



## **Jammu & Kashmir Biodiversity Council**

**Jammu Office**  
O/o Pr. CCF Jammu, (J&K)  
180001.

**Srinagar Office**  
JKFRI-Complex, near Woodland School Sonwar,  
Srinagar (J&K)-190001  
Ph: 0194-2468820, 0194-2465213

**E-mail: [jkutbc-20@jk.gov.in](mailto:jkutbc-20@jk.gov.in) / [jkutbc@gmail.com](mailto:jkutbc@gmail.com)**

**Minutes of 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of J&K Biodiversity Council held on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022, at Van Bhawan, Jammu under the chairmanship of Dr. Mohit Gera, IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) / Chairman, J&K Biodiversity Council.**

The meeting was attended by following members of the Council:

1. Sh. Suresh Kumar Gupta, IFS Chief Wildlife Warden, J&K.
2. Sh. Tej Krishan Bhat, Special secretary to Govt., Representative of Department of Agriculture Production and Farmers Welfare, J&K.
3. Miss. Harpreet Kaur, Special secretary (Technical), Representative of Department of Forest Ecology & Environment, J&K.
4. Miss. Sheetal Pandita, Deputy Secretary Panchayati Raj, J&K, Representative of Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, J&K.
5. Dr. C. M. Seth, IFS (Retd.), Eminent Wildlife Expert.
6. Sh. Om Prakash Sharma, IFS (Retd.), Eminent Biodiversity Expert.
7. Professor Geeta Sumbli (Retd), Mushroom Expert.
8. Dr. Anzar Khuroo (Botanist) Department of Botany, Kashmir University.
9. Dr. Sushil Verma, Department of Botany University of Jammu.

*By*

The meeting began with the welcome address by Member Secretary of J&K Biodiversity Council Sh. Asaf Mehmood Sagar, IFS (APCCF). He welcomed the esteemed members of the Council who attended the meeting.

Dr. Mohit Gera, IFS (PCCF & HoFF) and Chairman J&K Biodiversity Council during his introductory remarks appraised the esteemed members about the achievements made by the Council on the decisions taken during the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Council held on 05-10-2021 and the progress made on updation of Peoples Biodiversity Registers. It was informed that a total of 1426 PBRs have been updated upto 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 and much progress (54%) has been achieved on the preparation of e-dashboard with the help of Junior Research Fellows.

The Chairman also informed the esteemed members regarding the release of City Biodiversity Index (CBI) for Jammu and Srinagar cities. He also talked about the progress made on the preparation of Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for UT of J&K and the various steps taken to improve the quality of the draft so that it covers all aspects of conservation.

This was followed by a detailed power Point Presentation by the Member Secretary during which the action taken on the Agenda points of the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Council were presented and discussed. The agenda points of the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting were also placed before the council for deliberation and discussion.

My

**The agenda wise decisions taken during the meeting are given below:**

<b>Agenda Items</b>	<b>Meeting Agenda</b>	<b>Decision Taken</b>
3.1	<b>Acceptance/ Approval of Minutes of 2<sup>nd</sup>meeting of J&amp;K Biodiversity Council held on 5th October, 2021 at Van Bhawan, Jammu.</b>	The minutes of 2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting of J&K Biodiversity Council held on 5-10-2021 were approved by the esteemed members of the Council.
3.2	<b>Action taken on the decisions of 2<sup>nd</sup>meeting of J&amp;K Biodiversity Council</b>	The Member Secretary, J&K Biodiversity Council gave a detailed presentation regarding the decisions and action taken on the Agenda points of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting of the council. The members took a note of the action taken and progress made and expressed their satisfaction.
3.3	<b>Approval for draft Jammu &amp; Kashmir Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan</b>	The esteemed members of the Council were apprised about the progress made towards developing a Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan (BSAP) for Jammu and Kashmir. For evaluation of the draft submitted by Celestial Earth a Committee was constituted by J&K Biodiversity Council headed by Sh. A.K Goyal, former Special Secretary, GoI. The Committee had 5 additional members nominated by the Council to assist Sh. A. K Goyal. The document is at the final stage of completion and is likely to be submitted to Govt. by 15 <sup>th</sup> April, 2022 for approval. The draft of BSAP was approved by the esteemed

PK



		members of the Council and it was decided to place it before the govt. for approval.
3.4	<b>Approval of draft MoU</b>	A Draft MoU has been prepared for execution of MoUs with SKUAST-J, SKUAST-K, IIIM Jammu, BGSBU Rajouri, Jammu University and Kashmir University and shared with the members for their feedback and approval. The esteemed members requested for a weeks time to study the sample MoU and for providing their feedback. The draft MoU will be finalized after receiving the comments of members and incorporating them in the draft MoU.
3.5	<b>Operationalization of BMCs &amp; Opening of Bank Accounts</b>	The members were apprised about the progress made in opening of bank account of Biodiversity Management Committees. It was decided to transfer Rs.1500/- per BMC for conducting a meeting at first instance as a meager amount is received from NBA. Suggestion was also made to open the bank accounts for all the BMCs across J&K and organizing training of BMCs. The Council may utilize the available funds also for combined trainings and printing of updated PBRs.
3.6	<b>Status of ABS in UT of Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b>	It was decided to send a reminder to the Department of Industries for list of companies using biological resources and the raw material and the quantity utilized per year. As on date responses from DIC

Prady

		<p>Rajouri, Samba, Reasi and Kathua have been received and the remaining districts are yet to respond. It was also decided that individual notices may be issued to industries for which the details have already been received in this regard. The services of staff of Council may be utilized for contacting the remaining DICs and getting the information of such industries utilizing biological resources.</p>
3.7	<p><b>City Biodiversity Index of Smart Cities of Jammu &amp; Srinagar</b></p>	<p>The members were apprised that the Jammu and Kashmir Biodiversity Council developed City Biodiversity Index (CBI) for Jammu and Srinagar Cities, as they are being developed as smart cities and the same was released on International Day for Forests i.e 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2022 by Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of UT of Jammu &amp; Kashmir. The achievement was appreciated by the esteemed members of the council.</p>
3.8	<p><b>Terms and conditions for hiring of JRFs by J&amp;K Biodiversity Council in line with NBA</b></p>	<p>The J&amp;K Forest Research Institute being the host organization engaged the JRFs for Biodiversity Council during the FY- 2021-22. Now that NBA has released funds for the updation of PBRs during the Current financial year it was proposed to increase the monthly stipend from existing Rs.16000/- to Rs.22500/- per month. The esteemed members with one voice approved the proposed hike in stipend of JRFs on the pattern of 3<sup>rd</sup> Biodiversity Samrakshan Internship Programme (BSIP)</p>

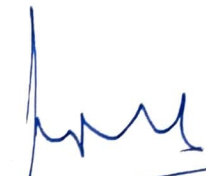
PK



		<p>2021-22 by NBA &amp; UNDP.</p> <p>It was also decided to immediately initiate procedure for engagement of JRFs on the revised rates so that the updation of PBRs and other works can be assigned to them at the earliest.</p>
3.9	<b>Release of website of J&amp;K Biodiversity Council</b>	<p>The J&amp;K Biodiversity council has developed its own website with help from NIC. The step was appreciated and approved by esteemed council members with the release of website. The website shall be audited by NIC and hosted in couple of weeks after getting the necessary approval from NIC.</p>
3.10	<b>Training of District / Block / Village level and ULB level BMCs</b>	<p>It was decided that Training will be conducted for District / Block / Village level and ULB level BMCs. For this services of three training schools of Forest Department will be utilized. To begin with, training of the officials of all line departments and other stakeholders shall be conducted at the district level during the month of April - May 2022.</p>
3.11	<b>Any other Agenda to be raised by the esteemed members.</b>	<p>The esteemed members of the Council desired to have consultation with members of some Biodiversity Management Committees across J&amp;K. The same shall be arranged by the Council in the coming months.</p>

*Mx*

The meeting ended with the concluding remarks of the Chairman who appreciated the suggestions given by all the esteemed members of the Council and thanked them for their valuable inputs and support. Formal vote of thanks was proposed by Sh. Asaf Mehmood Sagar, IFS Member Secretary, J&K Biodiversity Council.

  
(Asaf Mehmood Sagar), IFS  
Member Secretary  
J&K Biodiversity Council/  
Director JKPRI, J&K-Jammu.

No. JKUT/BC/Meeting/2022-23/ 23-33

Date:- 13/04/2022

Copy for information to:-

1. The Principal Secretary to Govt. Department of Agriculture Production Farmers Welfare, Civil Secretariat, J&K.
2. The Commissioner / Secretary to Govt. Department of Forest, Ecology & Environment, Civil Secretariat Jammu.
3. The Commissioner/ Secretary to Govt. Department of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Civil secretariat Jammu.
4. Sh. Suresh Kumar Gupta, IFS Chief Wildlife Warden, J&K.
5. Dr. C. M Seth, IFS (Retd.), Eminent Wildlife Expert.
6. Sh. Om Prakash Sharma, IFS (Retd.), Eminent Biodiversity Expert.
7. Professor Geeta Sumbli (Retd), Mushroom Expert.
8. Dr. Anzar Khuroo (Botanist) Department of Botany Kashmir University.
9. Dr. Sushil Verma, Department of Botany, University of Jammu.
10. Private Secretary to the Pr. CCF (HoFF)/Chairman J&K Biodiversity Council, for information of the Pr.CCF.
11. Office File.