

Karnataka Biodiversity Board

Forest, Ecology & Environment Department
Government of Karnataka



The Karnataka Biodiversity Board has started functioning from 1-08-2003 as per provisions of Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

The prime objective of the Board is to foster the institutional setup for documentation, sustainable use and development of the rich biodiversity of the state.

Karnataka State is rich in Biodiversity of plant and animal species and is bestowed with great diversity in climate, topography and soil. The major physiographic divisions are coastal plains, hill ranges (Western & Eastern Ghats) and Deccan Plateau. The Karnataka Biodiversity Board has initiated several measures to conserve and protect the rich biodiversity of the State as per the Act.

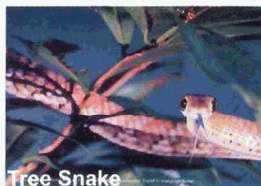
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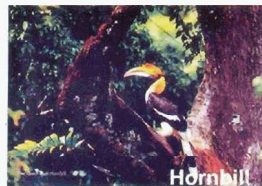
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STATE'S BIODIVERSITY AT A GLANCE

Flora & Fauna	
Flowering Plants	- 4500
Birds	- 522
Mammals	- 158
Reptiles	- 158
Amphibians	- 121
Fishes (Marine & Brackish water)	- 405
Fishes (Fresh water)	- 218
Butterflies	- 300



Tree Snake



Hornbill

Livestock	
Cattle breeds	5
Sheep breeds	4



Hallikar



Killari

Crop	
Ragi (Finger millet)	39
Rice (Dryland)	29
Rice (Wetland)	25
Vegetables	25
Millets	16



Amruthmahal



Bannur

Protected Area	
National parks	- 5
Sanctuaries	- 22
Fish Sanctuaries	- 13
Zoological Parks	- 5
Dhanvantari vana (Medicinal plants garden)	- 15



Millets

Sorghum

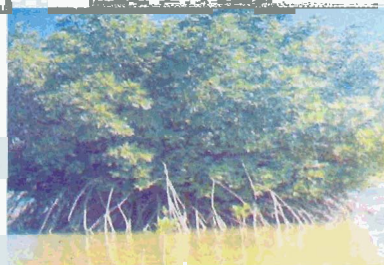
Amaranth

Biodiversity of Coastal Karnataka

Western Ghats is one of the world's Mega Biodiversity hotspots. It is estimated that Western Ghat forests support nearly 4500 species of plants and 1500 species of animals. Nearly 65% of the trees are endemic and many of them are RET. The State has a coastline of 320 km.

The Karnataka Biodiversity Board has taken up survey and documentation of Coastal Biodiversity in three districts. Project work has been completed and reports published under KUIDFC project.

The Karnataka Biodiversity Board has organised a National Biodiversity Authority Sponsered a National Seminar on "Plant Resources of Western Ghats" (Ecology, Economics and Conservation) which is one of the Hotspots of Biodiversity of the World.



Mangroves

Karnataka Biodiversity Information System

Collaborative programmes developed for Western Ghats covering 69,000 Sq.km. of geographical and 28,000 Sq.km, of forest area in 13 districts has lead to the listing of 3600 plant species (1000 with economic importance, 500 with ecological value and conservation strategies), 300 birds, 47 mammals, 31 reptiles and microorganisms, insects and nematodes.



Peacock

Karnataka Coastal Biodiversity Information System (KCBIS)

Karnataka Biodiversity Board under KUIDFC project has got the Karnataka Coastal Biodiversity Information System prepared by ISRO and the same has been installed in Karnataka Biodiversity Board office.



Sacred Grove

Kuvempu Memorial Bio-Park

To commemorate the birth centenary celebrations of Rashtrakavi Kuvempu, the State Government has released Rs. 1.00 crore to the Board for developing a Biodiversity Park at his birthplace in Shimoga district. Survey and demarcation of forest area in Thirthahalli, Shimoga district and Koppa, Chickmagalore district was completed. Creation of Kuvempu Sandeshavana and development of facilities for dissemination of Biodiversity information and interpretation centre is under progress. The park is developed in the memory of Rastrakavi Kuvempu.



Evergreen Forest

Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs)

950 Biodiversity Management Committee's have been formed gramapanchyath wise for protection and development of precious Biodiversity.



Kumkum

People's Biodiversity Registers (PBRs)

Karnataka Biodiversity Board has taken up preparation of Peoples' Biodiversity Registers' gramapanchayath-wise through the Biodiversity Management Committees' involving NGOs and line departments.



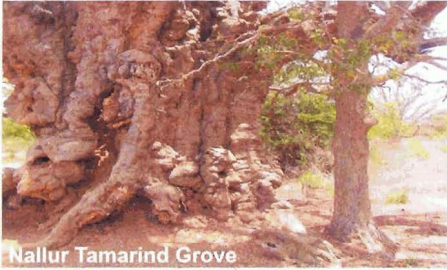
Gloriosa superba

Awareness Training Programmes

Awareness training on Biodiversity and Traditional Knowledge is being given to general public, students & teachers of schools & colleges and Government servants.

Biodiversity Heritage Sites (BHS):

Sites having unique Biodiversity have been identified in various ecosystems for declaration of Biodiversity Heritage Sites under Biological Diversity Act. Ahead 800 years old Tamarind grove at Nallur Devenahalli taluk, Bangalore (Rural) District is declared as Biodiversity Heritage Site due to its uniqueness of genetic diversity.



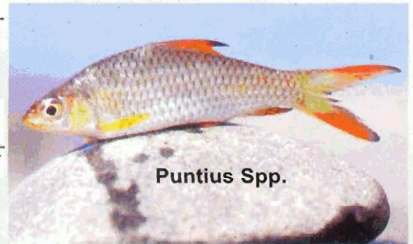
Nallur Tamarind Grove



Bursera Plantation

Freshwater Fish Sanctuaries

The Board has identified 13 fish congregation areas and recommended to State Government to declare them as "Fish Sanctuaries" for protection and development. The Government has declared Chippalagudda, Hariharapura, Shringeri and Thingale as fish sanctuaries for protection of fresh water fish Biodiversity.



Puntius Spp.

Functions of the Board

Advising the State Government on matters concerning conservation, sustainable use, fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of Biological resources and knowledge.

Regulation and granting of approvals for commercial utilization of Biological resources in consultation with Biodiversity Management Committees.

Co-ordination and Technical assistance to Biodiversity Management Committees.

Commissioning and sponsoring of studies, investigations and research related to Biological Resources.

Identification and promotion of Heritage sites of Biodiversity importance.

Devising methods for validation and certification of the information collected through Bio-surveys.