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കേരള സംസ്ഥാന ജൈവവൈവിധ്യ ബോർഡ്
KERALA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD
 A statutory and autonomous body, Government of Kerala

Notification

For Establishing 'Wild Edible Plant Gardens in Schools: A Sustainable Model for Food Security and Biodiversity in Selected Schools of Kerala'

The project titled 'Wild Edible Plant Gardens in Schools: A Sustainable Model for Food Security and Biodiversity in Selected Schools of Kerala' aims to establish gardens featuring wild, traditionally used, and locally available native edible plants in selected schools across the state. These gardens will be developed and maintained through the Biodiversity Clubs already active in the schools.

The primary goal is to incorporate these validated native edible plants into the school diet, thereby promoting nutritional security and preserving Kerala's diminishing native plant biodiversity. As many of these local species are becoming endangered, the project also seeks to raise awareness about their ecological and cultural significance.

Each selected school will cultivate 2 to 3 locally relevant wild edible plant species consumed in the village in significant numbers. These plants, informed by traditional knowledge, will be introduced into the diets of students and their families, where appropriate. The initiative will complement existing vegetable gardens on school campuses and inspire children to explore agriculture and understand local culinary traditions. **Note:** Wild edible plants will be cultivated strictly for research and awareness purposes. Only traditional crops that are validated by the existing knowledge system may be consumed.

The Kerala State Biodiversity Board (KSBB) has established over 2,100 Biodiversity Clubs. This project will be implemented through selected clubs, ensuring effective monitoring and execution. Training programs will be provided to participating clubs to enable students to identify, collect, and conserve these plant species, with support from qualified resource persons.

Recognizing the importance of such biodiversity-focused initiatives on school campuses, KSBB invites applications in the prescribed format from registered Biodiversity Clubs in Government or Aided Schools with a minimum of one year of experience in organizing biodiversity conservation activities.

Key Details:

- **Financial Assistance:** ₹10,000/- as an advance for approved projects
- **Minimum Land Requirement:** 3 cents of land within the school premises
- **Edible plant Requirement:** Minimum 25 types of edible plants (including 10 types of wild edibles and 3 types of traditional little known edible plants of the locality)
- **Eligibility:** Only one proposal per school; clubs must have at least one year of biodiversity activity experience
- **Project Timeline:**
 - **Application Window:** Open for one month from the date of this notification
 - **Project Completion Deadline:** 31 October 2025

- **Final Report Submission:** Soft copies of the Final Report, Statement of Expenditure (SE), and Utilization Certificate (UC) must be submitted by **15 November 2025**
- **Formats for SE & UC:** Will be issued after the selection of applications

How to Apply:

- **Hard Copy:** Submit the completed application form in the prescribed format to:
The Member Secretary
Kerala State Biodiversity Board
Kailasam, T.C. 4/1679(1), No. 43
Belhaven Gardens, Kowdiar P.O.
Thiruvananthapuram – 695003
- **Soft Copy:** Email a scanned copy of the completed application to:
✉ keralabiodiversity@gmail.com

Applications submitted after the deadline may not be considered. For further details and to download the application format, please visit the KSBB website: www.keralabiodiversity.org

Dr. V. Balakrishnan

Member Secretary

Kerala State Biodiversity Board
