



HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD

REPORT ON

One day Training workshop on “Focus Group Interactive Dialogue on Biological Diversity Act 2002 and its Access & Benefit Sharing provisions.”

At Auditorium HP University Shimla, on 24th August, 2018.

One day Training workshop on “Focus Group Interactive Dialogue on Biological Diversity Act 2002 and its Access & Benefit sharing provisions.”

Agenda:

- Awareness building on the Biological Diversity Act, Rules, and Access and Benefit Sharing Provisions with emphasis on conservation of Traditional knowledge associated with the local biological resources.
- Awareness/capacity building on conservation and sustainable utilization of biological resources and role on BMCs constituted for conservation of traditional varieties/breeds of economically important plants and animals.
- Knowledge regarding specific roles and functions of the BMCs for conservation of Traditional knowledge and associated biological resources.
- Identify the available options, at local level, to secure the benefits of conservation and sustainable management of biological resources.

Venue:

Auditorium HP University Shimla, on 24th August, 2018.

Date:

24th August, 2018.

Time: 10:00am to 5pm

Himachal Pradesh State Biodiversity Board (HPSBB) in coordination with the National biodiversity Authority (NBA), Chennai is implementing a project, sponsored by UNEP/GEF MoEFCC (GoI) on strengthening the implementation of Biological Diversity Act, 2002 with focus on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) provisions under the Act. In connection to the activities of the HP State Biodiversity Board and UNEP/GEF MoEFCC ABS project documentation of traditional Knowledge (TK) associated with the biological resources is one of the main targets under component-2 of the project.

Considering all the unique features of the State biodiversity its conservation needs utmost and immediate concern of all the stakeholders who are deriving benefits either directly or indirectly from it.

Himachal Pradesh State Biodiversity Board (HPSBB) organized a one day Training workshop on “Focus Group Interactive Dialogue on Biological Diversity Act 2002 and its Access & Benefit Sharing provisions” at auditorium HP University Shimla, on 24th August, 2018.

During the workshop faculty, Research Scholars and Students participated. During the training workshop at HP University Shimla, Guest of Honor for training workshop was Pro-VC, Rajinder Singh, Prof. Sushma Sharma, Dean Life Sciences HPU, Prof. Kamaljeet Singh, Dean Student, welfare HPU and staff from HP State Biodiversity Board participated in the training workshop.

The dialogue/workshop was carried under supervision of Sh. Kunal Satyarthi, Member Secretary, HP State Biodiversity Board along with other officials from the HP State Biodiversity Board. Mrs. Shubhra Banerjee, HP State Biodiversity Board delegated and started her lecture informing and by imparting knowledge on importance and relevance of Biodiversity, she also highlighted on the need to conserve our rich and varied biodiversity to all participants.

She explained that biodiversity is not just associated with medicinal plants and herbs found in wild but it covers everything except Normally Traded Commodities (NTC's) and other agriculture produce till the time some value addition is done e.g. cultivation of apple is not applicable under BD Act, 2002 but if someone or some industry or firm is engaged in value addition by making some commercial product like jam or wine from apple then they do come under BD Act, 2002. By giving these examples Mrs. Shubhra Banerjee showed the scope, provision and power of Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

Next she brought everybody's focus on Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and its provision. Next she briefed about the inception of the BD Act how it came into force she mentioned that in 1987, the World Commission on Environment and Development enunciated the principle of “sustainable development” in its landmark report titled “Our Common Future” in which it observed that “humanity has the ability to make development sustainable to ensure that it meets

the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of the future generations to meet their own needs”.

The presentation informing participants about the process of constitution, role and functions of Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) was given by Dr. Pankaj Sharma from Himachal Pradesh State Biodiversity Board and its related issues and concerns were elaborately discussed. In his presentation Constitution of Biodiversity Management Committees was discussed first and it was told that The Biodiversity Management Committee is constituted as per the Sub-rule (1) and it shall consist of Chairperson and not more than 6 persons nominated by the Local Self Government, of whom not less than one third should be women and not less than 18% should belong to the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes. Time period for Operationalization, Office of the BMC and Tenure of BMCs were discussed. Mandate of BMC's were discussed followed by role, duties and functions of the BMCs

Dr. Murari Lal Thakur, State Project Coordinator, HPSBB gave brief introduction on Preservation on Access and Benefit Sharing Provisions under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002. By laying down stress on need for conservation and Documentation of Traditional Knowledge associated with state specific bio-resources he mentioned that Knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities which are Developed from experience gained over the centuries and adapted to the local culture and environment and is transmitted orally from generation to generation bears a lot of importance and should be conserved as such knowledge available today is quite less and hence there is a need for its documentation which would also help to conserve such vital information. Dr. ML. Thakur in his presentation also mentioned that TK tends to be collectively owned in the form of: stories, songs, folklore, proverbs, cultural values, beliefs, rituals, community laws, local languages, and agricultural practices, including the development of plant species and animal breeds. Traditional knowledge is mainly of a practical nature, particularly in such fields as agriculture, fishing, health, horticulture, and forestry.