

### STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARDS (SBBS)

- The SBBs are established by the State Governments in accordance with Section 22 of the Act.
- Structure: The State Biodiversity Board consists of the following members:
  - A Chairperson
  - Not more than five ex officio members to represent the concerned Departments of the State Government
  - Not more than five members from amongst experts in matters relating to conservation of biological diversity, sustainable use of biological resources and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of biological resources.
  - All the members of the SBB are appointed by the respective State Governments.

### FUNCTIONS OF SBBS

- Advise the State Government, subject to any guidelines issued by the Central Government, on matters relating to the conservation, sustainable use or sharing equitable benefits.
- Regulate by granting approvals or otherwise requests for commercial utilisation or bio-survey and bio-utilisation of any biological resource by people.

### Note

- There are no State Biodiversity Boards constituted for Union territories.
- The National Biodiversity Authority exercises the powers and performs the functions of a State Biodiversity Board for the UTs.

### BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES (BMCS)

- According to Section 41 of the Act, every local body shall constitute the BMC within its area for the purpose of promoting conservation, sustainable use and documentation of biological diversity including:
  - Preservation of habitats
  - Conservation of Landraces
  - Folk varieties and cultivars
  - Domesticated stocks And breeds of animals
  - Microorganisms And Chronicling Of Knowledge Relating To Biological Diversity

### STRUCTURE

- It shall consist of a chairperson and not more than six persons nominated by the local body.
  - Out of total members of a BMC, not less than one third should be women and not less than 18%

should belong to the Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes.

- The Chairperson of the Biodiversity Management Committee shall be elected from amongst the members of the committee in a meeting to be chaired by the Chairperson of the local body.
- The chairperson of the local body shall have the casting votes in case of a tie.

### FUNCTIONS

- The main function of the BMC is to prepare People's Biodiversity Register in consultation with the local people.
- The register shall contain comprehensive information on availability and knowledge of local biological resources, their medicinal or any other use or any other.

### PEOPLE'S BIODIVERSITY REGISTERS (PBR)

- The PBRs focus on participatory documentation of local biodiversity, traditional knowledge and practices.
  - The register shall contain comprehensive information on the availability and knowledge of local biological resources, their medicinal or any other use or any other traditional knowledge associated with them.
- They are seen as key legal documents in ascertaining the rights of local people over the biological resources and associated traditional knowledge.

### BIODIVERSITY HERITAGE SITES (BHS)

- Under Section 37 of Biological Diversity Act, 2002 the State Government in consultation with local bodies may notify the areas of biodiversity importance as Biodiversity Heritage Sites.
- The Biodiversity Heritage Sites are the well-defined areas that are unique, ecologically fragile ecosystems - terrestrial, coastal and inland waters and marine having rich biodiversity comprising of any one or more of the following components:
  - richness of wild as well as domesticated species or intra-specific categories
  - high endemism
  - presence of rare and threatened species
  - keystone species
  - species of evolutionary significance
  - wild ancestors of domestic/cultivated species or their varieties
  - past pre-eminence of biological components represented by fossil beds