MINUTES OF THE 13TH MEETING OF HARYANA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD HELD ON 02.07.2024 AT 11.00 AM

The 13th Meeting of Haryana State Biodiversity Board was held under the Chairmanship of Sh. Randeep Singh Jauhar, Chairman, HSBB in the Committee Room of HSBB on 02.07.2024 at 11.00 AM.

The members of the Board attended this meeting both virtually and physically. The list of officers who attended the meeting is annexed at **Annexure-A**.

At the outset, Sh. Ghanshyam Shukla, IFS, Member Secretary, HSBB welcomed the Chairman and all the members of the Board. Agenda wise discussion was held in detail and following decisions were taken during the meeting:

Agenda Item No. 1: To Confirm the Minutes of the 12th Meeting of the Board.

The Minutes of the 12th Meeting of the Board was presented by Member Secretary before the board. The board confirmed the Minutes of 12th meeting held on 15.03.2024.

Agenda Item No. 2: Action Taken report on the Minutes of 12th Board meeting.

The Action Taken Report (ATR) of 12th Meeting placed at Annexure-B of agenda items was presented before the members. The members expressed their satisfaction and confirmed the same.

Agenda Item No. 3: Recommendation of the committee constituted for the enhancement in rates of PBR.

The issue of enhancement in the rate of PBR preparation was discussed among the members at length. Dr. Amit Kumar, Scientist D, WII Dehradun emphasized that the amount Rs. 25,000/- fixed for each PBR is really inadequate and it should be substantially increased in order to have quality PBRs. He compared the rate per PBR decided by NBA with this amount and agreed to the proposal of enhancement. The Board members approved the recommendations of the committee constituted for revision of rate of PBR from Rs. 25,000/- to Rs. 30,000/-.

Agenda Item No. 4: Extension of Contract period of TSGs.

The Member Secretary explained the engagement of TSGs for preparation of PBRs in the State and informed the board that the period may be extended till 31.12.2024. The members were of opinion that 6 months time period was quite long and it should be reduced to 4 months. After discussion it was agreed that the large extension may be allowed only after a review of progress of work of TSGs within next extended period of 3 months.

Agenda Item No. 5: Enhancement in rates of TA/DA for District Coordinators.

The Member Secretary informed the board that last enhancement in the TA/DA amount was done in the year 2021 from Rs. 2000/- to Rs. 3000/-. The matter was discussed and members agreed that an amount of Rs. 1,000/- may be increased in TA/DA rates of previous fixed amount i.e. Rs. 3,000/-. The amount Rs. 4000/- so decided should be treated as allowance.

Agenda Item No. 6: Reconsideration of the honorarium of the staff of O/o Secretary, Forest and O/o Additional Chief Secretary, Environment, Forest & Wildlife.

The Board approved an amount of Rs. 84,000/- as an honorarium to the Staff of W/ACSEFW and Secretary, Forest to Govt. of Haryana.

Agenda Item No. 7: Post of IAS/IPS/IFS/HCS.

The Haryana State Biodiversity Board is presently running through acute shortage of manpower both at head quarter and field level. It was proposed that one Junior level officer from among All India Services (IAS/IPS/IFS) or HCS officer may be posted at head quarter in Biodiversity Board. The Member Secretary sought the approval of board to submit such proposal to State Government. Sh. K.C Meena, IFS, PCCF (Development) suggested that posting of one IFS officer from junior level and one HFS officer would be more useful than having officers form IAS/IPS and HCS. Dr. Manoj Kumar, Joint Director, Horticulture opined that officers form Horticulture Dept. can also be

accommodated in the Board on deputation basis to which Member Secretary informed that it will be taken care of after creation of posts in the board. After discussion it was decided that a proposal of deputing junior level IFS and HFS be sent to State Government.

Agenda Item No. 8: Restructuring of the Haryana State Biodiversity Board.

The Member Secretary informed the board that after amendment in the Biological Diversity Act the strength of State Biodiversity Boards have been revised to 13 members (7 Ex-officio members, 5 Expert members including Member Secretary and Chairman). At present HSBB is 11 members body including Chairman and the same need to be restructured by adding few more experts / organizations. Sh. K.C Meena, IFS, PCCF (Development) stressed that experienced experts from Taxonomy should be nominated in the board which will be of great help in identifying and verifying the floral and faunal species. Dr. Amit Kumar, Scientist-D, WII, Dehradun also emphasized on inclusion of experienced and technically competent members in the board. The Board approved the proposal of restructuring of the Haryana State Biodiversity Board constituted in 2019.

Agenda Item No. 9: Camp office in Gurugram.

The board members were informed that HSBB needs an office space in Gurugram for effective collaboration with various corporate entities apart from effectively handling of biodiversity activities in Southern Haryana. The Member Secretary informed that the State Govt. has already been requested to provide office space in Gurugram. The board members approved the proposal sent to Govt.

Agenda Item No. 10: Any other Agenda Item with the permission of the chair.

Following additional agenda items were discussed with the members:

(i) Utilization of CSR funds:

Utilization of CSR fund by the board was discussed in detail. There is provision under Section 32 of Biological Diversity (Amendment) Act 2023 for the constitution of fund called State Biodiversity Fund. As per Section 32 (1) (c), the State

Biodiversity Fund account shall be credited all sums including charges and benefit sharing

amount received by the State Biodiversity Board and from such other sources as may be

decided by the State Government. The Member Secretary further informed that a D.O. letter

bearing DO No. 9/33/2005-Tech/2024-25/184 dated 26.04.2024 has also been written by

the Chairman, National Biodiversity Authority to the Chairman, HSBB with a copy to the

Chief Secretary to Govt. of Haryana clarifying the utilization of CSR funds at para

no. 6 (ii) (Annexure-B).

The board members agreed that CSR funds can also be credited to State

Biodiversity Funds after taking prior permission of State Govt.

(ii) To create domain for Haryana State Biodiversity Board.

The members expressed their views that creation of email domain of

Biodiversity Board is desirable and advised Member Secretary to get it done at his own

level.

(iii) To re-design the Logo of HSBB.

Sh. K.C Meena, IFS, PCCF (Development) pointed out that the logo of

the board should be re-designed and approved. Dr. Amit Kumar, Scientist -D, WII,

Dehradun suggested that a competition of logo creation can be held by the board. The

Chairman suggested if required, the professionals may be engaged to design a logo for the

board.

The meeting ended with thanks of the chair.

Member Secretary HSBB, Panchkula Chairman HSBB, Panchkula