



# ANNUAL REPORT 2025-2026





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**AMBIKA PRASAD RESEARCH FOUNDATION**

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# About

Ambika Prasad Research Foundation (APRF) was established in 2016 on the banks of the Mahanadi River in Cuttack, Odisha, with a vision dedicated to research and development in the fields of science, conservation, education and livelihood. The foundation is committed to encouraging sustainable practices and innovative solutions for environmental conservation.

Our mission is to take proactive steps toward environmental sustainability by promoting conservation efforts, advancing scientific research and enhancing public awareness. APRF serves as an active platform to educate communities about pressing environmental issues and encourage meaningful actions to conserve nature and its resources.

Through collaborative projects, research initiatives and awareness programs, APRF aims to inspire individuals and organizations to contribute towards a greener and more sustainable future. By integrating scientific knowledge with practical solutions, we strive to protect biodiversity, mitigate environmental degradation and promote eco-friendly livelihoods.





## VISION

Ambika Prasad Research Foundation (APRF) works to bridge critical research gaps in taxonomy by nurturing professional taxonomists and field biologists. Its key initiatives include conserving threatened taxa, studying the relationships between flora and fauna, and developing conservation protocols for threatened species. APRF also focuses on riverine ecosystem dynamics, avifaunal breeding behaviour, and wetland conservation through integrated management strategies. The foundation explores the potential of wild food plants for future horticulture to combat malnutrition and food insecurity. It emphasizes conservation and value addition of wild tuber crops and edible plant species. Additionally, APRF is committed to preserve traditional therapeutic systems, validating tribal knowledge of medicinal plants, and addressing antimicrobial resistance through the formulation of plant-based drugs. By integrating traditional wisdom with scientific research, APRF plays a vital role in the field of biodiversity conservation, ecosystem restoration, and sustainable development.

## MISSION

- Promote research in the conservation of flora and fauna to save the world.
- Educate people about biodiversity conservation through documentation, research activities, online and print media, and awareness programs.
- Promote women's empowerment and enhance their role in conserving biological resources.
- Work on sustainable livelihoods for tribal and rural communities and improve their health.
- Make urban areas greener.
- Strive to reduce food insecurity among impoverished communities worldwide.
- Engage in activities for better health and R&D on medicinal plants for drug formulation.
- Focus on water conservation, river ecology, wetlands, coastal ecology and climate change efforts.



# MESSAGE

It gives me immense pleasure to present the Annual Report 2025–2026 of Ambika Prasad Research Foundation (APRF). This year has been marked by significant progress, meaningful collaborations and impactful contributions toward biodiversity conservation, scientific research and community engagement.

Over the past year, APRF has continued to strengthen its commitment to understanding and preserving our natural ecosystems. Our extensive floristic surveys across forests, wetlands, coastal regions and hill ecosystems have contributed valuable scientific data reinforcing the ecological richness of these landscapes. Notably, the successful preparation of the Management Plan for the State Botanical Garden, Odisha stands as a key milestone, providing a structured framework for conservation, research and sustainable eco-tourism. Our work has gone beyond documentation. Through habitat restoration models, grassland and wetland studies and ethnobotanical research, we have taken important steps toward bridging scientific knowledge with practical conservation solutions. The documentation of traditional knowledge and medicinal plant research further reflects our belief in integrating indigenous wisdom with modern science.



Equally encouraging has been our focus on education and capacity building. Through training programmes, academic collaborations and student research initiatives, we are nurturing the next generation of environmental stewards and researchers. Our outreach activities and awareness programmes continue to engage communities and inspire collective responsibility toward nature.

These achievements would not have been possible without the unwavering support of our dedicated team, collaborating institutions, government bodies and local communities. Their contributions remain the foundation of our success.

As we look ahead to 2026–2027, APRF remains committed to expanding research, strengthening conservation efforts and fostering community participation. We aim to further deepen our scientific work while ensuring that it translates into sustainable and inclusive environmental solutions. Together, we move forward with renewed determination to protect biodiversity, restore ecosystems and build a greener, more sustainable future.

*Sanjeet Kumar*

**Dr. Sanjeet Kumar**  
CEO, APRF



# OUR TEAM



**Dr. R. Supriya Devi**  
Project Director



**Sweta Mishra**  
Research Associate



**Sugimani Marndi**  
Senior Research Fellow



**Nibedita Jena**  
Senior Research Fellow



**Subhalakshmi Rout**  
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# Management Plan for State Botanical Garden, Odisha



A significant institutional milestone was achieved with the successful preparation of the Management Plan for the State Botanical Garden, Odisha. The plan has been developed as a comprehensive guiding document for the scientific management, conservation, landscape development, visitor services, research, education and sustainable eco-tourism promotion of the state botanical garden.

The Management Plan outlines the long-term vision, objectives, strategies and phased action framework for strengthening the role of the State Botanical Garden as a premier centre for ex-situ plant conservation, thematic display gardens, wetland ecosystem management, environmental awareness and nature-based recreation.

## Special emphasis has been laid on the following priority areas:

Conservation of rare, endangered, endemic and medicinal plant species

Visitor interpretation, eco-trails and educational outreach

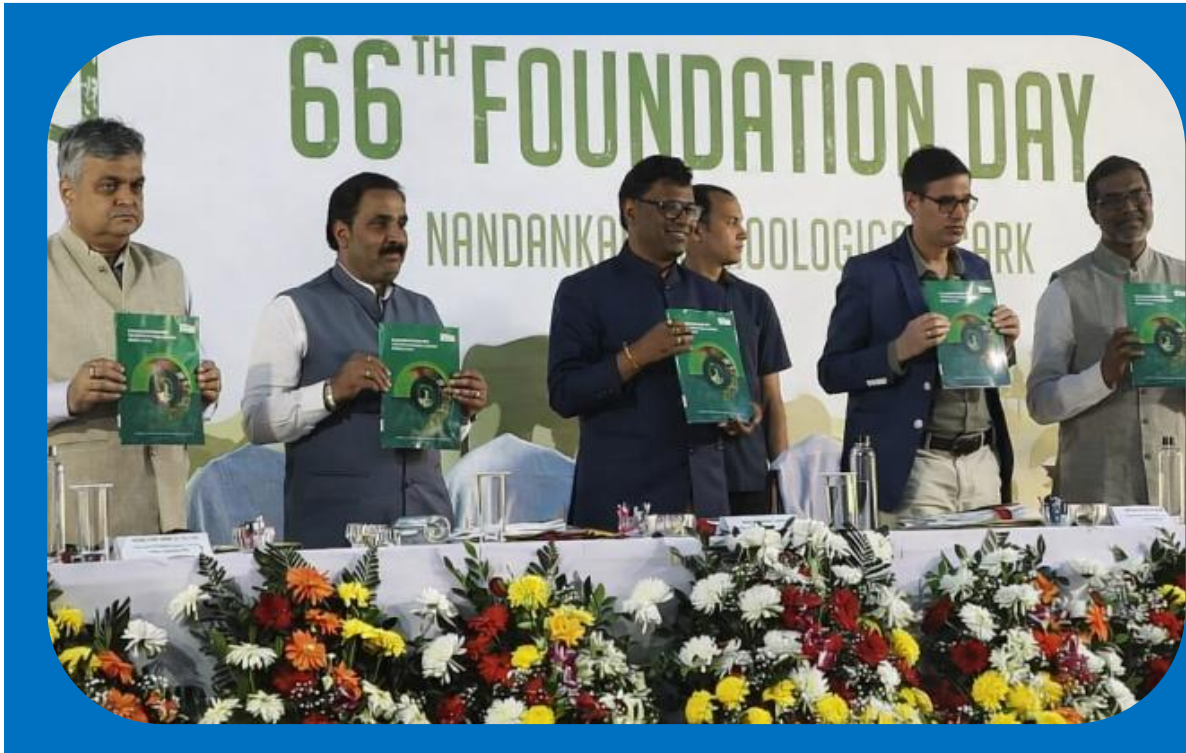
Strengthening of thematic gardens, nursery and propagation

Research collaboration and herbarium development

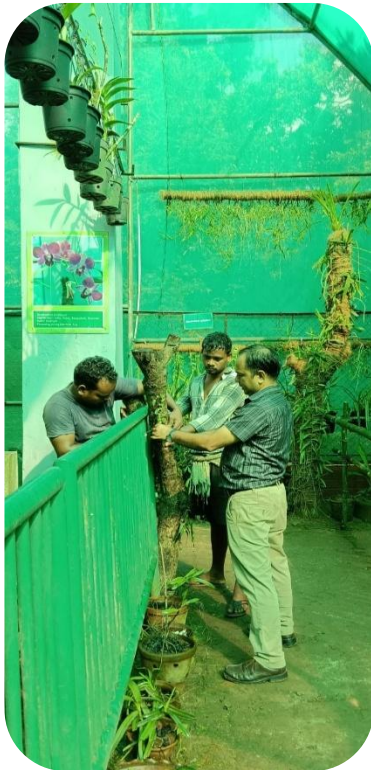
Restoration and ecological improvement of the Kanjia and Kiakani Lake landscape

Sustainable irrigation, plantation maintenance and climate-resilient landscape planning





A major highlight of the year was the release of the prepared **Management Plan** on 66<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day of Nandankanan marking an important step towards the structured and scientific development of the State Botanical Garden.



# Major Events and Celebrations



**WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY**



## **We celebrated World Environment Day by showing care for nature and birds.**

As a part of the celebration, our institution organised a meaningful activity to promote environmental awareness and compassion for living beings. As part of the initiative, team members placed earthen nests for birds in different locations near the Mahanadi River areas. This activity aimed to help birds during the summer season. It also created awareness among locals about the importance of protecting nature, conserving biodiversity and showing kindness towards all living creatures. The programme was successfully conducted with active participation and enthusiasm. It conveyed the message that small efforts can make a significant contribution to environmental protection and ecological balance.



## VAN MAHOTSAV CELEBRATION



On Van Mahotsav, we continued our journey of environmental conservation with renewed enthusiasm and greater community participation. This time, we involved the local community in hanging earthen nests for birds, promoting awareness about protecting urban biodiversity and caring for living creatures. As part of the programme, a floral diversity study was conducted at Siddheswar Temple campus near the Mahanadi River. In addition, a plantation drive was organised in the Siddheswar campus, during which saplings of native and ornamental species were planted to enhance the green cover and strengthen the ecological balance of the area.



The celebration concluded with the throwing of seed balls in suitable areas, aiming to support green cover development and encourage natural regeneration of plant life.

The programme was highly enriching and successfully conveyed the message of community participation, biodiversity conservation, afforestation and sustainable environmental practices.



# Field Work and Biodiversity Documentation

## ROURKELA FOREST DIVISION

Rourkela Forest Division (RFD) in Odisha is a biologically rich region, home to a remarkable diversity of plant species. Extensive floristic surveys conducted across all ranges of the division and documented a total of 954 plant species, belonging to 140 families and 609 genera. The rich floral diversity is a testament to the region's varied habitats and ecological conditions. Among the documented species, the Fabaceae family exhibited the highest diversity with 91 species, followed by Poaceae (88 species), Cyperaceae (42 species), Asteraceae (38 species), Malvaceae (38 species) and Orchidaceae (33 species). The recorded flora comprises a wide range of plant forms, including 345 herbs, 232 trees, 113 shrubs, 115 climbers, 88 grasses, 19 ferns, 33 orchids and 9 parasitic plants. Herbs dominate the vegetation, reflecting the presence of diverse ground flora, while trees provide the upper canopy, supporting complex forest ecosystems.

This vast diversity of plants not only contributes to the ecological richness of the region but also plays a critical role in supporting faunal species by providing them with food, shelter and breeding habitats.

It also reinforces the traditional ecological knowledge of the local tribal communities, who rely on this diverse flora for medicinal, nutritional and cultural purposes. Compiling a comprehensive list of species found in the Rourkela Forest Division and identifying species that require conservation efforts and proposing measures to protect them. It helps in assessing the overall health and diversity of the ecosystem. Studying Indigenous Traditional Knowledge for documenting plants and animals used in traditional medicine and recording rituals, customs and traditional practices related to biodiversity. It helps in capturing traditional agricultural knowledge that promotes sustainable farming practices.





## LATEHAR FOREST DIVISION

Latehar Forest Division in Jharkhand plays a critical role in supporting a significant population of Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*), whose seasonal movements and habitat use patterns have increasingly brought them into conflict with local communities. One of the major causes of human-elephant conflict (HEC) in the region is the scarcity of natural fodder within forested areas, compelling elephants to forage in nearby agricultural fields and villages. To address this issue, a comprehensive wildlife management study was undertaken with a focus on enhancing elephant habitats through the enumeration and documentation of vegetation, particularly fodder species. A total of 415 plant species were

identified from the division, which includes 149 tree species that dominate the canopy, 130 herbaceous species, 60 shrub species, 46 species of climbers, 21 species of grasses and 9 species of epiphytes. Among these, 39 species were documented as key fodder plants that elephants rely on for nutrition and sustenance. These include important species like *Bambusa arundinacea*, *Diospyros melanoxylon*, *Lannea coromondalica*, *Soymida febrifuga*, *Shorea robusta*, etc. along with palatable grasses and shrubs. The study highlights that habitat degradation, loss of fodder plants and fragmented corridors are contributing to elephant movement toward human habitations.





To mitigate HEC and enhance habitat quality, the targeted research proposes conservation and management actions, such as a) restoration of degraded forest patches with elephant-preferred fodder species; b) creation and maintenance of water bodies and salt licks; c) protection and enrichment of migratory routes and traditional corridors; d) community awareness and involvement in conservation

Efforts and e) development of early warning systems and crop protection methods. By linking vegetation data with elephant ecology, the study provides a roadmap for habitat-centric conflict mitigation. It emphasises that restoring the natural diet base of elephants can significantly reduce their crop raiding behaviour and foster human elephant coexistence.



## KORAPUT FOREST DIVISION

Deomali Hill, located in the Koraput district of southern Odisha, is the state's highest peak at 1,672 metres above sea level. As a part of the Eastern Ghats, it features a distinctive high-altitude tableland landscape marked by rolling grass-covered plateaus, rocky outcrops, steep escarpments and expansive valley views. Its cool climate, windswept terrain and mosaic of grasslands, montane forests and seasonal streams support a rich flora, including several threatened and endemic species. Deomali also holds deep cultural significance for local tribal communities, whose traditional practices and folklore are closely tied to the landscape.

During the survey, we reported 339 plant species belonging to 90 families, with the tableland alone supporting 104 species. The study area also recorded 25 invasive species and 19 major weeds, along with 21 priority species in need of conservation, such as *Drosera peltata*, *Gnetum edule*, *Hypericum gaitii* and *Osyris lanceolata*. However, increasing anthropogenic pressures, including plastic pollution from unregulated tourism, habitat degradation due to road expansion, recurrent forest fires, invasive weeds and illegal extraction of plant resources, pose serious threats to these sensitive habitats.

Safeguarding the Deomali Tableland requires restoring native vegetation, controlling invasive species and regulating tourist activities. Priority should be given to planting hardy, climate-resilient species such as *Apluda mutica*, *Calotropis gigantea*, *Cassia fistula*, *Themeda quadrivalvis* etc., to stabilise slopes, enrich biodiversity and strengthen roadside resilience. These ecological measures must be complemented by strict waste management, installation of dustbins and drinking water facilities, a complete ban on polythene bags and regular weed removal. The conservation of unique and threatened species, including *Hypericum gaitii*, carnivorous plants and parasitic herbs, demands strong law enforcement, habitat protection and responsible eco-tourism involving local communities. Engaging local youth as nature guides, promoting eco-education, encouraging traditional bioresource use and organising community-led fairs will help foster long-term environmental stewardship and ensure a sustainable future for Deomali.



## CHANDAKA-DAMPARA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

During the reporting year, a comprehensive field survey on grass diversity was undertaken in the Chandaka-Dampara Wildlife Sanctuary with the objective of documenting species composition, ecological significance and fodder value. The study was carried out across multiple habitat types, including forest openings, grasslands, wetland fringes and degraded patches, to capture spatial variability in grass distribution.

Systematic surveys conducted across seasons resulted in the identification and documentation of 51 species of wild grasses. Standard taxonomic methods were followed, including field collection, herbarium preparation and verification using regional floras.

A key focus of the study was the classification of grasses based on their palatability status, categorizing species into palatable and non-palatable groups. This classification provides valuable insights for wildlife habitat management, particularly in understanding forage

availability for herbivorous fauna such as deer and other grazing animals within the sanctuary. Palatable species were observed to play a crucial role in sustaining herbivore populations, while non-palatable species contributed to habitat structure, soil stabilisation and ecological balance. Eradication of invasive flora was also carried out.

The findings of this study have been consolidated and published in the form of a book documenting all 51 grass species, along with their identification keys, ecological notes and palatability characteristics. This publication serves as a baseline reference for researchers, forest managers and conservation planners and supports informed decision-making in grassland management and habitat improvement programs.

The study highlights the ecological importance of grass diversity in the division and provides a scientific foundation for sustainable habitat management, biodiversity conservation and improved forage resource planning within the sanctuary.



## KEONJHAR FOREST DIVISION



Based on our systematic floristic and ecological surveys conducted across the Keonjhar Forest Division (KFD), Odisha, during 2025–26, we documented a rich diversity of grass species distributed across a heterogeneous landscape comprising tropical forests, natural grasslands, wetlands, forest margins, hill slopes and degraded habitats. Multi-season field investigations were undertaken to capture temporal variation in species composition and ecological behaviour.

Standard taxonomic procedures were followed throughout the study, including field collection, herbarium specimen preparation, morphological examination and verification using regional floras and reference collections, ensuring accurate identification and scientific documentation of grass taxa.

Our survey findings revealed that grasses constitute a fundamental structural and functional component of the terrestrial ecosystem in KFD. They significantly contribute to primary productivity, trophic support, nutrient cycling, soil stabilisation and habitat complexity. Several species demonstrated strong soil-binding capacity, particularly in hilly terrains and erosion-prone flood-affected areas, highlighting their critical role in preventing soil loss and maintaining slope stability.

The documented grass species also showed substantial fodder value, serving as an essential food resource for wild herbivores, avifauna, livestock and other grazing fauna. In many sites, grasses formed the primary forage base sustaining ungulates and associated trophic networks.



In wetland and riparian ecosystems, we observed that aquatic and semi-aquatic grasses play an important ecological role by providing breeding grounds, shelter and refuge habitats for fish, amphibians and macroinvertebrates, thereby supporting aquatic ecosystem functioning.

Our survey further recorded the close ecological association of grasses with Cyperaceae and other herbaceous plant families, which collectively enhance ecosystem complexity, nutrient enrichment, microhabitat diversity and species interactions. These associated communities were especially prominent in moist depressions, seasonal wetlands and disturbed open habitats.

A notable outcome of the study was the identification of several grass species possessing adaptive traits for colonisation of disturbed, mined, degraded and marginal lands. Such species appear to play an active role in ecological succession, soil recovery and landscape restoration, making them valuable candidates for site-specific rehabilitation programs.



## JHARSUGUDA FOREST DIVISION

A floristic survey was conducted in the backwater regions of Hirakud Dam within the Belpahar Forest Range, Jharsuguda Forest Division, Odisha, during 2025–2026. Seasonal field surveys covered key locations including Bagmuda, Kadamdihi, Bikampalli, Suakani Reserve Forest (Island), Rampaluga and adjoining areas. Plant species were documented through systematic field observations across aquatic, semi-aquatic and terrestrial habitats. Identification was carried out using standard floras and updated taxonomic references and ethnobotanical information was collected from local communities.

A habitat-based restoration methodology was developed, involving (i) habitat zonation into wetland edge, riparian transition,

and upland buffer zones; (ii) grouping of plant species into wetland-edge, riparian forest and multipurpose native species; and (iii) design of a spatial plantation model for a five-hectare block to improve ecological resilience and plantation efficiency.

The survey recorded 204 plant species belonging to 63 families. Poaceae (28 species) and Fabaceae (23 species) were the dominant families. Other major families included Asteraceae, Amaranthaceae, Malvaceae, Lamiaceae, Rubiaceae, Cyperaceae, Hydrocharitaceae and Combretaceae. The vegetation comprised a diverse mix of trees, shrubs, herbs, climbers, grasses, sedges and aquatic macrophytes, indicating high structural and functional diversity of the backwater ecosystem.



## SUNABEDA WILDLIFE DIVISION

*Bothriochloa bladhii*



A study on grass diversity was conducted in the Sunabeda Wildlife Division during the reporting period to document species composition and assess their ecological significance. Field surveys were carried out across different habitats, including grasslands, forest edges and open scrub areas.

Grass species were recorded through systematic field observations and specimens were identified using standard floras and taxonomic keys. Habitat preferences, distribution patterns and associated vegetation were also documented.

The study revealed a rich diversity of grasses, with several species playing a crucial role in soil conservation, habitat stability and as a primary food source for herbivorous wildlife. Dominant and ecologically important species were identified, along with the presence of invasive grasses in certain areas.

The findings of the study provide baseline information for grassland management, habitat restoration and biodiversity conservation planning within the Sunabeda Wildlife Division.



## STUDY ON FLORAL DIVERSITY OF MAHANADI RIVER AREAS IN CUTTACK, ANGUL AND NAYAGARH DISTRICTS, ODISHA



A study conducted from Naraj to Gania documented 476 plant species belonging to 104 families and 363 genera. Among them, Fabaceae, Poaceae and Cyperaceae are the most dominant families. The flora includes a variety of growth forms such as herbs, trees, climbers, shrubs, grasses, aquatic herbs, palms and ferns.

This diversity supports a wide array of faunal species through crucial ecological interactions like pollination, seed dispersal and herbivory. Tribal communities play a vital role in preserving traditional knowledge, using many plants for food and medicine to treat diverse diseases and disorders.



Key ecological interactions along the river include pollination by insects and birds (e.g., sunbirds and butterflies) and seed dispersal by birds and mammals. Aquatic plants such as *Vallisneria* and *Hydrilla* support fish, turtles and water birds. Sacred groves along the river act as important habitats. These culturally protected patches conserve medicinal and rare plant species, offer breeding grounds for wildlife, prevent soil erosion and enhance water retention. They also preserve traditional ecological knowledge among tribal communities, who utilise various plants for medicinal, nutritional and cultural purposes. However, the Mahanadi ecosystem faces severe threats.

Pollution from industries, untreated sewage and agricultural runoff degrades water quality. Deforestation in catchment areas causes erosion and sedimentation. Invasive species like *Lantana camara* and *Chromolaena odorata* outcompete native vegetation. Climate change further disrupts ecosystems through rainfall and temperature. To prevent biodiversity loss and maintain ecological balance, urgent conservation efforts involving local communities, policymakers and environmental organisations are essential. Restoration of sacred groves, pollution control and habitat protection are critical for sustaining the river's health.



# Research, Dissertation & Academic Support

## Student Training Programme on Medicinal Plants



During the reporting year, the team APRF conducted a series of training programmes on medicinal plants for students from various educational institutions. The initiative was aimed at enhancing awareness and building capacity among students regarding the identification, conservation and sustainable utilisation of medicinal plant species.

The training sessions included field-based demonstrations, where participants were introduced to commonly occurring medicinal plants, their botanical characteristics, therapeutic uses and

ecological significance. Emphasis was placed on the importance of traditional knowledge systems, as well as the need for scientific validation and conservation of valuable plant resources.

Students were also sensitized to issues such as overexploitation, habitat degradation and the need for sustainable harvesting practices. Interactive discussions and hands-on exposure helped participants develop practical skills in plant identification and documentation. The programme witnessed active participation from students of different institutions, contributing to increased awareness and interest in biodiversity conservation and ethnobotanical studies. Overall, the training programme served as an important step toward promoting environmental education and fostering future conservation stewards.



## Dissertation Programme on Medicinal Plants



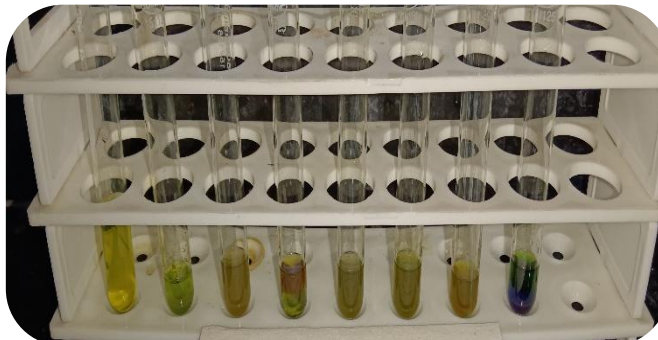
During the reporting year, APRF facilitated a structured laboratory-based dissertation programme on medicinal plants for students from various universities. The programme was designed to provide hands-on research experience and strengthen scientific understanding in the field of medicinal plant studies, phytochemistry and antimicrobial activities.

Students were trained in key laboratory techniques, including plant sample processing, extraction methods, phytochemical screening and basic analytical procedures. The programme also covered aspects of herbarium techniques, documentation and data analysis, enabling participants to undertake systematic research as part of their academic dissertations. Under the guidance of experienced researchers and technical staff, students carried out

short-term research projects focusing on different medicinal plant species, including their bioactive compounds, traditional uses and ecological relevance. Emphasis was placed on maintaining scientific rigor, proper documentation and ethical research practices.

The programme attracted participation from students of different universities, providing them with valuable exposure to applied research methodologies and laboratory practices. It also contributed to building research capacity and promoting interest in plant-based studies and biodiversity conservation.

This initiative served as an important platform for bridging academic learning with practical research, while supporting students in successfully completing their dissertation work in the domain of medicinal plants.



# Educational Tours & Exposure Visits

## EXPLORATION OF SAND DUNE FLORA

During the reporting period, team APRF undertook exploratory surveys of sand dune ecosystems to document floristic diversity and assess their ecological significance. Field visits were conducted across selected dune habitats, focusing on coastal and inland sandy areas characterised by extreme environmental conditions such as low moisture retention, high temperature and wind exposure.

Plant species adapted to sandy substrates were recorded through systematic observations and their distribution patterns and habitat preferences were documented. Special attention was given to sand dune species, including grasses, shrubs and herbaceous plants that play a vital role in dune stabilisation and prevention of soil erosion.

The study highlighted the presence of several ecologically important and stress-tolerant species contributing to dune formation, stabilisation and overall ecosystem resilience. Observations on invasive species and anthropogenic pressures were also noted.

The findings provide valuable baseline information for conservation planning, habitat restoration and sustainable management of sand dune ecosystems.



## FLORISTIC EXPLORATION AT JAHANIA

The team also conducted a field visit to Jahania to explore and document the local floristic diversity. The survey covered coastal and adjoining terrestrial habitats, focusing on recording plant species across different ecological zones.

Systematic field observations were carried out to document trees, shrubs, herbs, climbers and grasses. Special emphasis was given to identifying coastal and stress-tolerant species adapted to sandy and saline conditions. Habitat preferences and distribution patterns of the recorded species were also noted.



The exploration revealed a diverse assemblage of plant species contributing to coastal ecosystem stability, including species important for soil binding and protection against erosion. Observations on invasive species and anthropogenic influences were also documented.

The findings from this survey provide useful baseline information for biodiversity conservation, coastal habitat management and future ecological studies in the region.



## FLORISTIC EXPLORATION AT BARBERA RESERVE FOREST



During the reporting period, team APRF conducted a floristic exploration in Barbera Reserve Forest to document plant diversity and assess ecological characteristics of the area. The survey covered forest interiors, edges and adjoining habitats to capture representative vegetation.



Systematic field observations were carried out to record trees, shrubs, herbs, climbers and grasses with the documentation of one record from Odisha state, "*Rohdea wattii* (Asparagaceae)". Species were documented based on their occurrence, habitat preferences and distribution patterns. The exploration revealed a diverse assemblage of flora, including native and ecologically significant species contributing to forest structure and ecosystem functioning. Observations on invasive species and anthropogenic pressures were also recorded.

The study provides baseline information for biodiversity assessment, conservation planning and sustainable forest management in the Khordha region.



## FLORISTIC EXPLORATION AT DHAULIGIRI



A floristic and ethnobotanical study was also carried out at Dhauli Giri to document plant diversity and traditional knowledge associated with local flora. The survey covered hill slopes, roadside vegetation and adjoining habitats to capture representative plant species.

Ethnobotanical information, including local names and traditional uses of plants, was collected through interactions with local communities and residents. Special attention was given to medicinal plants and species of cultural significance.

The study revealed a diverse assemblage of flora with significant ecological and ethnobotanical value.



## FLORISTIC EXPLORATION AT LOKTAK LAKE



APRF team conducted a floristic exploration at Loktak Lake, Manipur to document plant diversity and assess the ecological characteristics of this unique wetland ecosystem. The survey focused on floating phumdis, open water areas and surrounding terrestrial habitats.

Field surveys were undertaken across representative sites to record aquatic, semi-aquatic and terrestrial plant species. Species identification was carried out using standard botanical references and ecological attributes such as habitat preference and distribution were documented.

The exploration revealed a rich diversity of hydrophytic vegetation, including several ecologically important species that contribute to nutrient cycling, habitat stability and support for local biodiversity. Observations on invasive species and environmental pressures were also noted.

The findings provide valuable baseline information for wetland conservation, biodiversity assessment and sustainable management of the Loktak Lake ecosystem.



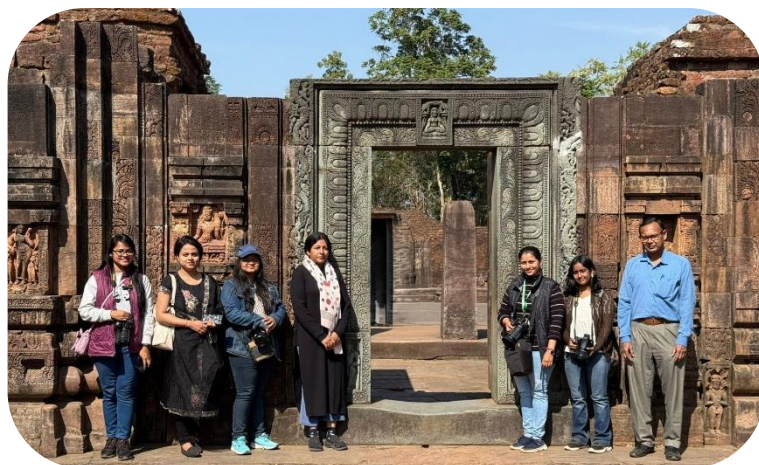
## FLORISTIC EXPLORATION AT RATNAGIRI

A floristic visit was conducted at Ratnagiri in collaboration with professors and experts from different universities. The visit aimed to explore plant diversity and facilitate academic exchange on regional flora and ecosystem characteristics.

Field observations were carried out across representative habitats to document plant species and their ecological associations.

Discussions were held with participating experts on species identification, habitat dynamics, pharmacological aspects, secondary metabolites and conservation significance.

The visit provided valuable insights into the floristic composition of the area and strengthened collaborative efforts in biodiversity research, documentation and conservation planning.



**Ratnagiri monastery, Jajpur**



# Ethnobotanical and Medicinal Plant Research

An ethnobotanical study was conducted in the Rourkela Forest Division to document traditional knowledge associated with plant resources used by local and forest-dependent communities. Field surveys were carried out in selected villages and forest fringe areas to record medicinal, nutritional and cultural uses of plant species. Information was gathered through interactions with traditional healers and local inhabitants. Several plant species of medicinal importance were identified,

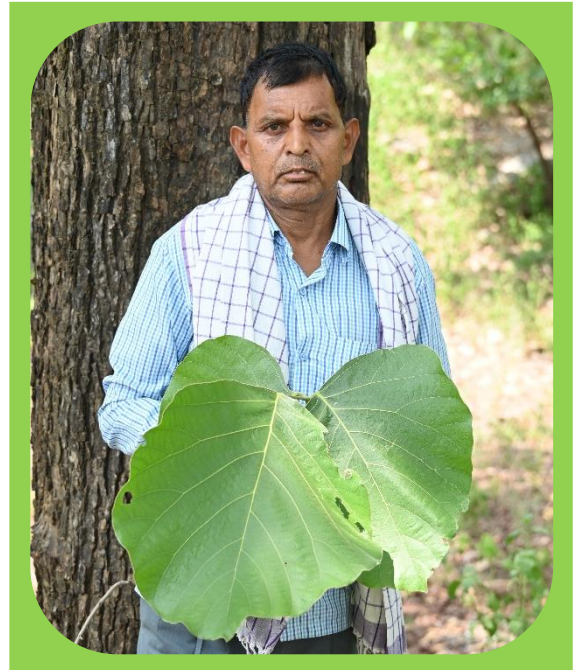
particularly those used in the treatment of common ailments such as fever, skin diseases and digestive disorders. The study also highlighted the role of indigenous knowledge in sustainable resource utilisation. Observations on the availability and conservation status of important species were documented. The findings contribute to the preservation of traditional knowledge systems and provide baseline data for future pharmacological and conservation studies.





An ethnobotanical survey was undertaken in the Latehar Forest Division to explore the rich traditional knowledge of tribal communities regarding plant use. Field investigations focused on documenting medicinal plants, edible species and plants used in daily livelihood practices. Interactions with local tribal groups provided insights into preparation methods, dosage and seasonal availability of plant resources.

Several species with significant ethnomedicinal value were recorded, particularly those used in traditional healing systems. The study also emphasised the dependence of local communities on forest biodiversity for healthcare and subsistence. Concerns regarding overexploitation and habitat degradation were noted. The documentation serves as an important step toward conserving indigenous knowledge and promoting sustainable utilisation of forest resources.





Ambika Prasad Research Foundation, Imphal Branch, Manipur has taken a significant initiative to document the diverse biological resources of Manipur, with a special emphasis on their ethnobotanical importance. This effort encompasses a wide range of plant-based resources, including traditional rice varieties, leafy vegetables, rhizomes, flowers, tubers, natural dyes, sacred groves and other locally utilized flora.

By integrating indigenous knowledge systems with scientific documentation, the team demonstrates the cultural, nutritional and medicinal value of these resources. Such comprehensive documentation not only preserves traditional knowledge passed down through generations but also provides a valuable foundation for future research, sustainable utilization and conservation of Manipur's rich biodiversity.



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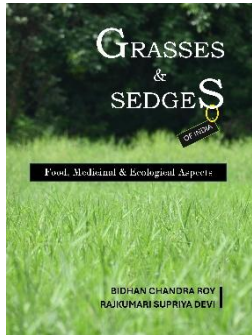
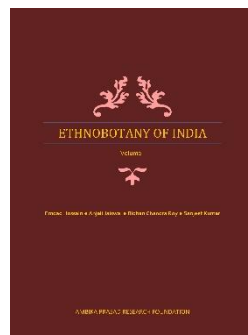
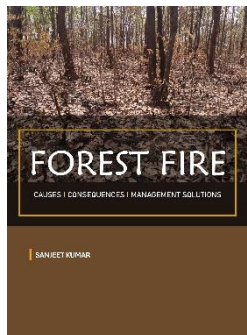
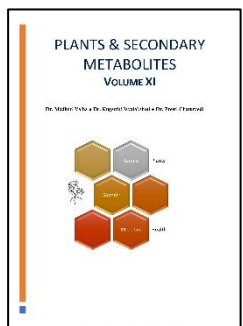
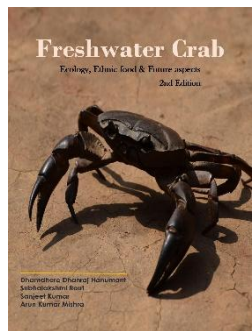
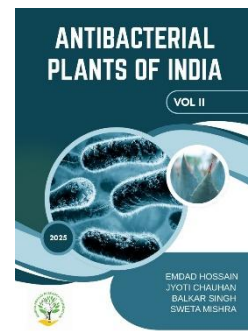
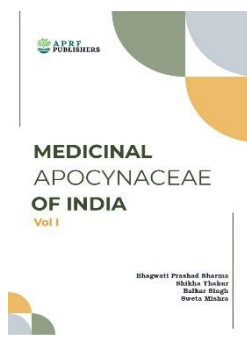
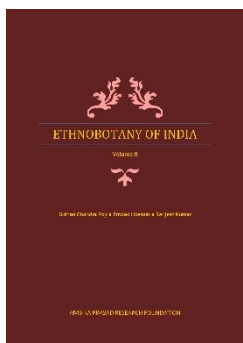
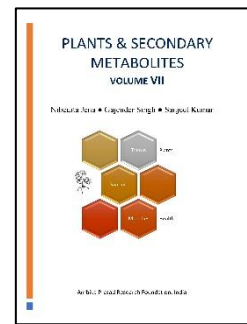
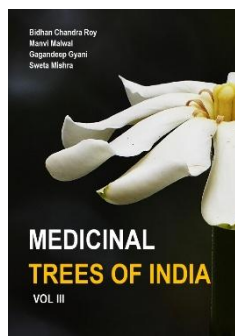
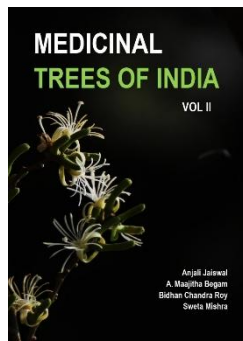
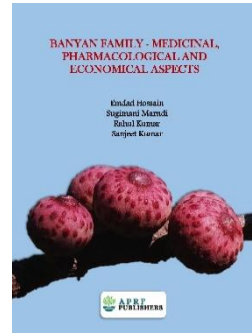
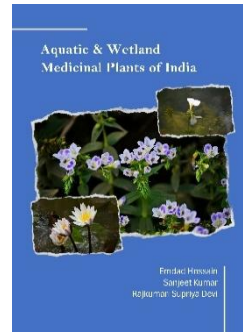
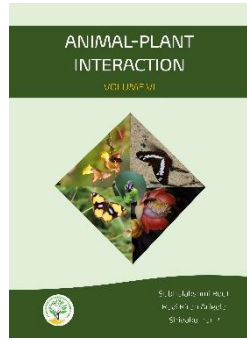
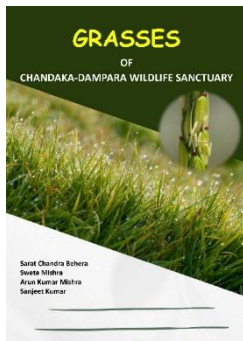
Ethnobotanical documentation was carried out during the Kalinga Herbal Fair to record traditional knowledge shared by herbal practitioners, farmers and indigenous communities. Various medicinal plants and herbal products displayed at the fair were documented along with their traditional uses and preparation methods. Interactions with participants provided valuable insights into the use of plant-based remedies for different health conditions. Special emphasis was given to identifying plants with known pharmacological properties and the presence of important secondary metabolites.

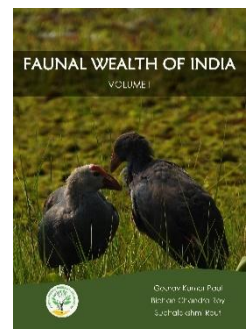
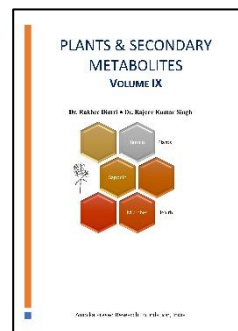
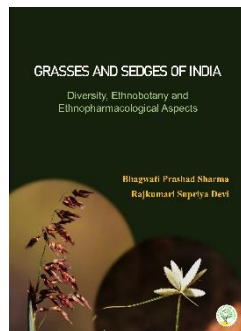
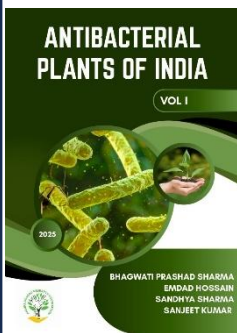
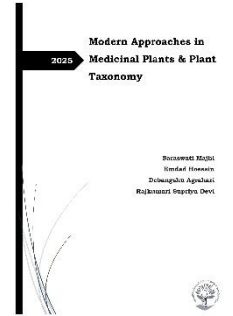
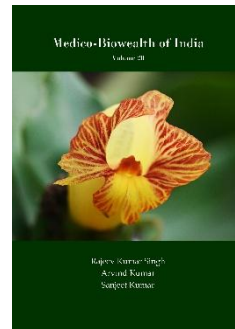
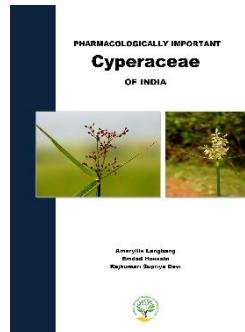
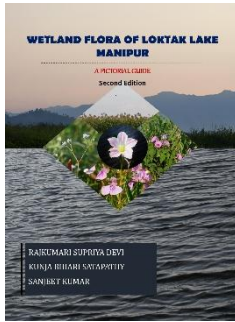
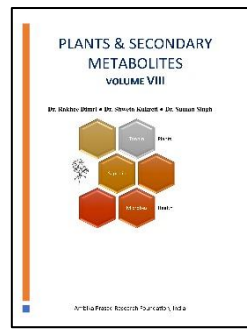
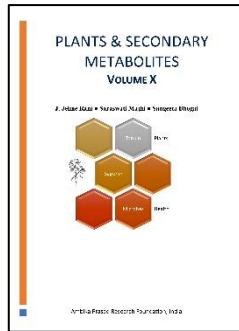
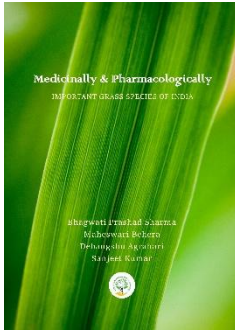
The event also highlighted the importance of conserving medicinal plant diversity and promoting traditional healthcare practices. The documentation serves as a valuable resource for research, awareness and conservation of indigenous knowledge systems.



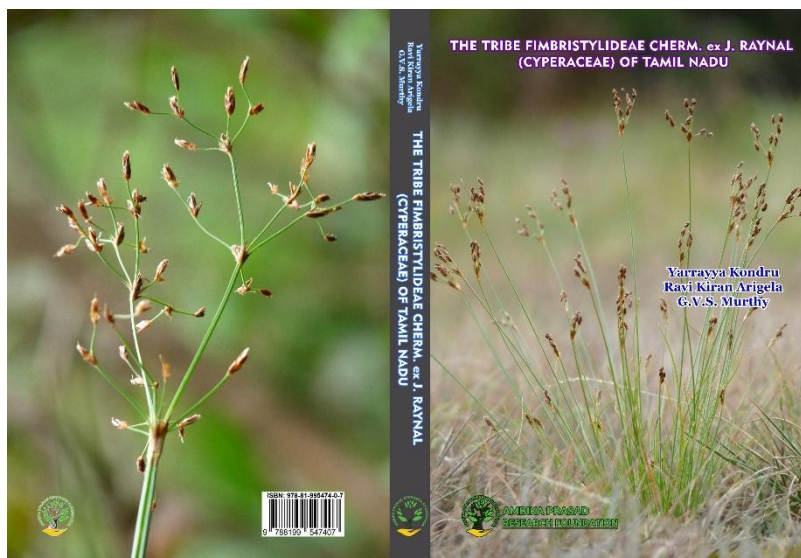
# Books, Journals & Publications

## BOOKS





## BOOK(S) WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS





## PUBLICATIONS

Medicinal Plants  
Vol. 17 (4), December 2025, 763-794

Quantifying traditional medicinal uses of parasitic plants: An ethnobotanical study for future pharmaceutical agents

Smita Mishra<sup>1\*</sup>, Sakhi Kanika Rath<sup>2</sup> and Sanjeet Kumar<sup>3</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>Department of Life Sciences, Rama Devi Women's University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India  
<sup>2</sup>Biodiversity and Conservation Lab, Ambika Prasad Research Foundation, Cuttack, Odisha, India  
Received: May 13, 2025; Accepted: November 12, 2025

Indian Forester, 151 (4): 840-844, 2025  
DOI: 10.36808/IF/2025/V151I4/170061

ISSN: 0019-8816  
eISSN: 2321-094X

(IV)  
Host plants of Forest Parasitic Angiosperms of Odisha, India: Boon and Bane

Page 1

Indian Forester, 151 (4): 840-844, 2025  
DOI: 10.36808/IF/2025/V151I4/170061

Ethnobotanical studies in Lokatak Lake, Manipur, India

Indian Forester, 151 (5): 430-435, 2025  
DOI: 10.36808/IF/2025/V151I5/170430

ISSN: 0019-8816  
eISSN: 2321-094X

(V)  
Saprophytic Orchids of India: Diversity and Significance

Indian Forester, 151 (5): 430-435, 2025  
DOI: 10.36808/IF/2025/V151I5/170430

ISSN: 0019-8816  
eISSN: 2321-094X

Floral Diversity of Loktak Lake, Manipur, India

Annals of Agri-Bio Research 30 (2): 114-125, 2025

Forest Fire Dynamics: Ecological Consequences, Prevention, and Community-Based Management

Sanath Kumar N<sup>1\*</sup>, Sanjeet Kumar<sup>2</sup> and Susanta Kumar Biswal<sup>3</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>School of Applied Sciences, Centurion University of Technology & Management, Jatni, Khurda 752050, India  
<sup>2</sup>Biodiversity and Conservation Lab, Ambika Prasad Research Foundation, Cuttack 753015, India  
<sup>3</sup>(e-mail: sanathkumarphdpr@gmail.com)

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Bionature  
Volume 46, Issue 1, Page 344-357, 2026; Article no.BN.2419  
ISSN: 0979-9833 (P), 0974-4282 (O)

Ethnomedicinal Plants Used in the Management of Eye Disorders: A Comprehensive Review

R. Sridharan<sup>a</sup>, Debangshu Agrahari<sup>b</sup>, Bhagwati Prasad Sharma<sup>c</sup>, Harsha Ashish Thanvi<sup>d</sup>, Saraswati Majhi<sup>e</sup>, R. Sethu<sup>f</sup>, Sumitra Jethy<sup>g</sup>, Nibedita Jena<sup>h</sup> and Sanjeet Kumar<sup>h\*</sup>

Annals of Agri-Bio Research 30 (1): 98-102, 2025

Impact Score: 0.4  
(Scopus)Food, Ethnomedicinal and Pharmacological Evaluation of *Streblus Asper Lour.* (Fruits): A Minor Nutraceutical of IndiaPrameela Hulikal Chandrashekar<sup>1</sup>, Smruti Ranjan Das<sup>2</sup>, Anjali Jaiswal<sup>3</sup>, Smita Gajanan Basole<sup>4</sup>, Shivanand S. Bhat<sup>5\*</sup>, Nibedita Jena<sup>6</sup>, and Sanjeet Kumar<sup>6\*</sup>

- <sup>1</sup> Department of Chemistry, Maharani's Science College for Women (Autonomous), Mysore 570005, India  
<sup>2</sup> Department of Plant Sciences, School of Life Sciences, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad 500046, India  
<sup>3</sup> JCPRO Academy, Rajanukunte, Bangalore 560064, India  
<sup>4</sup> Department of Botany, Balbhim Arts, Science and Commerce College, Beed 431122, India  
<sup>5</sup> Department of Botany, Smt. Indira Gandhi Government First Grade Women's College, Sagar 577401, India  
<sup>6</sup> Biodiversity and Conservation Lab, Ambika Prasad Research Foundation, Cuttack 753015, India  
<sup>\*</sup>(e-mail: shivanandbhatfgc@gmail.com; plantlover845@gmail.com)

(Received: 30 December 2024; Accepted: 13 May 2025)

Indian Forester, 151 (7): 682-687, 2025  
DOI: 10.36808/IF/2025/V151I7/170547

ISSN: 0019-8816  
eISSN: 2321-094X

Wild mushrooms of Lulung, Simlipal Biosphere Reserve, Odisha, India: Food and Medicinal aspects

Indian Forester, 151 (8): 803-804, 2025  
DOI: 10.36808/IF/2025/V151I8/170266

ISSN: 0019-8816  
eISSN: 2321-094X

(II)  
Restoration of *Gnetum edule* (Willd.) Blume: A threatened medicinal plant of wet tropical biome in India

J. Biodivers. Conservation 9(4): 108-109, 2025  
ISSN: 2457-0761 (online)  
<http://www.aprfjournal.in>

Research Article

A new combination in *Semenovia* (Apiaceae)

Rajeev Kumar Singh<sup>1</sup> and Sanjeet Kumar<sup>2\*</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>Botanical Survey of India, Arid Zone Regional Centre, AIMS Road, Jodhpur, Rajasthan, India  
<sup>2</sup>Biodiversity and Conservation Laboratory, Ambika Prasad Research Foundation, Cuttack, Odisha, India  
<sup>\*</sup>E-mail: sanjeetaprf@gmail.com; ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9538-397X>  
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.17724506>  
Article Details: Received: 2025-09-07 | Accepted: 2025-11-19 | Available online: 2025-11-26  
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Acta fytotechn zootechn, 28, 2025(4): 394-404  
<http://www.acta.fapz.uniag.sk>

Original Paper

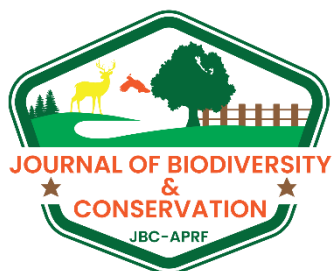
Pharmacological Evaluation and Prediction of Pharmaceutical Potential of *Lasioococca comberi* Haines: A Threatened Medicinal Tree

Jeline Rani J<sup>1</sup>, Kadambini Das<sup>2</sup>, Jaydeep Kumar Sahu<sup>3</sup>, Shikha Thakur<sup>4</sup>, Sandhya Sharma<sup>5</sup>, Sanjeet Kumar<sup>6\*</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>Bishop Heber College, Department of Botany, Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu, India  
<sup>2</sup>Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar Bihar University, University Department of Botany, Muzaffarpur, Bihar, India  
<sup>3</sup>Sri Sri University, Sri Sri College of Ayurvedic Science and Research Hospital, Department of Dravyaguna, Cuttack, Odisha, India  
<sup>4</sup>Uttaranchal University, SALS, Department of Biotechnology, Dehradun, Uttarakhand, India  
<sup>5</sup>M.R.S Govt College Patharia, Department of Botany, Damoh M.P, India  
<sup>6</sup>Biodiversity and Conservation Lab, Ambika Prasad Research Foundation, Odisha, India  
Article Details: Received: 2025-08-26 | Accepted: 2025-11-04 | Available online: 2025-12-31  
<https://doi.org/10.15414/afz.2025.28.04.394-404>  
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## JOURNALS

Ambika Prasad Research Foundation actively contributes to the advancement of scientific knowledge through the publication of two peer-reviewed academic journals:



### 1. Journal of Biodiversity and Conservation

This journal focuses on research related to biodiversity, ecology, environmental sustainability and conservation practices. It serves as a platform for scientists, researchers and academicians to publish original research, review articles and case studies addressing critical environmental challenges and conservation strategies.

### 2. Biochemica

*Biochemica* is dedicated to the field of biochemical sciences, including molecular biology, biochemistry, biotechnology and related disciplines. The journal promotes the dissemination of innovative research findings, experimental studies and emerging developments in life sciences.



Through these publications, the Foundation facilitates knowledge sharing, encourages interdisciplinary research and supports the global scientific community by providing accessible platforms for high-quality scholarly work.



# Media Coverage, Awareness & Outreach

## ସମ୍ବାଦ

ଏହାକୁ ସୁଧା ସୁଧା ଭୂତକେ ତଥାମାନଙ୍କୁ ପୁସ୍ତକ ଉପରେ ଧ୍ୟାନ ଦେବାକୁ ପାଏ

### ମହାନଦୀ ତଟରେ ପକ୍ଷୀଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ ବସା ବାନ୍ଧିଲେ

କଟକ, ୫/୬ (ଇମିପ): ବିଶ୍ୱ ପରିବେଶ ଦିବସ ଅବସରରେ ଅମ୍ବିକା ପ୍ରସାଦ ଗବେଷଣା ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠାନ ପକ୍ଷରୁ ପରିବେଶ ସୁରକ୍ଷା ଓ ପକ୍ଷୀ ସଂରକ୍ଷଣ ଉଦ୍ଦେଶ୍ୟରେ ପଦକ୍ଷେପ ଗ୍ରହଣ କରାଯାଇଛି।

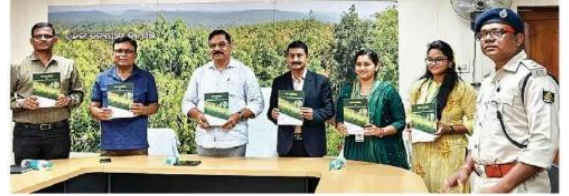


ସଂସ୍ଥା ପକ୍ଷରୁ ମହାନଦୀ ପାର୍ଶ୍ୱବର୍ତ୍ତୀ ଅଞ୍ଚଳରେ ସୁତକ୍ତ ଭାବେ ତିଆରି କରାଯାଇଥିବା ପକ୍ଷୀ ବସାଗୁଡ଼ିକୁ ବନ୍ଧାଯାଇଛି। ଏହି ଅବସରରେ ଡ. ସଂଜାତ କୁମାର, ରାଜକୁମାରୀ ସୁପ୍ରିୟା ଦେବୀ, ଶ୍ୱେତା ମିଶ୍ର, ସୁମିତ୍ରା ମାଣି, ନିବେଦିତା ଜେନା, ଶୁଭଲକ୍ଷ୍ମୀ ରାଉତ ଓ ସୁମିତ୍ରା ଜେଠି ଯୋଗଦେଇଥିଲେ।

CUTTACK Edition Page No.16 June 06, 2025

### ଚନ୍ଦିକା ବନ ବିଭାଗ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାଳୟରେ ପୁସ୍ତକ ଉନ୍ମୋଚିତ

ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱର, ୩୧୫୭ (ବୁଧବେଳା): ଚନ୍ଦିକା ବନ ବିଭାଗ ଓ ଅମ୍ବିକା ପ୍ରସାଦ ଗବେଷଣା ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠାନ, ବସ ଅନୁପମ କୁମାର ଅମ୍ବିକା ପ୍ରସାଦ ଗବେଷଣା ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠାନ ପକ୍ଷରୁ ଚନ୍ଦିକା ବନ ବିଭାଗ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାଳୟରେ ପୁସ୍ତକ 'ଗ୍ରାସେଭ୍ ଅଫ୍ ଚନ୍ଦିକା-ତମପତ୍ର' ଉନ୍ମୋଚନ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟୋଜନ କରାଯାଇଛି। ପୁସ୍ତକଟି ଚନ୍ଦିକା ବନ ବିଭାଗ ଅଧିକାରୀ ବିନୟନ ଆର୍ଯ୍ୟେ ଉନ୍ମୋଚନ କରିଥିଲେ। ଗବେଷକମାନେ ହେଲେ ଚନ୍ଦିକା ବନ ବିଭାଗର ପୂର୍ବତନ ଅଧିକାରୀ ଶରତ ଚନ୍ଦ୍ର ବେହେରା, ଶ୍ୱେତା ମିଶ୍ର, ଗବେଷଣା ସହଯୋଗୀ ଓ ପୁସ୍ତକ ବିକ୍ଷୟକ ରହିଛି।



### ■ ମୁକ୍ତଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଙ୍କ ନିଆରା ଉଦ୍ୟମ ପକ୍ଷୀଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ ମାଟି ଘଡ଼ି ବାନ୍ଧିଲେ



କଟକ, ୫/୬ (ସମିପ): ପକ୍ଷୀମାନେ ପ୍ରକୃତିର ଗୁରୁତ୍ୱପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଅଙ୍ଗ। ବାକ ବିଶ୍ୱାସ, ପ୍ରଜନନ, କାଟ ନିୟନ୍ତ୍ରଣ ଓ ପ୍ରକୃତିର ସ୍ୱଚ୍ଛତା ପ୍ରତି ପକ୍ଷୀ ଏକ ସମ୍ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଶାଳକ ଦିଏ। ସୁତ ସହରାକରଣ, ବନ୍ୟଜନ୍ତୁ ଅଞ୍ଚଳର ସଂକୋଚନ ଓ ପ୍ରାକୃତିକ ସମ୍ପଦର ବିକାଶ ଦ୍ୱାରା ପକ୍ଷୀମାନଙ୍କ ଘର ତଥା ବାସସ୍ଥାନ ଦିନକୁ ଦିନ କ୍ଷତିଗ୍ରସ୍ତ ହେଉଛି। ପକ୍ଷୀ ବଂଶକୁ ସୁରକ୍ଷା ଦେବା ଦୃଷ୍ଟିରେ ଆଜି କିଛି ମୁକ୍ତଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଙ୍କ ଦ୍ୱାରା ନିଆରା କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଦେଖାବାକୁ ମିଳିଥିଲା। ମହାନଦୀ ତଟରେ ପ୍ରାୟ ୨୫ଟି ଗଛରେ ଏମାନେ ମାଟିର ଘଡ଼ି ବାନ୍ଧିଥିଲେ। ଏହି ଘଡ଼ିଗୁଡ଼ିକ ତତ୍ପରେ ବାସସ୍ଥାନ ରୂପେ ବ୍ୟବହାର କରାଯାଏ। ଆଜି ବିଶ୍ୱ ପରିବେଶ ଦିବସ ପାଳନ ପରିପ୍ରେକ୍ଷାରେ ଅମ୍ବିକା ପ୍ରସାଦ ଗବେଷଣା ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠାନ ତରଫରୁ ପରିବେଶ ସୁରକ୍ଷା ଓ ପକ୍ଷୀ ସଂରକ୍ଷଣ ଉଦ୍ଦେଶ୍ୟରେ ଏକ ଗୁରୁତ୍ୱପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ପଦକ୍ଷେପ ଗ୍ରହଣ କରାଯାଉଥିଲା। ସଂସ୍ଥା ପକ୍ଷରୁ ମହାନଦୀ ପାର୍ଶ୍ୱବର୍ତ୍ତୀ ଅଞ୍ଚଳରେ ସୁତକ୍ତ ଭାବେ ତିଆରି କରାଯାଇଥିବା ପକ୍ଷୀ ବସାଗୁଡ଼ିକୁ ବନ୍ଧା ଯାଇଥିଲା, ଯାହା ପକ୍ଷୀମାନଙ୍କୁ ନିରାପଦ ବାସସ୍ଥାନ ଯୋଗାଇଦେବ। ନଦୀକୂଳରେ ସର୍ବତ୍ରାସର ସହ ଚନ୍ଦିକା ବନରେ ବସାଗୁଡ଼ିକ ଘାଟିତ କରାଯାଇଛି। ସମ୍ବନ୍ଧରେ ପଞ୍ଜରୀକରଣ ଯୋଜନା ରହିଛି। ଏବଂ ନିୟମିତ ଉନ୍ମୋଚନ ପାଇଁ ସ୍ଥାନୀୟ ସେଲ୍ସାସେବକଙ୍କ ସହିତ କଡ଼ିତ ହେବାର ଯୋଜନା ରହିଛି। ଏହି ଅବସରରେ ଡ. ସଂଜାତ କୁମାର, ରାଜକୁମାରୀ ସୁପ୍ରିୟା ଦେବୀ, ଶ୍ୱେତା ମିଶ୍ର, ସୁମିତ୍ରା ମାଣି, ନିବେଦିତା ଜେନା, ଶୁଭଲକ୍ଷ୍ମୀ ରାଉତ ଓ ସୁମିତ୍ରା ଜେଠି ଯୋଗଦେଇଥିଲେ।

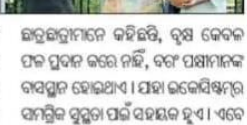
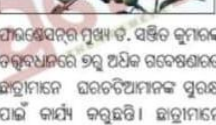
### ଆଜି ଘରଚଟିଆ ଦିବସ ଘରଚଟିଆକୁ ମିଳୁନି ଘର

କଟକ, ୧୯/୬ (ବୁଧବେଳା): ଆଜି ଶୁକ୍ଳ ଅମାସ, ଗାଁ ଦାଣ୍ଡ ଓ ଶ୍ରଦ୍ଧା ଖଳରେ ଘରଚଟିଆଙ୍କ କିରୀଟିମିଟିଣି ଶବ୍ଦ। ଅସଂଗଠିତ ପରିବେଶ ହିଁ ଏହି ସୁନ୍ଦର ପକ୍ଷୀଙ୍କ ବଂଶ ଲୋପ ପାଇବାର ମୁଖ୍ୟ କାରଣ। ବିଶେଷକରି ଚାଷରେ ବ୍ୟବହାର ହେଉଥିବା ବିକାଶ ରାସାୟନିକ ସାର ଓ କାବନାକ୍ଷକ, ଗାଡ଼ିମୋଟର ଧୂଆଁ, ମୋବାଇଲ ଗସ୍ତର ଏବଂ ଖୁଲପାଇର ବିକିରଣ ଫଳରେ ଘରଚଟିଆମାନେ ପ୍ରତିବର୍ଷ ମାର୍ଚ୍ଚ ମାସ ୨୦ ତାରିଖକୁ ଘରଚଟିଆ ଦିବସ ଭାବରେ ପାଳନ କରାଯାଉଛି। ଅମ୍ବିକା ପ୍ରସାଦ ଗବେଷଣା ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠାନରୁ ପ୍ରକାଶିତ ପୁସ୍ତକ 'ଗ୍ରାସେଭ୍ ଅଫ୍ ଚନ୍ଦିକା-ତମପତ୍ର' ଉନ୍ମୋଚନ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟୋଜନ କରାଯାଇଛି।

ଘରଚଟିଆମାନଙ୍କର ସୁରକ୍ଷା ପାଇଁ ବିଭିନ୍ନ ଅଞ୍ଚଳରେ ଗଛଗୋଳା ଓ ଖଞ୍ଜୁଖି ବନ ବିଭାଗର ମିଳିତ ଉଦ୍ୟମରେ ସେମାନେ ସଂରକ୍ଷଣ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ କରୁଛନ୍ତି ବୋଲି କହିଛନ୍ତି। ଏ ସଂପର୍କରେ ଗବେଷଣାକାରୀ ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ ସୁମିତ୍ରା ଜେଠି କହିଛନ୍ତି, ଦୂଷ୍ଣ କେବଳ ଫଳ ପ୍ରଦାନ କରେ ନାହିଁ, ବରଂ ପକ୍ଷୀମାନଙ୍କ ବସସ୍ଥାନ ହୋଇଥାଏ। ସହା ଉଦ୍ଦେଶ୍ୟରେ ସଂଗଠିତ ପ୍ରୟୋଗ ପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତ ସହଯୋଗ ଦୁଏ। ଏବେ ଉନ୍ମୋଚନ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ ନିମ୍ନ ଗଛ କାଟି ଦିଆଯାଉଛି। ଫଳରେ ପକ୍ଷୀମାନେ ବସସ୍ଥାନ ହେଉଛନ୍ତି। ସହରା ସମାପ୍ତ ଘରଚଟିଆମାନଙ୍କର ବଂଶଧରରେ ବ୍ୟକ୍ତି ଯାଉଛି। ସେଥିପାଇଁ ପ୍ରଥମେ ଘରଚଟିଆମାନଙ୍କର ରଖଣ ହେବ ଅବଶ୍ୟକ। ଫଳରେ ଏକ ନିର୍ଦ୍ଦିଷ୍ଟ ଅଞ୍ଚଳରେ କେତେ ସଂଖ୍ୟକ ଘରଚଟିଆ ରହିଛି ତାହା ଜଣିହେବ। ସେମାନଙ୍କ ସଂରକ୍ଷଣ ଦିଗରେ ପଦକ୍ଷେପ ନିଆଯାଇ ପାରିବ।

### ବଂଶଧର ଓ ସଂରକ୍ଷଣ ପାଇଁ ଗବେଷଣା ଜାରି

ପରିବେଶ ସହିତ ଖାସ୍ତା ଖୁଆଇ ନପାରି ଲୋପ ପାଇବାକୁ ବସିଲେଣି। ଏମାନଙ୍କର ସୁରକ୍ଷା ଏବେ କରୁଛି ହେଲପଫୁଡ଼ି। ସେଥିପାଇଁ ସହରର କିଛି ଗବେଷକମାନେ ଘରଚଟିଆଙ୍କ ସୁରକ୍ଷା ପାଇଁ ଆଗେଇ ଆସିଛନ୍ତି। ଦୀର୍ଘ ୮ ବର୍ଷ ହେବ ଘରଚଟିଆଙ୍କ ସୁରକ୍ଷା ପାଇଁ ଆଗେଇ ଆସିଛନ୍ତି। ଦୀର୍ଘ ୮ ବର୍ଷ ହେବ ଘରଚଟିଆଙ୍କ ସୁରକ୍ଷା ପାଇଁ ଆଗେଇ ଆସିଛନ୍ତି। ଦୀର୍ଘ ୮ ବର୍ଷ ହେବ ଘରଚଟିଆଙ୍କ ସୁରକ୍ଷା ପାଇଁ ଆଗେଇ ଆସିଛନ୍ତି।



# Key Achievements of the Year

During the reporting period (2025-2026), Ambika Prasad Research Foundation (APRF) made significant progress in the areas of biodiversity research, ecosystem restoration and scientific collaboration. The major achievements are summarised below:

## 1. Comprehensive Floristic Surveys

Extensive floristic studies were successfully conducted across diverse ecosystems, including wetlands (Hirakud backwaters), forests (Barbera, Sunabeda), coastal zones (Jahania), hill ecosystems (Deomali, Dhauli Giri) and unique wetlands such as Loktak Lake, Manipur. A substantial number of plant species were documented, contributing to regional biodiversity databases.

## 2. Development of Restoration Models

A habitat-based restoration methodology was developed for Keonjhar Forest Division, including ecological zonation, species grouping and plantation model design. This provides a practical framework for wetland and riparian habitat restoration.

## 3. Grass Diversity Assessment

A dedicated study on grass diversity in Chandaka Dampara Wildlife Division and Sunabeda Wildlife Division was completed, emphasising the ecological role of grasses in habitat stability and as a key resource for wildlife.

## 4. Ethnobotanical and Pharmacological Insights

Ethnobotanical data and traditional knowledge were documented across multiple sites. Preliminary insights into

pharmacologically important plants and their secondary metabolites were also explored.

## 5. Exploration of Special Ecosystems

Focused explorations were carried out in ecologically sensitive habitats such as sand dunes, coastal belts and floating wetland systems, identifying stress-tolerant and ecologically significant species.

## 6. Academic Collaboration & Knowledge Exchange

Collaborative field visits and interactions with professors and researchers from various universities enhanced scientific exchange and strengthened research networks.

## 7. Contribution to Conservation and Management

Findings from various studies provided valuable inputs for biodiversity conservation, habitat restoration and forest management planning in Odisha and beyond.

## 8. Publications and Outreach

Research findings were published in journals and disseminated through media coverage, increasing public awareness and scientific visibility of APRF activities.



# Future Roadmap (2026–2027)

During the upcoming year, APRF will focus on strengthening research, conservation and community engagement initiatives related to plant diversity and ecosystem restoration. The key priorities are outlined below:

## 1. Expansion of Floristic Surveys

Systematic exploration will be extended to underexplored regions, including wetlands, forest fringes, grasslands and coastal ecosystems, to build a comprehensive regional floristic database.

## 2. Restoration and Habitat Management

Implementation of habitat-based restoration models in degraded wetlands, riparian zones and forest areas will be undertaken, with emphasis on native species plantation and ecosystem resilience.

## 3. Grassland and Wetland Ecology Studies

Focused studies on grass diversity, wetland vegetation dynamics and invasive species management will be carried out to support habitat improvement and wildlife conservation.

## 4. Ethnobotanical and Pharmacological Research

Documentation of traditional knowledge will be strengthened, along with preliminary studies on pharmacological properties and secondary metabolites of selected plant species.

## 5. Conservation of Rare and Threatened Species

Efforts will be made to identify, monitor

and conserve rare, endemic and threatened plant species through in-situ and ex-situ strategies.

## 6. Database Development and Digitisation

A digital repository of plant diversity, including herbarium records, geo-referenced data and photographic documentation, will be developed for research and management purposes.

## 7. Capacity Building and Collaboration

Workshops, training programs and collaborative research with academic institutions and forest departments will be enhanced to build technical expertise and knowledge exchange.

## 8. Community Participation and Awareness

Awareness programs and community engagement activities will be promoted to encourage sustainable use of plant resources and conservation practices among local stakeholders.

## 9. Policy Support and Advisory Role

Scientific inputs will be provided to support forest management plans, biodiversity conservation strategies and restoration projects at the regional and state levels.



# Acknowledgements

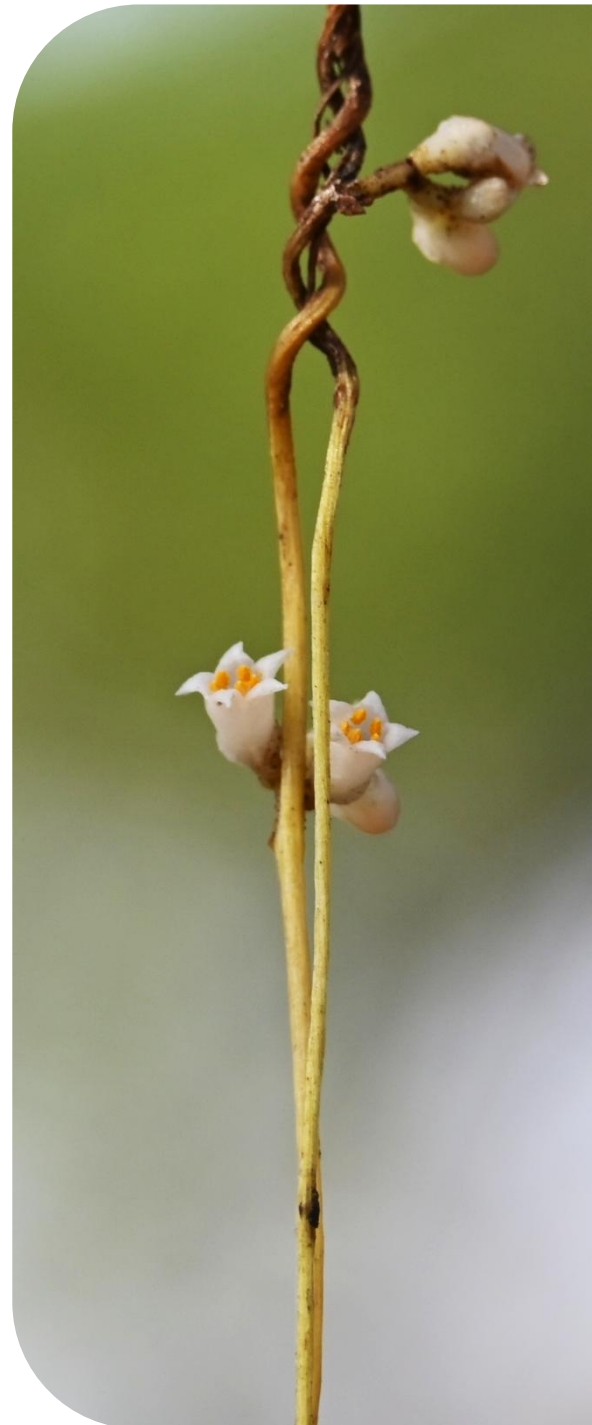
Ambika Prasad Research Foundation (APRF) gratefully acknowledges the support and cooperation of the Forest, Environment and Climate Change Department, Government of Odisha. We express our sincere thanks to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force and the PCCF (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Odisha, for their guidance and encouragement.

We extend our gratitude to the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Bhubaneswar, the Director, Nandankanan Zoological Park and the Deputy Director, Nandankanan Zoological Park, Odisha, for their continuous support.

APRF is thankful to the Divisional Forest Officers of Chandaka-Dampara Wildlife Sanctuary, Rourkela Forest Division, Jharsuguda Forest Division, Sunabeda Wildlife Division, Keonjhar Forest Division, Nayagarh Forest Division, Koraput Forest Division, Athgarh Forest Division (Odisha) and Latehar Forest Division (Jharkhand) for their cooperation and facilitation during field studies.

We sincerely acknowledge the invaluable support and cooperation of local communities in the study areas covered in this annual report. Their knowledge and assistance greatly contributed to the success of our fieldwork.

We also appreciate the role of print media in highlighting and disseminating our activities. APRF Publishers expresses its gratitude to the ISBN authorities and the editors of various journals for facilitating the publication of our research work.





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