NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 37TH AUTHORITY MEETING

22nd March, 2016

Venue

Godavari Hall,
5th Floor, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road,
New Delhi – 110 003

Proceedings of the 37th Authority Meeting of the National Biodiversity Authority

The thirty seventh meeting of the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) was held on 22nd March 2016 from 11.00 AM onwards at Godavari Hall, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Dr.B.Meenakumari, Chairperson, NBA to consider the agenda items circulated to the Members *vide* email dated 14th March, 2016 and hard copy on 17th March, 2016. The list of participants is placed as **Annex-I- pg.no. 18**.

2. At the outset, the Secretary welcomed the Members and introduced the new Chairperson Dr.B.Meenakumari to the house.

3. Dr.B.Meenakumari, Chairperson, NBA while extending her warm welcome to all the Members, appreciated the functioning of the Authority and assured her full support and the cooperation in joining hands with the system. Members also extended their warm welcome and greetings to the new Chairperson and expressed hope for smooth functioning in carrying out the activities of NBA, during her tenure, and hoped that during her tenure, she will be able to resolve various long pending issues with a new approach.

4. The Authority placed on record its appreciation of the services rendered by Shri Hem Kumar Pande, IAS for smooth functioning of the NBA during his tenure as Chairman of the National Biodiversity Authority. The Authority also noted that under his leadership, there has been an overall improvement in NBA and more particularly the issue of long awaited notification of ABS guidelines in 2014, exemption of Annex-I crops under ITPGRFA and paving way for finalizing agreements with CSIR in more than 200 applications, which are commendable. The Authority recorded and conveyed its deep sense of appreciation and gratitude recognizing his valuable services.

5. The Secretary then briefed on the activities carried out since last meeting of the Authority. Thereafter, he presented the status of the ABS applications, cases of violation under the BD Act by the applicants, etc.

Thereafter, the agenda items were considered and discussed as under:-

37.01: Confirmation of Proceedings of the 36th Authority meeting

The Secretary informed the Members that the draft Proceedings of the 36th Authority meeting of the National Biodiversity Authority held on 6th January, 2016 at NBA, Chennai was circulated to the Members *vide* email dated 2nd February, 2016 seeking their comments. In response, a solitary comment was received from the Department of Biotechnology and the same was incorporated in the proceedings appropriately. The Members thereafter confirmed the proceedings of the 36th Authority meeting.

37.02: Action taken report of the 36th Authority meeting

It was informed that the action has been taken on few items and for the remaining items, action is in progress. The observations and decisions of the Authority on the action taken report are given below:

2. With regard to Agenda item no. 36.10 *(To consider the augmented list of Normally Traded Commodities)*, the representative of the National Medicinal Plant Board informed that the list of 119 medicinal plants was furnished to NBA in order to include in the NTC list since those plants are being cultivated. In this connection, the Secretary informed that NMPB is also one of the members in the EC on NTC and the EC has considered the matter before augmenting the list of species traded as NTC. Upon approval of the Authority, the draft notification has been sent to the Ministry for notification. However, the NMPB may submit the list of species which are cultivated for inclusion in the NTC for consideration as the list of species notified under section 40 may not be a permanent one but subject to changes by inclusions/ deletions as and when found necessary. The Authority noted the action taken report of the previous Authority meeting.

37.03 & 37.14.01: To consider the Proceedings of the 36th & 37th meeting of Expert Committee on ABS

The Secretary, NBA apprised the Members, of the proceedings of the 36th meeting of the Expert Committee on ABS held on 15th February, 2016 and the 37th meeting on 12th March, 2016 under the Chairmanship of Shri.Ramesh G. Kalaghatgi,

IFS. The EC on ABS examined 94 applications and made its recommendation to the Authority.

2. The Authority deliberated the recommendations of the EC on ABS and, *inter alia,* made the following observations:-

i. The Secretary informed that the EC felt that there appears to be many violations in accessing of biological resources due to ignorance of BD Act 2002 rather than intentional as most of them are approaching the Authority for post-facto approval. Therefore, the EC impressed upon the need for development of a framework that would systematically guide the NBA on the modalities of dealing with such issues related to violation of the provisions of the BD Act by the applicants vis-à-vis ABS mechanism applicable to bioresources. The EC suggested for constitution of a three-member sub-committee under the chairmanship of Shri C. Achalender Reddy, with Dr. A.K. Ghosh and Dr. R.V.Varma, as members, which will examine all aspects of the aforesaid issue and provide appropriate recommendations for a solution to the ongoing issue.

ii. The Authority, however, considering the matter in the larger interest of the public, decided to form a sub-committee by including atleast two legal experts, for development of a framework to deal with issues related to violation of the provisions of the BD Act as the subject matter is having a wider legal implications amongst the stakeholders. Further, the Members informed that the EC on ABS shall examine the Sub-committee's report and submit the same along with its recommendations to the Authority on or before 31st May, 2016.

iii. The Members discussed the issues relating to access of Red Sanders wood in the form of furniture sizes and planks from Indian buyers by M/s. Shanghai Shen Da Imp & Exp. Co., Ltd, China *(Agenda Item no: 36.64)*. It was observed that the Indian buyer had acquired the Red Sanders wood through auction conducted by the Government of Andhra Pradesh during 2011. After detailed deliberations in the related aspects, it was decided that subject to fulfillment of the legal requirements, the foreign applicant has to

apply in Form-I and deposit the benefit sharing component of 5% (five percent) of the purchase value (excluding taxes and other government dues) to NBA, before lifting the Red Sanders wood from the Indian buyers.

iv. The Members discussed on the application submitted in Form-I by Ms. Roksolana Petrovska, Germany seeking approval to conduct study to measure, recovery dynamic of Mudumalai Forest after selective logging: tree size classes distribution by species, density/ha, floristic composition, biomass volume, regeneration by species in Mudumalai National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary, Tamil Nadu. After a detailed discussion, the Authority decided that as the applicant is not going to access any biological resources from the territory mentioned in the application, the provisions of the BD Act are not applicable in the instant application.

v. It was informed that the EC observed, in certain Form-III applications, that the applicants apply to the NBA before the grant of patent but later decline to sign the agreement with the NBA despite several reminders. There are also cases where the patent is granted before the applicant signs the agreement with the NBA. In such instances, the EC recommended that the NBA may refer the issue to the Central Government. The Ministry may write to the Controller General of Patents with a request to revoke the patents granted to such applicants.

3. After detailed discussion, the Members considered and endorsed the recommendations of the EC on ABS.

4. The Secretary, NBA apprised the Authority that in the 36th Authority meeting under agenda item no.36.04 it was decided that the NBA Secretariat to initiate legal action against the applicants who have violated the provisions of the BD Act on the basis of advocate's opinion, so that, the secretariat can place the Advocate's opinion before the Authority for consideration in the next meeting.

Decisions:

a) The Authority approved the recommendations of the EC on the ABS applications and other issues.

b) Authority decided to reject the applications which were recommended by the EC to initiate legal action against the applicants who violated the provisions of the BD Act.

c) With regard to Agenda item no.36.64 of the 36th EC, the Authority decided that subject to fulfillment of the legal requirements, the foreign applicant has to apply in Form-I and deposit the benefit sharing component of 5% (five percent) of the purchase value (excluding taxes and other government dues) to NBA, before lifting the Red Sanders wood from the Indian buyers.

d) With regard to application submitted in Form-I by Ms. Roksolana Petrovska, Germany, the Authority decided that insofar as the applicant is not going to access any biological resources from the territory mentioned in the application, the provisions of the BD Act are not applicable in the instant application.

e) The Authority reiterated its earlier decision on the disposal of ABS applications, i.e., which was taken in the 34th Authority under agenda no.34.03, that "*when the members approved the recommendations of the EC on ABS without any modification, the Secretariat may initiate further action on the concerned applications without awaiting the issuance of approved Proceedings of the Authority Meeting*"

f) The Authority directed the NBA Secretariat, to include at least two legal experts in the sub-committee to be constituted for development of a framework to deal with issues related to violations of the provisions of the BD Act. The EC on ABS shall examine the Sub-committee's report and submit the same along with its recommendations to the Authority on or before 31st May, 2016.

Action: Secretary, NBA

37.04: To consider the ABS applications for access to Red Sanders wood approved by the Chairman, NBA

The Secretary, NBA apprised the Members on the procedures followed in processing the Red Sanders applications and various actions taken in this regard. He informed that Form-I applications were received from three foreign buyers for accessing the Red Sanders wood and the same have been approved by the Chairman, NBA, upon receipt of the benefit sharing amount Rs. 3,57,91,322/- from them.

Decisions:

The Authority ratified the actions taken by the NBA secretariat in processing the Red Sanders applications.

37.05: To consider the decision of the Chairman, NBA on Form-B applications

The Members were informed of the details and approvals accorded by the Chairman NBA on two Form–B applications submitted by 1) Ms. Aparna Lajmi, Ph.D., Student, Centre for Ecological Sciences for sending 0.1 ml of DNA extracts of 43 Lizard samples to BGI Tech Solutions (Hongkong) Co., Limited, Hong Kong for Genotyping-sequencing (GPS) on a next-generation (NGS) sequencing platform, and 2) Shri. Omkar Gavkare, Department of Entomology, Dr. Yashwant Singh Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Solan, Himachal Pradesh for sending 100 dead specimens of *Nesidiocoris tenuis* to Enrique Molto Garcia, Director IVIA Instituto Valenciano de Investigaciones Agrarias (IVIA), Carretera de moncada-Naquera km 4, 5, 46113, Moncada, Valencia, Spain for studying the phylogenetic variability of *Nesidiocoris tenuis.*

2. In this regard, Dr Sujata Arora, Member suggested that as the Guidelines on Access and Benefit Sharing stipulate a timeline for the disposal of Form-B applications, the table showing information about Form–B applications should contain the details such as the date on which the application became "complete in all respects", date of approval by the NBA, etc., for information to the Members. Similarly, she also added that date on which the applications (Form-I, II, III and IV) became "complete in all respects" should be included in the agenda format which is being placed before the Expert Committee on ABS by the Secretariat.

Decision:

a) The Authority ratified the approval accorded by the Chairman, NBA on the Form-B applications.
b) The Authority also directed the secretariat to add a column "*Date on which the application become complete in all respects*" i.e., it's a transferring date to the review team for examination of the application, in the checklist to be filled by the Secretariat in the agenda which is being placed in the EC for examination.

Action: Secretary, NBA

37.06: To consider the communication received from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate on the application from Dr. Pawan Kumar Saharan

The Secretary informed the Members that NBA received a Form-III application (Appl.no.768) from Dr. Pawan Kumar Saharan on 5th August, 2014 seeking prior approval of NBA for obtaining IPR in Indian Patent Office for the patent entitled "*Mammalian Colostrum Derived Nanopeptides for Broad Spectrum Viral/Recurrent Infections with Method of Isolation*" (patent appl.no.1353/MUM/2008). The biological resource used in the invention is bovine colostrum. He also informed that the applicant had applied for patent in other countries and was granted patents in USA, Singapore and South Africa during the period from 2011 to 2014, for the same invention.

2. The Authority, in its 33rd meeting, considered this application and endorsed the recommendation of the 31st EC on ABS *i.e since the applicant failed to obtain the prior approval of NBA for obtaining patents outside of India (USA, Singapore and South Africa) it is in violation of Section 6 of the BD Act, 2002,* and decided that this case is in contravention of the BD Act.

3. He also informed the Members that as per section 19(3) of the BD Act, the 33rd EC on ABS heard the presentation of the applicant and not agreed with the contention of the applicant that the resource involved is not a biological resource as per Section 2(c) of the BD Act. The EC recommended that NBA may initiate appropriate legal action against the applicant for violation of provisions of the BD Act and the same was endorsed in the 35th Authority meeting.

4. Subsequently, the NBA received a communication from MoEF&CC on 22nd February, 2016 stating that

> "Upon examination of the matter in the Ministry based on the information provided by NBA, it has been decided that:
>
> (i) NBA should consider the application seeking prior approval for obtaining patent in India, on merit of the case.
>
> (ii) While proceeding against the applicant for breach in earlier cases relating to patents obtained on the invention in other countries, NBA may seek legal opinion inter alia on whether prosecution would lead to cancellation of patents already obtained and if that is in

NBA's/national interest, or is it better to bring the applicant in the regulation regime and take benefit of ABS"

5. On being heard, the Members discussed the matter in detail on various aspects including the legal opinions obtained from the various legal experts on this subject during earlier occasions. After detailed deliberation, the Members emphasized that it is clear from section 6 of the Act, previous approval of the National Biodiversity Authority is required before making an application for any intellectual property right, whether in or outside India, if it is based on research or information on a biological resource obtained from India.

6. The Secretary also mentioned that the Applicant has already obtained a patent outside India without seeking approval of the NBA, by which he has violated section 6 of the BD Act and will attract the penal action as per the provisions of the BD Act.

7. The members discussed whether the two issues of filing patents outside the country and applying for patent in India can be delinked as obtaining patent outside the country without NBA's approval will attract legal proceedings.

Decision:

Taking into consideration of the EC's recommendation and legal opinions, the Authority decided to refer the matter relating to delinking of the issues referred to in para 7 above to the sub-committee to be formed upon the recommendation of the EC on ABS. It was also decided that the sub-committee shall submit its report in time bound manner.

Action: Secretary, NBA

37.07: To consider the minutes of the 5th, 6th & 7th meetings of EC on Red Sanders

The Secretary apprised the Members that 5th, 6th and 7th meetings of the Expert Committee on Red Sanders were held on 17th October, 2015, 3rd and 4th December, 2015 and 8th & 9th January, 2016, respectively, for assessing the progress made by three Sub-committees on the defined terms of reference (ToRs) and finalization of the reports. The Members of the Authority noted the minutes of the meeting on EC on Red Sanders. The Authority also directed the NBA Secretariat to inform the Expert Committee on Red Sanders to submit its report at the earliest, in

order to utilize the benefit sharing amount realized on the access of Red sanders wood.

Action: Secretary, NBA

37.08: Fourth meeting of the Expert Committee to revise the existing agreement formats

The Members were informed that the fourth meeting of the EC to revise the existing agreement formats was held on 2nd February, 2016 at the NBA, Chennai and the Members noted the progress.

37.09: To consider the proposal for the preparation of newsletter through CEBPOL

The Secretary informed the Members that the Authority in its 16th meeting has decided that "*NBA may forward a monthly activity report including important events to all Members of the Authority through email and also place it on NBA's website*". In this connection, the Authority considered the proposal to involve the Centre for Biodiversity Policy and Law (CEBPOL), the project under Govt. of India and Norwegian Government established in the NBA premises, in the activity of bringing out a quarterly newsletter detailing the activities of the NBA. After discussing the matter, the Authority decided that the quarterly newsletter may be published through the Centre for Biodiversity Policy and Law (CEBPOL). The newsletter may capture the activities of NBA, SBBs/ BMCs, CBD/ ITPGRFA events, etc.

Decision:

The Authority decided that the quarterly newsletter may be published through the Centre for Biodiversity Policy and Law (CEBPOL). The newsletter may capture the activities of NBA, SBBs/ BMCs, CBD/ ITPGRFA events/projects.

Action: Secretary, NBA

37.10: To consider the possibility of having an ENVIS node/ centre on biodiversity related issues

The Members were informed that in the 33rd Authority meeting under agenda item no. 33.11, it was informed that the Project Steering Committee of UNEP-GEF-MoEF Direct Access Project on strengthening the enabling environment for

biodiversity conservation and management in India has agreed that the draft clearing-house mechanism website developed under the project to disseminate information on the national implementation of CBD, national targets, action plan programmes, etc., may be used appropriately and NBA may explore the possibility of having an ENVIS node/ Centre on biodiversity related issues. It was also informed that MoEFCC has declared that ENVIS centres are the CHM to the CBD and these centres will function on a thematic basis.

2. In this context, the Authority discussed about seeking the support of Ministry to establish ENVIS Centre in the NBA for disseminating its mandate and activities to public at large. Thereafter, the Authority directed the Secretariat to send a proposal to the Ministry seeking necessary support/assistance to establish ENVIS Centre in the NBA.

Decisions

The Authority directed the secretariat to send a proposal to the Ministry seeking necessary support/assistance to establish ENVIS Centre in the NBA.

Action: Secretary, NBA

37.11: Transaction Audit by the C&AG for the year 2013-14 and 2014-15

The Secretary informed the Members that the transaction audit of the National Biodiversity Authority for the period 2013–14 and 2014–15 was conducted by the Office of Comptroller and Auditor General of India (Scientific Depts.) from 18th to 29th January, 2016. In this regard, the Secretary, NBA informed the Members that the report of the Audit has been received on 18th March 2016 and the same will be placed before the next Authority meeting for consideration.

Action: Secretary, NBA

37.12: To consider travel in private airlines for official duty by Members of the Authority & EC and NBA Officials

The Secretary apprised the members that meetings of the Authority and Expert committee on various subjects are being conducted at regular intervals. The Members of the Authority and EC travel from different locations to the meeting place by air in Air India flights. However, some of the Members are travelling in private

airlines due to unavoidable circumstances such as non-availability of Air India flights at preferred time and travel in available Air India flights entails more time spent unproductively prior to and after the meeting time, etc.

2. It was informed that the Members of the Authority, EC, and NBA officials may not be able to obtain the prior permission from the Ministry of Civil Aviation for each travel in private airlines. Further, it was added that obtaining timely permission from the Civil Aviation Ministry for each travel in private airlines may severely hamper the schedules in convening of the meetings as the experts are staying in different places away from Delhi.

3 During the discussion, it was informed that a cell has been opened in the Ministry of Civil Aviation to clear such proposals. Further, the request may also be forwarded through email for approval. After detailed deliberation on this subject, it was decided that the Rules/orders of the Civil Aviation is also applicable to the autonomous body/ statutory organizations, and thus, all the Members/experts are required to follow the procedure as envisaged in the extant rules of Civil Aviation to avail the travel through private airlines.

Decision:

The Authority directed the Secretariat to follow the procedures envisaged in the extant rules of Civil Aviation, as it is also applicable to autonomous bodies.

Action: Secretary, NBA

37.13: To consider the ceiling for out-door treatment in the NBA Medical Attendance Rules

The Members were informed that the Authority in its 33rd meeting approved the NBA Medical Attendance Regulations and also accorded approval for adoption of one month's Pay plus Dearness Allowance per annum for reimbursement of expenses for outdoor treatment for a period of one year. In this regard, the Authority discussed the issue to continue the above ceiling in the NBA Medical Attendance Regulation as a permanent measure.

2. The Members of the Authority directed that the Secretariat may examine the existing Rules vis-a-viz other Autonomous / statutory bodies in line with extant Rules of

the Government of India. Thereafter the matter may be placed before the next Authority for consideration.

Decision:

a) Authority directed the Secretariat to examine the existing regulations viz-a-viz with other autonomous / statutory organizations in line with extant Rules of Govt. India and place the report in the next Authority meeting.

b) The Authority decided that the NBA may follow the existing ceiling for out-door treatment until further orders.

Action: Secretary, NBA / Admin. Officer, NBA

37.14: Any other item(s) with the permission of the Chair

37.14.02: To consider the format for Indian researcher/ scientist to provide intimation to the NBA for deposition of micro organisms in non-Indian culture collections for claim of novel species

The Secretary informed the Members that the Authority in its 36th meeting has decided that depositing micro-organisms by Indian scientists/ researchers in other country repositories for claim of his novel species for publication in journals does not fall under the purview of the BD Act, 2002. However, the depositor should provide prior intimation to the NBA along with information on the name of the species, name of repository and purpose of deposit.

2. The Authority discussed the proposed draft format for providing prior intimation to the NBA for deposition of microorganisms in the foreign repositories for claim of novel species and approved it. The Authority also directed the Secretariat to place the format (Annex-2) in the website of NBA.

Decision:

a) The Authority approved the draft format for giving the prior intimation to NBA for deposition of micro-organisms in foreign repositories.

b) The Authority also directed the secretariat to place the format in the website of NBA.

Action: Secretary, NBA

37.14.03: To consider Law internship / placement note submitted by Prof.M.K.Ramesh, Member, NBA

The Members were informed that the 36th Authority has decided to engage interns by creating internship opportunities for life science and law students and students from relevant fields and also seek the help of Prof. M.K Ramesh, Member, NBA to develop the ToR/ procedure for engagement, etc. In this regard, Prof.M.K Ramesh, Member, NBA has submitted a note on the law internship/ placement programme.

2. The Authority appreciated Prof. M.K. Ramesh for submission of the note for engagement of internship as per the decision in the earlier Authority meeting. The Members felt that the Secretariat may develop a draft procedure for providing internship opportunities for life science and law students and students from relevant fields in NBA based on the inputs offered by Prof. M.K.Ramesh.

Decision:

The Authority appreciated the note submitted by Prof. M.K. Ramesh. Further, directed the Secretariat to develop a draft procedure for interns programme based on the inputs provided by Prof M.K. Ramesh.

Action: Secretary, NBA

37.14.04: To consider dispensing with the consultation with the BMC by the NBA/SBB for Form II and III application in respect of biological resources already accessed for undertaking research

The Secretary apprised the Members that the Section 41(2) of the BD Act stipulates that the NBA and the SBB shall consult the BMC or local body while taking any decision relating to the use of biological resources and knowledge associated with such resources occurring within the territorial jurisdiction of the BMC.

2. In this regard, it is informed that the biological resources mentioned in the Form II & III have already been accessed by the applicants and researched upon. As such, there is no immediate request for access to biological resources by the applicants requiring examination by the BMC for according consent or otherwise. Further, it is also informed that if the applicant under Form II seeks to access biological resources for further research or the applicant under Form III (patent holder) or the transferee/ assignee of the IP Rights requires biological resources for

undertaking commercialization, they need to apply to NBA or SBB, as the case may be.

3. Since the BD Act/Rules requires the NBA/ SBB to consult the BMC or local body while taking any decision relating to the use of biological resources, it implies that consent is to obtain the views of the BMC/Local bodies on the proposed access of such biological resources; however, obtaining consent for the biological resources which were already accessed may not be required.

4. It is informed that procedure for sending the consultation Form to SBB/BMC by the NBA with respect to Form II and Form III applications may be dispensed with. However, if the applicant accessed the associated (traditional) knowledge from the knowledge-holders (or) in cases where benefit claimers are identifiable by NBA, this exemption will not be applicable. This will pave way to expeditious processing of applications by the Secretariat.

5. Considering the above points, the Members discussed the issues and pointed out that in case of applications under Form I and III, where the biological resources are procured/obtained from the NBA-approved repositories or from Government Institutions such as ICAR, CSIR, Universities, there is no need to refer such applications to the SBBs/ BMCs for their consent which is aimed at expeditious processing of applications by the Secretariat.

6. The Authority discussed the matter in detail and decided that sending of consultation forms to the SBBs for ascertaining consent of BMCs or local bodies in respect of applications under Form II and Form III may be dispensed with, keeping in view the fact that the applicant has already accessed the biological resource. However, this exemption will not be applicable to the applications, where applicant who has already accessed the associated (traditional) knowledge from the provider or knowledge-holders, in cases where the benefit claimers are identifiable by NBA.

7. The Chairperson informed the Members that the awareness at different levels particularly researchers & scientists would pave way for better compliance of the BD Act. Therefore, the Chairperson suggested to form a core expert group comprising Dr.Sujata Arora (Chairperson), Dr.Manoj Modi and other members, to address this

issue and draft a suitable clause so as to incorporate it in the project proposal of the funding agencies such as DBT, CSIR, ICAR, etc.

Decision

a. The Authority decided to dispense with the procedure for sending of consultation forms to the SBBs for ascertaining consent or otherwise of BMCs or local bodies in respect of applications under Form II and Form III, where the applicant has already accessed the biological resources in these cases.

b. However, this exemption will not be applicable to the applicant who has already accessed the associated (traditional) knowledge from the provider or knowledge-holder who is identifiable by NBA.

c. A core expert group under the chairpersonship of Dr.Sujata Arora and other members to develop a suitable clause which needs to be incorporated in the project proposals of funding agencies like DBT, ICAR, CSIR, etc.

Action: Secretary, NBA

37.14.05: To consider the proposal of Dr.S.Subramaniyan, Member, NBA

In the last meeting, Dr.S.Subramaniyan, Member submitted a proposal on study of loss of biodiversity due to flood during November-December 2015 in Tamil Nadu and restorative measures using remote sensing and GIS techniques. It was decided that NBA will look into the matter and advise / inform the different agencies as mentioned in the proposal to take up studies to assess the loss of biodiversity.

Decision

The Authority decided to send communications to the concerned agencies to take up studies to assess the loss of biodiversity in Tamil Nadu.

Action: Secretary, NBA

Annex-I

List of Participants

Official Members who participated			
1	**Dr (Mrs) B.Meenakumari** Chairperson, National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai	2	**Dr. Sujata Arora** Adviser, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jor Bagh Road,New Delhi - 110 003
3	**Dr. Jeet Singh Sandhu** Deputy Director General (Crop Science), Division of Crop Science, ICAR, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi -110 001.	4	**Smt. Padmapriya Balakrishan** Deputy Chief Executive Officer, National Medicinal Plant Board, Department of AYUSH, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, 3rd Floor, AYUSH Bhawan, B Block, G.P.O. Complex, I.N.A., New Delhi **(Represented the CEO, NMPB)**
5	**Dr R.K.Mishra** Additional Commissioner , Dept. of Agriculture and Cooperation, Krishi Bhawan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi -110 001. ***(Represented Dr. R.K Singh, IAS)***	6	**Dr.Manoj Kumar Modi** Scientist C, Department of Biotechnology, CGO Complex, Block No. 2, Lodhi Road, New Delhi. ***(Represented Dr. Renu Swarup)***
7	Dr. R. Kirubagaran Scientist G, National Institute of Ocean Technology, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Velachery-Thambaram Main Road, Narayanapuram, Pallikaranai, Chennai – 600 100		
Non-Official Members who participated			
8	Dr.R.S.Rana Chairman, Bio-Link, D-43, Indraprastha Apartments, Sector 14, Rohini, New Delhi	9	Dr. S. Subramaniyan 54, VGP, Golden Sea View, Part-II, 2nd Main Road, 5th Cross Street, Palavakkam, Chennai.
10	Prof.M.K.Ramesh Professor of Law, National Law School, Nagarbhavi, Bangalore	11	Dr.Biswajit Dhar Professor of Economics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, I Block, 1796A, Chittaranjan Park, New Delhi.
12	Shri T.Rabikumar, IFS., Secretary, National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai		
Official Members who did not participate			
1	Dr. Anil Kumar, IFS Additional Director General of Forests, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan Vayu Block, Fifth Floor, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi	2	Dr. B.K Shukla Scientist G & Head Planning, Coordination & Performance Management Department of Science & Technology, Technology Bhavan, New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi
3	Shri. Sushilesh Mohan Sahai, Director, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Room no. 736, A-Wing, 7th Floor, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi – 110001.		
Special Invitees who did not participate			
4	Dr.Umesh Rai, Professor, Dept. of Endocrinology, University of Delhi	5	Dr. Ramesh Kalaghatgi, Chairman, EC on ABS
6	Dr.T.P.Rajenderan Co-Chair, EC on ABS		