**Western Regional Centre**

**Activities**

**Workshops Organized**

1. **Taxonomy of Higher Plants**

An interactive talk and workshop on the “Essentials in Plant Revisionary Studies and Flora Writing” was organized at BSI, WRC, Pune from 1-3 December 2016 in collaboration with Naoroji Godrej Centre for Plant Research, Shirval, Satara, Maharashtra. Internationally and nationally recognized experts of plant taxonomy have delivered their talk on the aspects of classical and modern approaches in plant taxonomy.

1. **Cytology of Pteridophytes**

A hands-on training and workshop on ‘Cytological Techniques of Pteridophytes’ was organized at Botanical Survey of India, Pune from 22–26 January 2018. Priority in participation was given to the post- graduate and research students. Eminent Cytologists and Pteridologists presided the sessions during the workshop.

1. **Botanical Nomenclature course**

‘2nd Botanical Nomenclature Course’ was organized by the Botanical Survey of India from 9 February 2017 to 12 February 2017 with enormous enthusiasm. This national-level successful nomenclature course received participation from across the country. Dr. Kanchi N. Gandhi, Senior Nomenclatural Registrar, Harvard University Herbaria, U.S.A. served as the Course Director and Dr P. Lakshminarasimhan, Senior Scientist, BSI as course co-ordinator. The course dealt with various aspects of International Code of Nomenclature for algae, fungi, and plants during the 5 days session.

**Symposium Organized**

Botanical Survey of India, Western Regional Centre, Pune in association with Indian Fern Society, Chandigarh in support with Department of Science and Technology (DST), New Delhi organized a two days National symposium entitled with “The Genomic Age Challenges and Opportunities in Taxonomy and Biology of Indian Pteridophytes” on 3-4 March 2017 at Indian Institute of Science and Education Research (IISER), Pune. Eminent Pteridologists from India as well as abroad participated in the symposium and shared their experiences and constrains in the research. Best three oral and poster presentations were given awards to encourage the young researchers. Awards of the Indian Fern Society for the year 2016, were also distributed in the valedictory function of the national symposium.

**awareness/ Exhibitions**

1. The centre participated in the ‘Shining Maharashtra Program’ organized by Maharashtra Government from 26-28 September 2018 at Solapur. A stall was set at the program displaying posters on various aspects of plant diversity. Books and journals published by BSI also were displayed for publicity and sale.
2. The centre participated and displayed the publications on plant diversity at the ‘XXVI Annual Conference of IAAT and International Seminar’ held at Shivaji University, Kolhapur from 7-9 Nov. 2016.
3. WRC, BSI, Pune participated in the national level celebration of IDB organized in Mumbai, Maharashtra on 22nd May 2016, by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Govt. of India through the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) with support from Maharashtra State Biodiversity Board (SBB) in partnership with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The centre has displayed posters on plant diversity of Western Ghats.
4. Botanical Survey of India, Pune also participated in the national level celebrations of IDB were organized by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) in coordination with the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) and with support from Goa State Biodiversity Board in Kala Academy, Goa on 22nd May 2017. The centre has displayed posters on plant diversity of Western Ghats to make public aware about the activities of BSI.
5. BSI and ZSI, Pune co-organized Environment Conclave with Symbiosis Centre for Management Studies, Pune on 29 July 2017. As a part of the enclave BSI has displayed posters on the plant diversity as well as experts of BSI has delivered lectures on the topics viz., ‘Biodiversity with reference to human and environment interaction’ and ‘Floral aspects of biodiversity conservation and its sustainable utilization’.