

GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS AND WILDLIFE

The NCT of Delhi Biodiversity Council

(A Statutory Body of GNCT of Delhi constituted under the Biodiversity Act, 2002)

F.No.125/DBC/CWLW/2022/MW/2250-5/

Date: 19/05/22

CIRCULAR

Attention is drawn to the OM F.No.NBA/9/60/2005-SBB/UT-D dated 31/12/2019 issued by the National Biodiversity Authority to constitute Union Territory Biodiversity Council. In compliance with the said OM, Delhi biodiversity Council (DBC) has been constituted vide order F.No.41/CWLW/WL/Constitution of Biodiversity Council/2020/6576-99 dated 29th October 2021.

In order to ensure that the Council can effectively carry out its mandate under the Biodiversity Act, 2002, and keeping in view the highest priority to Ridge Biodiversity and adjoining forest areas, the following teams are being constituted.

1. Access and Benefit Sharing mechanism (ABS) - LEGAL

• Team :

- ☐ Ms. Jasmin Kaur, Lead Project Associate: Coordinator
- ☐ Mr. Rohan Hukil, Project Associate: Member
- ☐ Ms. Vishnupriya Pandey, Project Associate: Member

• Relevant references:

- Chapter 2 (regulation - specially Section 7), Section 24, Section 25, and Chapter 12 of the Biodiversity Act, 2002 - penalties, offenses, NGT
- Office Memorandum for constituting "Biodiversity Council" in NCT Delhi
 - NBA website → 'Act & Rules' section → OM for UTs
- Guidelines on Access to Biological Resources and Associated Knowledge and Benefits Sharing (ABS) Regulations
 - NBA website → 'Act and Rules' → 'Notifications & Guidelines'

- 'Operational Guidelines to the State Biodiversity Boards for Processing of Applications for Access to Biological Resources received under section 7 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002'

■ NBA website → 'Public Information' → 'Guidelines for SBBs'

- **Roles:-**

- Coordinate with the Expert Committee on ABS mechanism - implementation of their suggestions
- Keep track of activities going on in 'DBC Biodiversity Fund' and Local Biodiversity Funds of BMCs - these funds are specifically for ABS contributions
- Send notices to companies and traders' groups violating the provisions of the Act.
- Represent the Department by participating in relevant up-skilling activities, public outreach initiatives, and discussion forums.

2. People's Biodiversity Register (PBR team)

- **Team :**

- ☐ Mr. Rohit Kumar Baldodia, Project Associate: Coordinator
- ☐ Ms. Shivani Koul, Lead Project Associate: Member
- ☐ Mr. Vikas Bhati, Project Associate: Member
- ☐ Mr. Deepjyoti Mazumder, Project Associate: Member

- **Relevant references:**

- Be conversant with model PBR Guidelines by NBA - 'Revised People's Biodiversity Register (PBR) guidelines, 2013'
- NBA website → 'Public Information' → 'PBR'

- **Roles:**

- Coordinate with the PBR Quality Monitoring Committee (Expert Committee)
- Engaging Technical Support Groups (TSGs) for PBR exercise
- Work with the 'media cell' to maintain a database of institutes & scholars to be engaged as TSGs (potential or current partners)
- Help with the preparation of BMC Action Plan based on the PBR exercise
- Future activities – electronic-PBR
- Represent the Department by participating in relevant up-skilling activities, public outreach initiatives, and discussion forums.

3. Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) Operationalization

- Team :

- ☐ Ms. Ushasi Ghosh, Executive Project Associate: Coordinator
- ☐ Ms. Aarti Rajput, Project Associate: Member
- ☐ Mr. Sajjan Kumar, Project Associate: Member
- ☐ Mr. Gaurav Singhal, Lead Project Associate: Member

- Relevant references:

- Biodiversity Act, 2002
 - NBA website → 'Act & Rules' section → 'Act'
- Biodiversity Rules, 2004
 - NBA website → 'Act & Rules' section → 'Rules'
- Office Memorandum for constituting "Biodiversity Council" in NCT Delhi
 - NBA website → 'Act & Rules' section → OM for UTs
- Guidelines for operationalization of Biodiversity Management Committees
 - NBA website → 'SBB/BMC' → 'BMCs'

- Roles:

- Coordinate with BMCs during meetings and events - act as link between BMC members and DBC Member-Secretary.
- Keep track of flow of funds from DBC to BMCs - DBC Bank Account for Administrative expenses
- Help with the implementation of Section 41 and Chapter 11 (Local Biodiversity Fund) of the Biodiversity Act, 2002
- Represent the Department by participating in relevant up-skilling activities, public outreach initiatives, and discussion forums.

4. Biodiversity Heritage Sites (BHS) & Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs)

- Team :

- ☐ Ms. Nivedita Tuli, Project Associate: Coordinator
- ☐ Mr. Debabrata Sadukhan, Project Associate: Member
- ☐ Mr. Dharam Vir Singh, Project Associate: Member
- ☐ Mr. Rahul, Project Associate: Member

- Relevant references:

- Help implement Section 37 of the Biodiversity Act, 2002.
- Guidelines for selection and management of Biodiversity Heritage Sites

■ NBA website → 'Public Information' → 'BHS'

- Draft revised Guidelines for selection and management of Biodiversity Heritage Sites.
- Be conversant in OECM guidelines.
- Roles:
 - Engage Expert Committee on BHS & OECMs
 - Advise the BMCs on matters related to BHS & OECMs - cross-check their claims
 - Take preliminary action on BHS proposal received
 - Represent the Department by participating in relevant up-skilling activities, public outreach initiatives, and discussion forums.

5. Public outreach and education (media cell)

● Team :

- ☐ Mr. Akash Tiwari: Coordinator
- ☐ Ms. Kanika Goel, Project Associate: Member
- ☐ Ms Shivani, Project Associate: Member
- ☐ Mr. Satyapal Singh, Programmer: Member

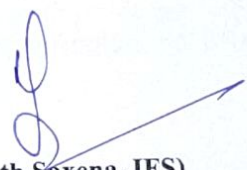
● Roles:

- Email ID management - delhi.biodiversity@gmail.com | maintenance and regular updation of social media accounts: IG - @biodiversityofdelhi | Twitter (yet to be activated) | Facebook (yet to be activated)
- Chart out an outreach and public education strategy with the guidance of MS-DBC and other Council members.
- Publications
- Engaging partners - freelancers, external funding agencies, NGO partners
- Prepare and maintain:
 - Database on Delhi-based institutes and scholars engaged in biodiversity conservation and allied themes
 - Database on environmental groups in Delhi engaged in advocacy of themes relevant to the Department - contact info., address
- Engaging NSS and school & college green groups/clubs by ensuring their participation in events and outreach activities organized by the DBC or the Department.
- Coordinate with divisions and BMCs to know about activities, events, and publications undertaken - content for social media
- One Project Associate from each division will act as a focal point and will be responsible for updating the 'media cell' at HQ about the current and upcoming activities

Inter-departmental Activities

- Annual Report preparation (Section 33 of Biodiversity Act, 2002)
 - *"The State Biodiversity Board shall prepare, in such form and at such time in each financial year as may be prescribed, its annual report, giving a full account of its activities during the previous financial year, and submit a copy thereof to the State Government."*
 - Section 35 of the Biodiversity Act, 2002 - Annual report of State Biodiversity Board to be laid before State Legislature. – *"The State Government shall cause the annual report and auditor's report to be laid, as soon as may be after they are received, before the House of State Legislature."*
- Annual Plan of Operation for 2022-23
- DBC website development and updation
- DBC Strategy and Biodiversity Action Plan
- DBC Biodiversity Rules (Section 63 of Biodiversity Act, 2002) and policy (Section 49 of Biodiversity Act, 2002)
- Audit of accounts of State Biodiversity Board (Section 34) – *"The accounts of the State Biodiversity Board shall be maintained and audited in such manner as may, in consultation with the Accountant-General of the State, be prescribed and the State Biodiversity Board shall furnish, to the State Government, before such date as may be prescribed, its audited copy of accounts together with auditor's report thereon."*

This issues with the prior approval of Competent Authority.


(Nisheeth Saxena, IFS)
Member Secretary, DBC &
Chief Wildlife Warden

Copy to :-

1. DCF (HQ) / WLO for information and necessary action.
2. Concerned Officials


14/05/2022
(Nisheeth Saxena, IFS)
Member Secretary, DBC &
Chief Wildlife Warden



National Biodiversity Authority

राष्ट्रीय जैव विविधता प्राधिकरण

(A Statutory body of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India)



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तरमणि, चेन्नई - 600113 तमिल नाडु, भारत.

F.No.NBA/9/60/2005-SBB/UT-D

Dated: 31.12.2019

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Constituting 'National Capital Territory of Delhi Biodiversity Council' to implement the provisions of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 – regarding

In exercise of the powers conferred under sub section (2) of Section 22 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 (Central Act 18 of 2003), the National Biodiversity Authority as specified by Central Government in OM No. CS-C12017/6/2019-CS.III dated 30.12.2019 of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, hereby delegates its powers and functions vested with the National Biodiversity Authority to the National Capital Territory of Delhi Biodiversity Council constituted as per Paragraph 2 for:

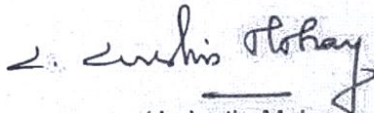
- Regulating access to biological resources for commercial utilization as specified under Section 7 of the Act, within their jurisdiction.
- Supervising the formation and functioning of Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) and preparation of People's Biodiversity Registers (PBRs)

2. Composition of the Council

- The Council shall be headed by a Chairperson who shall be an eminent person having adequate knowledge and experience in the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and in matters relating to equitable sharing of benefits, to be appointed by the competent authority in the National Capital Territory of Delhi.
- The Council shall have not more than five ex-officio Members representing the concerned departments of the Union Territory in accordance with Section 22(4) (b) of the Act who shall be appointed by the Competent Authority in the National Capital Territory of Delhi.
- The Council shall have not more than five Members who have expertise in matters relating to biological diversity in accordance with Section 22 (4) (c) of the Act who shall be appointed by the Competent Authority in the National Capital Territory of Delhi.
- The Council shall appoint a Member Secretary who shall be responsible for co-ordinating and convening meetings of the Council, maintenance of records of the proceedings of the Council and such other matters as may be assigned to him/her by the Council.

3. Terms and Conditions

- a. The Term of office of the non-official members of the National Capital Territory of Delhi Biodiversity Council shall be for a period of three years from the date of issue of the Order by the UT Administration.
- b. The office of the National Capital Territory of Delhi Biodiversity Council shall be at the place designated for the purpose by the Competent Authority of the National Capital Territory of Delhi.
- c. The Council shall function as per the provisions of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 (Central Act 18 of 2003) and the Biological Diversity Rules, 2004.
- d. The UT administration shall constitute a fund which shall be known as the 'National Capital Territory of Delhi Biodiversity Council Fund' and all the fees, charges and benefit sharing amount received by the Council shall be credited to it. The amount so received in the 'National Capital Territory of Delhi Biodiversity Council Fund' shall be used only for the purposes mentioned in Section 27 (2) of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002.
- e. The administrative expenses towards the functioning of the Council shall be borne by the UT administration.
- f. The Council shall perform the functions within the jurisdiction of the Union Territory as has been vested to the State Biodiversity Boards under various provisions of the Biological Diversity Act.
- g. The Council shall in consultation with National Biodiversity Authority notify the format and procedures for seeking approval as required under Section 7 of the Act.
- h. The National Capital Territory of Delhi Biodiversity Council shall come into existence from the date of issue of the Order or until further Orders, whichever is earlier.
- i. If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this OM, the National Biodiversity Authority may, by order, not inconsistent with the provisions of the Biological Diversity Act, remove the difficulty.


(J. Justin Mohan)
Secretary, NBA

To

The Chief Secretary,
Govt. of NCT of Delhi,
Delhi Secretariat,
IP Estate, New Delhi-110 002.

Copy to:

1. The Joint Secretary, CS Division, MoEFCC, New Delhi
2. The Director, CS-III Division, MoEFCC, New Delhi