

PLANT VARIETY GENOME SAVIOR COMMUNITY RECOGNITION FROM THE NATIONAL GENE FUND

APPLICATION FORM AND PROCEDURES



PROTECTION OF PLANT VARIETIES AND FARMERS' RIGHTS AUTHORITY

Ministry of Agriculture

Government of India

NASC Complex, 2nd Floor, DPS Marg, Opp. Todapur, Village, New Delhi -110 012.

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Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority

Plant Variety Genome Savior Community Recognition

Protection of Plant Varieties And Farmers' Rights Authority - Introduction

The Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority (PPV&FRA) was established on 11th November, 2005 following the Gazette notification (S.O. 1589-E) in exercise of power conferred by sub-section (1) of Section 3 of PPV&FR Act, 2001. The Authority is designed to play an important role in the development of new varieties and protect the rights of farmers and plant breeders. In this context the PPV&FR Act envisages that the Authority shall give effect to the following objectives.

- To provide effective system for Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights
- To provide the needed incentives and encouragement to protect agro-biodiversity and its usage
- To recognise the farmers in respect of their contributions made at any time improving and making available plant genetic resources
- To encourage the development of new varieties of plants
- To protect plant breeders' rights to stimulate investment for R&D, both in the public and private sectors
- To facilitate the growth of seed industry in the country

The PPV&FR Authority has its office in the NASC Complex, New Delhi -110012 and has taken steps to implement various provisions under the PPV&FR Act including the recognition of farmers/farming community for their contribution in the conservation of agro-biodiversity in the hot spots more so by woman and tribal farmers.

PLANT VARIETY GENOME SAVIOR COMMUNITY RECOGNITION

It is an established fact that farmers have been associated in conserving the agro-biodiversity which is linked with varied soils, elevations, seasons, rituals and social customs. They have shared their materials with research organizations for the development of new plant varieties of high productivity, heat tolerance, early maturity and of good quality for the use of the public at large.

As such plant /agro biodiversity so conserved and supplied to the research organizations and private seed companies has accelerated the growth of agriculture and economy of the country. However, it is an irony that the wealth so accrued does not always percolate to the real conservers and suppliers of the plant /agro biodiversity. If the situation continues due to the economic compulsions operating, people may give up their efforts to conserve and supply plant / agro biodiversity. This will be final blow to biodiversity. Keeping this in view, the Act has provided a mechanism to recognize such farmers / farming communities through the 'Gene Fund' provision. Establishment of the National Gene Fund has been notified in the Plant Variety Journal of India Vol. 1. No.3

As emphasized in the preamble to the Act which reads 'whereas it is considered necessary to recognize and protect the rights of the farmers in respect of their contributions made at any time in conserving, improving and making available plant genetic resources for the development of new plant varieties', the Authority took steps to recognise farmers. The PPV&FR Authority felt the need to recognise and reward farmers/farming communities, who have shared the material leading to the development of new varieties in various crop species. The Authority, as a mark of recognition of these agro biodiversity conservers and protectors, started the Plant Genome Savior Community Recognition in 2007.

Objectives

The Plant Variety Genome Savior Community Recognition shall be made by the Authority once in a year, based on a national level search and sponsors with the following objectives-

- To recognize and reward the farmers for the contribution made at any time in conserving, improving and making available plant genetics resources for the development of new plant varieties.

- To recognize and reward farming community including tribals and farm women residing in the agro biodiversity hot spot for their contribution to agricultural growth and development related to plant varieties.
- To stimulate development of plant varieties by encouraging the conservation and usage of agro-biodiversity.
- To facilitate the revival and awareness to conserve the agro-biodiversity to have effective plant breeding and development of new varieties in perpetuity.
- To conserve production or cropping technology that promotes agro-biodiversity eg. back yard garden, shift cultivation, coastal marine system etc.
- To promote all kinds of plant based agro-biodiversity conservation activity, related to plant variety development.

Frequency and value of reward/ recognition.

The Plant Genome Savior Community Recognition will be done annually. Applications for the recognition awards will be invited from farmers/ farming communities, conservers protectors/or their sponsors every year through advertisement in news papers and mass media.

In order to encourage and sustain the large number of conservation and preservation of plant varieties, application shall be invited from all over the country. The application can be in any of the Indian official language.

Recognizing the role played by farmers/community in conserving plant diversity can be by way presenting a citation, a medal and social honour to the community that in the past had contributed towards the development of a new variety. Therefore, the PPV&FR Authority shall organise a public function to honour the recipient of the Plant Variety Genome Savior Community Recognition. The contributions of the recipient shall be published in Plant Variety Journal of India and brought to public attention that would be a valuable recognition and would also discourage the piracy of the farmers' plant material, and making wrong claims of ownership.

The recognition shall be given annually in a public function organized by the PPV&FR Authority. As a gesture, the Authority will provide an opportunity to the awardee farmers/ farming community to join in study tour to agriculture universities/research organizations/ other agencies in agriculture of national repute for creating awareness about the latest agriculture technological advancements in the country. It will encourage, apprise and motivate them and bring them into the main stream of agricultural progress and participate in the agricultural growth of the country. Also this will promote farmer to farmer interaction and develop appreciation for the enormous cultural and biodiversity that India enjoys. Their travel surface expenses to the place of the award ceremony, local hospitality etc., shall be borne by the Authority as per rules, out of the National Gene Fund.

Eligibility for Plant Genome Savior Community Recognition

The Plant Variety Genome Savior Community Recognition is open to all farmers, farming community, particularly the tribal and rural communities engaged in conservation, improvement and preservation of genetic resources of economic plants and their wild relatives.

An applicant should preferably be residing in an area which belongs to a Agrobiodiversity hot spot already demarcated by the Authority (Map). It is not necessary that applicants are to be only from these places. But for those applicants who are conservers from the agrobiodiversity hot spot, some weightage will be given Applicant should supply documented evidence that he/she has conserved valuable agro bio-diversity or crop bio-diversity and had deposited or shared the material with the Indian plant breeding institutions, where in, by crossing with that material or using that material new varieties have been developed and released for general cultivation.

Number of farmers/ farming communities for reward / recognition.

- A maximum of five representatives from each of the farming community can be selected to receive the recognition in a public function.
- Contribution of farmers / farming community can be an individual or collective team effort with respect to conserving, improving and making available plant genetic resources for the development of new plant varieties.

Requirement

It is essential for the applicant(s) to submit documentary evidence to prove that farmers/ a community of farmers conserved, improved and made available or shared their material with active plant breeding programmes for the development of new plant variety. Details of the organisations that developed variety with pedigree, and cross detail, character(s) of the germplasm that was specifically transferred, names of the variety, years wise area it covered (roughly), if the seed was produced by public plant breeding or private, yield advantage or benefit gained/hectare, total value of the benefit and such related information duly attested by an agency of repute should be provided. The NGO or Agriculture University or such reputed organization should sponsor nominations. **The shortlisted applicant(s) will be asked to deposit a sample of seed material and give the details in the tin foil envelopes** or thick paper bags, properly sealed. The name of the variety, year of harvest and applicant's address etc. should be properly written on the seed cover and also placed inside the seed envelope.

Application form/proposals /sponsors.

The application form is given as Annexure -1. one set of complete form, duly filled, sponsored by a reputed NGO or such registered system, proposal verified by designated authorities must reach the authority before the fixed last date.

The shortlisted applications without the sample of seed packets of the conserved native varieties plant biodiversity shall not be entertained. Where farming systems to promote agro biodiversity have been developed by farmer (s)/farming community full documented proof is necessary. Attach CD/publication/paper clipping/ any social recognition received for such activity to substantiate the claim. There is no application fee. Decision of the Authority shall be final.

The Guidelines and application form can also be downloaded from the web-site of the authority www.plantauthority.in. One set of complete filled application along with supportive documents, viz; undertaking, passport information, details of varietal breeding programme (Appendix-I), particulars pertaining to sharing of germplasm (Appendix-II), and other related information should be enclosed. Each page of the application should be duly signed by the

concerned applicant and counter signed by the endorsee in support of the claim. The application should reach the office of the Registrar of the Authority at the following address:-

The Registrar.

Protection of Plant Varieties & Farmers' Rights Authority

NASC Complex, DPS Marg, Opp. Todapur Village

New Delhi-110012

Tel. No. 011-25840777 (O)

011-25840478 (F)

09818713591 (M)

E-mail: plantaauthority@gmail.com



Annexure I

Protection of Plant Varieties & Farmers' Rights Authority

(Established by Govt. of India under PPV&FRA Act, 2001)

NASC Complex, DPS Marg, Opp. Todapur Village

New Delhi 110 012

***APPLICATION FORM FOR THE PLANT GENOME SAVIOR
COMMUNITY RECOGNITION***

Year _____

Fill here ↓

1.	Name of the Applicant (s): (ALL CAPITALS)	
2.	Postal address: Block _____ Village _____ District _____ State _____ Pin _____	
3.	Status(Single/Joint/Community/Institution): (Please clearly type/write your claims in a manner it is readable and understandable.)	
4.	A) Which Agro biodiversity hot spot the applicant belongs. B) Crop in which conservation efforts made: C) Practices developed, if any that promotes agro biodiversity (Explains in details –Attach proofs.)	
5.	Area and locality of conservation.	
6.	Name of the area where germplasm and farmers' conservation effort is dense and significant (Give details):	
7.	Details of the material that were freely shared with Varietal Breeding Programme (Appendix – I)	

8.	<p>A) Based on the genetic resources, whether new variety developed deriving useful traits from the conserved and shared germplasm and with whom (Give details) in (Appendix – II)</p> <p>B) How many varieties stemmed out of such effort and by which agency :</p>	
(i)	What is that distinct trait that proved useful?	
(ii)	How much area it occupied when it was popular:	
(iii)	How many years that variety was in cultivation:	
(iv)	Was that new variety notified under the seed Act, 1966?	
(v)	If so give breeder/foundation/certified seed production details which is verifiable by farmers' record:	
(vi)	Was that variety released for cultivation in the area/zone from where the genetic diversity was supplied?	
(vii)	Name of the organization that identified that useful resource and developed the variety.	
(vii)	Name of the organization that identified that useful resource and developed the variety.	
(viii)	Whether the farming community already rewarded or recognized for this conservation effort for variety development?	



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UNDERTAKING

(Attach an informal consent from the community /organization/ registered society who represents the society that conserved and shared the resource.)

Name and address/telephone no. /e-mail of the person with whom the Registrar, PPV&FRA can correspond with:

Name (Block Letter) _____

Agro biodiversity hot spot number (as per figure- I) _____

Address (Block Letter) _____

E-Mail _____

Telephone _____ Mobile _____

I/We hereby declare that no person other than the person or persons mentioned in this application has/have been involved in the conservation of the Agro-Biodiversity that was used in developing new variety.

It is certified that the above said material was conserved and cultivated by the applicant(s) farmer/ group of farmers/community of farmers who is/are permanent residents of above said village(s) and I am/ we are fully conversant with the applicant farmers/group or community of farmer and the candidate variety (strike out unwanted words gives as option.)

Truth and Truth alone is communicated and no information has been either withheld or overstated.

Signature

**(Group of farmers/
their representative)**

**Verified and supported by
Name of the organization
(Seal, Sign with date)**

- Note:**
- 1. Please sign each page of the Application Form**
 - 2. There is no application fee for farmer (s) / farming community.**



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PASSPORT INFORMATION

Indicators for Inventory, Characterization and Document of Farmers Varieties

I. General

1. **Vernacular name:**
2. **Whether the name reflects association to :** region/trait/community etc. (Satiya for 60 days variety).
3. **Area of occurrence:** Association to region/province/districts/block/village etc.
4. **Developing community:** Associated ethnic group/community/farmer etc.
5. **Area of adaptation:**
 - (a) **Physical :** Distribution/spread/acreage
 - (b) **Biological:** Eco-geographical region/agro-ecosystem/production systems

Where you are located. (See Map)

II. Developmental History

1. Who identified it first (farmers or community name)
2. Parentage (Selection)
3. Period of cultivation (in years)

III. Seed System under use

1. Formal
2. Informal
 - (a) Self-perpetuating (methods of storage/conservation)
 - (b) Exchange (farmer to farmer; between communities)
 - (c) Market (local, grain mundies)

Characteristics

I. Agronomic

1. Soil type (Alfisol /vertisol etc.)
2. pH etc. (Alkaline / acidic etc)

II. Biological

1. Reaction to prevailing diseases, pests and abiotic
2. Unique / distinctive features of the conserved germplasm / or farming technology Source of information



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DETAILS OF THE MATERIAL THAT WERE FREELY SHARED WITH VARIETAL BREEDING PROGRAM.

1. Name of crop (conserved) _____
2. Name of variety _____
3. Plant height (cms.) _____
4. Days of flowering _____
5. Days of maturity _____
6. Yield (Q/ha) _____
7. Extent of disease resistance/tolerance _____ partially/fully
8. Extant of insect pests tolerance _____ partially/fully
9. Seeds colour _____
10. Special agronomic practice followed to raise the crop _____

11. Area under cultivation (ha)
12. Environmental condition if any e.g. rainfed/ irrigated/undulated /riverines /flood prone etc.
13. Special characteristic if any
 - i) Quality of grain.....
 - ii) Value addition if can be done.....
 - iii)
 - iv)
14. Name of the organization with whom shared the material _____



Appendix – II

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BASED ON THE GENETIC RESOURCES, WHETHER NEW VARIETY DEVELOPED DERIVING USEFUL TRAITS FROM THE CONSERVED AND SHARED GERMPLASM AND WITH WHOM (GIVE DETAILS):

1. Name of the varieties developed by _____
utilizing the conserved germ plasm
2. Name of organization / institutions _____
with whom the conserved germ
plasm has been shared and name
of varieties developed.
3. If the material freely shared among _____
the farmers/ please provide the
information as given below
 - i.) Extant of shared of germplasm _____
 - ii) Area (ha) of sharing germplasm _____

Label for the seed envelope*

Applicant Name:

Crop

Place.

Variety

Growth season

When harvested

**On each envelope please give these details*



Appendix - III

Protection of Plant Varieties & Farmers' Rights Authority

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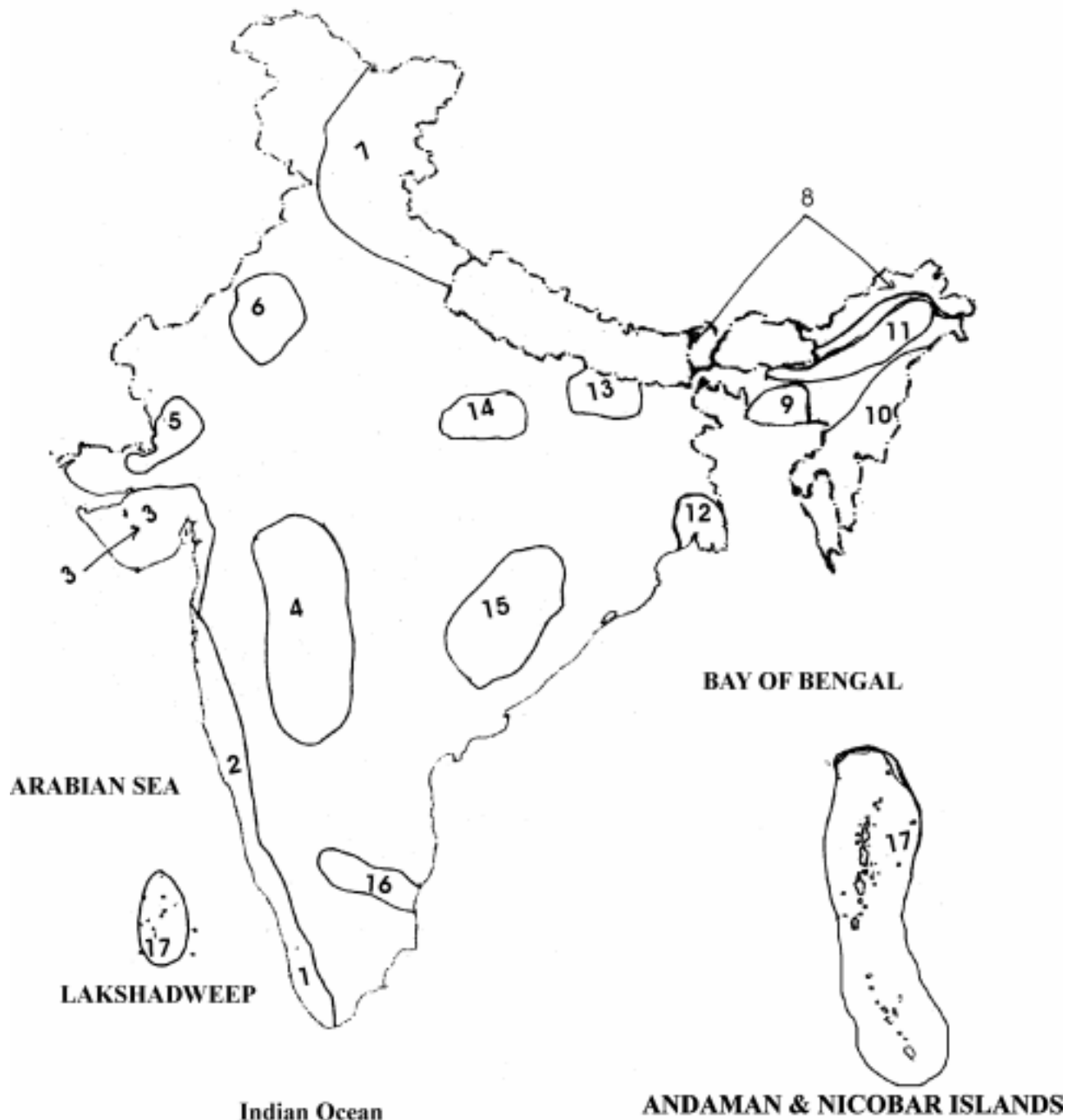
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FORMAT FOR SUBMITTING SEED MATERIAL OF THE CONSERVED GERMPLASM

- I)** Name of the farmer / farming community.....
- II)** Full postal address with telephone no: (s)
- III)** Quantity of seedkg / gm.

**Major 17 agro-biodiversity hot spots in India
for purposes of this recognition under the National Gene Fund**



***A. Does the applicant fall in any of these zone**

No Yes

***B. If Yes which zone**

*** Example filled same way inform your zone**

**Seventeen Agro-biodiversity Hot-spots in India for the Purposes
of this Recognition Under the National Gene Fund**

S. No.	Hot Spot	States	Area/District Covered
1.	Travancore & Malabar	Kerala	Kasargod, Kannur, Wayanad, Malappuram, Palakkad, Thrissur, Idukki, Eranakulam, Kochi, Alappuzha, Kollam, Kozikode, Kottayam, Thiruvananthapuram, Pathanamthitta
2.	Konkan coast	Maharashtra Goa	Thane, Raigarh, Ratnagiri, Sindhudur Verna, Margao, Bernalim, Curchorem, Sanguem, Quepem, Netroli, Chaudi, Mashem, Polem, Bhars
3.	Gulfs of Gujarat (Rann) and Kathiawar	Gujarat	Ahemadabad, Surendra nagar, Jamnagar, Rajkot, Porbandar, Junagarh, Amreli, Bhavnagar, Bharuch, Surat, Navsari, Valsad Banaskantha, Anand, Vadodara
4.	Leeward Deccan Plateau	Karnataka Maharashtra	Uttar Kannad, Udupi, Dakshin Kannad and northern part of Shimoga & Chikkamagalur Jalna, Hingoli, Parbhani, Bid, Nanded, Latur, Osmanabad, Solapur, Sangli, Gondia, Gadchiroli
5.	North Gujarat/ Mewar	Gujarat Rajasthan	Banaskantha, Patan, Mehsana, Sabarkantha, Kachchh Sirhoi, Udaipur, Dungarpur, Jalore
6.	Arid Jodhpur-Bikaner belt	Rajasthan	Bikaner, Churu, Sikar, Nagaur, Hanumangarh, Ganganagar, Jodhpur
7.	NW temperate Himalaya and Ladakh	Jammu & Kashmir Himachal Pradesh Uttarakhand	Ladakh, Leh, Kargil, Srinagar, Anantnag, Udhampur, Riasi, Kashmir North, Lahul-Spiti Entire Himachal Pradesh Entire Uttarakhand
8.	Sikkim Hills & Arunachal Himalaya	Sikkim Arunachal Pradesh	Entire Sikkim Entire Arunachal Pradesh

9.	Hills of Meghalaya	Meghalaya	Entire Meghalaya
10.	Nagaland/ Manipur/ Tripura /Mizoram	Manipur Nagaland Mizoram Tripura	Entire Manipur Entire Nagaland Entire Mizoram Entire Tripura
11.	Brahamaputra part of Assam	Assam	Entire Assam
12.	Gangetic Delta	West Bengal	Nadia, Bardhaman, Hugli, Harora, South 24-Parganas, Calcutta, North 24-Parganas Sunderbans
13.	Lower Ganges system	Bihar	Paschim Champaran, Purbi Champaran, Gopalganj, Siwan, Sitamarhi, Muzaffarpur, Saran, Buxar, Bhojpur, Patna, Bhabhua, Rohtas, Jhanabad, Vaishali, Samastipur, Darbhanga, Madhubani, Sheohar
14.	Triveni-Allahabad belt	Uttar Pradesh	Chitrakut, Allahabad, Kaushambi, Pratapgarh Hardoi, Varansi, Gazipur, Azamgarh, Ambedkar Nagar
15.	Koraput Region Bastar and adjoining area	Orissa Chhattisgarh	Kalahandi, Nabarangapur, Koraput, Rayagada, Malkangiri, Sundargarh, Jharsugnda, Deogarh, Sonapur, Bauda, Angul Nuaparth, Balangir, Phulbani Koriya, Surguja, Jashpur, Korba, Janjgir, Raigarh, Bilaspur, Raipur, Kabirdham, Durg, Rajnandgaon, Mahasumund, Dhamtari, Kanker, Bastar, Dantewada
16.	Cauvery system	Tamilnadu Karnataka	Erode, Namakkal, Karur, Perambur, Ariyalur, Tiruchchirappalli, Thanjavur, Tiruvalur Kodagu, Mysore, Chamranjagar
17.	Andaman islands & Lakshdweep	Andaman and Nicobar Lakshdweep	Entire Andaman and Nicobar islands and Entire Lakshdweep

