



'MAHA PENCH-TIGERS IN THE HEART OF INDIA'



Office of the Chief Conservator of Forest & Field Director, Pench Tiger Reserve, Nagpur

मुख्य वनसंरक्षक व क्षेत्रसंचालक, पेंच व्याघ्र प्रकल्प, नागपूर यांचे कार्यालय

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To,

The Secretary
Department of Biotechnology
6th-8th Floor, Block 2, CGO complex
Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003

Subject: Letter of collaboration

Sir/Madam,

I am happy to offer you my support for the proposal entitled as "**Investigation on genetic diversity, local scale genetic structure and ex-situ conservation of *Anogeissus sericea* in disturbed forest patches of Gujarat, Rajasthan and Vidarbha, India**".

This proposed research is a collaborative effort between Bajaj College of Science, Wardha and Office of the Chief Conservator of Forests and Field Director, Nagpur. My office will support the research staff of this project during field collection of seeds and leaf samples of *A. sericea* stands after following the due procedure.

Two collection sites are outside Maharashtra state. Under such circumstance, my office will communicate to Gujarat/Rajasthan Forest Departments and the State Biodiversity Boards (if needed) and facilitate the team of PI to collect the plant samples after following the due procedure. The collections will be done without any serious damage to the parent trees in all designated locations of the proposal. This proposed research will help to propagate the threatened forest tree species which will support the goals of Forest Department of Maharashtra as it is extremely sparsely distributed in Maharashtra state. The nursery plantlets which will be developed by Bajaj College of Science will enhance the possibility of reintroduction of threatened species into local habitat and to other forest patches.

I am looking forward to collaborating with Bajaj College of Science, Wardha on this and other forest tree projects.

Yours Sincerely,

(Dr. Ravikiran Govekar)

Chief Conservator of Forest & Field Director
Pench Tiger Reserve, Nagpur.