



# UTTARAKHAND BIODIVERSITY BOARD

Quarterly Newsletter

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## Tree plantation drive organised by Uttarakhand Biodiversity Board

The Uttarakhand Biodiversity Board (UBB), in collaboration with the Gram Pradhan of Kandali Gram Panchayat, organized a significant tree plantation drive on August 7, 2024, in Vilaspur Kandali, a village in Dehradun. This event brought together representatives from the Uttarakhand Biodiversity Board, local villagers, and volunteers who actively involved in the tree planting. The primary objective of the event was to promote environmental conservation by enhancing local biodiversity and addressing the issues of barren and degraded land.

A variety of plant species were introduced during the event, including wild, fruit-bearing, medicinal, and fodder plants. The following species were planted:

- ◆ *Syzygium cumini* (Jamun)
- ◆ *Emblica officinalis* (Aonla)
- ◆ *Psidium guajava* (Amrood)
- ◆ *Vitis vinifera* (Angoor)
- ◆ *Bauhinia variegata* (Kachnar)



"Biodiversity Conservation.... An art of living with nature."





- ◆ *Prunus domestica* (Plum)
- ◆ *Pyrus pyrifolia* (Nashpati)
- ◆ *Elaeocarpus ganitrus* (Rudraksha)
- ◆ *Terminalia bellirica* (Baheda)
- ◆ *Mangifera indica* (Aam)
- ◆ *Bambusa bambos* (Baans)
- ◆ *Cassia fistula* (Amaltas)
- ◆ *Melia azedarach* (Bakein)

Approximately 100 plants were planted, with a focus on areas of barren and degraded land in the vicinity of the village. The primary goal of this plantation drive was to promote local biodiversity and provide valuable resources such as fodder and fruits for livestock, birds, and wildlife.

Additionally, as a part of their efforts to address soil erosion and

the risk of landslides, bamboo trees were planted near the roads and along the banks of the Noon River. This step is expected to help mitigate soil degradation and enhance the stability of the region's ecosystem, thus contributing to the broader environmental conservation goals of the UBB.



## Appointment of new Chairperson

In compliance of the order No 1379/X-1-2024-14(09)/ 2024 issued by the Uttarakhand government, dated 19

July, 2024, Dr. Vijay Kumar, IFS, PCCF, took over the charge as Chairperson,

Uttarakhand Biodiversity Board on 22.07.2024.



## Appointment of new Member Secretary

In compliance of the order No 1387/X-1-2024-14(09)/ 2024 issued by the Uttarakhand government, dated 19

July, 2024. Shri Nitish Mani Tripathi, IFS took over the charge as Member

Secretary, Uttarakhand Biodiversity Board on 20.07.2024.



## Uttarakhand Biodiversity Board organized 23<sup>rd</sup> Board meeting (September 30, 2024)

23<sup>rd</sup> Board meeting was organized at the Board Office, Dehradun under the chairmanship of Dr. Vijay Kumar, Chairperson, Uttarakhand Biodiversity Board. The main decisions taken in the board meeting are as follows: -

1. Introduction of new Member Secretary and Chairperson with honorable persons of the Board.
2. Discussion on decisions taken in the 22<sup>nd</sup> board meeting with the board.
3. With Include the decisions of last meeting, regarding the Permanent Structure of the Board, It has been sent to state government on 02.10.2023 for necessary action and the meeting was conducted under the chairmanship of Principal Secretary, Environment and Forest on 19.09.2024.
4. The Biodiversity Amendment Act 2023 has been passed and is awaiting the issuance of its
5. Regarding the availability of the ABS fund to Biodiversity Management Committees, the rules have not yet been notified by the Government of India. The SOP will be prepared after the rules are notified.
6. Regarding the final report of world-famous Dehraduni Basmati, the board members suggested that the board should share this report with concern departments and institutions.
7. The Member Secretary of the Uttarakhand Biodiversity Board (UBB) informed the board members that a letter (No. 716/

rules. Once the rules are notified by the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, the Uttarakhand Biodiversity Board will initiate the process of amending the state's Biodiversity Rules 2015.



UBB-16-3-(2), dated 02.05.2024) was sent to the Uttarakhand Government to propose the declaration of 'Thalkedar' as a Biodiversity Heritage Site.

8. The Member Secretary also informed the board members that the board is planning to declare 'Devalsari' as a Biodiversity Heritage Site. In this regard, the board is discussing the matter with the DFO of Mussoorie. After the proposal is finalized, it will be forwarded to the government for notification.



## Conferences/Lectures/Seminars/Workshops

The Forest Research Institute (FRI) conducted 30<sup>th</sup> meeting of Research Advisory Group (RAG) on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2024. As part of this meeting, Dr. Vijay Kumar, Chairperson of the Uttarakhand Biodiversity Board, participated as a member. The main agendas of this meeting were:

1. Approval and prioritization of new research proposals.
2. Review of Progress (01.04.2023 to 31.03.2024) of ongoing research projects.



3. Any other item with permission of Chair.

53<sup>rd</sup> Induction Training Programme for Assistant Engineers of PWD was organized from 11.07.2024 to 09.08.2024 at Dr. Raghunandan Singh Tolia, Uttarakhand Academy of Administration, Uttarakhand Government Nainital. Member

Secretary, Uttarakhand Biodiversity Board had participated in this training program on 26.07.2024. The topic of this program was "Environmental Appraisal and Approval : (Mandatory requirements terms and conditions, compliances)".



### Guidance

Dr. Vijay Kumar, IFS, Chairperson

### Direction

Shri Nitish Mani Tripathi, IFS, Member Secretary

### Photo credits

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### Contribution

All Board Staff

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