



D. Riba, IFS
Member Secretary

GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH
ARUNACHAL PRADESH BIODIVERSITY BOARD
Department of Environment and Forests
ITANAGAR



No. SFRI/APBB/30/2016/4725-4729

Dated, 13.02.2020

To

The Council Judicial-NGT
National Green Tribunal
Principal Bench, New Delhi

Sub: Status Report of Arunachal Pradesh Biodiversity Board under OA 347/2016

Ref: case No.347/2016, In the matter of Chandra Bhal Singh v. Union of India, before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench at New Delhi.

Sir,

With reference to the above kindly find enclosed the status report as on 31.01.2020 in respect of Arunachal Pradesh Biodiversity Board, Arunachal Pradesh and the reasons stating for non compliance of 100% court order by 31st Jan, 2020 and prayer for extension of time period for filing in the National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi,

Encl: As above.

Yours faithfully,

(D. Riba)

Member Secretary, APBB

Copy to:

1. The Under Secretary to Chief Secretary, Government of Arunachal Pradesh for appraisal of the Chief Secretary.
2. Secretary National Biodiversity Authority, TICEL, Bio Park, Taramani, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
3. The Secretary, Panchayati Raj & Rural Development, Government of Arunachal Pradesh for information.
4. The PCCF & Prl. Secy.(HoFF), Government of Arunachal Pradesh for information.

(D. Riba)

Member Secretary, APBB

Status Report on the compliance of NGT order dated 09-08-2019 in O.A. 347/ 2016 (Chandra Bhal Singh Vrs. Uoi & Ors.)

The status report as on 31-01-2020 on the compliance of NGT order dated 09-08-2019 in OA 347/ 2016 are as under:-

1. Direction of NGT:

“The Chief Secretaries of all States where the defaults are continuing, may consider giving warning to the Panchayat Secretaries for their past failures, recording the same in their service record and give direction to the officers who are responsible for the job to ensure compliance with 100% constitution of BMCs and PBRs by 31-01-2020 failing which coercive measures may have to be considered against them”.

In compliance to the direction of NGT, the status as on 31-01-2020 on Action taken for constitution of BMCs in all local bodies and preparation of PBRs are as under:

Local Body	Total in the State (No.)	BMCs constituted upto 08-08-2019 (No.)	BMCs constituted wef 09-08-2019 to 31-01-2020 (No.)	Total BMCs constituted upto 31-01-2020 (3+4)	% of BMCs constitution	Total No. of PBRs prepared upto date (No.)	PBRs under process (No.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Gram Panchayat	1779	132	1390	1522	85.56%	80	41
Intermediate/Block Panchayat	Nil	0	0	0	0	0	0
District/ Zilla Panchayat	25	0	13	13	52%	0	0
Traditional Panchayat	Nil	0	0	0	0	0	0
Urban/ Municipal Bodies	2	0	2	2	100%	0	0
Total	1806	132	1405	1537	85.11%	80	41

2. Reasons for shortfall in constitution of BMCs within 31-01-2020:

Utmost efforts have been made for compliance of NGT order. At the time of NGT order, 7% of total local bodies were covered under the BMCs. The progress on constitution of BMCs in the local bodies of the State have been quite encouraging and by the end of 31-01-2020, BMCs have been constituted in 85.11% of the total local bodies of the State. The reasons for not constituting BMCs in 100% the local bodies are as under:-

- Panchayat is dissolved at the present due to which constitution of BMCs at the Gram Panchayat and Zilla level is a hindrance.
- Departments like Panchayat, Rural Development and Urban development and all other line departments are not adequately aware of the provisions of Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Biological Diversity Rules, 2004 hence smooth and effective coordination is also an issue.
- Shortage of funds and lack of manpower in the State Biodiversity Board is also a hindrance.
- Geographical remoteness of villages and tough terrain and hostile topography of the area puts constraints on reaching remote villages and imparting awareness programme for implementation of the provisions of BD Act,2002..
- Lack of road connectivity in most of the remote villages
- Lack of communication facilities: Internet and other telecommunication facilities are either lacking or un-operational in parts of the state which is hindering smooth communication with Gram Panchayat institution/ local administration resulting delay in BMC constitution and information sharing and dissemination.
- Heavy precipitation: Most of areas witness heavy precipitation in most part of the year which prevents easy transport and communication required to interact and persuade with the members of the local bodies in constitution of BMCs.

3. Reasons for shortfall in preparation of PBRs within 31-01-2020:

Uptill now PBRs have been prepared for 80 BMCs and 41 Nos. is under process. In addition to above stated reasons, following reasons are also supplemented for not achieving 100% preparation of PBRs in BMCs constituted:-

The PBR preparation process requires an intensive field work which is to be done under the help of experts under the strict supervision of the SBB and Technical Support Groups and requires a lot of time as well as financial help to document all the Biological species available in a particular BMC. In the process of PBR preparation, the role of taxonomists are most important where every species sampled/listed/recorded are to be identified/verified by a taxonomist. Therefore, for preparing a PBR takes time and are under process. Moreover since it is a seasonal based work it takes time to document all the available biological resources. And Arunachal being a hilly terrain where still many villages and districts do not have proper road and network connectivity it becomes difficult to complete the process in time. Despite the many difficulties the Board is trying its best to complete the PBR as and when funds are available.

4. Prayer before the NGT for Extension of time for compliance of the order:

In view of the reasons stated above, the Hon'ble NGT is requested to extend time for 100% compliance of their order dated 09-08-2019 in OA No. 347/ 2016.

- a. **For constitution of BMCs: May kindly extend upto 31-03-2020.**
- b. **For preparation of People's Biodiversity Registers (PBRs): May kindly grant another 24 months.**


(D. Riba)

Member Secretary

Arunachal Pradesh State Biodiversity Board