

Theme: BIODIVERSITY

Regulation of Biodiversity in India (Paragraph 3.1)

Audit findings

National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) was established in 2003 by the Government of India for the regulation, conservation and sustainable use of bio-resources of India. Even six years after its formation, NBA could not notify important regulations like access to biodiversity, transfer of results of research and intellectual property rights etc. Lists of endangered medicinal plants in India and measures for their conservation were not drawn up. NBA's efforts in identifying threatened, endangered and endemic species and recommending guidelines for their conservation were inadequate as list of endangered species was prepared for only seven out of 28 states. It also failed to get the Peoples' Biodiversity Registers and database of biological resources prepared, both of which were vital for efforts at protection and conservation of biological resources. It had no information on grant of Intellectual Property Rights outside India on any biological resource obtained from India or knowledge associated with such biological resources which is derived from India.