

A REPORT ON THE SEVENTH BOTANICAL NOMENCLATURE COURSE
ORGANIZED BY THE BOTANICAL SURVEY OF INDIA
AT HYDERABAD, TELANGANA, INDIA

Kanad Das¹, Sudhansu Sekhar Dash¹, Ladan Rasingam²,
Sitaram Prasad Panda², Sankararao Mudadla², Swarnalatha Ginnaram²,
Peddi Harikrishna², Sneha Gandhi², Arikrishnan Parthiban²,
and Kanchi N. Gandhi^{3*}

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During March 16–20, 2026, the Botanical Survey of India (BSI) organized its seventh botanical nomenclature course at Hyderabad, Deccan Regional Centre (BSID), India. The course was attended by eighty-three people from across India. Dr. Kanad Das, Director of the BSI, was the convener of the course. Ladan Rasingam, Head of the BSID, served as the organizing secretary, and his colleagues Panda and Mudadla were co-organizing secretaries; they were assisted by Swarnalatha, Harikrishna, Sneha Gandhi, Mr. K. Ravikumar, Parthiban, and Mr. P. Bharat Simha as facilitators; Kanchi Gandhi served as the mentor of the course, and Dr. Ashok Kumar Patel, Parthiban, Ms. Prachika Saxena, and Mr. Yogesh Sharma served as the monitors of the course.

Prior to the commencement of the course, an inaugural program, anchored by Sneha Gandhi, was held; Rasingam gave the welcome speech, followed by the Keynote talk from Gandhi. The event was graced by Dr. C. Suvarna (Chief Guest), IFS, PCCF & HoFF, State Forest Department, Government of Telangana; Sudhansu S. Dash, retired BSI scientists Dr. Addala Rama Krishna Sastry, Dr. Garimella Venkata Suryanarayana Murthy, Dr. Potharaju Venu, and Dr. Prasanna Parigi, and Prof. Vatsavaya Satyanarayana Raju (Kakatiya University (Retd.)). All of them emphasized the importance of learning and enhancing one's knowledge. Sitaram P. Panda gave the vote of Thanks.

At the end of the course, a valedictory function was held; all the course participants were given certificates. As a token of appreciation of his teaching the course, Kanchi Gandhi was presented with a memento by Rasingam. Kanchi Gandhi thanked Rasingam for organizing the course, and also Dr. Kamal Bawa (Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment, Bangalore), Dr. Hitesh M. Hathi (The Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute at Harvard University), Dr. Jeannine Cavender Bares, Ms. Rebecca Chetham, Ms. Jeannette M. Everritt, and Ms. Wendy Heywood (Department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology, Harvard University) for sponsoring his travel to India; and his spouse Mrs. Kasthuri Gandhi and daughter Dr. Jayashree Gandhi (MGH, Boston) for moral support.

The valedictory session was graced by Dr. A Sonibala Devi, Vice Chairman and Managing Director, Sports Authority of Telangana and Chief Executive Officer (FAC), Telangana Medicinal Plants Board; Mr. Ramachandra Appari, Managing Director, Green Morning; P. Venu, P. Parigi, and V.S. Raju. All the guests spoke about the course and conservation. Some course attendees (e.g., Mr. Anuj Singh Bhati, Mr. Kapil Kumar Kemprai, Ms. S. Navya, A.K. Patel, P. Saxena, Mr. Prashant Atmaram Date, Dr. Raja Kullayiswamy, Dr. Sharad Bissa, Dr. S. Siddharthan, Dr. Suchandra Dutta, and Dr. N. Tirupathi Swamy) expressed their opinions and mentioned that the course clarified several nomenclatural doubts they had before. Sitaram Panda gave the vote of Thanks.

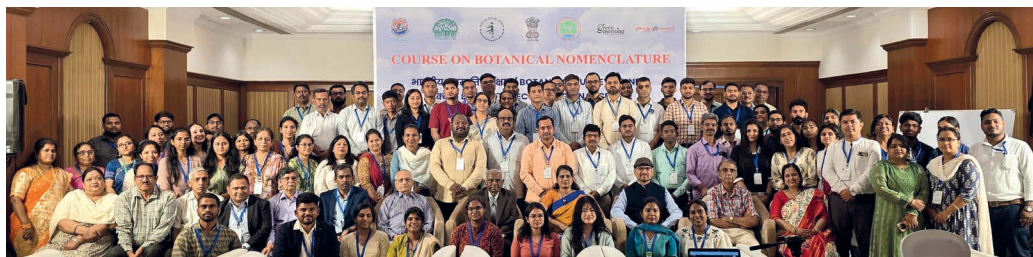


Fig. 1. Participants of the inauguration function.