

Some important publications:

- Prasad, K. 2019. A new species of *Habenaria* (Orchidaceae) from the Western Ghats, India. *Webbia (Journal of Plant Taxonomy and Geography)* DOI: 10.1080/100837792.2019.1599651
- Swamy, J. and P.V. Ramana 2019. *Saccharum bengalense* Retz. (Poaceae): An Addition to the Flora of Andhra Pradesh, India. *Indian Journal of Forestry* 42 (1): 35-37.
- Majumdar, S. and Dey, M. 2019. Correction of an orthographical error in *Riccia 'indira-gandhiensis'* (Ricciaceae: Marchantiophyta). *J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc.* 116: 34. [doi: 10.17087/jbnhs/2019/v116/123638].

2. Important policy matter is held up on account of prolonged inter-ministerial consultation: NIL

3. Compliance of COS decisions: Nothing pending

4. No. of cases of 'Sanction for prosecution' pending for more than 3 months: NIL

5. Particulars of cases in which there has been a departure from the Transaction of Business Rules or established policy of the government: NIL

6. Status of implementation of e-governance: MIS module is yet to be introduced in BSI

7. Details of cases in which ACC directions have not been complied with: NIL

8. Status of Public grievances:

No. of public grievances redressed during the month	No. of Public grievances pending at the end of month
	1

9. Information on the specific steps taken by the ministry/department for utilization of the space technology based tools and applications in governance and development: NIL

With regards,

Sincerely yours,

02/07/19
A. A. MAO

To
Smt. Manju Pandey, IPoS
Jt. Secretary, (CS), MoEF & CC,
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jorbagh, New Delhi - 3