



ANDHRA PRADESH STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD

Status Note on formation of BMCs and preparation of PBRs as on 07.12.2020

A. Formation of Biodiversity Management Committees:

- I. There are 14,207 local bodies existing in Andhra Pradesh out of which 14,021(98.69%)BMCs are formed leaving a balance of 186, which are under progress due to local disputes.
- II. Gram Panchayat level BMCs to be formed are 13,413 as per notified list by Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Department of Andhra Pradesh through Digital Panchayat Services, Andhra Pradesh portal.
- III. The Gram Panchayat level BMCs constituted so far are 13,227(98.61%) leaving a balance of 186. They are under progress.
- IV. It is submitted that substantial progress has been achieved since the National Green Tribunal (NGT) have issued the orders to complete the formation of BMCs.
- V. This progress has been achieved with constant persuasion by APSBB with Government and Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Department officials at State, Zilla, GP Levels.
- VI. Field visits, regular meetings, training programs have been conducted to stake holders, line departments and NGOs involved in the process to achieve this progress in spite of non-availability of required funds @ Rs. 0.60-1.00 Lakhs per BMC as per National Biodiversity Authority guidelines for trainings & capacity buildings and local Biodiversity Fund (LBF) to be released to each BMC etc.,
- VII. There are 661 BMCs to be formed at Mandal Level and all these 661 BMCs (100%) are formed in Andhra Pradesh with strenuous efforts made by APSBB in the last 3 years.
- VIII. There are 120 Municipalities and Municipal Corporations in the Andhra Pradesh and all these 120 BMCs (100%) are formed in the last 6 months.
- IX. There are 13 District Level / Zilla Parishad Level BMCs to be formed and all these 13 BMCs (100%) are formed in Andhra Pradesh in the last 6 months.
- X. Thus, as far as BMCs formation is concerned, **APSBB made sincere efforts and substantial progress has been made especially in the last 6 months**, in compliance to the NGT orders and completed (98.69%) BMCs formation. Efforts are under way to complete the formation of 186 BMCs only which are in progress due to local disputes. The process is expected to be completed in a period of about **one month** by the PR&RD Department. APSBB is Pursuing the matter.

Peoples Biodiversity Registers Preparations (PBRs)

B. The Status of PBRs preparation as on 07.12.2020 is submitted below:

- I. There are 14,207 local bodies and BMCs are formed for 14,021 Local Bodies and the PBRs are prepared for 7,620 Local Bodies so far and the remaining 6,587 PBRs are under process of preparation and expected to be completed by the end of January 2021.
- II. The PBRs are completed in the traditional method in 245 GPs by spending **Rs. 1.15 lakh to 2.30 lakhs** as per NBA guidelines. It is mainly because of lack of financial resources and man power resources the process of preparation of PBRs has been slow in Andhra Pradesh as is true with many other states in the country.
- III. However, since the Hon'ble NGT orders are issued, sincere efforts have been made by the APSBB to prepare the PBRs expeditiously by following innovative methods and designed digital methods to prepare e-PBRs to expedite the process. **Special efforts have been made in the last 6 months to prepare PBRs through e-PBRs method and also ensuring the quality of the PBRs. More than 6900 e-PBRs are prepared in the last 6 months alone by APSBB.**
- IV. **e-PBRs preparation entrusted to reputed organizations: At GP level out of 13,413 PBRs to be prepared and 6,908(51.50%) are completed and 6,505 e-PBRs are under preparation.** These are entrusted to reputed organization like the Institute of Forest Biodiversity (IFB), Hyderabad, M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai, Sri. Krishna Devaraya University, Anantapur, Yogi Vemana University, YSR Kadapa, Dr. Y.S.R. Horticultural University, Venkatramannagudem, West Godavari District, Dravidian University, Kuppam and professionals with experience who are making relentless efforts to complete the e-PBRs.
- V. These reputed organizations have been recognized as knowledge partners and **State level Technical Support Group.** They are supplied with e-PBRs format by the APSBB and requested to prepare PBRs using the secondary data available with line departments like PR& RD, Agriculture, Horticulture, fisheries, forests and national institutes like ZSI, BSI etc., as per NBA Guidelines / directions to comply with Hon'ble NGT orders. **We are hopeful that the work of preparation of the basic documents duly ensuring quality, will be accomplished by 31-01-2021.**
- VI. The Mandal (sub tehsil) level e-PBRs to be prepared are 661 and 661(100%) have been completed utilizing e PBRs format in a substantial achievement by APSBB.
- VII. At Municipality/Municipal Corporation level 43PBRs(35.83%) are completed out of 120 PBRs and 47 e-PBRs are under preparation, which are expected to be completed by end of December 2020.

- VIII. There are 13 Districts in Andhra Pradesh, out of which **8 Zilla parishad** level e-PBRs (**61.54%**) are completed and the remaining is under preparation which are expected to be completed by end of December 2020.
- IX. The main reasons for not able to complete the preparation of PBRs is the lack of financial and man power resources with APSBB. Whatever grants received from A.P State Government and NBA in the last 3-4 Years have been utilized only for this purpose and the process is going on with cooperation by PR & RD Department and APSBB has been relentlessly pursuing with them and good progress is achieved in the last 6 months.
- X. As per the instructions of NBA and in view of orders of NGT, e-PBRs system has been evolved by APSBB to complete the process of PBRs preparations in a time bound manner. We are hopeful that the reputed organizations to whom the e- PBRs preparation work has been entrusted will complete the process by the end of **January,2021** and compliance will be reported to NBA as soon as possible.
- XI. **Covid-19 Pandemic adversely affected the progress of e-PBRs preparation:** The process of PBRs preparation is adversely affected since April 2020 due to Covid-19 pandemic and we are hopeful to achieve good progress by the end of **January 2021**. The base documents of e-PBRs have been prepared first based on secondary data as per NBA guidelines and they will be updated after field work as soon as the pandemic situation improves.

These facts are submitted for kind appraisal to Hon'ble NGT.

C. Formation of State level PBRs Monitoring Committee:

APSBB has submitted proposals to Government of Andhra Pradesh to constitute a state level PBRs monitoring Committee with technical experts with proven track record and expertise including retired forest officers as follows:

1. **Sri. A.V.Joseph IFS., (Retd.)- Ex-PCCF & HoFF, Andhra Pradesh & Ex- Chairman, APSBB is proposed as Chairman of the Committee.**
2. Sri.S.K. Kaushik IFS(Retd.)- Ex PCCF & MS APSBB (Proposed as Member)
3. Dr.M.Abdullah, Former Sr. Scientist and Head of BSI, Hyderabad(Proposed as Member)
4. Dr. M.L.N. Reddy, Dean Dr YSR Horticultural University, West Godavari. (Proposed as Member)
5. Dr. N.Eswar Reddy, Principal Scientist(HGP) &University Head (Retd) Dept. of Molecular Biology & Biotechnology, A.N.G.Ranga University, Inst.of frontier technologies, Tirupati. (Proposed as Member)
6. Sri. Venkatesh Salagrama, Expert in Fisheries, Former FAO Consultant and Independent Consultant, Kakinada, A.P., (Proposed as Member)
7. Dr Y. Ramana Reddy, Director, DAY NRLM Cell, NIRDPR, Hyderabad. (Proposed as Member).

The proposals are under active consideration by the Government of A.P. and the orders are expected shortly.

Formation of Technical Support Groups (TSGs) at District level:

Recently the TSGs were formed with District level officers in all 13 districts of Andhra Pradesh as per Government of Andhra Pradesh orders vide G.O. No. 16,dt.09-02-2018 to assist the APSBB and the District Collectors to implement the provisions of the B.D.Act, 2002 and the representatives of line departments like Forests, Animal husbandry, Tribal Welfare, Agriculture, Fisheries, BSI and ZSI are included in the TSGs at District level in all the (13) Districts. These TSGs are overseeing and advising the BMCs in implementation of the B.D.Act., 2002 and conduct the capacity building and training programmes to BMC members to use and update the PBRs periodically.

Submission: Thus, it is submitted that all possible efforts are being made to comply with the orders of the Hon'ble NGT and several effective steps have been taken by our State and APSBB in the last 6 months especially and it is expected to complete the process by the end of January 2021 and full compliance will be reported shortly.

The tabular statement shows the latest status of formation of BMCs and preparation of PBRs is shown below:

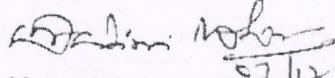
Table-1: Status of BMC formation as on 07.12.2020

S.No.	Local Bodies	Existing Local Bodies of A.P.	BMCs Formed (as on 21-09-2020)	BMCs Formed (as on 07-12-2020)	Balance BMCs to be constituted	Percentage Achievement
		A	B	C	(A-C)	
1	Gram Panchayat level	13,413	13,070	13,227	186	98.61
2	Mandal Level	661	661	661	00	100.00
3	Municipality / Municipal Corporation	120	77	120	00	100.00
4	ZP / District level	13	13	13	00	100.00
	Total	14,207	13,821	14,021	186	98.69

Table -2: Status of PBRs prepared / progress as on 07-12-2020

S.No.	Local Bodies	Existing Local Bodies of A.P.	PBRs completed (as on 21-09-2020)	PBRs completed (as on 07-12-2020)	Balance PBRs to be completed	Percentage Achievement
		A	B	C	(A-C)	
1	Gram Panchayat level	13,413	245	6908	6505	51.50
2	Mandal Level	661	661	661	00	100.00
3	Municipality / Municipal Corporation	120	00	43	77	35.83
4	ZP / District level	13	00	08	05	61.54
	Total	14,207	906	7,620	6,587	53.64

Prayer: As seen from the report card, it is submitted that the formation of BMCs and preparation of PBRs in the electronic format has been substantial in the last 6 months and all efforts are being made to complete the remaining by the end of January 2021 and it is requested to appraise the HNGT to grant time of two months to complete the same and waive the penalty levied on the State government as the delay was neither intentional nor deliberate but due the facts submitted above.


 D. Nalini Mohan IFS.,
 PCCF & Member Secretary,
 A.P. State Biodiversity Board

