



ASSAM STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD

ARANYA BHAWAN, 2nd FLOOR
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www.asbb.gov.in

No. ABB/PBR-CAMPA/2023/236/03(A)

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**Notice Inviting Applications for limited period engagement of twenty three (23)
Biodiversity Research Associate Program (BRAP) Fellows for updation of 23 Zilla
Parshad People's Biodiversity Registers (PBR) of Assam**

Applications are invited from eligible candidates of Assam for limited period engagement of twenty three (23) Biodiversity Research Associate Program (BRAP) Fellows for assisting updation of 23 Zilla Parishad People's Biodiversity Registers as per the guidelines of 'PBR Quality Evaluation Framework' issued by the National Biodiversity Authority.

Interested eligible candidates, who are residents of Assam, may send the **hard copy** of their application in the prescribed format, along with self attested supporting documents to the following address given below:

The Member Secretary,
Assam State Biodiversity Board,
2ndFloor, Aranya Bhawan,
Panjabari, Guwahati – 781037.

The duration of engagement is for three (3) months and the BRAP Fellows will be provided a fixed stipend of Rs 20,000/- per month (inclusive of travel expenses for field surveys).

The last date for receiving the applications in the prescribed format along with all supporting documents is **4PM of 6th May, 2023**. Incomplete, illegible or late applications received after the deadline will not be considered. The Board is not liable for any postal delays.

Member Secretary
Assam State Biodiversity Board

Terms of Reference

Introduction:

India has enacted the Biological Diversity Act, in 2002 with the overall goal of biodiversity conservation and sustainable utilization of biodiversity. The Government of Assam had introduced the Assam Biodiversity Rules, 2010 for implementation of the Act in Assam.

Section 41 of the Biological Diversity Act 2002, provides that the local bodies (i.e. Zilla Parishad, Anchalik Panchayat, Gaon Panchayat & Urban Bodies) shall constitute Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) within its area of jurisdiction for the purpose of promoting conservation, sustainable use and documentation of biological diversity including preservations of habitats, conservation of land races, folk varieties and cultivars, domesticated stocks and breeds of animals and microorganisms and chronicling of knowledge relating to biological diversity etc. The BMCs are statutory bodies at local level. At present, a total of 2549 BMCs have been constituted in the State at all local bodies/level including 40 BMCs at forest range jurisdiction at the 3 Autonomous Councils (i.e. Bodoland Territorial Council, Dima Hasao Autonomous Council & Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council) of the State. (Visit official website www.asbb.gov.in for more information)

As per Section-41 of the Biological Diversity Act-2002 and Rule-25(9) of the Assam Biodiversity Rules 2010, each BMC needs to prepare a People's Biodiversity Register (PBR). A PBR is a comprehensive database of information on the availability and knowledge of the local biological resources, their medicinal values or any other associated traditional knowledge. The PBR can also be a useful resource in protecting Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) by establishing evidence of the traditional knowledge. Documentation of tradable bioresources in the PBR also helps in the identification of a beneficiary with whom benefits can be shared when an Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) agreement becomes operational.

At present, there are 2549 Biodiversity Management Committees (BMC) at all local levels in Assam including the three Autonomous Councils. These BMCs have prepared their People's Biodiversity Registers (PBR) which are all in the 1st stage, lacking few specific details prescribed in the guidelines of the PBR Quality Evaluation Framework issued by the National Biodiversity Authority in the Year 2020, to enhance their quality.

The objective of this assignment 'Updating People's Biodiversity Registers (PBRs) of Zilla Parishad BMCs' is to strengthen the existing PBRs through the participation of the local community and BMCs, create digitized PBRs and link them with the PBR database at the state level. Therefore, to execute the aforementioned work, the Assam State Biodiversity Board intends to engage 23 Biodiversity Research Associate Program (BRAP) Fellows for a duration of three months.

I. Scope of Work

Update the existing Zilla Parishad PBRs as per the guidelines prescribed in the PBR Quality Evaluation Framework of the National Biodiversity Authority and link them to the digital PBR database. Following is the indicative list of tasks to be completed by the BRAP Fellows to achieve the objectives under the assignment:

1. Data collection (Secondary research and primary data collection)

- Literature review and study the status of engagement of the local communities/ individuals in sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity resources
- Develop detailed questionnaires and surveys instruments for data collection
- Collect information and data on local biodiversity, traditional knowledge, local health traditions and practices based on the utilization of bioresources through a mix of secondary and primary research.
- Primary data sources may include field visits, review of the existing PBRs, conduct surveys, interact with members of the BMC and the local community, conduct Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA), Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and in-depth interviews.
- During data collection, surveys and consultations with the local community, the team would ensure equal and adequate participation from women and members of the minority and marginalized communities.
- Identification of tradable biological resources, updating them in the PBR. The team would ensure that the documentation of such tradable bioresources and their usage fall within the scope of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 as per the prescribed guidelines provided by the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) and Assam State Biodiversity Board (ASBB).
- All data and information collected for the preparation and improvement of PBRs must be treated as confidential and can be shared only with relevant BMCs, the Technical Support Group and ASBB.

2. Organize meetings with Technical Support Groups (TSG), BMC and local Communities

- Meet the members of the District level Technical Support Groups (TSG) and seek their assistance in updating the assigned Zilla Parishad PBRs.
- Hold meeting with members of the assigned Zilla Parishad BMC and involved them in updating the PBRs.

3. Update the existing PBRs and prepare Digitized Versions:

- Data recorded in existing ZPPBRs must be thoroughly analyzed, cross-checked, and validated from multiple sources including secondary literature, field officers of relevant government departments, Technical Support Groups at the district level and subject experts from respective College/Universities/CSOs etc.
- Documentation of collected information and updating existing information in the prescribed PBR Format.

- Ensure the guidelines provided by NBA and ASBB for updating the PBRs are appropriately followed at various levels.
- The finalized versions of the PBR must qualify all requirements of the PBR Quality Evaluation Framework issued by the National Biodiversity Authority
- Update the PBR data into uniform exportable Microsoft Excel Format and as per data requirements of the Mobile App for PBR
- Support the ASBB in linking PBRs with the Digital PBR database

II. Duration of Engagement: 3 months

III. Work location of the BRAP Fellow: One District of choice from the list given in **Annexure- I**. An applicant can select only one District for the position.

IV. Age limit: 21-38 years

V. Eligibility and Qualifications:

<p>Name of the Position: Biodiversity Research Associate Program Fellow/BRAP Fellow</p>	<p>Number of Position: 23</p>	<p>Location: Selected District of Choice</p>
<p>Education: Master's degree in Botany, Zoology, Ecology, Wildlife Biology, Forestry, Environmental Science, Conservation Science or related subjects.</p>		
<p>Skills and Experience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrated experience of working with communities in Assam in related fields. • Knowledge of plant taxonomy, identification of flora and fauna and associated ecosystems. • Identification and documentation of Traditional Knowledge practices prevalent in Assam. • Experience of carrying out PRA exercise, site visits for surveys and data collection. • Good communication skills; proficient in English and Assamese (oral and written) • Good working experience in MS-Excel, MS-Word and other MS Office applications. 		
<p>Duration: 03 months</p>	<p>Stipend: Rs. 20,000/- fixed (inclusive of travel expenses for field surveys)</p>	

APPLICATION FORMAT

1. Name of District: (select one District from **Annexure- I**)
2. Name of Applicant:
(Self attested copy of Aadhar/Pan Card to be attached)
3. Father's name
4. Mother's name:
5. Date of birth:
6. Age as on 31.03.2023:
7. Gender:
8. Permanent address:
9. Mailing address:
10. Mobile number & Email address:
11. Educational qualification starting with the highest qualification (attested copies of educational qualification certificates to be attached):

Paste your
passport size
photo here

Sl. No.	Name of Degree	Name of Institution	Board / University	Specialization and optional subjects	Year of Completion	Division/ Grade % of Marks

12. Work experience, if any, in chronological order (attested copies of work experience certificates to be attached):

Sl. No.	Name of Employer	Designation / Title	From (month, year)	To (month, year)	Nature of Duties

13. Details of courses / training programmes attended, if any:
14. Details of publications, if any:
15. Languages known:
16. Statement of suitability: (describe how your qualifications and experience suit the requirements of the position advertised)
17. Additional information, if any, which you would like to mention in support of your suitability for the post.

Declaration:

I hereby certify that all the information given above is true to the best of my knowledge. If any of the above information is found to be incorrect at a later stage, I shall be liable to be disqualified/termination from the contract.

Date & Place:

Signature of the candidate

**Indicative list of Districts for deployment of BRAP Fellows for assisting the updation of
Zilla Parishad PBRs of Assam**

Sl. No.	District	No. of BRAP Fellows to be assigned
1.	Biswanath	1
2.	Bongaigaon	1
3.	Cachar	1
4.	Lakhimpur	1
5.	Dhemaji	1
6.	Dibrugarh	1
7.	Darrang	1
8.	Goalpara	1
9.	Hojai	1
10.	Nagaon	1
11.	Hailakandi	1
12.	Majuli	1
13.	Karimganj	1
14.	Sonitpur	1
15.	Sivasagar	1
16.	Tinsukia	1
17.	Dhubri	1
18.	Jorhat	1
19.	South Salmara Mankachar	1
20.	Golaghat	1
21.	Charaideo	1
22.	Nalbari	1
23.	Barpeta	1

***Note: 1. An applicant can select only one District of choice for the Position.
2. Only one BRAP Fellow will be assigned to one District.**