



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

Science & Technology Department – Recommendation of the Expert Committee for the selection of the 'State Microbe' for Kerala State – Declaration of State Microbe –Order issued.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (A) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(Ms)No.15/2025/S&TD Dated,Thiruvananthapuram, 20-11-2025

Read 1 GO (Rt) No. 48/2024/S&TD dated 11.07.2024.

2 GO (Rt) No. 54/2024/S&TD dated 05.08.2024.

3 Note dated 05.08.2024 from the Director, Centre of Excellence in Microbiome (CoEM).

ORDER

As per the Government Orders read as 1st & 2nd papers above, a Committee has been constituted for the selection of the 'State Microbe' for Kerala State, with the Ex-Officio Principal Secretary, Science & Technology Department and Executive Vice President, KSCSTE as Chairman.

2. As per the Note read as 3rd paper above, the Director, Centre of Excellence in Microbiome has forwarded the recommendations of the committee to declare *Bacillus subtilis* as the 'State Microbe' considering the factors like scientific significance, ecological relevance, bio-safety status, and potential societal and industrial benefits of the microbes . Further, 'Bacillus subtilis' is a widely studied, Gram-positive, spore-forming bacterium known for its adaptability and strong metabolic capabilities. Commonly found in soil, rhizosphere, compost, fermented foods, and the

gastrointestinal tracts of humans and animals, it is extensively studied due to its safety and probiotic benefits. It is used globally in agriculture (as a plant growth promoter and bio-control agent), industry (enzyme and biosurfactant production), bio-remediation, food fermentation, and health (probiotic and immunomodulator). It holds Generally Recognized As Safe (GRAS) status by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and is on the European Food Safety Authority's (EFSA) Qualified Presumption of Safety (QPS) list, and Biosafety level-1 categorization further boosting its industrial acceptability. The global and Indian markets for *Bacillus subtilis* products are growing, supported by government policies promoting sustainable agriculture.

3. Government have examined the matter in detail and as recommended by the Expert Committee and the scientific merits submitted, Government are pleased to declare '**Bacillus subtilis**' as the State Microbe of Kerala.

(By order of the Governor)
PROF DR K P SUDHEER
EX-OFFICIO PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

To:

The Executive Vice President, KSCSTE.

Member Secretary, Kerala State Council for Science, Technology & Environment.

The Director, Centre of Excellence in Microbiome (CoEM)

All Members of the Committee (Through The Director, Centre of Excellence in Microbiome)

Information and Public Relations Department

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Section Officer

Copy to:-

Private Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister.

CA to Ex-Officio Principal Secretary, Science and Technology Department.