

## Jammu & Kashmir Biodiversity Council

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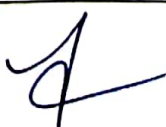
Minutes of the meeting held on 01-05-2021 at 3:00 PM under the Chairmanship of Dr. Mohit Gera, IFS Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) /Chairman J&K Biodiversity Council.

The virtual meeting was attended by the following officers of the Council:-

1. Sh. Asaf Mehmood Sagar, IFS Director JKFRI/Member Secretary J&K Biodiversity Council.
2. Sh. Sanjay Kumar Gupta, ACF
3. Sh. Rakesh Verma I/c Range Officer
4. Sh. Parvaiz Shagoo I/c Range Officer
5. Sh. Ashutosh Sharma, Intern (NBA)

Dr. Mohit Gera, IFS, PCCF (HoFF) / Chairman J&K Biodiversity Council in his opening remarks apprised the officers of the Council about the programme/events proposed to be organized during the IDB - 2021. Celebrations scheduled to be held on May 22<sup>nd</sup> 2021. Since the IDB is to be celebrated as a "virtual" event in view of the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic, the activities planned for the day were discussed in detail.

S. No	Agenda Item	Deliberation and Decision taken
1.	Observance of IDB 2021	<p>The Chairman apprised on the funds to be released by National Biodiversity Authority (Rs. 2 Lakh) in favor of J&amp;K Biodiversity Council for IDB Celebration 2021 on virtual Platform. He also informed about the IDB Programme Schedule which is to be prepared after consultation with the knowledge partners i.e., University of Kashmir and Jammu. All the Experts and Members associated with the council are to be invited to participate in the virtual event. In addition five messages are to be drafted regarding International Day of Biological diversity for Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, Chief Secretary, Commissioner Secretary, Forests, Chairman J&amp;K Biodiversity Council, and Member Secretary of the Council.</p> <p>The Chairman also advised regarding the utilization of funds sanctioned by NBA for IDB celebrations for procurement of materials for awareness creation and for use in IDB - 2021.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Bare Act on the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 (100 copies).</li><li>b. Awareness material and stationary items.</li><li>c. Publication of 4-5 pamphlets in English and local languages.</li></ol>



2.	Creation of Awareness materials for BMCs and Govt. officials	For awareness creation the Chairman advised to prepare 4-5 Pamphlets on Biodiversity of J&K so that the same could be distributed to all BMCs and Govt. officials. It was suggested to prepare Pamphlets in local languages English/Urdu/Hindi. The manuscripts available with Sh. O.P. Sharma, IFS (Retd.) may also be requested and used with due acknowledgement. Pamphlets on Sacred Grooves, Birds of J&K, Rare and threatened species of J&K may be also given priority. Sh. Ashutosh Sharma (Intern) was also assigned the task of going through the Biodiversity documentary prepared by Tripura so that the same may be dubbed in local language for awareness creation in J&K.
3.	Review of updated PBRs	The Chairman was apprised about the progress achieved so far in professional formatting of PBRs (3858 PBRs). He was also informed that the formatting on remaining 2 districts i.e., Budgam & Pulwama is under progress and shall be completed in 15 days.
4.	Updation of PBRs	It was informed that during the first level of PBR updation 570 PBRs have been updated by Forest Guards & JRFs covering 126 Blocks.
5.	Engagement of Staff through GeM under Outsourcing	It was decided that 06 Data Entry operators may be hired through GeM for the smooth functioning of the Biodiversity Council. In addition JRFs would also be engaged for the updation of some PBRs in both Srinagar and Jammu.
6.	Facilitation of PBR Quality Monitoring Committee	It was decided to share the guidelines received from NBA regarding the quality Evaluation of PBRs with the members of the Quality Monitoring Committee constituted for the purpose in J&K. The officials of the Biodiversity Council were directed to randomly shortlist 25 PBRs which could be shared with the committee for Quality evaluation. A dedicated email group may be created for all the members of the Quality Evaluation and Monitoring Committee for future correspondence.
7.	Formulation of proposal for allocation of staff and separate budget to J & K Biodiversity Council	Proposal to be submitted for allocation of staff to Biodiversity Council and separate budget for J&K Biodiversity Council may also be proposed for the smooth functioning of the Council. Member Secretary was advised to formulate the proposal to be sent to Govt. of J&K for sanctioning adequate staff on the pattern of other States/UTs as well as separate budget under Plan/Non-Plan.
8.	Official involvement of DFO Research Kashmir/Jammu in functioning of J&K Biodiversity Council.	It was decided that the DFO Research Kashmir/Jammu of SFRI J&K will be involved in the activities of the Council. The Member secretary also suggested to delegate the DDO Powers to DFO Research Kashmir/Jammu for smooth functioning in both regions. Chairman directed that JKFR I being host department for Council, and FRI gets the budget it is quite obvious that the DFOs could be part of functioning of Council and henceforth be involved.

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9.	Designating DFOs of Territorial divisions officially within the framework of Biodiversity Act, 2002	The Chairman also opined for the official involvement of Territorial DFOs with the Council and giving them the due recognition under the framework available for Biodiversity Conservation as DFOs were earlier nominated as Nodal Officers for constitution of BMCs. He advised the Member Secretary to examine the matter and propose accordingly in the next meeting.
10.	Any other agenda with permission of chair	The Chairman informed the officials of the Council that 1000 villages will be taken for PBR updation with the help of frontline field staff posted across J&K. One Beat Guard would be assigned one Village Panchayat for this purpose. Member Secretary J & K Biodiversity council informed that letters have been written to All Territorial DFOs and Principals training schools for providing data of Forest Guards as well as Rehbar-e Janglat on 23/04/2021.

The other important issues highlighted and decided by the Chairman during the meeting were:

1. Involvement of Forest Guard trainees who have recently joined and Rehbar-e-Janglat for PBR updation.
2. Creation of a Whatsapp group for the Council.
3. Organizing an online competition involving Forest Guards and Students during the IDB celebration.
4. Marking the location of each Panchayat and Municipality using the GIS tools.
5. Follow up of creation of website with NIC and launching of Webpage of J&K Biodiversity Council within next 15 days.

The meeting ended with the vote of thanks.

  
 (Sanjay Kumar Gupta), ACF  
 J&K Biodiversity Council

No: -JKUT/BC/Meeting/2021-22/ 93-97

Dated: 05 05.2021.

Copy for information to:-

1. The Member Secretary, J&K Biodiversity Council.
2. The Private Secretary to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, HoFF/ Chairman J&K Biodiversity Council for information of the Chairman.
3. Sh. Rakesh Verma, I/c Range Officer for information and necessary action.
4. Sh. Parvaiz Shagoo, I/c Range Officer for information and necessary action.
5. Sh. Ashutosh Sharma, Intern, NBA for information and necessary action.