



KERALA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD

EKAA

Environment. Kerala. Awareness. Action
Monthly - Newsletter of the Kerala State Biodiversity Board

July- September 2023
Volume - 3, Issue - 03

PBR CAMPAIGN

LBSAP RELEASE

TERRARIUM TRAINING

GREEN AUDIT

District level training programmes for the preparation of 2nd volume of People's Biodiversity Registers (PBRs)

KSBB is providing district level training programmes to various BMCs on the preparation of 2nd volume of People's Biodiversity Registers (PBRs) in the Financial Year 2023-24. The training programmes are intended for the BMCs who have included PBR 2nd volume preparation in their plan projects during this financial year. KSBB is conducting the training programme in collaboration with the District Planning Offices of all districts. As part of this, KSBB conducted training programs for Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Kasargod, Alappuzha, Wayanad, Kannur, Kottayam and Idukki districts.



Inauguration of PBR updation training at Thiruvananthapuram District

State's first Local Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (LBSAP) report released at Malappattam BMC

Local Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (LBSAP) is a document consisting of a Local Biodiversity management plan incorporating long-term and short-term planned activities for addressing threats to biodiversity, identifying focus areas, action plan for Biodiversity conservation, awareness generation, capacity building of user groups and a plan for spatial natural resources management. In the Financial year 2022-23, KSBB supported Rs. 2,00,000/- to 21 BMCs in three districts such as Alappuzha, Kannur and Idukki. This



Release of the first LBSAP report

is expected to help in implementing international and national biodiversity policies and targets into action plans at the local level. Once completed, based on the merit of the prepared plans, the action plans will be considered for implementation in 2023-24. The release of Kerala's first LBSAP report prepared by Malapattam Grama

Panchayath in Kannur district was conducted on 24.08.2023 by Kannur district Collector Shri.Chandrasekhar IAS. The program was presided over by Smt. K.P. Ramani, the Malappattam Grama Panchayath President, and the report was received by KSBB Board member Shri. K. V Govindan in the presence of several dignitaries. LBSAP report preparation is progressing in all other BMCs.

Training on Terrarium making

Kerala State Biodiversity Board started to strengthen the registered Biodiversity clubs across the state. As part of this, KSBB has conducted a state-level livelihood enhancement program on Terrarium making for students and teacher coordinators of Biodiversity clubs on 3/07/2023, at SN College, Kollam, in association with the Biodiversity Club of the college. Terrariums are miniatures of terrestrial ecosystems in eye-catching glass vessels with live green plants as the main attractions. Currently, Terrariums have become a good business opportunity and are having a market value among green lovers, both nationally and internationally. Many youths are becoming entrepreneurs of Terrarium making. Urban areas are facing a lack of green open spaces, but many people like to have at least a miniature garden in their workspaces, to get rid of job stress. The technical session of the hands-on training program was taken by a professional terrarium expert Mr. Pranav N. Pradeep. The participants were so excited to make terrariums on their own, based on the instruction of the trainer. Students in ten groups made ten beautiful terrariums which were displayed in the program hall after the training. The program was inaugurated by the college principal Dr. S.V. Manoj. KSBB Board member Shri K.V. Govindan presided over the function. Board member Dr. K. Satheesh Kumar gave the keynote address. Dr. C.S. Vimal Kumar, Principal Scientific Officer, and Dr. Akhila S. Nair, Senior Research Officer offered a welcome speech and vote of thanks respectively. District coordinator Dr. Manju Baby was present. Interactive sessions showed the interest of students and teachers in Terrarium making and many students showed keen interest in becoming entrepreneurs in Terrarium making.



BD club members with the KSBB team



BD club members with the KSBB team

Green auditing

Kerala State Biodiversity Board has conducted a 'Green campus audit' of Chittur Government College, Palakkad on 3-5 August 2023. This is the first time that KSBB is joining hands together with a college for a green audit project. The audit team includes team leaders from KSBB and students and teachers from the college, who have covered carbon, waste, water, biodiversity, and energy audits of the campus. The audit team conducted campus walks and direct



Green audit team at Govt. College, Chittur

field observations to gather necessary data for the auditing. Face-to-face interaction with the campus fraternity was also done. The audit team gathered details on the existing practices of waste management, flora and fauna, the energy usage and finally recorded the Greenhouse gas emissions of the campus. State Biodiversity officials Dr. C. S. Vimalkumar (Principal Scientific Officer), Dr. K. Sreedharan (Research Officer), Dr. Akhila S. Nair (Senior Research Officer), Dr. Baijulal B. (Senior Research Officer), Dr. Joby Paul (Assistant Professor, St. Thomas College, Thrissur), and Parvathy M.R. (Research Scholar) and College Teachers and students actively participated.

Online Training Programs for Biodiversity Clubs

KSBB is organizing several programs for the registered biodiversity clubs of the state. A monthly online training program is one such program initiated in June 2023. Three training programs entitled 'Wetland biodiversity study', 'Medicinal plant gardens & butterfly gardens in campuses' and 'Model projects for Biodiversity clubs', were carried out by Dr. A. Bijukumar (Prof & Head, Dept. of Aquatic Biology and Fisheries, University of Kerala), Dr. Radhamany P.M. (Prof., Dept. of Botany, University of Kerala) and Dr. Akhila S. Nair (Senior Research Officer, KSBB) respectively, during July- September 2023. Teacher coordinators of registered Biodiversity clubs of the state actively participated and interacted in the sessions.

Observance of World Ozone Day 2023

The Kerala State Biodiversity Board celebrated World Ozone Day 2023 at the Seminar Hall of KSBB headquarters on September 18, 2023, to commemorate the date in 1987, on which the Montreal Protocol on Substances that deplete the Ozone Layer was signed. The inaugural function was graced by the presence of Dr. C George Thomas, Chairman, KSBB, and Smt. Thushara George, Finance Officer & Administrative Officer (i/c), and other staff of KSBB. The technical session of the Ozone Day observance started at 11:00 A.M. with the Welcome address by Dr. C.S. Vimalkumar (Principal Scientific Officer, KSBB).



'International Efforts to protect the Ozone layer'-Presentation by Dr. C. George Thomas

Dr. C George Thomas, Chairman, KSBB delivered the keynote address on the topic "International efforts to protect ozone layer". During his lecture, he pointed out the relevance of the Montreal Protocol, an international agreement signed on 16 September 1987 to protect the ozone layer by limiting the production and use of ozone-depleting substances, mostly chlorofluorocarbons and halons. During the lecture, topics related to various international agreements such as the Vienna conventions, Kigali agreement, etc. were covered by the keynote speaker. The staff of KSBB headquarters participated and actively interacted in the session. Dr. Sreedharan K. (Research Officer, KSBB) has delivered a vote of thanks.

National Nutrition Month 2023

National Biodiversity Authority proposed state biodiversity boards to conduct awareness programs as part of National Nutrition Month 2023 on "Adopting Sustainable Food Systems by Promoting Millet & Nutri Gardens". As part of this, KSBB conducted a webinar on "Millets as a part of sustainable food systems" on the 30th of September 2023. Dr. C. George Thomas, the chairman of KSBB delivered a presentation on the said topic for the staff of KSBB and biodiversity club coordinators across the state.



Millets as part of sustainable food systems - Webinar

During the presentation, the chairman stressed the significance of millet in improving food and nutrition security and sustainable consumption. The speaker also specified the high nutritional value, climate change resilience, and the role of millet as a superfood. Dr. C.S. Vimalkumar, the Principal Scientific Officer of KSBB welcomed the participants and the program concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr.N.Sudheesh, Scientific Office, KSBB.

G20 New Delhi Summit and Climate Consensus

The G20 New Delhi summit was held in New Delhi during 9-10 September 2023, hosted by India as the G20 Presidency. The theme of the summit was 'One Earth, One Family and One Future'. Important concerns of the world such as food security, climate and energy, development, health, and digitalization were critically discussed during the summit. G20 Leaders' New Delhi Declaration achieved unanimous consensus, addressing diverse global issues such as sustainable development, and food security, and launching the Global Biofuel Alliance (GBA). The G20 recognized the importance of cooperative action in tackling environmental challenges and climate change while promoting transitions towards more flexible,



transparent, and cleaner energy systems. Global Biofuels Alliance is an India-led initiative that aims to develop an alliance of governments, international organizations, and industry to promote the adoption of biofuels. The initiative seeks to position biofuels as a key component of the energy transition and contribute to job creation and economic growth. It will help accelerate India's existing biofuels programs. G20 countries promised to work towards tripling the global renewable energy capacity by 2030. If met, this single step could avoid carbon dioxide emissions by seven billion tonnes between now and 2030, according to an assessment by the International Energy Agency (IEA). G20 aligns with global efforts to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius. The summit represents a significant shift away from fossil fuels towards cleaner energy alternatives. The declaration acknowledges that current climate action is insufficient and highlights the need for trillions of dollars in financial resources to achieve the objectives of the Paris Agreement. Expanding renewable energy capacity on this scale could avoid about 7 billion tonnes of CO₂ emissions between 2023 and 2030.



CHAIRPERSON

Dr. C. George Thomas

MEMBER SECRETARY

Dr. V. Balakrishnan

KSBB MEMBERS

1. **Principal Secretary, Environment Department**
2. **Agriculture Production Commissioner**
3. **Principal Secretary, Fisheries Department**
4. **Principal Secretary, Forest and wildlife Department**
5. **Executive Vice President, KSCSTE**
6. **Dr. K. Satheesh Kumar**
7. **Sri. K.V. Govindan**
8. **Dr. T.S. Swapna**
9. **Dr. K.T. Chandramohanam**
10. **Sri. Pramod G. Krishnan IFS**

EDITOR- IN-CHARGE

Dr. Akhila S. Nair
Senior Research Officer, KSBB

DESIGN AND LAYOUT

Mr. Praveen K.P