

Theme: BIODIVERSITY

Role of Botanical Survey of India in meeting India's commitments to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Paragraph 3.2)

Audit findings

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was ratified in 1994 by 150 countries including India. To implement the provisions of CBD, objectives of Botanical Survey of India (BSI) were remodeled. However, BSI was not effective in meeting its remodeled objectives as there was inadequate identification/ documentation and monitoring of plant species. Very few surveys and explorations were carried out to identify and document the Protected Areas and Fragile ecosystems. The Red Data Book was updated in 1990 and last updated version was printed in 2003 thereby impacting conservation efforts. Further, identification of different ethnic groups associated with usage of plant species for different purposes was not done. BSI did not generate adequate data for in-situ conservation and it did not carry out ex-situ conservation, which impacted conservation of biodiversity. As such, BSI could not effectively fulfill its role in meeting India's commitment to CBD.