

## **Kerala State Biodiversity Board (KSBB)**

### **Paid Internship Programme (2025–26)**

As part of the Annual Plan Project 2025–26, the Kerala State Biodiversity Board (KSBB) is launching a Paid Internship Programme to provide young, enthusiastic postgraduate students with hands-on training in biodiversity conservation. This initiative seeks to build the next generation of biodiversity professionals while also supporting the work of more than 1,200 Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) across Kerala.

The internship is designed as a capacity-building and learning experience to strengthen biodiversity governance in Kerala, foster sustainable practices, and connect local research efforts with global conservation priorities.

### **Programme Details**

- Duration: 12 months (from October 2025)
- Number of Interns: 16 (1 intern per district + 2 at KSBB headquarters)
- Eligibility: Postgraduate degree (Master's) in any discipline
- Age Limit: 25 years (as on 01 October 2025); relaxation up to 3 years for SC/ST and 2 years for OBC candidates
- Stipend: ₹15,000 per month
- Supervision & Mentorship: KSBB District Coordinators and experts from KSBB Headquarters

### **Key Learning Areas**

Interns will receive structured training and mentoring in the following areas:

#### **1. Mandatory Legal & Policy Training**

- The Biological Diversity Act, 2002 (as amended in 2023)
- The Biological Diversity Rules, 2004 & 2024
- The Kerala State Biological Diversity Rules, 2008
- The Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) Guidelines, 2025

This training will provide a strong foundation in legal provisions, compliance requirements, and governance mechanisms.

#### **2. Biodiversity Registers and ABS Provisions**

The training focuses on the documentation of traditional knowledge and practices, providing hands-on experience in verifying and updating People's Biodiversity Registers (PBR) using e-PBR digital tools, thereby strengthening grassroots biodiversity documentation and enhancing understanding of Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) provisions under the Biological Diversity Act.

#### **3. Ecological Fieldwork and Knowledge Management**

Field training in species identification, ecological monitoring, and biodiversity Impact assessments. Use of digital platforms such as e-PBR and BioMIS for biodiversity data management

#### **4. Eco-Restoration and RET Species Conservation**

- Practical exposure to eco-restoration projects.
- Learning conservation techniques for threatened plant species.

#### 5. New Tools & Biodiversity Data Analysis

Interns will receive hands-on training in modern biodiversity conservation tools and the statistical analysis of biodiversity data. This training will equip them with the skills to collect, analyze, and interpret biodiversity data for research, conservation planning, and policy support.

### Training Outcomes

During the programme, each intern is expected to apply their learning under guidance and supervision, contributing towards the following outcomes:

- Biodiversity Documentation: Verification and updating of PBR/e-PBR in at least 10 BMCs.
- Species and Knowledge Records: Documentation of a minimum of 150 species and associated traditional knowledge validated and added to the biodiversity database.
- Awareness and Outreach: Conduct of at least 10 awareness sessions with local communities on biodiversity and ABS provisions.
- Support for LBSAPs: Participation in the preparation of at least 5 Local Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans.
- Capacity Building: Facilitation of training for at least 100 community members or students.
- Knowledge Products: Preparation of at least 2 academic/knowledge outputs (e.g., research notes, articles, case studies, or policy briefs) in consultation with KSBB mentors.

### Process of Engagement

Interns will begin with an orientation programme at KSBB Headquarters, including the mandatory legal and policy training noted above. Following this, they will be placed across all 14 districts of Kerala, working closely with KSBB District Coordinators.

This programme ensures that interns are trained, guided, and mentored throughout, enabling them to emerge as future biodiversity leaders while also contributing meaningfully to conservation efforts in Kerala.

### Application Process:

Apply online through the Google Form available at [www.keralabiodiversity.org](http://www.keralabiodiversity.org). Last date: **15th October 2025**

### Required documents:

- Completed application form
- Letter of recommendation (Head of Institution/Department/ academic guide/ employer)
- Statement of interest (Biodiversity conservation and documentation related experience)
- Proof of identity and educational qualifications

**Selection:** Written test/interview/both as decided by KSBB



### Contact

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