

FLORA OF DHANIKHARI EXPERIMENTAL GARDEN-CUM-ARBORETUM,  
PORT BLAIR, ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

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ABSTRACT

A brief account of the endemic species introduced and the plants naturally occurring in the BSI Experimental Garden-cum-Arboretum, Port Blair is given with a view to strengthen the floristic studies and conservation programmes initiated.

INTRODUCTION

Despite the enormously important role of plants in human life and survival, their conservation has been largely neglected in many of the developing countries. Plants being the key elements, they dominate our landscape and form the frame work of natural ecosystems that provide the habitats for most of the animal species. However, because of the phenomenal rise in population, increasing consumption of plant resources and developmental activities, a massive loss of plant diversity is foreseen. If these processes continue unabated, it is likely that tens of thousands of species will be at risk of extinction while many more will be losing their genetic variability to some extent. Besides, untold scientific and economical

potential may well be lost as species as yet unknown disappear before they are even discovered and described. Hence, the role of botanical gardens in conserving the plant diversity is of paramount importance.

There are as many as 1600 botanic gardens in the world holding tens of thousands of plant species, probably as much as a quarter of all the world's flowering plants and ferns, thereby becoming important conservation centres in view of the increasing rate of the loss of plant diversity and wild habitats worldwide. In several countries, the Botanic gardens are amongst the leading and sometimes the only institutions involved in or capable of undertaking extensive work in wild plant research and conservation. Of late, many new botanic gardens are being opened

and developed to serve as centres for plant conservation, study and education particularly of plants native to their own regions.

Botanical gardens form an effective network for conservation of plants of phytogeographical significance and utility besides their role in maintaining ecological balance preventing environmental degradation. Botanical gardens can be defined as public gardens which maintain collections of live plants mainly for study, for scientific research, conservation or education. All types of botanic gardens are united in the belief on the important role that they must play in preserving the world's plant diversity.

The role of botanic gardens in evolving the conservation strategies has assumed significance as the survival of up to 60,000 plant species - about a quarter of the world's total will be threatened over the next few decades by population growth, deforestation, habitat loss, destructive development, tourism and agricultural expansions. But by the destruction of plants on such a massive scale, the human survival is also threatened on our planet. In addition to the small number of crop plants we use for our basic food, several wild plants are also of immense economic importance, providing food, fuel, clothing and shelter for hundreds of millions of people throughout the world. Many plant species are known to be the source of medicines especially in developing countries where

rural populace depend on wild plants for their traditional remedies. Plants also maintain the planet's environmental balance and ecosystem stability and provide natural habitats for the world's varied animal life.

As per the classification proposed by Rodgers and Panwar (1988), India has twelve biogeographic zones, of which Andaman & Nicobar archipelago in one whose flora is unique to India because of the tropical humid climate and insular nature of the territory. The biodiversity profile of these islands showing over 5,000 animal species, about 2,000 indigenous vascular plant species and many non vascular elements within a total landmass of just 8,500 sq. kms. vindicates the rich heritage of biological world of these islands.

The islands with more than 86% of the territory under luxuriant vegetation cover have come to be known as a 'natural garden' having already been known as green emeralds of Bay of Bengal for centuries. With a rich biological diversity and genetic wealth, our tropical forests hold more than 2,000 angiospermic species besides many lower plant groups represented by cryptogamic flora. The insular and fragile flora of the Bay islands is unique to India with 14% of the higher plants being endemic to the islands and over 30% not represented in mainland India but occurring in the neighbouring countries *viz.*, Malaysia, Java, Sumatra, Thailand, and Myanmar, hence assuming phytogeographical importance. Higher

degree of biological diversity within a landmass of just about 8,500 sq. km. area is perhaps unparalleled in South-East Asia and many parts of the globe. Now, having acquired this biological wealth it has become imperative to safeguard and preserve for our future generations and for keeping the environment clean.

The Botanical Survey of India which started functioning in this Union territory in the year 1972 is maintaining the Experimental Garden cum Arboretum at Dhanikhari about 16 km from Port Blair with a focus on both *in-situ* and *ex-situ* conservation of over 500 plant species which include wild orchids, palms, nutmegs and some economically important species. Comprising an area of ca 30 h. of forest land, with 2 h. of cleared land earmarked for nurseries, the garden has become an important conservation centre for several rare and endangered plant species collected and introduced from vulnerable areas and islands with a view to multiplying and propagating for the germplasm conservation. Since the botanic gardens are an essential network of botanical resource centres, vital for environmental conservation, the BSI, at Port Blair is growing large collections of endangered plants, holding them safely in cultivation or seed banks, but much more awaits to be accomplished in the ensuing years.

As some botanic gardens are known reintroducing plants to the wild after

multiplication as part of species recovery projects, the BSI circle in Port Blair is also contemplating to undertake such projects for effective conservation.

It is well known that the Botanical gardens undertake botanical research to document and record the plants of the respective regions, promote environmental awareness among the general public through their education work, help to conserve natural vegetation by maintaining nature reserves and work with others to study, monitor and conserve plants and their ecologies in the wild. It is noteworthy to point out that globally botanic gardens receive more than 150 million visitors every year. Hoping that BSI will achieve this goal through its endeavours, efforts are afoot to have full fledged garden with required infrastructure. It is more so, because of late, the local administration has given a boost to the growing tourism industry in the islands as it is considered to be one of the main stays for the economy of these islands and our garden is going to find a place in the tourist map of these islands.

Although there are more than three hundred wild indigenous and exotic angiospermic species and ferns enumerated for the Dhanikhari Experimental Garden-cum-Arboretum, in the present effort an annotated list of nearly 210 species belonging to 180 genera and 75 families under dicots and monocots, whose population size is

remarkably high is provided. The species belonging to Poaceae and fern species are left out intentionally as they are dealt with elsewhere.

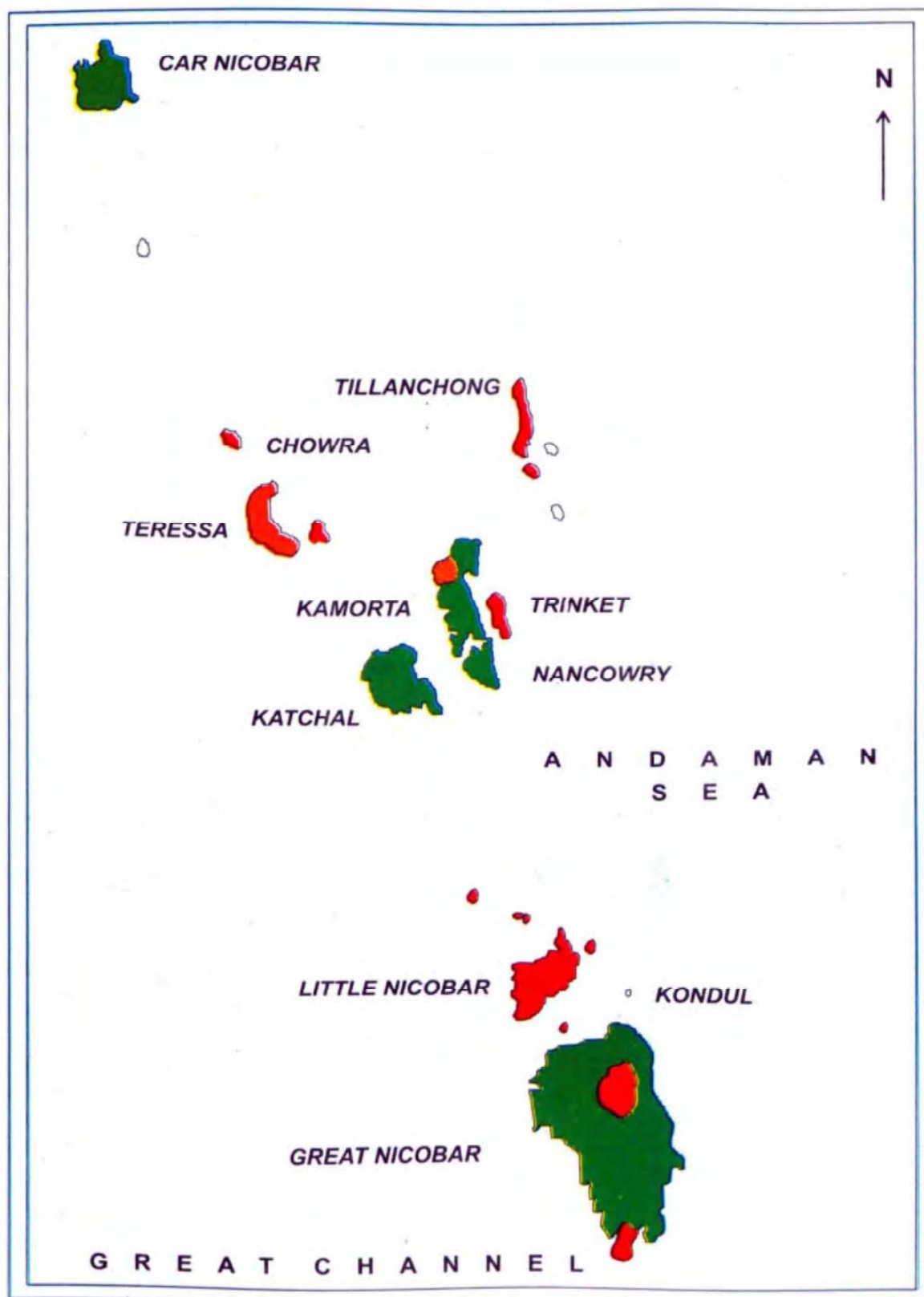
The families have been arranged as per Bentham and Hooker's classification under which the species names have been alphabetically given. Original citation of each taxon with correct name, basionym if any and important synonym are given, followed by its local name, if any, brief description, phenology, ecological notes and their uses have been given. The distributional range of the garden species in the islands and elsewhere is also given to facilitate further collections, if any, from the wild and reintroduction of the multiplied rare plants to the wild.

A brief account of the isles of Andaman-Nicobar in general is also made available below which will help the readers to understand the logistics of the garden.

*Andaman - Nicobar Islands* : Situated in the Bay of Bengal, the Andaman-Nicobar Islands are an elongated north-south oriented group of over 350 small and big islands (Latitude  $6^{\circ}$  to  $14^{\circ}$  N and Longitude  $92^{\circ}$  to  $94^{\circ}$  E) with a total landmass of about 8,500 sq. km. The islands simulating an arch stretching over a length of 910 km are a cynosure for the biologists. The northern most Landfall island is about 190 km from Cape Negrais in Myanmar and the southern most

Great Nicobar Island is about 150 km from Sumatra in Indonesia. The Andaman group consisting of about 290 islands (6408 sq.km) is separated from Nicobar group of 28 islands (1841 sq.km) by a sea space of 155 km which includes  $10^{\circ}$  channel. The terrain of most of the islands is hilly with undulating small mountains. The highest hill in the Andaman group is the Saddle Peak scaling a height of about 720 m and in the Nicobar group is Mt. Thullier with an altitude of about 670 m above msl. The coast line is highly indented and several creeks penetrate into the island from inland bays.

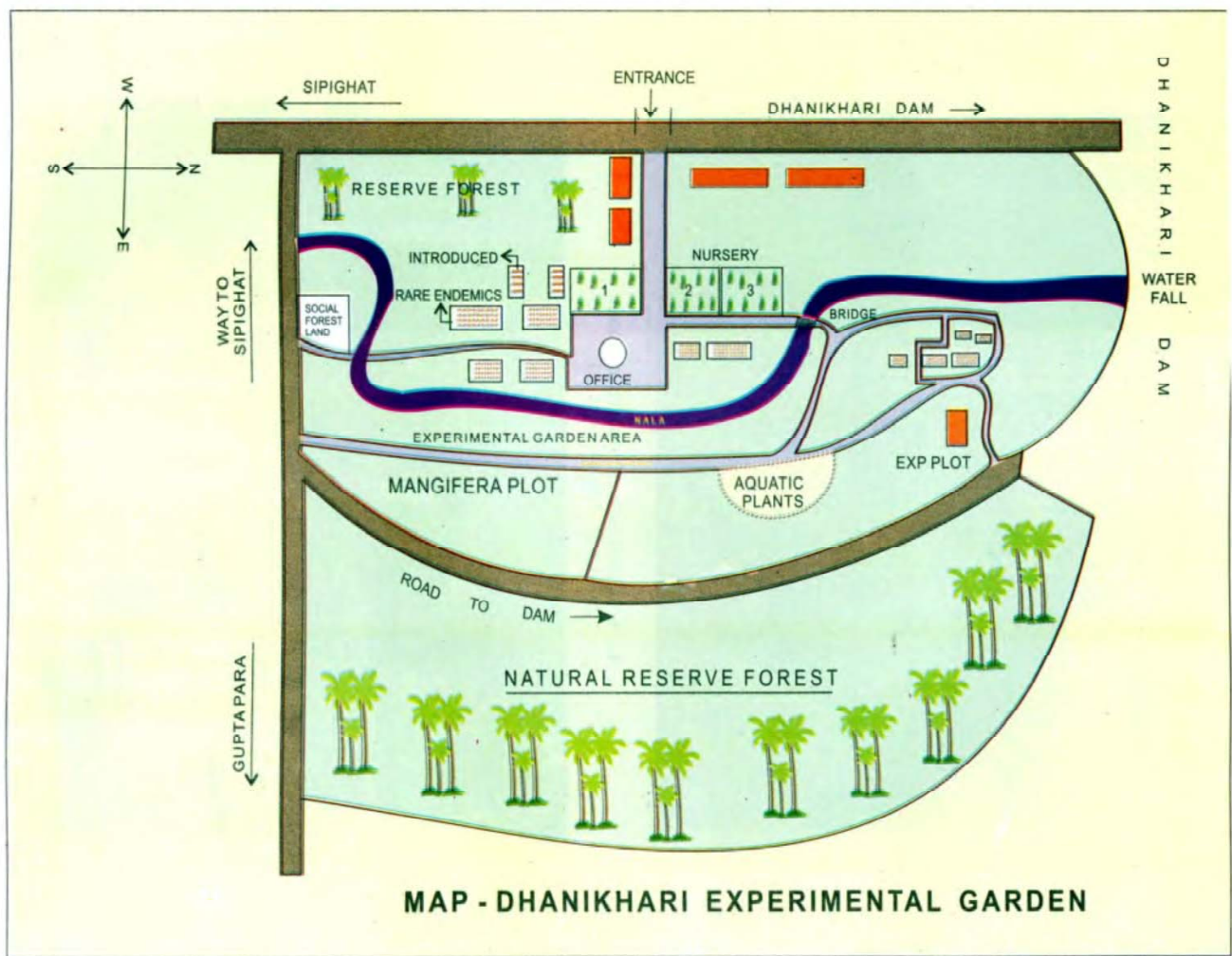
The islands are mainly of thick eocene sediments deposited on pretertiary fine grey sandstone, shales and silt stones in which basic and ultrabasic igneous rocks are found to be intrusive. The calcareous sand-stones and sand rocks are interspersed with conglomerates and intercalated clays. Higher elevations are characterised by serpentine and gabbro formations while coral reef formations of recent origin are important geological formation in the intertidal belt. The rock formations of southern most Great Nicobar Island are said to be of younger tertiary and are geologically similar to the south-west coast of Sumatra and younger in origin than that of Andaman group of islands. The soils are immature, loose in texture, poor in drainage and low in moisture retaining capacity. As the soils are poor in nutrient content, the entire nutrient capital necessary for the continuous growth of lush green



**MAP OF NICOBAR ISLANDS**

The map illustrates the geographical distribution of exploration across the Andaman Islands. Key features include:

- Islands and Regions:** North Andaman, Middle Andaman, South Andaman, North Sentinel, and Little Andaman.
- Specific Locations:** Port Blair, Karaghat, Mayabundar, Kadam, Jarawa Reserve, and various smaller islands like North Reef Is., Interview Is., and Burren Is.
- Water Bodies:** Bay of Bengal, Andaman Sea, and various bays like Cuthbert Bay and Shall Bay.
- Exploration Status Legend:**
  - Area Well-explored (Green):** Includes regions like Karaghat, Mayabundar, and parts of North and Middle Andaman.
  - Area Under-explored (Orange):** Includes regions like Jarawa Reserve, Kadam, and parts of North and Middle Andaman.
  - Area Unexplored (Red):** Includes North Sentinel, parts of North and Middle Andaman, and several smaller islands.





A. A general view of Mangrove forests.



B. Mangrove fern *Acrostichum aureum* L. on the way to Garden.



C. *Piper betle* L. in nursery.



D. *Cycas rumphii* Miq.



A. *Areca* plot.



B. *Areca triandra* Roxb. in fruiting.



C. *Cymbidium aloifolium* (L.) Swartz.



D. *Pholidota imbricata* (Roxb.) Lindl.



E. *Licuala peltata* Roxb.



A. *Knema andamanica* (Warb.) de Wilde



B. *Spathoglottis plicata* Bl.



C. *Dendrobium crumenatum* Swartz



A. *Fagraea racemosa* Jack. ex Wall.



B. *Macaranga peltatus* (Geis.) Muell.-Arg.



C. *Dendrodium secundum* (Bl.) Lindl.



A. *Goniothalamus macranthus* (Kurz) Boerl.



B. *Crataeva religiosa* Forst. f.



C. *Geodorum densiflorum* (Lam.) Schltr.



A. *Vanilla andamanica* Rolfe



B. *Baccaurea ramiflora* Lour.



C. *Dendrodium aphyllum* (Roxb.) C.E.C. Fischer.



D. *Clerodendrum viscosum* Vent.



E. *Eria andamanica* Hook. f.



F. *Planchonia andamanica* King.



A. *Aerides emericii* Reichb. f.



B. *Canthium glabrum* Bl.



C. *Glochidion hirsutum* (Roxb.) Voigt



D. *Cordia subcordata* Lamk.

tropical vegetation is tied up in the living plant itself. Sandy alluvial soil is generally found in the creeks and sheltered coasts. The richer grey, brown and red soils are found in the inland forests and humus is not allowed to accumulate much as it is washed away by torrential rains.

### CLIMATE

The monsoonal regime of South-East Asia governs the climate of the islands. The general climatic condition of the islands is that of warm and humid tropics with the temperature ranging between 22°C and 30° C. The islands receive heavy rainfall from both the south-west and north-east monsoon, the former from May to September and the latter from October to December with the average annual rainfall ranging from 3,000 to 3,800 mm. The cyclonic winds accompanied by thunder and lightening frequent the islands. January to March show fairly dry weather with scanty rainfall. The mean relative humidity is rather high and usually remains between 82 and 85% throughout the year.

### VEGETATION

The insular nature of the territory, physical isolation between the islands and also from the neighbouring mainlands through millions of years has resulted in the evolution of a rare and distinct flora, which

though related to mainland Indian flora, shows much closer affinity with Myanmar, Malaysian and Indonesian floras. Parkinson (1923) in his Forest Flora of Andaman Islands has dealt nearly 650 species, mainly trees and lianas of Andaman groups of island.

Vasudeva Rao (1986) enumerated 1454 indigenous and 353 non indigenous taxa from Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Out of 1454 indigenous taxa *ca* 14% are endemic to these islands and *ca* 54% are also occurring in the mainland India. The remaining 32% extend to the adjacent areas of S. E. Asia and Malesia but do not occur in mainland India. During the last decade many species have added to the flora of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Balakrishnan (1989) has listed 220 endemic species from these islands. Pteridophytes comprise *ca* 120 taxa spread over 36 families (Ellis, 1987). The rich natural vegetation of Andaman & Nicobar Islands can be broadly classified as tropical evergreen. Balakrishnan (1989) has dealt with the vegetation and floristics, based on the proximity of the sea and salinity of the soil, the vegetation is placed into two types *viz.*, Littoral and Inland types. While the littoral forests are further classified as 1. Mangrove forest, 2. Strand vegetation, and 3. Tidal or swamp forests. The Inland forests are classified into 1. Evergreen forests, 2. Deciduous forests, 3. Grasslands, and 4. Hydrophytic vegetation depending on the proximity of the sea, climate and salinity of the soil.

## Taxonomic Description

### DILLENIACEAE

**Dillenia andamanica** Parkinson in Indian For. 61 : 425, t.29. 1935; Majumdar in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 1 : 152. 1993.

Trees *ca* 20 m tall. Leaves narrowly obovate to oblanceolate, acute at base, obtuse at apex, dentate along the margin. Flowers solitary or in pairs, up to 12 cm across. Fruits subglobose, *ca* 2.5 cm across, orange in colour.

*Fl. & Fr.* : March - July.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Endemic.

*Uses* : Fruits are edible.

**D. pentagyna** Roxb., Pl. Corom. 1 : 21, t. 20. 1795; Hook. f. & Thoms. in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 36. 1872, *p.p.* (*excl. syn. D. elliptica* Thunb., 1791); Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 72. 1929; Majumdar in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 1 : 156. 1993.

*Local name* : 'Aggai'.

Deciduous trees. Leaves obovate oblong, obtuse, with nearly entire to dentate margins; with wing-like persistent stipules. Flowers 2-7, together on short leafless shoots, up to 3 cm across. Fruits subglobose, yellow, orange or red, 1-2 seeded.

*Fl. & Fr.* : March - July.

*Distrib.* : India : Himalayan Terai from Punjab to Assam, Peninsular India, Andaman & Nicobar Islands; S. E. Asia, China, Celebes and Lessre, Sunda Islands.

*Uses* : Flower buds and fruits are edible.

### MAGNOLIACEAE

**Magnolia andamanica** (King) Raju et Nair in Indian J. Bot. 3(2) : 171. 1980; Raju in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 1 : 165. 1993. *Talauma andamanica* King in Asiat. Soc. Beng. 58 : 372. 1890 & in Ann. Roy. Bot. Gard. Calc. 3 : 203. t. 43. 1891; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 73. 1923.

Trees *ca* 4 m tall. Leaves dark green, glossy above. Flowers solitary, large, terminal, fragrant. Fruits greenish white with pink spots.

*Fl. & Fr.* : February May.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands. Endemic.

*Uses* : Bark is stimulant, aromatic and tonic.

**Michelia champaca** L., Sp. Pl. 536. 1753; Hook. f. & Thoms. in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 42. 1872 ; Raju in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 1 : 175. 1993.

*Local name* : 'Champa'.

Tall evergreen trees with greyish brown bark. Leaves ovate to lanceolate, coriaceous. Flowers usually axillary solitary turning to orange, fragrant.

*Fl. & Fr.* : July - September.

*Distrib.* : India : Peninsular India, Western ghats, Assam, Bengal and Andaman Islands, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, S. W. China to Malesia.

*Uses* : Oil obtained from the flower is used in perfumery. Sweet scented yellow flowers are offered in worship.

#### ANNONACEAE

**Anaxagorea luzonensis** A. Gray, Bot. Wilkes U. S. Explor. Exped. 27. 1854; Hook. f. & Thoms. in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 68. 1872; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 88. 1923; D. Mitra in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 1 : 296. 1993.

Small shrubs. Leaves oblong to elliptic oblong, dark green, glossy; lateral nerves 6 - 8 pairs. Flowers white solitary, petals elliptic. Fruit club-shaped, narrowed into a long stalk.

*Fl. & Fr.* : November - April.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands; Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Malacca, Philippines,

Thailand, Cambodia, Laos.

*Uses* : Wood is used for making poles for hut construction.

*Ecol.* : Common in evergreen forests.

**Artabotrys speciosus** Kurz ex Hook. f. & Thoms. in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 55. 1872; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands, 78. 1923; D. Mitra in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 1 : 253. 1993.

Woody climbers. Leaves broad, oblong or oblong-lanceolate, dark green glossy above; lateral nerves 6 - 10 pairs. Flowers in fascicles, yellow borne on woody recurved hooked branchlets.

*Fl. & Fr.* : April - November.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands; Java.

*Uses* : Planted as wild ornamental.

**Goniiothalamus macranthus** (Kurz) Boerl. Ic. Bog. 1: 137. 1899; Sinclair in Gard. Bull. Singapore 14 : 45. 1953; D. Mitra in Sharma *et al.* Fl. India 1 : 234. 1993. *Unona macrantha* Kurz in Andaman Rep. Ed. 1, App. B, I. 1867, *nom. nud.* *Melodorum macranthum* Kurz in J. Asiat. Soc. Beng. 41. 291. 1872.

Trees with straight trunk. Leaves broad, oblong-elliptic to oblong-lanceolate, glabrous; lateral nerves weak. Flowers green

in fascicles of 1 - 3 on the branchlets below the leaves. Fruits oblong, white.

*Fl. & Fr.* : July - December.

*Distrib.* : India : West Bengal, Andaman Islands; Endemic.

*Uses* : Trunks are used for making huts. Ripe fruits are eaten by birds.

*Ecol.* : Occasionally found in evergreen forests. Rare in occurrence.

**Orophaea hexandra** Bl., Bijdr. 1: 18. 1825; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Island 74. 1923; D. Mitra in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 1 : 224. 1993. *O. acuminata* A. DC. in Mem. Soc. Genev. 5 : 39. 1932; Hook. f. & Thoms. in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 91. 1872.

Small trees. Leaves ovate, oblong-lanceolate, rounded at the base, acuminate at apex, glabrous above, puberulous beneath. Flowers axillary. Fruits oblong, sessile.

*Fl. & Fr.* : January - April.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Myanmar, Indo-China to Malesia.

*Ecol.* : Growing in evergreen forest near streams.

**O. katschallica** Kurz in J. Bot. 13 : 323. 1875; King in Ann. Roy. Bot. Gard. Cal. 4 :

103. 1893; Thothathri in Ind. For. 92: 530. 1966; D. Mitra in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 1 : 225. 1993.

Small trees up to 10 m tall. Leaves oblong to elliptic, glabrous above, puberulous on midrib and on nerves beneath; lateral nerves 8 - 10 pairs. Flowers 4 - 10 rarely 2, extra axillary, cream coloured. Fruit an etaerio of 3 carpels. Seeds 6 - 8, linear.

*Fl. & Fr.* : June - January.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman (Little) & North Nicobar Islands. Endemic.

*Uses* : Tribe Onges smear the juice of the leaves of this plant in their bodies before squeezing out honey from the beehive, as the juice acts as bee repellent.

*Note* : Introduced in the garden.

**Uvaria andamanica** King in J. Asiat. Soc. Beng. 61(2) : 21. 1892 et Ann. Roy. Bot. Gard. Cal. 4 : 29. 1893; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 79. 1923; D. Mitra in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 1 : 289. 1993; Srivastava & Kumar in J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc. 90 : 389-391. 1993.

*Local name* : 'Deosarai'

Woody climbers. Leaves elliptic oblong, obovate; lateral nerves 16 - 23 pairs. Flowers solitary or 2, axillary, tomentose, red.

*Fl.* : March - May.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands.  
Endemic.

*Ecol.* : Growing in Inland forest epiphytic on *Chukrasia tabularis* Andr. - Juss. Rare in occurrence.

*Uses* : Fine twigs of the plant are used as a tooth-brush by local people.

*Note* : Introduced in the garden.

#### MENISPERMACEAE

**Tinospora cordifolia** Miers in Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. Ser. II. 7 : 38. 1851; Hook. f. & Thoms. in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 97. 1872; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Island 80. 1923; Pramanik in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 1 : 347. 1993.

*Local name* : 'Gurch', 'Giloe'.

Glabrous climbers, bark corky. Leaves broadly cordate, acute; lateral nerves 5 - 7. Flowers yellow appearing when the leaf falls. Fruits, the size of pea, glossy, succulent, turns deep red on maturity.

*Fl. & Fr.* : April - May.

*Distrib.* : India : Throughout tropical India, Kumaon to Assam, Bihar, Karnataka, West Bengal, Andaman & Nicobar Islands; Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Bangladesh.

*Uses* : Dry stem used as a tonic and in diarrhoea, dysentery. Also used in curing fever and jaundice.

**Tinomisium petiolare** Hook. f. & Thoms., Fl. Ind. 205. 1855 & in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 97. 1872; Pramanik in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 1 : 315. 1993. *T. nicobaricum* Balakr. in New Bot. 7 : 7 - 9, fig. 2-7. 1980, *p.p.*

Lianas. Leaves ovate to broadly ovate, rounded at base, acute at apex, glabrous; basal nerves 3 - 5; petioles swollen at the base. Flowers yellowish white. Drupes 3, ellipsoid, narrow at base, stipe short.

*Fl. & Fr.* : August - April.

*Distrib.* : India ; Assam, Nicobar Islands; S.E.Asia. Philippines to New Guinea; China.

*Uses* : Stem used as general tonic.

*Notes* : Introduced in garden at Port Blair.

#### NYMPHAEACEAE

**Nymphaea nouchali** Burm. f., Fl. Ind. 120. 1768 ; R.L.Mitra in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 1 : 430. 1993. *N. pubescens* Willd., Sp. Pl. 2 : 1154. 1799. *N. lotus* Hook.f. & Thoms. in Hook. f. Fl. Brit. India 1 : 114. 1872 (*non* Linn. 1753).

Large perennial herbs with creeping

rhizomes. Leaves rounded, entire or sinuate margined, glabrous beneath. Flowers blue or purple, solitary, floating on long peduncles. Fruits spongy.

*Fl. & Fr.* : May - November.

*Distrib.*: Throughout India in warmer parts including Andaman & Nicobar Islands; S.E. Asia, Laos, Philippines, New Guinea, Sri Lanka.

*Uses* : Powdered rhizome used in piles and dysentery. Seeds are also eaten in times of scarcity.

#### CAPPARACEAE

**Crataeva religiosa** Forst. f., Pl. Escul. Ins. Oc. Austral. 45. 1786; Hook. f. & Thoms. in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 1: 172. 1872; Raghavan in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 2: 325. 1993. *C. nurvala sensu* Kanj. & Das, Fl. Assam 1: 74. 1934, *non* Buch.-Ham.

*Local name* : 'Barun'.

Small deciduous trees. Leaves long petioled; leaflets ovate or ovate lanceolate. Flowers large, greenish yellow, purplish. Berry many seeded.

*Fl. & Fr.* : September - November.

*Distrib.* : India : Nicobar Islands, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, also cultivated in other parts of India; S. E. Asia,

up to Philippines, Nepal, Bhutan, Indo-China.

*Uses* : The leaves, bark and pulp has medicinal properties; wood in preparing small domestic items. Fruits edible.

*Notes* : Introduced in the garden.

**Cleome rutidosperma** DC., Prodr. 1: 241. 1824; Mukherjee in Indian For. 95: 237. 1969; Raghavan in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 2: 313. 1995.

Herbs. Stem weak, ribbed, subglabrous to eglandular pilose. Leaves 3-foliolate; leaflets subsessile, rhombate-elliptic, attenuate or cuneate and webbed at base, acute at apex. Racemes lax few flowered; flowers in axils of leaves below and foliaceous bracts above, pink. Capsule linear-cylindric.

*Fl. & Fr.*: May November.

*Distrib.* : India : Deccan Peninsula, Gangetic plain, N. E. India, Andaman & Nicobar Islands; Tropical America, Trop. Africa, Maldives, Sri Lanka and S. E. Asia.

*Uses* : Leaves used as fodder.

*Notes* : An African plant naturalized in India.

#### CLUSIACEAE

**Calophyllum inophyllum** L., Sp. Pl. 1753; T. Anderson in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India

1: 273. 1874; Kurz, For. Fl. Brit. Burma 1: 95. 1877; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 87. 1923; N. P. Singh in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 3 : 92. 1993.

Large or medium sized littoral trees with dark green shining foliage. Leaves elliptic to ovate or obovate. Flowers marble white, fragrant. Fruits globular, smooth, green.

*Fl. & Fr.* : May - October.

*Distrib.* : India : Throughout Coastal areas; Tropical East Africa, Malaysia, Polynesia, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Native of E. Africa.

*Ecol.* : Commonly growing at the water edge along the sea shores.

*Notes* : Cultivated as an ornamental tree also suitable for avenue planting. An oil obtained from the seeds is used as an illuminant, lubricant for painting wood work and for soap making. Seed oil is used for skin diseases and rheumatism.

**Garcinia cowa** Roxb. ex DC., Prodr. 1 : 561. 1824; T. Anderson in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 262. 1874; Kurz in Asiat. Soc. Beng. 43: 87. 1874 *et* For. Fl. Brit. Burma 1 : 90. 1877; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 89. 1923; N. P. Singh in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 3 : 108. 1993.

*Local name* : 'Mangosteen', 'Khattaphal'.

Evergreen, slender, tall trees, bark brown

to black. Leaves broad or broadly lanceolate, glabrous, glossy above; lateral nerves numerous. Flowers yellow in axillary cymes. Fruits globular, grooved, smooth when ripe.

*Fl. & Fr.* : January - June.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands, Assam, Meghalaya, West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand, Bangladesh, China.

*Uses* : The fruits are edible, delicious. Latex used for curing wounds.

*Ecol.* : Frequent in evergreen and semi-evergreen forests.

**G. dhanikhariensis** S. K. Srivastava in Nord. J. Bot. 14 : 51-53. 1994.

Small trees, dioecious. Leaves opposite, elliptic lanceolate, nerves 9 - 12 pairs. Male flowers solitary or in fascicles. Stamens 12 in 4 bundles of 3, rudimentary pistil having stigma with 6 - 7 radiating lobes. Berry subglobose, sepals persistent.

*Fl. & Fr.* : January - April.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands. Endemic.

*Uses* : Fruits are edible when ripe.

*Ecol.* : Growing in mixed evergreen forest.

**Mesua ferrea** L., Sp.Pl. 515. 1753 ; Anderson in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 277. 1874; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 88. 1923; N. P. Singh in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 3 : 136. 1993. *Calophyllum nagassarium* N. Burm., Fl. Indica 121. 1768. *Mesua thwaitesii* Pl. & Tr. in Ann. Sci. Nat. Bot. Ser. 4, 15: 305. 1862.

*Local name* : 'Nagkesar'.

Moderate sized trees, bark grey brown. Leaves oblong to linear lanceolate, green glossy above, whitish beneath. Flowers large, solitary or in pairs.

*Fl. & Fr.* : January June.

*Distrib.* : India : Eastern Himalayas to Eastern India; Western Peninsula, Andaman Islands ; Java, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Malesia, Indonesia, Thailand.

*Uses* : Bark used as a tonic. Flower given for dysentery and piles. Seeds for curing ulcers.

*Ecol.* : Frequent in evergreen forests.

#### DIPTEROCARPACEAE

**Dipterocarpus grandiflorus** (Blanco) Blanco, Fl. Filip. ed. 2. 314. 1845; K.P. Janardh. in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 3: 213. 1993. *Mocanera grandiflora* Blanco, Fl. Filip. ed. 1. 451. 1837. *D. griffithii* Miq., Ann. Mus. Bot. Lugd.-Bat. 1 : 213. 1864;

Dyer in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 299. 1874; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 92. 1923.

*Local name* : 'Gurjan'.

Large trees, bark grey. Leaves broad, broadly ovate, thickly coriaceous; lateral nerves 12 - 18 pairs. Flowers white with dark crimson; stamens numerous. Fruits with oblanceolate wings.

*Fl. & Fr.* : January - June.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands; Myanmar and Malesia.

*Uses* : Wood is known for its high value of timber.

#### MALVACEAE

**Hibiscus rosa-sinensis** L., Sp. Pl. 694. 1753; Masters in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 344. 1874; T. K. Paul in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 3 : 391. 1993.

*Local name* : 'Gurhal'

Shrubs. Leaves ovate, acuminate, irregularly serrate towards the top, entire near the base. Flowers solitary, axillary, pink or yellow.

*Fl. & Fr.* : Throughout the year.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India and other tropical and subtropical countries.

*Uses* : Flower is used in menorrhoea and menstrual complaints. Flowers are also reported to possess contraceptive properties and their anti-fertility efficacy in roots has been confirmed.

*Notes* : Growing in garden as ornamental.

**Hibiscus tileaceus** L., Sp. Pl. 694. 1753; Masters in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 1: 343. 1874; T.K.Paul in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 3: 322. 1993.

*Local name* : 'Chelwa'.

Large shrubs. Leaves unlobed, orbicular, deeply cordate at base, acute to acuminate at apex. Flowers yellow with dark purple spots. Capsules globose with short beak. Seeds reniform.

*Fl. & Fr.* : Throughout the year.

*Distrib.* : India : Along the coast of both peninsula, Sunderbans and Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Malaysia.

*Uses* : Leaves are edible and bark fibre is used for making ropes and mats. An infusion of leaves is used for curing ulcers and wounds. Roots diuretic.

**Sida acuta** Burm. f., Fl. Ind. 147. 1768; Roxb., Fl. Ind. ed. Carey 3 : 171. 1832; Borss. in Blumea 14 : 186. 1966; T. K. Paul in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 3 : 281. 1993. *S. carpinifolia* Masters in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 1: 323. 1874, *non* Linn. f. 1781.

*Local name* : 'Bariara'.

Annual herb or undershrub, stem pubescent. Leaves lanceolate to linear ; 3-nerved at base. Flowers solitary, axillary or in cluster. Mericarp 6-10, tetrahedral.

*Fl. & Fr.* : October - April.

*Distrib.* : India : Throughout the country and tropics of the world, mostly on wastelands.

*Uses.* : Stems are used as a brooms and for preparing baskets and mats. Leaves used in curing rheumatism.

**Urena lobata** L., Sp. Pl. 692. 1753 *sensu lato* ; Masters in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 1: 329. 1874; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands. 97. 1923; Borss. in Blumea 14: 138. 1966; T.K.Paul in Sharma *et al.* Fl., India 3 : 380. 1993.

*Local name* : 'Katshinin'.

Annual undershrubs. Leaves variably lobed. Flowers pink, funnel-shaped, delicate. Fruits a mericarp, 4 - 6 mm long, shortly acuminate with retrose sharp hooks at the top.

*Fl. & Fr.* : September - April.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India including Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

*Uses* : Stem fibres are used in making fishing nets and well ropes. Root paste is used

externally for lumbago.

*Ecol.* : Thriving in waste places also common in open forests.

#### BOMBACACEAE

**Bombax insigne** Wallich, Pl. Asiat. Rar. 1 : 71, t. 79, 80. 1830 ; Masters in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 349. 1874 ; Nayar & Biswas in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 3 : 398. 1993. *Bombax insigne* Wallich var. *andamanica* Prain in J. Asiat. Soc. Beng. 52(2) No. 2 : 67. 1872 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 98. 1923.

Large deciduous trees with huge buttresses, bark furrowed, branchlet armed with conical prickles. Leaves digitately 5 - 9 foliolate. Flowers solitary deep red. Stamens numerous in 4 or 5 groups. Capsules 15 - 20 cm long, woody.

*Fl. & Fr.* : December - April.

*Distrib.* : India : Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andaman Islands ; Myanmar.

*Uses* : Wood is used for a variety of purposes, viz. plywood, packing case manufacture, matches and mechanical pulp for newsprint.

*Ecol.* : Found in interior forest and sometimes also available in sea shores.

**Ceiba pentandra** (L.) Gaertn., Fruct. 2 : 244. t. 133. 1791 ; Nayar & Biswas in Sharma

*et al.*, Fl. India 3 : 400. 1993. *Bombax pentandrum* L., Sp. Pl. 511. 1753. *Eriodendron pentandrum* (L.) Kurz in J. Asiat. Soc. Bengal 43 : 113. 1874 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 350. 1874.

*'Local name : 'Safed Semal'*

Trees up to 30 m high with polished stem. Leaves 5 - 9 foliolate ; leaflets ovate to ovate-lanceolate. Flowers pale yellow, few to many, pentamerous. Capsule ellipsoid to fusiform, wrinkled when dry, indehiscent.

*Fl. & Fr.* : October - March.

*Distrib.* : India : Peninsular India, Andaman Islands ; S. America, W. Indies, Sri Lanka, Malaya, Java & Indo-China.

*Uses* : Seed floss used for stuffing pillows ; seed oil is edible and also used as lubricant and for soap manufacture.

#### STERCULIACEAE

**Melochia corchorifolia** L., Sp. Pl. 675. 1753 ; Masters in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 374. 1874 ; Malick in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 3 : 441. 1993.

*Local name : 'Thuieka'*

Herbs. Branches terete, sparsely stellately tomentose. Leaves ovate, elliptic-lanceolate, cordate at base, serrate or serrulate, faintly lobed at apex. Flowers pink

in terminal, clustered sessile racemes.  
Capsules ovoid globose, sparingly hispid.

*Fl. & Fr.* : June - September.

*Distrib.* : In hotter parts of India including Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Pantropical.

*Uses* : Leaves are eaten as vegetables and stem yields fibres.

**Pterygota alata** (Roxb.) R. Br. in Benn., Pl. Jav. Rar. 234. 1844. *Sterculia alata* Roxb., Pl. Corom. 3 : 48, t. 287. 1820 ; Masters in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 360. 1874 ; Malick in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 3 : 455. 1993.

Trees up to 30 m tall, young parts covered with dense golden stellate hairs. Leaves clustered at the end of the branches, broadly ovate to cordate, unlobed, cordate to truncate at base. Flowers in axillary panicles. Follicles 5, hard woody up to 14 cm in diam., shortly beaked. Seeds many, winged at apex.

*Fl. & Fr.* : December - March.

*Distrib.* : India : Peninsular India, Bihar, West Bengal, Eastern Himalayas, S. India, Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Bhutan, South-East-Asia.

*Uses* : Yields good quality timber. Seeds are roasted and eaten.

## TILIACEAE

**Grewia calophylla** Kurz in Andaman Rep. Edit. 1, App. B. iii. 1869 ; Masters in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 392. 1874 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 104. 1923 ; Daniel & Chandrab. in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 3 : 496. 1993.

Moderate sized tree. Leaves broad, elliptic or ovate, glossy. Flowers in panicles, cream coloured with pungent smell. Drupe obovoid, fleshy, fibrous, orange yellow when ripe.

*Fl. & Fr.* : May - February.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Malaysia.

*Ecol.* : Frequent in semideciduous and coastal forest.

*Uses* : The pulp of the fruit is sweet and is eaten by local people.

**Triumfetta annua** L., Sp. Pl. 73. 1753. Masters in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 396. 1874 ; Daniel & Chandrab. in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 3 : 518. 1993.

Annual herb, stem up to 60 cm tall. Leaves ovate, acuminate, toothed. Flowers very small, orange. Capsules globose, glabrous, covered with long hooked spines.

*Fl. & Fr.* : July - February.

*Distrib.* : India : Tropical Himalayas, N.W. to N.E. Himalayas, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andaman Islands ; Malaysia to Tropical Africa.

*Uses* : Stem yields soft fibres.

#### OXALIDACEAE

**Oxalis corniculata** L., Sp. Pl. 435. 1753 ; Edgew. & Hook.f. in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 436. 1874.

*Local name* : 'Amrulsak'.

Herbs with long creeping stems, rooting at the nodes. Leaves digitately 3-foliolate ; leaflets obcordate, cuneate or acute at base. Flowers axillary, yellow, sub umbellate. Capsules subcylindric, pubescent, 5-angled, shortly beaked.

*Fl. & Fr.* : January - December.

*Distrib.* : Cosmopolitan. Naturalized throughout the plains in India including Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Exotic weed.

*Uses* : Leaves and seeds are edible. Fresh juice of plant cures piles and diarrhoea.

#### BALSAMINACEAE

**Impatiens balsamina** L., Sp. Pl. 938. 1753 ; Edgew. & Hook.f. in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 453. 1874.

*Local name* : 'Gulmehndi'.

Annual herbs up to 70 cm tall. Leaves narrow, lanceolate or elliptic acute at both end, deeply serrate, decurrent into glandular petiole. Flowers pink in fascicles of 1-3, axillary, lateral showy. Capsules tomentose.

*Fl. & Fr.* : July - October.

*Distrib.* : Cosmopolitan. Naturalized throughout the plains in India including Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Sri Lanka, Malaya Island and China.

*Uses* : An ornamental herb, also used for dye. Seeds are edible.

*Notes* : Growing as weed in garden.

#### ELAEOCARPACEAE

**Elaeocarpus macrocerus** (Turcz.) Merrill in Jour. Arn. Arbor. 32 : 183. 1951 ; Murti in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 3 : 545. 1993. *Monocera macrocerus* Turcz. in Bull. Soc. Imp. Nat. Moscow 19(2) : 494. 1846. *E. monocera auct. non* Cav. 1800 ; Masters in Hook.f. Fl. Brit. India 1 : 405. 1874.

Trees up to 12 m tall. Leaves obovate, oblong or spatulate, cuneate at base, subacute at apex, serrate. Racemes up to 10 cm long. Flowers dull white. Pyrenes terete, strongly tubercled.

*Fl. & Fr.* : March - June.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Myanmar ; Malaysia ; Thailand.

*Uses* : Seeds are used for making rosaries.

**Elaeocarpus rugosus** Roxb., Fl. Ind. ed. 2. 2 : 596. 1832 ; Masters in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 405. 1874 ; Phengkai, Thai-For. Bull. (Bot.) 10 : 18. f. 3. 1977 ; Murti in Sharma *et al.*, Fl. India 3 : 551. 1993. *E. aristatus* Roxb., Fl. Ind. ed. 2. 2 : 599. 1832 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Island, 105. 1923.

Large tree with spreading branches. Leaves obovate, shortly apiculate, tapering at base, serrate, glabrous. Flowers yellowish white in axillary racemes. Fruits 2.5 cm long, ellipsoid-ovoid, smooth.

*Fl. & Fr.* : November - March.

*Distrib.* : India : North-East India, Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Myanmar, Bangladesh, Malaysia.

*Notes* : Growing along streams in tropical evergreen forests. Rare in occurrence.

*Uses* : Seeds are used for making rosaries.

#### RUTACEAE

**Citrus medica** L. Sp. Pl. 782. 1753 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 514. 1875 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 111. 1923.

*Local name* : 'Nimbu'.

Tall shrub, thorny. Leaves unifoliolate, glabrous. Flowers white, often tinged with pink. Fruits globose, ovoid or oblong. Cultivated.

*Fl. & Fr.* : May - October.

*Distrib.* : India : Foot hills of Himalayas from Garhwal to Sikkim, Eastern Himalayas, Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Bangladesh.

*Uses* : Fruits are edible.

**Glycosmis mauritiana** (Lam.) Tanaka in Bull. Soc. Bot. France 75 : 708. 1928. *Limonia mauritiana* Lam. Encycl. 3 : 517. 1792. *Glycosmis pentaphylla* Correa in Ann. Mus. 6 : 384. 1805 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 499. 1875 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 111. 1923.

Small evergreen trees. Leaves imparipinnate ; leaflets oblong to elliptic lanceolate ; lateral nerves looping for from the edges. Flowers white in axillary panicles. Fruits globose.

*Fl. & Fr.* : April - December.

*Distrib.* : India : Tropical N. W. Himalayas, Sikkim, Assam, Kerala, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, China, Malaya, Philippines Islands ; Borneo ; Australia.

*Uses* : Stem twigs are used as tooth-brush.

**Limonia acidissima** L., Sp. Pl. ed. 2. 554. 1762, excl. cit. Rheede Hort. Mal. t. 14 (non Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 507. 1875) ; Airy-Shaw in Kew Bull. 1939 : 293. 1939.

*Local name* : 'Kutbel'.

A spinous glabrous shrub, branches woody. Leaves pinnate ; leaflets obtuse, crenulate. Flowers white, fragrant. Berry globose.

*Fl. & Fr.* : February - June.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India mainly in dry areas.

*Uses* : Fruits are edible.

**Murraya koenigii** (L.) Spreng., Syst. Veg. 2 : 315. 1825 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 503. 1875. *Bergera koenigii* L. Mant. 565. 1767.

*Local name* : 'Kari patta'.

Shrubs or small tree. Leaves aromatic ; leaflets 9 - 25, usually oblique, ovate, obtuse, acuminate, notched at the top, crenulate. Flowers in corymbs or panicles, white. Berries ovoid, rugose, black when ripe.

*Fl. & Fr.* : November - March.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India including Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Tropical Asia, Sri Lanka.

*Uses* : Leaves much eaten in curries.

**Paramignya andamanica** (King ex Hook.f.) Tanaka in Bull. Soc. Bot. France 75 : 715. 1928. *P. armata* var. *andamanica* King ex Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 511. 1875.

Scandent shrubs. Leaves 1-foliolate, elliptic oblong rounded, at base, acute at apex, scented. Flowers white in axillary cymes. Berries globular or obscurely 2-lobed.

*Fl. & Fr.* : September - December.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Sri Lanka.

*Notes* : Leaves are aromatic. Roots are used as diuretic.

#### ICACINACEAE

**Codiocarpus andamanica** (Kurz) Howard in Brittonia 5 : 57. 1943. *Apodytes andamanicus* Kurz., Andaman Rep. B.5: 33. 1870 & J. Asiat. Soc. Beng. 41(2) : 298. 1872 ; Masters in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 588. 1875.

A small tree, branches terete. Leaves oblong-acuminate, glabrous. Flowers in axillary cymes; calyx cup-shaped; petals oblong, puberulous. Drupes stone woody, fibrous.

*Fl. & Fr.* : April July.

*Distrib.* India : Andaman Islands. Endemic.

*Uses* : Stem is used in fuelwood.

#### RHAMNACEAE

**Gouania andamanica** King in Jour. Asiat. Soc. Beng. 65: 382. 1897; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 131. 1923; Bhandari and Bhansali in Fasc., Fl. India 20: 37. 1990.

Unarmed climbing shrub. Flowers sessile. Fruits rusty tomentose, boldly angled.

*Fl.* : December.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands. Endemic.

*Ecol.* : Growing on rocky places in evergreen inland forest.

*Uses* : Bath of leaves cures stomach ache. It is also said that stem twigs of allied species of *Gouania* are used in curing toothache.

**Ziziphus oenoplia** (L.) Mill., Gard. Dict. ed. 8: 3. 1768; Lawson in Hook. f., Fl. India 1: 634. 1875; Bhandari & Bhansali in Fasc., Fl. India 20: 103. 1990. *Rhamnus oenoplia* L. Sp. Pl. 194. 1753.

A straggling shrub. Flowers in short axillary cymes. Drupes yellow to black.

*Fl. & Fr.* : August - March.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India including Andaman Islands; Sri Lanka, Malacca,

Tropical Asia and Australia.

*Ecol.* : Growing in inland forest.

*Uses* : Fruits are edible.

**Z. mauritiana** Lamk., Encyc. 3: 319. 1789; Bailey, Man. Cult. Pl. 646. 1949; Bhandari & Bhansali in Fasc., Fl. India 20: 99. 1990. *Z. jujuba* (L.) Gaertn. Fruct. 1: 203. 1788; Lawson in Hook. f. Fl. Brit. India 1 : 632. 1875, *non* Mill. 1768.

*Local name* : 'Ber'.

A small or middle sized tree, branchlets and leaves brown tomentose. Drupe glossy orange or red when ripe. Cultivated.

*Fl. & Fr.* : September - June.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India ; Sri Lanka ; Malacca. Afghanistan, Tropical Africa, Malaya Islands, China, Australia.

*Uses* : Fruits are edible.

#### LEEACEAE

**Leea indica** (Burm. f.) Merr. in Philip. J. Sci. 14: 245. 1919; Ridsale in Blumea 22: 95. 1974. *Staphylea indica* Burm. f., Fl. Ind. 75, t. 23, f. 2. 1768. *Leea sambucina* Willd. Sp. Pl. 1: 1117. 1798, *nom. illeg.*; Lawson in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 1: 666. 1875; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 132. 1923.

A shrub *ca* 3 m tall. Leaves bi to tripinnate. Flowers greenish white. Fruits blue black.

*Fl. & Fr.*: May - December.

*Distrib.*: India : Throughout India; Sri Lanka, Malacca, Malay Islands, Philippines, Australia.

*Ecol.* : Common in damp places along streams in inland forest.

*Uses* : Young leaves are cooked and eaten as vegetables by local people.

#### VITACEAE

**Cayratia trifolia** (L.) Domin in Biblioth. Bot. 89: 370. 1927. *Vitis trifolia* L., Sp. Pl. 203. 1753. *Cissus carnosus* Lamk., Encycl. 1: 31. 1783. *Vitis carnosus* (Lamk.) Wall. ex Wight & Arn., Prodr. 127. 1834; Lawson in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 1 : 654. 1875.

*Local name* : 'Amal-bel'.

Climbers. Leaves *ca* 20 cm long ; leaflets ovate, elliptic or rhomboid to orbicular, rounded at base, obtuse or acuminate at apex. Cymes 4 cm long. Flowers greenish white. Berries globose ripening black or violet.

*Fl. & Fr.* : March May.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India including Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Myanmar, Malaysia.

*Uses* : Leaves used as a fodder.

**Cissus repens** Lamk. Encycl. 1: 31. 1783. *Vitis repens* (Lamk.) Wight & Arn. in Wight Cat 58. 1834; Lawson in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 1: 646. 1875.

Climbers. Leaves broadly ovate, cordate or rounded at base, acuminate at apex, distinctly wavy dentate. Cymes opposite to leaves. Flowers small, greenish yellow. Berries globose or ovoid.

*Fl. & Fr* : May - November.

*Distrib.* : India : Western Peninsula, Eastern Himalayas, Andaman & Nicobar Islands; Java, Myanmar, Bangladesh.

*Uses* : Bark used for curing bone fracture. Leaves used for curing wounds and sores. Young shoots are edible and acidic in taste.

#### SAPINDACEAE

**Pometia pinnata** J. R. & G. Forst., Char. Gen. 110, t. 55. 1776; King in Jour. Asiat. Soc. Bengal 65: 441. 1896; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 136. 1923; Jacobs in Reinwardtia 6: 120. 1962.

Moderate size evergreen trees bark reddish-brown. Leaves paripinnate; leaflets oblong-lanceolate or orbicular. Flowers small, yellow, in large panicles. Fruits oblong,

splitting irregularly, purple when ripe.

*Fl. & Fr.* : December - May.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands ; Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Indo-China and Formosa.

*Uses* : An ornamental tree. Wood is used as timber. Arillodes are sometimes eaten.

*Ecol.* : Common along streams in Andamans.

**Cardiospermum halicacabum** L., Sp. Pl. 366. 1753; Hiern in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 1: 670. 1875.

*Local name* : 'Kanphuta'.

Climbing herbs. Stems and branches furrowed. Leaves bipinnate; leaflets incisodentate. Flowers white. Capsules trigonous, angles winged.

*Fl. & Fr.* : Throughout the year.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India ; Tropical and subtropical countries ( Sri Lanka; Malaysia).

*Uses* : Roots used for curing dizziness and leaves in ear ache. Whole plant is recommended for stiffness of limbs and rheumatism.

#### ANACARDIACEAE

**Mangifera andamanica** King in Jour. Asiat.

Soc. Beng. 61: 1892; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands. 139. 1923.

*Local name* : 'Jungli Aam'.

Medium sized trees. Leaves large, obovate to broadly oblanceolate or elliptic; lateral nerves 10 - 12 pairs. Flowers in lax terminal panicles. Drupe elliptic. Endemic.

*Fl. & Fr.* : January - April.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands.

*Uses* : Fruits are edible.

**M. camptosperma** Pierre, Fl. Cochinch.t. 368. 1790. *M. sylvatica* Roxb., Fl. Indica ed. Carey 2. 1: 644. 1832; Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 2 : 15. 1876.

*Local name* : 'Jungli Aam'

Large trees up to 30 m high. Leaves oblong, cuneate at base, acuminate to caudate at apex, glabrous; lateral nerves 15 - 20 pairs. Fruits flat elliptic, epicarp thin, mesocarp fibrous, endocarp woody. Seeds reniform.

*Fl. & Fr.* : March - July.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands; Vietnam, Thailand, Myanmar.

*Uses* : Fruits are edible.

*Ecol.* : Growing in the interior beach and lowland forests in sandy loam.

*Notes* : Rare in occurrence.

**Mangifera indica** L., Sp. Pl. 200. 1753;  
Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 2: 13. 1876;  
Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 139.  
1923.

Large trees. Leaves crowded at the end of branchlets, oblong or linear oblong, elliptic or obovate-lanceolate; panicle tomentose. Flowers yellow, polygamous. Drupe large fleshy, stone compressed, fibrous.

*Fl. & Fr.* : December - April.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India. Introduced and planted in Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Eastern tropical Asia and in the tropics.

#### CONNARACEAE

**Rourea minor** (Gaertn.) Alston. in Trimen, Handb. Fl. Ceylon 6 : 67. 1931; Leenh. in Fl. Malesiana 5 : 514. 1958. *Aegiceras minus* Gaertn., Fruct. 1: 216. t. 46. 1788. *Rourea santaloides* (Vahl) W. & A., Prodr. 144. 1834; Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 2 : 47. 1876. *R. commutata* Planch. in Linnaea 23 : 419, 1850, *nom. illeg.*, Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 143. 1923.

Large scandent shrubs. Leaves imparipinnate; leaflets 2 - 4 pairs, ovate-elliptic or elliptic-lanceolate. Flowers white,

small in axillary panicles. Capsule sessile, curved.

*Fl. & Fr.* : May - December.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Assam; Bangladesh, Myanmar, China.

*Uses* : Roots are used for diabetes and rheumatism. Fresh arils are edible.

#### FABACEAE

**Abrus precatorius** L., Syst. Nat. ed. 2, 2: 472. 1767; Baker in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 2: 175. 1876; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 150. 1923. *Glycine abrus* L., Sp. Pl. 753. 1753.

*Local name* : 'Ratti'.

Climbers with woody stem and twining branchlets. Leaves paripinnate. Flowers white, pink. Fruit oblong, turgid with 3-5 pretty seeds.

*Fl. & Fr.* : September - November.

*Distrib.* : India : Throughout India up to 1200 m; Pantropical.

*Uses* : Seeds are used as purgative, emetic and aphrodisiac.

**Alysicarpus vaginalis** (L.) DC. Prodr. 2: 353. 1825; Baker in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India

2: 158. 1876. *Hedysarum vaginale* L., Sp. Pl. 746. 1753.

Suffruticose, diffuse, branches glabrous or with few hairs. Leaves unifoliate; leaflets lanceolate, oblong or ovate-oblong. Inflorescence of elongate racemes. Flowers red, pale rose or purple. Pod 6-8, jointed, joints about half as long as broad, turgid.

*Fl. & Fr.* : September - December.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India; tropics of the Old world, introduced in America.

**Canavalia cathartica** Thou. in Desv., J. Bot. 1: 81. 1813. *C. turgida* Grah. ex A. Gray, Bot. U. S. Expl. Exped. 1: 440. 1854; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 153. 1923. *C. ensiformis* (L.) DC. var. *turgida* (Grah. ex A. Gray) Baker in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 2 : 196. 1876.

Weak climbers with trifoliate leaves. Flowers yellow. Pods thick, broadly turgid, ribbed on the sides of upper suture, 6-seeded.

*Fl.* : Throughout the year.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal ; Africa, Mauritius, S. E. Asia, Australia, Pacific Islands.

*Uses* : Pods are edible.

*Ecol* : Common along the sea shores.

**Clitoria ternatea** L., Sp. Pl. 753; 1753, Baker in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 2: 208. 1876.

*Local name* : 'Aparjit'.

Climbers. Leaves imparipinnate, 5 foliolate; leaflets elliptic, obtuse or emarginate. Flowers solitary on axillary peduncles, blue. Pods linear, flat, 8-10-seeded.

*Fl. & Fr.* : July - March.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India in tropical and subtropical regions including Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Sri Lanka, Malacca, Myanmar.

*Uses* : Seeds are used as purgative. Roots as diuretic.

**Derris heptaphylla** (L.) Merr., Interp. Herb. Amb. 273. 1917. *Sophora heptaphylla* L., Sp. Pl. 373. 1753, *excl. syn.* Pluk. *Derris sinuata* Benth. ex Thw. Enum. 93. 1859 ; Baker in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 2 : 246. 1878 ; Thoth. in Bull. Bot. Surv. India 3 : 195. 1962.

Scandent shrub with pendulous branches. Leaves trifoliate. Flowers white, fragrant. Pods 1-3 seeded, pale green.

*Fl. & Fr.* : March - May.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands; Myanmar and Malaya Peninsula.

*Uses* : Roots are used as an insecticide and also as fish poison.

**Desmodium triflorum** (L.) DC. Prodr. 2 : 334. 1825; Baker in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 2: 173. 1876. *Hedysarum triflorum* L., Sp. Pl. 749. 1753, *excl.* vars. *Hedysarum stipulaceum* Burm. f.

Medium sized shrubs. Leaves trifoliolate, leaflets obovate, truncate or emarginate, glabrous above, sparsely hairy beneath. Flowers white. Pods flat.

*Fl. & Fr.* : September - January.

*Distrib.* : India : Throughout plains ascending up to 2500 m in Kashmir, including Andaman & Nicobar Islands; Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Bhutan, S. E. Asia, China, Australia, Africa, America.

*Uses* : Grown as soil binder and for fodder. Leaves used for curing diarrhoea and dysentery.

*Notes* : Non indigenous. Cultivated.

**Mucuna gigantea** (Willd.) DC., Prodr. 2 : 405. 1825 ; Baker in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 2: 186. 1876 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 145. 1923. *Dolichos giganteus* Willd. Sp. Pl. 3 : 1041. 1802.

Climbers with thin stem. Leaflets oblong, cuspidate at apex, cuneate at base, lateral oblique. Flowers green or yellow white. Pod smooth with winged edges.

*Fl. & Fr.* : October - April.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands, Western Peninsula, West Bengal; Sri Lanka, Malesia, China, Pacific Islands, Australia. Common in interior forest.

*Uses* : Pods sometimes eaten as vegetables. Seeds are edible.

**Mucuna monosperma** DC. ex Wight in Hook., Bot. Misc. 2 : 346. 1831; Baker in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 2 : 185. 1876 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 146. 1923.

Woody climbers. Leaves trifoliolate. Flowers purple in short corymb. Pod rounded, as long as broad with one seed.

*Fl. & Fr.* : November - March.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands, W. Ghats, N. E. Region. Orissa; Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia.

*Uses* : Seeds are used in curing cough, asthma and affection of tongue.

**Pterocarpus dalbergioides** Roxb. (Hort. Beng. 53. 1814, *nom. nud.*) ex DC. Prodr. 2: 418. 1825, Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 152. 1923. *P. indicus auct. non* Willd. 1802, Baker in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 2 : 238. 1876, *pro parte*.

*Local name* : 'Andaman Padauk'.

Large deciduous trees, leaves imparipinnate. Flowers golden yellow in terminal and axillary panicles. Pod flat, orbicular winged.

*Fl. & Fr.* : July - March.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands; Myanmar.

*Uses* : Wood is very much valued for ornamental and decorative work, used for making furniture, cabinet work, turnery and veneers.

*Ecol.* : Common in deciduous and semideciduous forests.

*Notes* : This tree boosted the economy of Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

**Sophora tomentosa** L., Sp. Pl. 373. 1753; Baker in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 2 : 249. 1878 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 151. 1923.

Evergreen shrubby trees. Leaves imparipinnate. Flowers bright yellow, in terminal racemes. Pod like a necklace constricted between the seeds.

*Fl. & Fr.* : January - April.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Coast of Peninsula. Throughout tropical coast.

*Uses* : Grown in the garden as an

ornamental tree for its bright yellow flowers.

#### CAESALPINIACEAE

**Bauhinia acuminata** L., Sp. Pl. 375. 1753; Baker in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 2 : 276. 1878.

*Local name* : 'Ahlad'.

Erect shrubs, branches angular. Leaves cordate, 9-11 nerved. Flowers white in axillary racemes. Pod ribbed on each side, 8-10 seeded.

*Fl. & Fr.* : March - August.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands, Peninsular to N.W. India, Bihar, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, West Bengal ; Sri Lanka, Myanmar, China, Japan. Cultivated all through S.E. Asia.

*Uses* : Planted as an ornamental.

**Caesalpinia bonduc** (L.) Roxb., Fl. Ind. ed. Carey 2. 2 : 362. 1832, emend. Dandy & Exell in J. Bot. 76 : 179. 1938 ; Hatting in Reinwardtia 9 : 17. 1794. *non sensu* Baker in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 2 : 255. 1878. *Guilandia bonduc* L., Sp. Pl. 381. 1753. *C. bonducella* (L.) Fleming in Asist. Res. 11. 159. 1910 ; Baker in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 2 : 254. 1878 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 157. 1923.

*Local name* : 'Kat karanch'.

Scandent, shrubs with sharp prickles. Leaflets elliptic to oblong. Flowers many in racemes. Pod with sharp wiry prickles. Seeds lead-coloured.

*Fl. & Fr.* : April January.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India and Tropical region of the world.

*Uses* : Seeds are used as a tonic, curing colic pain, fever. Seed oil is used in curing rheumatism and skin diseases.

**Caesalpinia pulcherrima** (L.) Swartz, Obs. Bot. Pl. Ind. Occ. 166. 1791 ; Baker in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 2 : 255. 1878 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 157. 1923. *Poinciana pulcherrima* L., Sp. Pl. 380. 1751.

Shrubs angled with few prickles. Leaves bipinnate ; leaflets 10 - 12 pairs. Flowers orange, bright yellow or scarlet. Pod thin strap-shaped.

*Fl. & Fr.* : April December.

*Distrib.* : India : Cultivated in gardens. Native of S. America. Non-indigenous.

*Notes* : Growing as ornamental in garden.

**Cassia alata** L., Sp. Pl. 378. 1753 ; Baker in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 2 : 264. 1878 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 155. 1923. *Senna alata* (L.) Roxb., Fl. Ind.

ed. Carey 2. 2 : 349. 1832.

Shrubs. Leaves subsessile with no glands but with persistent auricled stipules. Flowers large, yellow. Pod with crenulated wing along each valve.

*Fl. & Fr.* : August - February.

*Distrib.* : India : Naturalised in Andaman & Nicobar Islands, also naturalised in Southern and Eastern parts of India. Pantropical.

*Uses* : Leaves are used for curing ring worms and skin diseases.

*Ecol.* : Common in waste places.

*Notes* : Planted in garden and parks as an ornamental.

**Cassia fistula** L., Sp. Pl. 377. 1753; Baker in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 2: 261. 1878; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 155. 1923.

*Local name* : 'Amaltas'.

Trees, bark white grey. Leaflets 4 - 8 pairs. Flowers large, bright yellow in long racemes. Pod cylindrical.

*Fl. & Fr.* : July - February.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Throughout drier region, cultivated and naturalised. Non indigenous.

*Uses* : Fruit pulp is used for curing chronic dysentery.

**Cassia tora** L., Sp. Pl. 376. 1753; Baker in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 2: 263. 1876, *pro parte*.

*Local name* : 'Chekor'.

Small shrubs. Leaflets 3 pairs with 2 subulate glands between the lower pairs of leaflets. Flowers yellow. Pod linear.

*Fl. & Fr.* : October - February.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Naturalised throughout. Native of S. America. Pantropical weed.

*Uses* : Young leaves are eaten as vegetable. Leaves and seed oil are used for curing skin infection.

**Tamarindus indica** L., Sp. Pl. 34. 1753; Baker in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 2: 273. 1878; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 155. 1923.

*Local name* : 'Imli'.

Tall trees. Leaves paripinnate. Flowers yellow streaked with red. Pod thick, pulp dark-brown, acid.

*Fl. & Fr.* : June - February.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Cultivated throughout, a native of

tropical Africa.

*Uses* : Fruits are edible.

## MIMOSACEAE

**Acacia auriculiformis** A. Cunn. ex Benth. in Hook. London J. Bot. 1: 377. 1872; Sen & Naskar in Bull. Bot. Surv. India 7: 31. 1968.

*Local name* : 'Australian Babool'.

Middle sized trees. Phyllodes curved, coriaceous, parallel nerved, tapering at the ends. Flowers yellow in cylindrical lax spikes. Pod brown, coiled at maturity, dehiscent.

*Fl. & Fr.* : August - November.

*Distrib.* : India : (Cultivated throughout). Native of Australia.

*Uses* : Cultivated as an avenue tree for its graceful pendant phyllodes and beautiful light yellow flowers.

**Entada rheedei** Spreng., Syst. Veg. 2: 325. Jan. - May 1825 ssp. *rheedei*; Panigrahi in Taxon 34: 714. 1985. *Entada pursaetha* DC., Prodr. 2: 425. Nov. 1825. *E. scandens* Baker in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 2: 287. 1878, *pro parte*; Parkinson, For Fl. Andaman Islands 158. 1923.

Woody climbers. Leaves pinnate. Flowers pale yellow in cylindrical spikes. Pod

woody, thickened along the edges and depressed between the seeds.

*Fl. & Fr.* : August - March.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Bihar, Karnataka, Kerala, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Eastern Himalayas; Tropical Asia, Africa, Mascarene Island.

*Uses* : The Andamanese eat the kernel of the seeds. Leaves are eaten by elephants.

**Mimosa pudica** L., Sp. Pl. 518. 1753 ; Baker in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 2: 291. 1878.

*Local name* : 'Lajwanti'.

Shrubby, stem and rachises bristly. Leaves digitate ; leaflets 24 -40, glabrous, subcoriaceous. Flowers in peduncled head. Pod small, densely prickly.

*Fl. & Fr.* : September - April.

*Distrib.* : India (Naturalised throughout India). Pantropical. Native of tropical America.

*Uses* : Roots used as diuretic, epilepsy, toothache and dysentery. Leaves are used in curing boils and headache.

**Samanea saman** (Jacq.) Merr., J. Wash. Acad. Sci. 6: 46. 1916 ; Saldanha & Nicolson in Fl. Hassan Dist. 96. 1978. *Pithecolobium saman* (Willd.) Benth. in

Hook., London J. Bot. 3 : 199. 1844. *Enterolobium saman* (Jacq.) Prain, J. Asiat. Soc. Beng. 66 : 252. 1897 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 161. 1923.

*Local name* : 'Rain Tree', 'Vilaiti Siris'.

Large trees. Leaves bipinnate ; pinnae 3 7 pairs. Flowers white tinged with pink. Pods 10 25 cm long.

*Fl. & Fr.* : August - March.

*Distrib.* : India : Cultivated throughout. Native of tropical Central America.

*Uses* : Pods are used as a fodder. Bark is used for making local drinks as fermenting agent.

*Notes* : Commonly growing on roadsides. Trees are the store house of several epiphytes.

#### COMBRETACEAE

**Quisqualis indica** L., Sp. Pl. ed. 2. 556. 1762; Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 2 : 459. 1878.

*Local name* : 'Malti'.

Woody climbers. Leaves opposite or subopposite, ovate-elliptic, tomentose or glabrous, rounded at base, acuminate at apex. Flowers white, turning to red or orange, showy, fragrant in terminal and axillary

spikes. Fruits dark brown, ovate elliptic, 5-angled.

*Fl. & Fr.* : Throughout the year.

*Distrib.* : Tropics of India. Native of Java and Malaysia.

*Uses* : Grown as an ornamental. Tender shoots are edible.

**Terminalia catappa** L., Sp. Pl. 2 : 519. 1753 ; Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 2 : 444. 1878 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 167. 1923.

*Local name* : "Badam", "Indian Almond Tree".

Large trees. Leaves broad obovate, base cordate, apex rounded. Flowers white, star shaped in racemes. Drupe compressed.

*Fl. & Fr.* : March September.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India including Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Myanmar, Sri Lanka. Planted in all tropical countries.

*Uses* : Fruits are edible. Wood is also used in making boats.

#### MYRTACEAE

**Callistemon citrinus** (Curtis) Stapf in Bot. Mag. 150 : t. 9050. 1925. *Metrosideros citrina* Curtis in Bot. Mag. 8 : t. 260.

1794. *Callistemon janceolatus* DC. Prodr. 3 : 223. 1828.

*Local name* : 'Bottlebrush'.

Small Trees. Leaves linear, gland-dotted. Flowers in terminal cymes, crimson red.

*Fl. & Fr.* : September - January.

*Distrib.* : India : Throughout the country. Commonly growing in the gardens in Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

*Uses* : Suitable for avenue planting.

**Syzygium samarangense** (Bl.) Merr. & Perry in Jour. Arnold Arb. 19 : 109. 1938. *Myrtus samarangensis* Bl., Bijdr. 1084. 1826. *Eugenia javanica* Lamk., Encyc. 3: 200. 1789 ; Duthie in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 2 : 474. 1878, *non Syzygium javanicum* Miq. 1855.

*Local name* : 'Jungli Jamun'.

Medium sized trees, bark dark brown. Leaves ovate to oblong lanceolate, blunt acuminate ; lateral nerves 9 - 12. Flowers white, 2 to 3 in short axillary or terminal racemes. Fruits depressed, turbinate, white and lossy.

*Fl. & Fr.* : February - August.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Malay Peninsula.

*Ecol.* : Frequent along the sea shores often growing among boulders in large stream.

*Notes* : Fruits are edible but tasteless.

#### LECYTHIDACEAE

**Planchonia andamanica** King in J. Asiat. Soc. Beng. 70 (2) : 142. 1901 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 174. 1923. *P. valida sensu* Kurz, For. Fl. Burma 1 : 500. 1877, *non* Bl. *P. littoralis sensu* Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 2 : 511. 1879, *non* Bl.

*Local name* : 'Lal Bombway'.

Large deciduous trees. Leaves obovate to broad elliptic at one end branchlet. Flowers white tinged with pink in terminal raceme.

*Fl. & Fr.* : January - May.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands ; Myanmar.

*Uses* : Wood is hard, used for house building.

*Ecol.* : Frequent in evergreen forests.

#### MELASTOMATACEAE

**Melastoma malabathricum** L., Sp. Pl. 390. 1753 ; Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 2 : 523. 1879 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 176. 1923.

*Local name* : 'Phutki'

Shrub, branches covered with hairy scales. Leaves bright green, reddish, elliptic to ovate-lanceolate, 3-nerved. Flowers rose coloured to purplish, stamens 10. Berries ovoid.

*Fl. & Fr.* : January - September.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India from sea level to 6000 ft. alt. including Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Malaya.

*Uses* : Leaves, flowers and fruits are eaten. Fruits yield black or purple dye from which an ink can prepared.

*Ecol.* : Frequent in evergreen forest and along edges in grassy slopes.

#### LYTHRACEAE

**Ammania baccifera** L., Sp. Pl. 120. 1753 ; Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 2 : 569. 1879. *A. salicifolia* Hiern in Oliver, Fl. Trop. Afr. 2 : 278. 1871, *excl. syn.* ; Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 2 : 569. 1879.

Glabrous, erect herbs up to 60 cm tall. Leaves opposite or alternate, oblong or narrow elliptic, narrowed at base. Flowers in clusters. Capsules globose.

*Fl. & Fr.* : July - October.

*Distrib.* : India : Wild and also cultivated

throughout tropical part of the country including Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Afghanistan, Malaya, China, Australia & Tropical Africa.

*Uses* : Leaves are bitter, appetiser, laxative and aphrodisiac.

**Lagerstroemia hypoleuca** Kurz, Andaman Rep. App. p. 8 & in Jour. Asiat. Soc. Beng. 41(2) : 307. 1872 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 179. 1923.

*Local name* : 'Pyinma'.

Large deciduous trees with white bark. Flowers in long terminal panicles. Fruits ovoid, dark brown, splitted by valves with calyx persistent.

*Fl. & Fr.* : July - December.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands. Endemic.

*Ecol.* : Dispersed in deciduous and semideciduous forest.

*Uses* : Wood used in house and boat making. Also grown as ornamental roadside tree.

**Lawsonia inermis** L., Sp. Pl. 349. 1753. *L. alba* Lamk., Encyc. 3 : 106. 1789 ; Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 2 : 573. 1879 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 180. 1923.

*Local name* : 'Henna', 'Mehndi'.

Shrub with slender branchlet. Leaves opposite, lanceolate or oblanceolate, apex acute, subsessile. Flowers white, small. Capsules red.

*Fl. & Fr.* : Throughout the year.

*Distrib.* : India : Introduced ; growing wild in Andaman Islands (Non indigenous).

*Uses* : Powdered leaves made into paste given dye used for staining.

#### ONAGRACEAE

**Ludwigia octovalvis** (Jacq.) Raven in Kew Bull. 15 : 476. 1962 & Reinwardtia 6 : 356. 1963. *Oenothera octovalvis* Jacq., Enum. 19. 1760. *Jussiaea suffruticosa* L., Sp. Pl. 388. 1753 ; Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 2 : 587. 1879.

Erect, robust herbs. Leaves linear to subovate, cuneate at base ; lateral nerves 11- 20. Flowers yellow, axillary, solitary. Capsules linear cylindric.

*Fl. & Fr.* : October - December.

*Distrib.* : India : Throughout India except Western desert region. Throughout tropics of the world.

*Uses* : Whole plant is used for skin infection (Eczema).

## CUCURBITACEAE

**Trichosanthes bracteata** (Lamk.) Voigt, Hort. Suburb. Calc. 58. 1845. *Modecca bracteata* Lamk., Encycl. Meth. Bot. 4 : 210. 1767. *Trichosanthes palmata* Roxb., Fl. Ind. ed. 2. 3: 704. 1832 ; Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 2 : 606. 1876.

*Local name* : 'Indrayan'.

Climbers. Stem sulcate. Leaves membranous, broadly ovate, subentire, often deeply palmately 3-5 lobed, denticulate. Flowers white. Fruits red when ripe with 10 longitudinal orange streaks.

*Fl. & Fr.* : July - December.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India in tropical including Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Indo-Malaya.

*Uses* : Roots and fruits have medicinal value mainly in jaundice.

## APIACEAE

**Centella asiatica** (L.) Urban in Martius Fl. Brasil 11 : 287, t. 78, f. 1. 1879. *Hydrocotyle asiatica* L., Sp. Pl. 1 : 234. 1753 ; Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 2 : 669. 1879.

*Local name* : 'Brahmi'.

Perennial herbs, stem creeping. Leaves

in a rosette, reniform, crenate dentate, glabrous. Umbel solitary, pedicel short. Fruits shallowly 2-lobed, glabrous at maturity.

*Fl. & Fr.* : September - December.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands, tropical part of the country and also sub-tropical zone in the world.

*Uses* : Leaves used as a tonic and diuretic. Decoction of the whole plant is used for curing leprosy.

## RUBIACEAE

**Canthium glabrum** Bl., Bijdr. 967. 1825 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 3 : 133. 1880 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 191. 1923.

Small, unbranched trees, glabrous. Leaves ovate-oblong to oblong-lanceolate, rarely obovate or elliptic, shortly acuminate. Cymes small, compressed. Flowers 5-merous, shortly peduncled. Drupes 1.5 - 2 cm long, obovate-oblong, smooth.

*Fl. & Fr.* : April - September.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands ; Myanmar, Singapore, Java.

*Uses* : Wood is very hard and durable, used for making toys.

**Hedyotis diffusa** Willd., Sp. Pl. 1 : 566. 1797.

*Oldenlandia diffusa* (Willd.) Roxb., Fl. Ind. 1 : 444. 1820 ; Hooker in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 3 : 65. 1880.

Diffuse herbs. Leaves decussate. Flowers solitary or in axillary pairs. Capsules loculicidal with persistent calyx.

*Fl. & Fr.* : September - December.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India including Andaman & Nicobar Islands as a weed ; Tropoical Asia to Borneo, Philippines, Japan.

*Uses* : Decoction of herb is used for biliousness, excessive thirst and heat.

**Hedyotis paradoxa** Kurz in J. Asiat. Soc. Beng. 2 : 135. 1876 ; Hooker in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 3 : 59. 1880.

Under shrubs. Leaves sessile. Cymes axillary, globose, dense flowered. Capsules small.

*Fl. & Fr.* : May - November.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Endemic.

**Ixora barbata** Roxb. ex J. E. Sm. in Rees, Cycl. 19 : n. 6. 1811 ; Kurz, Contrib. Burma 149. 1875 et For. Fl. Brit. Burma 2 : 22. 1877 ; Hooker in Hook.f., Fl., Brit. India 3 : 148. 1880 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 188. 1923 ; Hussain & Paul in Jour. Econ. Tax. Bot. Ser. 6 : 146. 1989.

Large shrubs. Leaves ovate, oblong or elliptic, rounded at base, acute at apex. Inflorescence trichotomous, cymes compact. Fruits globose green.

*Fl. & Fr.* : March November.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Endemic. Its nativity is not known till Kurz found it from the Andamans.

*Uses* : Shrub is of an ornamental value.

**I. finlaysoniana** Wall. ex G. Don. Gen. Syst. 3 : 572. 1832 ; Baker & Bakh.f., Fl. Java 2 : 236. 1965 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 188. 1922 ; Hussain & Paul in Jour. Econ. Tax. Bot. Ser. 6 : 128. 1989.

Trees ca 4 m high. Leaves ovate-elliptic, rounded at base, acuminate at apex. Flowers white, fragrant. Fruits ellipsoid.

*Fl. & Fr.* : April September.

*Distrib.* : India : Kerala, Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Cultivated in garden throughout the country.

*Uses* : It is wild ornamental.

**Lasianthus andamanicus** Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 3 : 189. 1880 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 192. 1923.

Shrubs, branchlets black when dry. Leaves elliptic, lanceolate or oblanceolate,

acuminate at base, long acuminate at apex. Flowers white, sessile in cluster. Drupes ovoid, globose, green.

*Fl. & Fr.* : January – December.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands. Endemic.

**Mussaenda macrophylla** Wall. in Roxb., Fl. Ind. ed. Carey & Wall. 2 : 228. 1832 ; Kurz, For. Fl. Brit. Burma 2 : 57. 1876 ; Hooker in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 3 : 89. 1880 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 187. 1923.

Small trees or large erect scandent shrubs. Leaves ovate to elliptic-lanceolate, entire, pubescent above, acute at base, abruptly acuminate at apex. Flowers orange colour in terminal cymes, one of the calyx lobes enlarged and resembles a beautiful white leaf. Berries ovoid, green, orange when ripe.

*Fl. & Fr.* : April – November.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands, N.W. to Eastern Himalaya ; Malay Peninsula, Java, Philippines.

*Uses* : Grown as an ornamental.

**Anthocephalus chinensis** (Lamk.) A. Rich. ex Walp., Repert. 2 : 491. 1843 ; Bakh.f., in Taxon 19 : 469. 1970. *Cephalanthus chinensis* Lamk., Encycl. 1 : 678. 1785. *Nauclea cadamba* Roxb., Fl. Ind. 2 : 121.

1824. *Anthocephalus cadamba* (Roxb.) Miq., Pl. Ind. Bat. 2 : 135. 1856 ; Hooker in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 3 : 23. 1880 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 185. 1923.

*Local name* : 'Kadam'

Large deciduous trees. Leaves ovate, elliptic-oblong, rounded at base, acuminate at apex. Flowers white and yellow. Capsules compressed, angular, closely packed.

*Fl. & Fr.* : December – September.

*Distrib.* : India : Himalayas to Deccan peninsula, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, also cultivated ; Myanmar, Sumatra, Borneo, Sri Lanka.

*Uses* : Grown as an ornamental. Fruits are edible. Wood is used for ceiling board, match boxes, packing cases. Women use flowers for adornment.

**Oxyceros longiflora** (Lamk.) Yamazaki in J. Jap. Bot. 45 : 339. 1970. *Randia longiflora* Lamk. Encyc. 3 : 26. 1789 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 3 : 111. 1880 *pro parte* ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 190. 1923.

Large shrubs, armed with sharp spines; cymes trichotomous. Flowers in cluster, white with long corolla tube. Berries globose, obscurely ribbed.

*Fl. & Fr.* : March - July.

*Distrib.* : India : N.E. India, Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Myanmar, Bangladesh, Malacca, Malay Islands.

*Ecol.* : Common along the undergrowth of Padauk forest.

*Uses* : Wood is used as fuel.

**Psychotria andamanica** Kurz in Long. J. Bot. 328. 1875 *et* For Fl. Brit. Burma 2 : 13. 1876 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 3 : 168. 1880 ; Parkinson, For Fl. Andaman Islands 189. 1923.

Small shrubs. Leaves obovate to oblong-lanceolate, shortly acuminate ; lateral nerves 8 - 10 pairs. Flowers small, greenish white. Berries ellipsoid, smooth. Seeds ribbed.

*Fl. & Fr.* : January - December.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Endemic.

**P. pendula** Hook.f, Fl. Brit. India 3 : 164. 1880.

Glabrous shrubs, branches smooth. Leaves elliptic-obovate or lanceolate ; lateral nerves slender. Flowers in terminal cymes. Fruits depressed globose, base contracted.

*Fl. & Fr.* : February - June.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands. Endemic.

*Uses* : Leaves are used for curing wounds and sores.

**Psychotria platyneura** Kurz in Trimen J. Bot. 327. 1875 *et* For. Fl. Brit. Burma 2 : 10. 1876 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 3 : 164. 1880 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 189. 1923.

Evergreen shrubs. Leaves elliptic to lanceolate, obovate ; lateral nerves 18 - 22 pairs. Flowers in terminal cymes. Fruits small obovoid, black.

*Fl. & Fr.* : January - December.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Myanmar.

**Uncaria cordata** (Lour.) Merr. Inter. Rumph. 479. 1910 ; Ridsdale in Blumea 24 : 75. 1978. *Restiaria cordata* Lour., Fl. Cochinch. 639. 1790. *Uncaria cirrhifolia* Roxb., Fl. Ind. 2 : 128. 1824 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 3 : 34. 1880. *U. pedicellata* Roxb., Fl. Ind. 1 : 520. 1824 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 186. 1923.

Large climbing shrubs, branches quadrangular. Leaves ovate-oblong or elliptic, shining above, puberulous beneath ; lateral nerves 6 - 8 pairs. Hypanthium with hairs russet to dark brown. Capsules elongate.

*Fl. & Fr.* : August - April.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands ; Myanmar, Java, Borneo, Singapore, Malacca.

*Uses* : Leaves used for curing wounds.

#### ASTERACEAE

**Ageratum conyzoides** L., Sp. Pl. 1 : 839. 1753 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 3 : 343. 1881 ; Uniyal in Hajra *et al.*, Fl. India 12 : 348. 1995.

Herbs. Leaves subrhomboid, ovate, cuneate at base, subacute at apex, sparsely pilose on both surfaces. Heads in corymbs. Flowers blue. Achenes oblong 4 5 ribbed.

*Fl. & Fr.* : September - December.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India and all tropical countries.

*Uses* : Leaves are used in cuts and wounds. Seeds are used in curing diarrhoea and colic pain.

**Blumea lacera** (Burm. f.) DC. in Wight, Contrib. Bot. Ind. 14. 1834 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 3 : 263. 1881 ; Kumar in Hajra *et al.*, Fl. India 13 : 128. 1995. *Conyza lacera* Burm.f., Fl. Ind. 80, t. 59, f. 1. 1768.

*Local name* : 'Kakranda'.

Erect herbs. Stem densely glandular

pubescent. Leaves elliptic, oblong or oblanceolate, entire or lyrate lobed, acute or obtuse at apex, irregularly dentate, glandular pubescent on both surfaces. Heads in axillary and terminal lax panicles. Flowers yellow in colour. Achenes linear, 5-ribbed.

*Fl. & Fr.* : September - December.

*Distrib.* : Throughout plain, in India ; Nepal, Bhutan, China, S.E. Asia, Sri Lanka, Australia and Tropical Africa.

*Uses* : Juice of the leaves is anthelmintic, diuretic, stimulant and febrifuge.

**Eclipta prostrata** (L.) L., Mant. Pl. 2 : 206. 1771 ; Chowdhery in Hajra *et al.*, Fl. India 12 : 381. 1995. *E. alba* (L.) Hassk., Pl. Java Rar. 528. 1848 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 3 : 304. 1881. *Verbesina alba* L., Sp. Pl. 903. 1753. *V. prostrata* L., Sp. Pl. 902. 1753.

*Local name* : 'Bhringraj' 'Bhangra'.

Prostrate, decumbent herbs. Leaves opposite, elliptic-lanceolate, cuneate at base, mucronate at apex, appressed pilose on both surfaces. Heads terminal and axillary, solitary. Flowers white. Achenes 3-angled, scales present.

*Fl. & Fr.* : Throughout the year.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India.

*Uses* : Decoction of the whole plant is used for curing jaundice, also used as an

important ingredient in preparation of hair oil.

**Mikania micrantha** Kunth in H.B.K., Nov. Gen. Sp. 4 : 134. 1820 ; Uniyal in Hajra *et al.*, Fl. India 12 : 357. 1995. *M. scandens* auct., Clarke, Comp. Ind. 34. 1876, *non* Willd.

Climbers. Leaves opposite, cordate-sagittate, broadly cordate at base, acuminate at apex. Heads axillary or terminal corymbose. Flowers white. Achenes 4–5 ribbed, glandular.

*Fl. & Fr.* : Rainy season.

*Distrib.* : India : N.E. India, W. Bengal, Peninsula India, Andaman & Nicobar Islands; Nepal, Myanmar, Malaya, Archipelago, Philippines, Taiwan.

*Uses* : Plants act as soil binder. Rich source of Vitamin A, B and C. Leaves used to cure wounds.

*Notes* : Growing as weed throughout the Islands.

**Veronia cinerea**. (L.) Nees in Linnaea 4(1): 291. 1829 ; Hook.f., Fl., Brit. India 3 : 233. 1881. Uniyal in Hajra *et al.*, Fl., India 13 : 367. 1995. *Conyza cinerea* L., Sp. Pl. 862. 1753.

*Local name* : 'Sahadevi'.

Erect or decumbent herbs or undershrubs. Leaves ovate, sub-spathulate-

lanceolate or elliptic, attenuate at base, acute at apex, pubescent on both surfaces. Heads in terminal corymbs. Flowers bluish mauve or white. Achenes obscurely 4–5 angled.

*Fl. & Fr.* : Throughout the year.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India ; Tropical Asia; Australia ; Africa and New Guinea.

*Uses* : Infusion of the leaves with Quinine is used for curing malaria. Leaves are also used for curing malaria and ring worm. Decoction of root is given for checking diarrhoea.

#### MYRSINACEAE

**Ardisia solanacea** Roxb., Pl. Corom. 1: 27. t. 27. 1795. *A. humilis* auct. *non* Vahl, 1794; Clarke in Hook. f. Fl. Brit. India 3: 529. 1882; *pro parte* excl. syn.

*Local name* : 'Gardagulanja'.

Shrubs. Leaves alternate sometimes crowded towards the tip of branchlets, obovate-oblong or oblanceolate, cuneate at base, acuminate at apex. Flowers in axillary corymbose racemes, pink. Drupes globose, purple black on maturity.

*Fl. & Fr.* : June–October.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India; Sri Lanka; Malaya; China.

*Uses* : Bark is used for curing snake bite

and headache. Leaves are used as a vegetable.

#### OLEACEAE

**Jasminum multiflorum** (Burm. f.) Ander.  
Bot. Repos. 8. t. 496. 1807. *Nyctanthes*  
*multiflora* Burm. f., Fl. Ind. 5. t. 3, f. 1.  
1768. *Jasminum pubescens* (Retz.)  
Willd., Sp. Pl. 1: 37. 1797; Clarke in  
Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 3: 592. 1882.

*Local name* : 'Safed chameli'.

Shrubs. Leaves elliptic to deltoid-ovate,  
truncate at base, acuminate at apex, pubescent  
above. Flowers in dense, subsessile, cymes,  
white, fragrant. Berries simple, didymous,  
ellipsoid, black when ripe.

*Fl. & Fr.* : December - June.

*Distrib.* : India : Native to India, grown  
as ornamental ; Myanmar, China.

*Uses* : Root decoction is considered as  
antidote in snake bite while leaves decoction  
stimulates static ulcers.

#### EBENACEAE

**Diospyros marmorata** Parker in Indian For.  
57 : 210. 1931.

*Local name* : 'Andaman Marblewood'.

Trees. Leaves alternate, ovate-elliptic,  
acuminate, glabrous; lateral nerves 9 pairs.  
Flowers axillary. Fruits ca 3 cm in diam.,

globose.

*Fl. & Fr.* : March - September.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands,  
Western ghats.

*Uses* : Wood is of high timber value, very  
decorative, used for Cabinet-work, turnery,  
carving brush-backs, picture frames and  
walking stick.

*Notes* : Rare.

**D. pyrrhocarpa** Miq. var. **andamanica** Kurz  
in J. Asiat. Soc. pt. ii. 236. 1877 ; Clarke  
in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 3 : 572. 1882 ;  
Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 199.  
1923.

Moderate sized trees, bark black. Leaves  
elliptic-oblong, bluntish acuminate. Flowers  
creamy white ; calyx velvety ; corolla salver-  
shaped. Fruits globular, woody, yellow when  
ripe.

*Fl. & Fr.* : February - June.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands ;  
Myanmar.

*Uses* : Wood is used for making  
decorative pieces.

#### APOCYNACEAE

**Alstonia kurzii** Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 3 :  
643. 1882 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman  
Islands 204. 1923. *A. spectabilis* Kurz,

For. Fl. Brit. Burma 2 : 183. 1877.

Large trees, bark yellow with acrid milky juice. Leaves in whorls, obovate-oblong, pale beneath ; lateral nerves numerous. Flowers white, small fragrant in many flowered cymes. Follicles in pairs.

*Fls. & Fr.* : February - April.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands, Myanmar.

*Uses* : Bark is used for curing intermittent fever. Wood is used as valuable timber.

**Nerium oleander** L., Sp. Pl. 209. 1753. *N. indicum* Mill. Gard. Dict. ed. 8. n. 2. 1768. *N. odorum* Soland. in Ait. Hort. Kew. ed. 1. 1 : 297. 1789 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 3 : 655. 1882 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 206. 1923.

*Local name* : 'Kaner'.

Large shrubs, branched with linear lanceolate leaves in whorls of three. Flowers pinkish yellow or rose like.

*Fl. & Fr.* : April - July.

*Distrib.* : India : Western Himalayas, Central India, Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Nepal, Afghanistan, Japan.

*Uses* : Root paste is used for curing ring worm. Dried leaves are an effective cardiac stimulant.

*Notes* : Commonly growing in garden as an ornamental tree.

**Tabernaemontana crispa** Roxb. (Hort. Beng. 20) Fl. Ind. 2 : 24. 1824 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 3 : 648. 1882 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 205. 1923.

*Local name* : 'Chandni'.

Small trees. Leaves oblong to obovate-lanceolate, acuminate ; lateral nerves 7 - 14 pairs. Flowers white. Fruits in pairs, curved oblong.

*Fl. & Fr.* : April - October.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Myanmar.

*Uses* : Bark and fruit paste used for curing ulcers and wounds

*Ecol.* : Common in littoral and inland forests also used as hedge plant.

#### ASCLEPIADACEAE

**Dischidia nummularia** R. Br., Prodr. 461. 1810 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 4 : 49. 1885. *D. gaudichaudii* Decne. in Nouv. Arch. Mus. Bot. Lugd. 632. 1849.

Slender herbs, rooting on tree trunk. Leaves orbicular, obtuse or apiculate, white when dry ; nerves 2 - 3 pairs ; horizontally reticulating. Flowers white in 2 - 3 flowered clusters.

*Fl. & Fr.* : May - November.

*Distrib.* : India : Assam, Andaman Islands; Myanmar, Bangladesh, Singapore, Malacca.

*Uses* : Grown as house plant for ornamental.

**Dischidia major** (Vahl) Merr. Interpr. Rumph. Herb. Amboin 437. 1917. *Collyris major* Vahl in Shrift. Nat. Selsk. Kiobenh. 6 : 110. 1810. *Dischidia rafflesiana* Wallich, Pl. As. Rar. 2 : 35, t. 142. 1831.

Creeping epiphytic undershrubs, stem stout. Leaves orbicular, some are modified into pitchers, oblong, ovate-oblong, fleshy thick. Flowers yellow.

*Fl. & Fr.* : April - October.

*Distrib.* : India : Assam, Meghalaya, Andaman Island ; Myanmar ; Malacca ; Borneo.

*Uses* : Grown as house plant for ornamental.

**Hoya parasitica** Wall. in Wight Contrib. 37. 1837 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 3 : 57. 1885; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 209. 1923.

Tall twining climbers, stem slender.

Leaves ovate-elliptic or lanceolate, fleshy ; nerves 3 - 5 pairs. Flowers white or pink with a pearly lustre. Follicles slender.

*Fl. & Fr.* : April - November.

*Distrib.* : India : Assam, Meghalaya, Andaman Islands ; Bangladesh, Singapore, Malacca.

*Uses* : Leaf paste is used for wounds and ulcers.

*Ecol.* : Common twiner found in Mangrove swamp and a Rain tree (*Samanea Saman*) along road side.

**Tylophora indica** (Burm.f.) Merr. in Philip. J. Sc. Bot. 19 : 373. 1921. *Cynanchum indicum* Burm.f., Fl. Ind. 70. 1768. *T. asthamatica* (L.f.) Wight & Arn. in Wight Contrib. Bot. 51. 1834 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 4 : 44. 1883.

Climbing shrubs. Leaves oblong or ovate-lanceolate, cordate at base, apiculate at apex, glabrous above, pubescent beneath. Flowers pale reddish, purple in lateral umbellate cymes. Follicles lanceolate.

*Fl. & Fr.* : February - July.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India including Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Malaya Islands, Borneo, Thailand, Myanmar, Sri Lanka.

*Uses* : Leaves and roots are used for curing asthma, bronchitis, diarrhoea and dysentery.

#### LOGANIACEAE

**Fagraea racemosa** Jack. ex Wall. in Roxb., Fl. Ind. 2 : 35. 1824 ; Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 4 : 84. 1885. *F. morindaefolia* Bl., Rumphia 2 : 32. 1838; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 210. 1923.

Medium sized trees. Leaves broadly oblong to oblong-elliptic, apiculate, coriaceous, dark green glossy above, pale beneath. Flowers funnel-shaped, white tinged beneath with orange, fascicled in pendulous terminal racemes.

*Fl. & Fr.* : February - June.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands; Myanmar, Malacca.

*Uses* : Tree is of ornamental value due to its beautiful inflorescence.

#### BORAGINACEAE

**Cordia subcordata** Lamk. Illustr. 2. 421. 1899 ; Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 4 : 140. 1885 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 211. 1923.

*Local name* : 'Lasorha'.

Small littoral trees. Leaves broadly ovate, acute or apiculate, base rounded ; lateral

nerves 4 - 7 pairs ; petiole *ca* 7 cm, long. Flowers funnel-shaped with crumpled lobes; bright orange. Fruits globose, hard.

*Fl. & Fr.* : March - September.

*Distrib.* : India : Eastern India, Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; S.E. Asia ; Australia.

*Uses* : Fruits are eaten either raw or pickled. Bark is rich source of tannin.

#### CONVOLVULACEAE

**Erycibe paniculata** Roxb., Pl. Corom. 2 : 31. t. 159. 1798 ; Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 4 : 180. 1883 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 212. 1923.

Subscandent shrubs, branchlets angular. Leaves ovate to elliptic-oblong ; lateral nerves 6 - 8 pairs ; petiole reddish brown tomentum. Flowers in terminal panicles, brown, pubescent ; corolla white. Fruit ellipsoid, black, pulpy when ripe.

*Fl. & Fr.* : October - February.

*Distrib.* : India : Throughout the country including Andaman & Nicobar islands ; Myanmar, Malaya, Australia.

*Uses* : Grown as an ornamental.

**Ipomoea sepiaria** Koen. ex Roxb., Fl. Ind. 2 : 90. 1824 ; Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 4 : 209. 1883.

Twining glabrous herbs. Leaves ovate, cordate. Flowers few to many in cymes, white, pink or pale purple. Capsule globose.

*Fl. & Fr.* : November - December.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India including Andaman Islands ; Malacca ; Sri Lanka ; Malaya.

*Uses* : Used as vegetable.

*Ecol.* : Common in moist areas such as swamp near the sea.

***Ipomoea aquatica*** Forssk., Fl. Aeg.-Arab. 44. 1775; Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 4 : 210. 1883. *I. reptans* Poir. in Lam. Encycl. Suppl. 3 : 460. 1814.

*Local name* : 'Nali Bhaji'.

Trailing glabrous herbs. Leaves elliptic-oblong, cordate or hastate. Flowers 1-5, purple. Capsules ovoid, glabrous.

*Fl. & Fr.* : July - November.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India including Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Tropical Asia, Africa and Australia.

*Uses* : Young terminal shoots and leaves are used as vegetable.

#### SOLANACEAE

***Solanum torvum*** Sw., Prodr. 47. 1788 ;

Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 4 : 234. 1883 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 214. 1923.

*Local name* : 'Kayangyin'.

Large shrubs, branches hirsute, stem and petioles with a few prickles. Leaves ovate, usually sinuate-lobed, tomentose beneath. Flowers white. Berries yellow.

*Fl. & Fr.* : October - April.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India in the tropical region including Andaman & Nicobar Islands; Malaya, China, Philippines, Tropical America.

*Uses* : Fruits are used as vegetable. Fumes of burning seeds are inhaled for toothache.

#### SCROPHULARIACEAE

***Lindernia crustacea*** (L.) F.v. Muell. Syst. Census Austral. Pl. 97. 1882 ; Santapau in J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc. 49 : 37. 1950. *Capraria crustacea* L., Mant. 87. 1767. *Vandellia crustacea* Benth., Scroph. Ind. 35. 1835 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 4 : 279. 1884.

Diffuse, annual herbs, rooting at nodes. Leaves suborbicular, ovate or lanceolate, margins shortly serrate. Flowers solitary, axillary. Capsules linear.

*Fl. & Fr.* : July - October.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India including Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; tropics of the old world, Sri Lanka.

*Notes* : Common weed.

**Torenia violacea** (Azaola ex Blanco) Pennell in J. Arn. Arb. 24 : 255. 1943 ; Saldanha in Bull. Bot. Surv. India 8 : 128. 1960. *Mimulus violaceus* Azaola ex Blanco, Fl. Philip ed. 2. 357. 1845. *Torenia peduncularis* Benth. ex Hook. f., Fl. Birt. India 4 : 276. 1884.

Annual, suberect herbs. Leaves ovate, crenate - serrate. Flowers axillary, subumbellate, pale blue. Capsules linear.

*Fl. & Fr.* : August - December.

*Distrib.* : India : Central and Eastern Himalayas, Sikkim, Assam, Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Nepal, Maynmar, Bangladesh, Java, Philippines.

*Notes* : Grown as wild ornamental.

#### ACANTHACEAE

**Asystasia gangetica** (L) T. Anderson in Thw., Enum. 235. 1860 ; Durkee in Ann. Miss. Bot. Gard. 65 : 177. 1978. *Justicia gangetica* L., Amoen. Acad. 4 : 229. 1759. *Asystasia coromandeliana* Nees in Pl. As. Rar. 3 : 89. 1832 ; Clarke in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 4 : 493. 1884.

Straggling perennial herbs. Leaves ovate, acute, rounded at base Flowers purple in terminal one sided racemes.

*Fl. & Fr.* : October - January.

*Distrib.* : India : Deccan Peninsula, Andaman Islands; Sri Lanka, Malaya, Africa.

*Notes* : Grown as an ornamental undershrub with purple blooms. This plant grows well in sea side gardens and excellent plant for growing in rockiers.

**Barleria prionitis** L., Sp. Pl. 636. 1753 ; Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 4 : 482. 1885 ; Santapau in in Bot. Mem. Univ. Bombay 2 : 57. 1951.

*Local name* : 'Zhinti'.

Prickly shrubs up to 1 m tall. Leaves elliptic, acute. Flowers yellow, solitary in lower axils, spicate above. Capsules ovoid, 2-seeded.

*Fl. & Fr.* : June - November.

*Distrib.* : Throughout the tropical parts of the country including Andaman Islands; Sri Lanka, Malacca, Tropical Asia, Africa.

*Uses* : Plant is used to treat whooping cough, tuberculosis, abscess and glandular swelling.

*Notes* : Introduced as hedge plant.

**Eranthemum suffruticosum** Roxb., Fl. Ind. 1 : 111. 1820. *Daedalacanthus suffruticosus* (Roxb.) T. Anderson in J. Linn. Soc. 9 : 488. 1867 ; Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 4 : 420. 1885.

Glabrous herbs. Leaves elliptic-narrowed, undulate ; spikes terminal, solitary, dense. Flowers pale blue.

*Fl. & Fr.* : September - December.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands, N.E. India ; Myanmar ; Bangladesh.

*Notes* : Grown as ornamental shrub.

**Hygrophila erecta** (Burm.f.) Hochr. in Candollea 5 : 230. 1934. *Ruellia erecta* Burm.f., Fl. Ind. 135. 1768. *Hygrophila quadrivalvis* Nees in Pl. As. Rar. 3 : 80. 1832 ; Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 4 : 408. 1885.

Erect herb up to 50 cm tall. Leaves obovate or lanceolate, narrowed at both end. Flowers pale blue in axillary whorls. Capsules narrowly oblong.

*Fl. & Fr.* : October - January.

*Distrib.* : India : Deccan Peninsula, Bengal, Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Sri Lanka; Malacca.

*Notes* : Growing as weed.

**Nelsonia canascens** (Lamk.) Spreng. Syst. 1 : 42. 1824 ; Bremekamp in Reinwardtia 3 : 248. 1955. *Justicia canascens* Lamk. Encyc. 1 : 41. 1783. *Nelsonia campestris* R. Br., Prodr. 1 : 481. 1810 ; Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 4 : 394. 1884.

Trailing herbs. Leaves variable, basal ones oblong, obtuse, acuminate, terminal ones oblong. Flowers purple in spikes. Capsules oblong, acute.

*Fl. & Fr.* : January March.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India from Himalayas to Deccan Peninsula including Andaman Islands ; Sri Lanka, Malacca, S.E. Asia.

*Notes* : Growing as weed.

#### VERBENACEAE

**Lantana camara** L. var. *aculeata* (L.) Moldenke in Torreya 34 : 9. 1934. L. *aculeata* L., Sp. Pl. 627. 1753 ; Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 4 : 562. 1885 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 220. 1923.

*Local name* : 'Baramasi'.

Straggling shrubs ; branchlets armed with recurved prickles. Leaves ovate, acute, crenate, scabrid. Flowers orange red, in heads. Drupes globose, bluish-black when ripe.

*Fl. & Fr.* : October - December.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India in the warmer parts including Andaman & Nicobar Islands; Sri Lanka, Trop. Africa. Commonly seen as a hedge plant.

*Notes* : Powdered roots with milk are given to children suffering from colic pain. Infusion of whole plant is used for the treatment of bronchitis. Leaf decoction is used for treating constipation.

**Premna corymbosa** (Burm. f.) Rottl. & Willd. in Ges. Natur f. Freunde Berlin Neveschriften Ser. 2. 4 : 187. 1803 ; Clarke in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 4 : 573. 1885. *Cornutia corymbosa* Burm.f., Fl. Ind. 132. t. 41, f. 1. 1768.

*Local name* : 'Agetha'.

Small trees. Leaves broadly ovate to oblong, cordate-truncate, cuneate at base, narrowed or acuminate at apex, entire. Corymbs pubescent. Flowers greenish white. Drupes black.

*Fl. & Fr.* : April - October.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India including Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Sri Lanka.

*Uses* : An Ayurvedic medicine is prepared from roots used for curing obstinate fever.

**Stachytarpheta jamaicensis** (L.) Vahl, Enum. 1 : 206. 1804. *Verbena*

*jamaicensis* L., Sp. Pl. 19. 1753. *V. indica* L., Syst. Nat. ed. 10. 851. 1759. *Stachytarpheta indica* (L.) Vahl, Enum. Pl. 1 : 206. 1804 ; Clarke in Hook. f. Fl. Brit. India 4 : 564. 1885.

*Local name* : 'Kariyartharani'.

Herbs. Leaves ovate, cuneate at base, obtuse or subacute at apex, dentate. Spikes erect, stout. Flowers blue. Fruits dry, sunk in the thickened rachis.

*Fl. & Fr.* : June - November.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India ; Tropical Asia, America, Singapore, Sri Lanka.

*Uses* : Dried leaves are marketed under the name Brazilian tea. Herbs used for biting intestinal worms, ulcers and dropsy.

*Notes* : Growing as weed.

**Vitex trifolia** L., Sp. Pl. 638. 1753 ; Clarke in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 4 : 583. 1885 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 22. 1923.

*Local name* : 'Sambhalu'.

Shrub up to 1.5 m tall. Leaves 3-foliolate; leaflets elliptic or obovate or oblanceolate, glabrous above, densely white tomentose beneath, almost sessile. Flowers pale blue. Drupes globose, purplish black.

*Fl. & Fr.* : March - May.

*Distrib.* : India : Throughout tropical and subtropical part of the country ; Sri Lanka ; Malacca, S.E.Asia to Japan, Philippines and N. Australia.

*Uses* : Leaves are used for sprains and rheumatism, also reported to possess anti-cancer activity. It is used against tuberculosis.

#### LAMIACEAE

**Ocimum basilicum** L., Sp. Pl. 597. 1753 ; Hook. f., Fl. Birt. India 4 : 608. 1885.

*Local name* : 'Ban Tulsi'.

Erect herbs up to 50 cm tall. Leaves ovate, toothed or entire. Flowers white, pink or purplish.

*Fl. & Fr.* : June - October.

*Distrib.* : Throughout tropical parts of the country including Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

*Uses* : Leaf juice is useful for curing bronchitis, cough and cold and digestive complaints. Leaf paste applied locally for ringworm and skin diseases.

*Notes* : Cultivated and often found running wild.

#### NYCTAGINACEAE

**Boerhavia diffusa** L., Sp. Pl. 3. 1753. *B. repens* L. var. *diffusa* (L.) Hook.f., Fl.

Brit. India 4 : 709. 1885.

*Local name* : 'Punarnava'.

Herbs. Stems woody below, branches usually pinkish. Leaves ovate-oblong, unequal, sinuate to repand, puberulous. Flowers in terminal diffuse panicles, pinkish mauve colour. Anthocarp fusiform.

*Fl. & Fr.* : October - April.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India ; Sri Lanka, Tropical and subtropical Asia, Africa, America.

*Uses* : Roots are used for curing jaundice, asthma and dropsy disease. It reduces blood pressure.

**Bougainvillea glabra** Choisy in DC. Prodr. 13(2) : 437. 1849.

Large thorny climbing shrubs. Leaves broadly ovate, obtuse at apex, entire or undulate. Flowers in cymes with magenta coloured bracts.

*Fl. & Fr.* : Throughout the year.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India.

*Notes* : Cultivated in gardens as ornamental.

**Pisonia umbellifera** (J.R. & G. Forst.) Semm. Bonpl. 10 : 154. 1862. *Ceodes umbellifera* J. R. & G. Forst., Char. Gen. Pl. 71. t. 71. 1776. *Pisonia excelsa* Bl., Bijdr.

14: 735. 1826 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 4 : 711. 1885.

*Local name* : 'Bania'

Trees ca 15 m tall. Leaves ovate-lanceolate, attenuate at base, acuminate-rounded at apex. Inflorescence terminal, corymbose. Flowers hermaphrodite or unisexual. Anthocarp elongate with 5 viscid ribs.

*Fl. & Fr.* : January - March.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Malaya Peninsula.

*Uses* : Bark and leaves are used in rheumatic pains.

#### AMARANTHACEAE

**Achyranthes aspera** L., Sp. Pl. 204. 1753 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 4 : 730. 1885.

*Local name* : 'Chirchita', 'Apamarg'.

Erect herbs, up to 40 cm tall. Leaves obovate to oblanceolate, apiculate. Flowers green deflexed in terminal spikes.

*Fl. & Fr.* : October - January.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India including Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Sri Lanka, Tropical Asia, Africa, Australia, America.

*Uses* : Whole plant is used for bronchial

infection and dropsy. Roots and seeds are used in curing asthma and dysentery.

*Notes* : Growing along roadside and waste places.

**Alternanthera sessilis** (L.) R. Br. ex DC. in Cat. Hort. Monsp. 4 : 77. 1813 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 4 : 731. 1885 ; Melville in Kew Bull. 13 : 172. 1958. *Gomphrena sessilis* L., Sp. Pl. 225. 1753.

Prostrate herbs up to 50 cm tall. Leaves ovate or elliptic, rounded at tip, cuneate at base. Flowers white, small, in dense globose heads.

*Fl. & Fr.* : Almost throughout the year.

*Distrib.* : Throughout hotter part of India ascending the Himalayas up to 1200 m ; Tropical part of the world.

*Uses* : Tender leaves used as vegetable.

*Notes* : Common weed growing in moist places and waste lands.

**Amaranthus viridis** L., Sp. Pl. ed. 2. 2 : 1405. 1763 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 4 : 720. 1885.

*Local name* : 'Chaulai'.

Erect or diffuse herbs, 50 cm tall. Leaves ovate or lanceolate emarginate at tip. Flowers green in axillary or terminal panicle spike. Seeds black.

*Fl. & Fr.* : April August.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India including Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Tropical and warm countries.

*Uses* : Leaves are eaten as vegetable.

*Notes* : Commonly found in open wastelands.

#### ARISTOLOCHIACEAE

**Thottea tomentosa** (Bl.) Ding. Hou in Blumea 27 : 328. 1981. *Ceramiua tomentosa* Bl., Bijdr. 1135. 1826. *Bragantia tomentosa* Bl., Enum. Pl. Java 82. 1827 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 5 : 73. 1886.

Undershrubs. Stem bearing 1 - 5 normal leaves at apex. Leaves coriaceous. ovate-oblong, cordate at base, acute at apex, 3-5 nerves, glabrous above, tomentose beneath. Racemes 1 or 2, paniced from near the base of the stem. Perianth yellow with purple. Capsules dark purple, quadrangular.

*Fl. & Fr.* : November - February.

*Distrib.* : India : Nicobar Islands ; Malaya Peninsula, Java, Myanmar. Introduced in garden.

*Uses* : Leaves used as diuretic.

#### PIPERACEAE

**Piper betle** L., Sp. Pl. 28. 1753 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 3 : 85. 1885. *Chavica betle*

(L.) Miq., Syst. Piperac. 228. 1843.

Perennial creepers, branches stout, climbing compressed when dry. Leaves large, obliquely ovate-oblong or rounded, 5 - 7 nerved. Flowers in spike.

*Distrib.* : Cultivated in warmer part of India; Sri Lanka ; Malay Islands.

*Uses* : Leaves used as masticatory, antiseptic and in digestion.

*Notes* : Commonly occurring as wild in damp localities at Great Nicobar (E.W. Road-Kopenheat) Islands.

#### MYRISTICACEAE

**Knema andamanica** (Warb.) de Wilde in Blumea 25 : 370. 1979 ; Naithani, Fl. Pl. of India, Nepal & Bhutan 362. 1990. *K. glauca* Warb., Monogr. Myrit. 598. 1897. *K. cinerea* (Poir.) Warb. var. *andamanica* Sincl., Gard. Bull. Sing. 18 : 174. 1961. *Myristica glaucescens* auct. non Jacq. in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 5 : 111. 1886 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 223. 1923.

Tree with dark coloured bark. Leaves lanceolate, shortly acuminate, dark green above, glaucous beneath ; lateral nerves 15 - 20. Flowers small, pinkish inside in axillary clusters. Fruits ellipsoid, 2.5 cm long, covered with brown tomentum. Seeds blood red in colour.

*Fl. & Fr.* : November - April.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Peninsular Thailand, N. Malaya and N. Sumatra.

*Uses* : Seeds are stimulant, used in curry.

*Notes* : Indigenous.

**Myristica andamanica** Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 5 : 103. 1886 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 223. 1923.

Shrubby trees, bark blackish green, cut dark fed with blood red juice. Leaves oblong to elliptic lanceolate ; nerves 12 - 15 pairs. Flowers few in leaf axils, white. Fruits ovoid, pericarp thin, brown. Seeds blood red.

*Fl. & Fr.* : July - February.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands. Endemic.

*Uses* : Seeds used as condiment and as medicine.

*Notes* : Growing frequently in evergreen hill forest. The fruits resemble peaches.

#### ELAEAGNACEAE

**Elaeagnus conferta** Roxb., Fl. Ind. 1 : 460. 1820. *E. latifolia* L., Sp. Pl. 121. 1753, p.p., Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 5 : 202. 1886, p.p., Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 229. 1923.

*Local name* : 'Kataphal'.

Straggling shrubs, branchlets and leaves covered with minute silvery or copery scales. Leaves elliptic, acuminate, silvery beneath. Flowers small in axillary clusters. Fruits ovoid-oblong, succulent, red when ripe.

*Fl. & Fr.* : December - March.

*Distrib.* : India : Subtropical and Temperate Himalayas, Deccan Peninsula, Bengal, Sikkim, Meghalaya, Andaman Islands, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Sri Lanka; Malaya Islands.

*Uses* : Fruits are edible.

#### LORANTHACEAE

**Dendrophoe falcata** (L.f.) Ettingsh, in Denkschr. Kaiserl. Acad. Wiss., Math. Naturwiss. Kl. 32 : 52 - 53. 58. t. 13. f. 14. 1872. *Loranthus falcatus* L.f., Suppl. 211. 1781. *L. longiflorus* Desv. in Lam. Encycl. 3 : 598. 1792 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 5 : 214. 1886 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 230. 1923.

Large parasitic shrubs. Leaves opposite, broadly ovate, coriaceous with obscure venation. Flowers scarlet, linear curved. Fruits oblong.

*Fl. & Fr.* : February - July.

*Distrib.* : India : Tropical and temperate Himalayas, Gangetic Plains, Assam, Deccan

Peninsula, Andaman Islands ; Sri Lanka , Malacca.

*Uses* : Tender shoot contains tannin, bark narcotic, astringent, used for menstrual trouble, asthma and mania.

*Notes* : An epiphyte often growing on 'padauk' tree.

#### EUPHORBIACEAE

**Actephila excelsa** (Dalz.) Muell.-Arg. in Linnaea 32 : 78. 1863 & 35 : 222. 1866 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 5 : 283. 1887 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 239. 1923 ; T. Chakrab. & Balakr., J. Econ. Tax. Bot. ser. 6, 11. 1992. *Anomospermum excelsum* Dalz. in Hook.f., J. Bot. & Kew Gard. Misc. 3 : 228. 1851.

Evergreen shrubs or trees. Leaves elliptic to cuneate-obovate ; lateral nerves 5-10 pairs. Inflorescence ramiflorous or axillary, fasciculate. Capsules depressed, brown or green when dry.

*Fl. & Fr.* : January - December.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands, W. Peninsular India, N.E. India ; Bangladesh.

*Uses* : Wood is used as fuel.

*Ecol.* : Commonly growing from coastal to Inland primary forest on sandy, rocky soil.

**Aporosa octandra** (Buch.-Ham. ex D. Don) A.R. Vickery in Enum. Fl. Nepal 3 : 193. 1882 ; T. Chakrab. & Balakr., J. Econ. Tax. Bot. Ser. 6, 20. 1992. *Myrica octandra* Buch.-Ham. ex D. Don. Prodr. Fl. Nep. 56. 1825. *Alnus dioica* Roxb., Fl. Ind. 3 : 580. 1832. *Aporosa dioica* (Roxb.) Muell.-Arg. in DC. Prodr. 15 (2) : 472. 1866. *A. villosa* Kurz, For. Fl. Brit. Burma 3 : 362. 1877 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 237. 1923.

Evergreen shrubs or trees. Leaves oblong to elliptic, coriaceous, glabrous. glossy ; lateral nerves 6 - 10 pairs. Capsules ovoid-ellipsoid or conical.

*Fl. & Fr.* : December - July.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands, E. & N. E. India and E. Himalaya ; S. E. Asia ; S. China and throughout West Malesia.

*Uses* : Fruits are edible. Wood used for construction purposes.

*Notes* : Common in lowland or hill evergreen forests.

**Baccaurea ramiflora** Lour., Fl. Cochinch. 661. 1790 ; T. Chakrab. & Balakr., J. Econ. Tax. Bot. Ser. 6, 23. 1992. *B. sapida* (Roxb.) Muell.-Arg. in DC. Prodr. 15(2) : 459. 1866 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 5 : 371. 1887 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 239. 1923.

*Local name* : 'Khattaphal'.

Trees up to 15 m tall, bark brown with white patches. Leaves elliptic to oblong-elliptic or obovate-elliptic, coriaceous, glabrous ; lateral nerves 5 - 8 pairs ; male inflorescence fascicled ; female in cauliflorous or reniflorous. Fruits globose or broadly ovoid.

*Fl. & Fr.* : December - June.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands, E. Himalayas, N.E. India ; Bangladesh, Myanmar, S.E. China, Vietnam, Thailand, Malaya.

*Uses* : The fruit is sour and very tasty, eaten with great relish.

**Bridelia ovata** Decne. in Nouv. Arch. Mus. Paris 3 : 484. 1835 ; Thoth. in Bull. Bot. Surv. India 2 : 369. 1960, *p.p.* & in Indian For. 10 : 179. 1975 ; T. Chakrab. & Balakr., J. Econ. Tax. Bot. Ser. 6, 34. 1992. *B. kurzii* Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 5 : 272. 1887.

Shrubs or trees. Leaves elliptic to oblong. Inflorescence axillary, glomerate. Drupes sessile, globose, pink or reddish green, when ripe.

*Fl. & Fr.* : November - May.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar

Islands ; Myanmar, Thailand, Indo-China, N. Malaya, Java.

**Cleistanthus myrianthus** (Hassak.) Kurz, For. Fl. Brit. Burma 2 : 370. 1877 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 5 : 275. 1887 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 237. 1923 ; T. Chakrab. & Balakr., J. Econ. Tax. Bot. Ser. 6, 46. 1992. *Nanopetalum myrianthum* Hassk. in Verh. Kon. Acad. Wetensch. Amsterd. 24 : 140. 1885.

Trees, branches glabrous. Leaves narrow, elliptic-oblong ; lateral nerves 8 pairs. Inflorescence axillary. Capsules globose.

*Fl. & Fr.* : December - April.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands, N. E. India, Bangladesh, Myanmar ; Indo-China, Thailand, Throughout Malayasia.

*Uses* : Wood is used as fuel.

**Euphorbia hirta** L., Sp. Pl. 457. 1753 ; T. Chakrab. & Balakr., J. Econ. Tax. Bot. Ser. 6, 64. 1992. *E. pilulifera* L., Sp. Pl. 457. 1753 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 5 : 250. 1887.

*Local name* : 'Dudhi'

Ascending annual herbs up to 40 cm tall. Leaves obliquely rhombate-elliptic to oblong. Cyathia axillary, in dense globose head, greenish red. Fruits trilocular, pubescent.

*Fl. & Fr.* : January - December.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Pantropical, native of C. America.

*Uses* : Whole plant is used in colic dysentery and diseases of genitourinary tract. Leaves are eaten as a vegetable.

**Euphorbia prostrata** Ait., Hort. Kew, ed. 1, 2. 139. 1789 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 5 : 266. 1887, in *adnot.*, Radcliffe - Smith in Kew Bull. 26 : 266. 1972 ; T. Chakrab. & Balakr., J. Econ. Tax. Bot. Ser. 6, 64. 1992.

Prostrate herbs up to 30 cm tall. Leaves sub-orbicular or broadly oblong, sparsely puberulous to glabrous. Cyathia axillary in small sessile clusters, pink. Fruits tricoccous, ovoid, beaked.

*Fl. & Fr.* : January - December.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Old and New World tropics. native of Jamaica.

*Uses* : Latex applied for curing warts.

**Glochidion hirsutum** (Roxb.) Voigt, Hort. Suburb. Calcutt. 153. 1845 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 5 : 311. 1887 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 233. 1923 ; T. Chakrab. & Balakr., J. Econ. Tax. Bot. Ser. 6, 71. 1992. *Bridelia hirsuta* Roxb., Fl. Ind. 3 : 699. 1832.

Shrubs or trees, up to 10 m tall. Leaves broadly oblong or elliptic-oblong to oblong lanceolate, unequally rounded to obtuse at base, coarsely tomentose-beneath ; lateral nerves 7 - 10 pairs. Inflorescence axillary many flowered. Capsules depressed, globose.

*Fl. & Fr.* : January - December.

*Distr.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; E. Himalayas ; Thailand, Hongkong, Formosa.

*Uses* : Wood is used as fuel.

*Note* : Common in mixed forest.

**Jatropha curcus** L., Sp. Pl. 1006. 1758 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 5 : 383. 1883.

Large shrubs. Leaves alternate, palmately lobed. Flowers in loose panicles or cymes, yellowish green. Fruits capsule pericarp dark brown when ripe. Seed white, fleshy.

*Fl. & Fr.* : July - March.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India including Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; tropics of the world, Sri Lanka.

*Uses* : Stem twigs are used for curing toothache.

*Notes* : Consumption of seeds or overdose of oil have been responsible for human poisoning in many parts of the world.

*Notes* : Growing as ornamental on walls and also seen on tree trunks.

#### CASUARINACEAE

**Casuarina equisetifolia** L., Amoen. Acad. 4 : 143. 1759 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 5 : 598. 1888 ; Friis in Taxon 29 : 495. 1980.

Evergreen trees *ca* 30 m tall, stem with rough fibrous bark. Leaves reduced to subulate scales in whorls of 6-7, connate at base. Flowers dioecious, minute. Fruits ellipsoid.

*Fl. & Fr.* : March - September.

*Distrib.* : Cultivated throughout India including Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Bangladesh, Malaya Islands, Australia.

*Uses* : Wood is used as fuel.

*Ecol.* : Growing mostly in littoral zone.

#### NAJADACEAE

**Najus minor** All., Auct. Syn. Meth. Stirp. Hort. Taurin. 3.1773. Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 569. 1893 ; Subramanyam, Aq. Ang. 101. 1962.

Small delicate herbs. Stem slender, dichotomously branched. Leaves spreading, the upper recurved with about 15 spreading spinous teeth on the margin. Flowers fasciculate ; spathe absent in female flowers, anthers one-celled, perianth lobes obscure.

*Fl. & Fr.* : Throughout the year.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India including Andaman Islands.

*Ecol.* : Growing in ponds and lakes.

#### ORCHIDACEAE

**Aerides emericii** Reichb.f. in Gard. Chron. 586. 1882 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 47. 1890 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 107. 1989.

Epiphytic herbs, stem long spreading. Leaves distichous, glossy green. Flowers pink. Fruits obovoid, brown, dehiscing by septical wall.

*Fl. & Fr.* : April - July.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India including Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Myanmar.

*Uses* : Grown as ornamental.

**Bulbophyllum lepidium** (Bl.) J. Sm. in Pl. Buitens. 6 : 471, f. 361. 1905. *Ephippium lepidum* Bl., Bijdr. 310. 1825. *Cirrhopetalum gamosepalum* Griff., Notul. 3 : 296. 1851 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 5 : 774. 1890.

Epiphytic herbs, stem pseudobulb. Leaves fleshy green. Peduncle reddish. Flowers crimson red ; tips of lip whitish otherwise dark green. Fruits capsule.

*Fl. & Fr.* : July - September.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands ; N.E. India ; Myanmar : Thailand ; Vietnam ; Malaysia and Indonesia.

**Calanthe triplicata** (Willemet) Ames in Philipp. J. Sci. 2 : 326. 1907 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 117. 1989. *Orchis triplicata* Willemet in Ann. Bot. (Usteri) 6 : 52. 1796. *Calanthe veratrifolia* (Willd.) Ker.-Gawl. in Bot. Reg. 9. t. 720. 1823 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 5 : 851. 1890.

Herbs, up to 60 cm tall, stem pseudobulb. Leaves glossy dark green. Flowers white, lip white. Pollinia reddish-orange. Capsule green.

*Fl. & Fr.* : April September.

*Distrib.* : India : N. India, Peninsular India, Andaman Islands ; Myanmar ; Thailand ; Malaysia ; Indonesia to Japan and Australia.

*Notes* : Grown as pot herb in gardens.

**Cymbidium aloifolium** (L.) Swartz in Nov. Act. Upsal. 2, 6 : 73. 1799 ; Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 10. 1890 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 124. 1989. *Epidendrum aloifolium* L. Sp. Pl. 953. 1753.

Epiphytic herbs on tree trunk. Leaves linear green, fleshy, long. Flowers brownish pink in long racemes. Capsule ovoid conical.

*Fl. & Fr.* : January May.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India including Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Bangladesh ; Myanmar ; Malaysia and Sri Lanka.

**Dendrobium anceps** Swartz in Act. Holm. 21 : 246. 1800 ; Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 5 : 724. 1890 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 126. 1989.

Epiphytic pendulous herbs up to 30cm tall. Leaves linear ovate, thick fleshy. Flowers white ; lip yellowish inside.

*Fl. & Fr.* : March September.

*Distrib.* : India : Central to Eastern Himalayas, N. E. India, Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Myanmar.

**D. crumenatum** Swartz in Schrad., J. Bot. 2 : 237. 1799 & in Act. Holm. 246. 1800 ; Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 5 : 729. 1899 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 127. 1989.

Epiphytic herbs up to 60 cm tall. Leaves linear, coriaceous glossy. Flowers white, scented ; lip with yellowish patch at base.

*Fl. & Fr.* : April September.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands, N.E. India, Peninsular India ; Myanmar, China, Thailand, Indo-China, Malaysia, Indonesia and Philippines.

*Uses* : Stem part is used as brading material for hats.

**D. secundum** (Bl.) Lindl., Gen. Sp. Orchid. 81. 1830 ; Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 5 : 730. 1890 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. India Enum. Monocot. 130. 1989. *Pedilonium secundum* Bl., Bijdr. 322. 1825.

*Local name* : 'Tooth brush Orchid'.

Epiphytic, almost leafless herbs. Leaves glossy. Flowers pink in short lateral spikes arranged at tip ; lip with orange spot.

*Fl. & Fr.* : January April.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; South East Asia.

*Notes* : Inflorescence look like the bristles of tooth brush.

**Eria andamanica** Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 5 : 801. 1890 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 133. 1989.

Epiphytic herbs, pseudobulbs ovoid, green. Leaves ovate, lanceolate, 2-3, pale green. Flowers yellowish-brown, pubescent. Fruit ash coloured.

*Fl. & Fr.* : February September.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands. Endemic.

**Eulophia andamanensis** Reichb.f. in Flora 276. 1872 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 8. 1890.

Terrestrial plants. Stem at the base tuberous with thick roots. Leaves linear lanceolate. Raceme lax flowered ; bracts shorter than racemes. Scape up to 60 cm long.

*Fl. & Fr.* : April September.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands ; Myanmar.

**Flickengeria fimbriata** (Bl.) Hawkes in Orch. Weekly 2, 46 : 454. 1961 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 138. 1989. *Desmotrichum fimbriatum* Bl., Bijdr. 329. 1825. *Dendrobium kunstleri* Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 5 : 714. 1890.

Epiphytic herbs, 12-15 cm tall. Leaves ovate. Flowers white, arises from the junction of leaf and pseudobulbs ; side lobes of the lip purple. Capsule ridged, ovoid.

*Fl. & Fr.* : March July.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands, N.E. India, Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia and Java.

**Geodorum densiflorum** (Lam.) Schltr. in Fedde. Repert. 4 : 259. 1929 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 140. 1989. *Limodorum densiflorum* Lam., Encycl. 3 : 516. 1791-92. *Geodorum dilatatum sensu* Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 17. 1890 *non* R. Br. 1913.

Terrestrial herbs up to 40 cm tall,

pseudobulbs ovoid, yellowish-green. Leaves ovate to ovate-lanceolate, pale green, glabrous. Flowers white, lip white with yellow and pink patches.

*Fl. & Fr.* : February - September.

*Distrib.* : India : Peninsular Eastern and N.E. India, Tropical Himalaya, Andaman Islands ; Myanmar, China, Malaya, Thailand, Sri Lanka.

*Uses* : Rootstocks are crushed and rubbed on cattle to kill flies.

**Luisia zeylanica** Lindl., Fol. Orchid. Luisia 3. 1853 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 151. 1989. *Luisia teretifolia* sensu Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 22. 1890 *non* Gaud. 1829.

Epiphytic, 15 - 30 cm tall herbs. Leaves terete, pale green, coriaceous. Flowers green. Fruits pale green yellow, grooved.

*Fl. & Fr.* : January - July.

*Distrib.* : India : Throughout the country including Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Myanmar, Sri Lanka.

*Uses* : Plant paste is used externally for muscular pain.

**Malaxis andamanica** (King & Pantl.) Balakr. & Vasud. in Bull. Bot. Surv. India 21 : 177. 1979 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 151. 1989. *Microstylis andamanica* King & Pantl.

in J. Asiat. Soc. Beng. 66 : 582. 1893. *M. wallichii* sensu Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 5 : 686. 1888 (*quoad. Andaman specim.*) *non* Lindl. 1830.

Terrestrial herbs up to 40 cm tall. Leaves ovoid, pale green, glossy. Flowers brownish purple. Fruit capsule.

*Fl. & Fr.* : April - September.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands. Endemic.

*Uses* : As ornamental terrestrial pot herb.

**M. latefolia** J.E. Sm. in Rees, Cyclop. 22, no. 3. 1819 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 152. 1989. *Microstylis congesta* (Lindl.) Reichb.f., in Walp. Ann. 6 : 206. 1861 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 5 : 689. 1890.

Terrestrial herbs up to 40 cm tall. Leaves leathery, pale green ; peduncle reddish. Flowers creamy yellow, congested ; lip 3-lobed with a fovea. Fruit reddish green in terminal spike.

*Fl. & Fr.* : June - January.

*Distrib.* : India : Throughout the country, Andaman Islands ; Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Java, Thailand and Australia.

**Nervilla punctata** (Bl.) Makino in Bot. Mag. Tokyo 16 : 199. 1902 ; Balakr. & Chakrab. in Bull. Bot. Surv. India 20 : 83. (1978) 1979 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind.

Enum. Monocot. 155. 1989. *Pogonia punctata* Bl., Mus. Bot. Lugd. Bat. 1 : 32. 1849 & Coll. Orch. 150, t. 48. 54. 1858.

Terrestrial rhizomatous herbs. Leaves solitary, rounded, greenish, slightly reddish, purple beneath. Flowers white with longitudinal red patches on lip inside.

*Fl.* : April.

*Distrib.* : India : Eastern India, Nicobar Islands ; Java, Sumatra and Malaya.

*Notes* : Grown as pot herb.

**Papilionanthe teres** (Roxb.) Schltr. in Orchis 9 : 1915 : Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 160. 1989. *Dendrobium teres* Roxb., Fl. Ind. 3 : 485. 1832. *Vanda teres* (Roxb.) Lindl., Gen. Sp. Orchid. 217. 1833 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 49. 1890.

Epiphytic herbs. Leaves greenish brown, terete. Flowers 4 - 5 cm in diam., pink with dark red lip. Fruit capsule.

*Fl. & Fr.* : December - April.

*Distrib.* : India : N. to N.E. India, Himalayas, Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Bangladesh, Myanmar and Thailand.

*Uses* : Crushed leaves are applied on cuts and wounds. Roots used in bronchitis, rheumatism and fever.

**Pholidota imbricata** (Roxb.) Lindl. in Hook.f., Fl. Exot. 2 : t. 138. 1825 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 5 : 845. 1890 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 164. 1989. *Cymbidium imbricatum* Roxb., Fl. Ind. 3 : 460. 1832.

Epiphytic herbs up to 30 cm tall ; pseudobulbs globose. Leaves spathaceous, dark green, deeply nerved. Flowers white, arranged in terminal inflorescence. Fruit ovoid greenish brown.

*Fl. & Fr.* : September - January.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India including Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Thailand and Australia.

**Pomatocatpa wendlandorum** (Reichl.f.) J. Sm. in Nat. Tijdschr. Ned. Ind. 72 : 108. 1912 ; Hore & Balakr. in J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc. 81 : 631. (1984) 1985 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 167. 1989. *Cleisestoma wendlandorum* Reichl.f. in Otto & Dietr. Allg. Gart. 219. 1856 ; Hook.f. Fl. Brit. India 6 : 74. 1890.

Epiphytic herbs. Leaves linear strap-shaped, green, thick. Flowers many on branched racemes, yellow. Fruits greenish brown.

*Fl. & Fr.* : February - May.

*Distrib.* : India : E. Himalayas, N. E. India, Andaman Islands, Myanmar.

**Pteroceras muriculatus** (Reichb.f.) P.F. Hunt in Kew Bull. 14 : 69. 1970 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 168. 1989. *Sarcochilus muriculatus* Reichb.f. in Gard. Chron. 2: 198. 1881 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 34. 1890.

Epiphytic herbs up to 30 cm tall. Leaves linear, lanceolate, leathery ; peduncle dark purple, brown. Flowers yellow with purple strip. Fruit capsule, grooved, greenish yellow.

*Fl. & Fr.* : May - February.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands. Endemic.

**Rhynchostylis retusa** (L.) Bl., Bijdr. 286. t. 49. 1825 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 32. 1890 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 168. 1989. *Epidendrum retusum* L., Sp. Pl. 953. 1753.

Epiphytic pendulous herbs up to 50 cm tall. Leaves green subcoriaceous, channelled. Flowers white with pink streaks. Fruits with 3 wings.

*Fl. & Fr.* : February - May.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands, N.E. India ; Western Ghats, Gangetic plains ; Myanmar, Java, Sri Lanka, Malesia, Thailand and Philippines.

*Uses* : Plant used as an emollient. An ornamental herb due to its pendulous inflorescence.

**Vanilla andamanica** Rolfe in Kew Bull. 1918 : 237. 1918 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 176. 1989.

Climbers, stem longitudinally grooved, green. Leaves oblanceolate, dark green, glossy. Inflorescence racemose. Flowers white ; lip pink with white patches. Fruits green, elongate, thickened at apex.

*Fl. & Fr.* : February May.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Endemic.

*Uses* : Capsules are used as a substitute for the extraction of Vanilla essence.

**Zeuxine andamanica** King & Pantl. in J. Asiatic Soc. Beng. 66 : 599. 1897 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 176. 1989.

Terrestrial herb up to 25 cm tall, stem reddish with woolly hairs, towards the tip. Inflorescence terminal racemes. Flowers white with yellow tinged.

*Fl.* : January.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands. Endemic.

#### COSTACEAE

**Costus speciosus** (Koen.) J.E.Sm. in Trans. Linn. Soc. 1 : 249. 1800 ; Baker in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 249. 1892 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 29. 1989. *Banksia speciosa*

Koen. apud Retz. Obs. Bot. 3 : 75. 1783.

*Local name* : 'Keu'.

Herbs 2 - 3 m tall, stem spirally twisted, branched. Leaves oblanceolate-obovate, nearly glabrous, ligules truncate. Inflorescence terminal, compact. Corolla white. Capsules globose or oblong, red.

*Fl.* : April - September.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India including Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Malasian Islands, Sri Lanka.

*Uses* : Rhizome cooked and eaten. Roots as tonic and anthelmintic. Rhizome bears diosgenin, precursor of steroids including sex hormones.

#### ZINGIBERACEAE

**Globba pauciflora** King ex Baker in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 205. 1890 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 293. 1989.

Perennial herbs, 15 - 30 cm tall. Leaves oblong-caudate, minutely pubescent-beneath. Panicles short, lax ; corolla pale yellow.

*Fl. & Fr.* : Rainy season.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands. Endemic.

*Uses* : Bulbils are eaten.

**Zingiber officinale** Rosc. in Trans. Linn.

Soc. London 8 : 348. 1807, Baker in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 246. 1892 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 299. 1989.

*Local name* : 'Adrak'.

Rhizomes aromatic, pale yellow inside. Leaves narrowly lanceolate. Inflorescence subcylindric ; corolla dull yellow, lip purplish black, blotched creamy-yellow.

*Fl. & Fr.* : July - September.

**Z. spectabile** Griff. Notul. 3 : 414. 1853. Baker in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 247. 1892 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 299. 1989.

Rhizomes cream-coloured. Leaves oblong, lanceolate. Inflorescence cylindric. Flowers sessile ; corolla yellowish white.

*Fl.* : June - September.

*Distrib.* : India : West Bengal, Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Malay Peninsula.

*Uses* : Rhizome used as anthelmintic.

**Z. zerumbet** (L.) Rosc. ex J. E. Sm. Exot. Bot. 2 : 103. t. 112. 1804 ; Baker in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 247. 1892 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 299. 1989. *Amomum zerumbet* L. Sp. Pl. 1. 1753.

*Local name* : 'Narkachur'.

Stems ca 2 m tall. Leaves sessile,

lanceolate, narrowed at base. Spikes ovoid oblong or globose. Flowers cream coloured.

*Fl.* : March - October.

*Distrib.* : India : Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Tripura, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Sri Lanka, Malaya Peninsula.

*Uses* : Rhizome employed against cough, stomach ache, asthma and vermifuge.

#### MARANTACEAE

**Actoplanes canniformis** (G. Forst.) K. Schum. in Engl., Pflanzenr. 48 : 34. 1902; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 102. 1989. *Thalia canniformis* Forst., Fl. Ins. Austr. Prodr. 1 : 1780. *Clinogyne grandis* (Miq.) Benth. in Benth. & Hook.f., Gen. Pl. 3 : 657. 1883; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 258. 1892.

Shrubs up to 5 m tall. Stem straight, cylindrical, dark green, ca 2.5 cm in diam, thickened at nodes. Leaves up to 30 × 20 cm, ovate or broadly ovate, dark green above, pale beneath. Flowers white. Fruits globose.

*Fl. & Fr.* : February - August.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Malaya ; Myanmar.

*Notes* : Rhizome juice is given for gynaecological complaints.

*Ecol.* : Common in moist places.

#### MUSACEAE

**Musa balbisiana** Colla, Mem. Musa. 56. 1820 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 104. 1989. *M. sapientum sensu* Baker in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 262. 1892, *p.p. non* L. 1753. *M. paradisiaca* ssp. *sapientum* (L.) K. Schum. in Engl., Pflanzenr. 45 : 20. 1900.

Stoloniferous, stems tall, cylindrical. Leaves petioled ; spike drooping, bracts many, ovate. Fruit oblong, trigonous.

*Fl. & Fr.* : July - December.

*Distrib.* : Cultivated throughout India including Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Sri Lanka and Tropics of the world.

*Uses* : Fruits are edible. Flower buds are cooked as vegetable.

#### AMARYLLIDACEAE

**Crinum asiaticum** L., Sp. Pl. 292. 1753 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 280. 1892 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 3 : 1989.

*Local name* : 'Pindar'.

Herbs ; bulbs large. Leaves many, thin or flat edges smooth. Scape compressed. Flowers white, fragrant at night. Fruits subglobose, 1-seeded.

*Fl. & Fr.* : June - October.

*Distrib.* : India : Throughout the country, wild and cultivated ; Sri Lanka.

*Uses* : Bulbs, leaves and roots diaphoretic and emetic. Bulbs used in biliousness and in urinary troubles.

#### DIOSCOREACEAE

**Dioscorea bulbifera** L., Sp. Pl. 1053. 1753 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 295. 1892 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 73. 1989. *D. sativa* Thunb., Fl. Jap. 151. 1784 *non* L. 1753 ; Hook.f. Fl. Brit. India 6 : 295. 1892, *p.p.*

*Local name* : 'Ratalu'.

Climbers, stout, tuberous, bulbils warted. Leaves broad-ovate, cordate. Male flowering axis pendulous. Flowers scented, rose coloured. Capsule reflexed, wings rounded at both ends. Seeds winged on basal side only, brown.

*Fl. & Fr.* : July - November.

*Distrib.* : India : Peninsular & E. India, Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

*Uses* : Tubers eaten as a vegetables also used in piles and dysentery.

**D. glabra** Roxb., Fl. Ind. 3 : 804. 1832 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 294. 1892, *p.p.* ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 74. 1989.

Climbers, tuber single or more than one. Leaves herbaceous, long, cordate, hastate or rounded at base. Male flowering axis aggregated on leafless branches with 25

flowers. Female flowering axis solitary or 2-together with 50 flowers. Capsule retuse at apex

*Fl. & Fr.* : July - March.

*Distrib.* : India : Throughout the country including Andaman Islands ; Myanmar ; Malay Peninsula.

*Uses* : Tubers edible but not relished as other DIOSCOREA sp.

**D. pentaphylla** L., Sp. Pl. 1032. 1753 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 289. 1892 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 75. 1989. *D. triphylla* L., Sp. Pl. 1032. 1753. *P. jacquemontii* Hook.f., *l.c.*

*Local name* : 'Kanta Alu'.

Climbing shrubs, stem usually prickly. Leaves 3 - 5 foliate ; leaflets elliptic-lanceolate, ovate or obovate. Flowers white or green white. Capsule retuse at both end. Seeds winged at base.

*Fl. & Fr.* : August - December.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India including Andaman Islands ; Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Malacca, Top. Africa.

*Uses* : Tubers are edible, should be consumed only after repeated boiling and washing.

#### LILIACEAE

**Asparagus racemosus** Willd., Sp. Pl. 2 : 152. 1799 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 316.

1892 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 90. 1989.

Tall climbing undershrubs ; stem scandent, woody. Cladodes channelled beneath. Recemes solitary or fascicled, simple or branched ; bracts minute, perianth spreading.

*Fl. & Fr.* : July - February.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India ; Sri Lanka ; Tropical Africa ; Java and Australia.

*Uses* : Rhizomes as a tonic, diuretic and galactagogue. Fresh root juice mixed with honey given for dyspepsia.

**Sansevieria trifasciata** Hort. ex Prain, Bengal Pl. 2 : 1954. 1903 (192. 1963 ; Repr. ed.) ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 101. 1989.

Herbs stout, rootstock stoloniferous. Leaves grooved or flat on upper surface with a short conical tip. Flowers racemose on stout scapes. Carpels 3, adnate by its broad base. Fruit membranous indehiscent. Seeds 1 3 globose.

*Fl. & Fr.* : July - January.

*Distrib.* : Cultivated throughout India including Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

*Uses* : Leaves yeild fibres.

#### AGAVACEAE

**Dracaena augustifolia** Roxb., Fl. Ind. 2 : 155. 1832 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 237. 1892 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman

Islands 261. 1923. Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 1. 1989.

*Local name* : 'Bakripatti'.

Large shrubs. Leaves many, linear, sessile. Flowers numerous in terminal panicles, greenish-white. Berry orange-red.

*Fl. & Fr.* : March - August.

*Distrib.* : India : N.E. India, E. Himalaya, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Myanmar, Malay Peninsula and Australia.

*Uses* : Fruits are edible. Leaves used as fodder.

*Ecol.* : Growing on sandy soil in coastal and inland forest.

#### ARACEAE

**Amorphophallus paeoniifolius** (Dennst.) Nicolson in Taxon 26 : 338, 539. 1977 var. **campanulatus** (Decne.) Sivadasan in Taxon 32 : 130. 1983. *Arum paeoniifolius* Dennst., Schtuessel. Hort. Malab. pp. 13, 21, 38. 1818. *Amorphophallus campanulatus* (Roxb.) Bl. ex Decne., Nouv. Ann. Mus. Par. 3 : 366. 1834 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 514. 1893, *sensu* Andaman plant only.

Herbs. Tubers 22 cm in diam. Leaves 1 2, 35 90 cm broad ; leaflets oblong-acute. Inflorescence short peduncled ; spathe narrow below spreading above inside dark purple. Berries 1.5 cm long.

*Fl. & Fr.* : Rainy season.

*Distrib.* : India : Throughout plains of India including Andaman & Nicobar Islands; Sri Lanka.

*Uses* : Corms edible used in curries and pickles. Also used in dysentery and piles.

*Notes* : Grown as a curiosity for its unusual big leaves and smelly inflorescence.

#### COMMELINACEAE

**Commelina diffusa** Burm. f., Fl. Ind. 18. t. 7, f. 2. 1768 ; Panigrahi & Kammathy in J. Indian Bot. Soc. 43 : 299. 1964 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 24. 1989. *C. nudiflora sensu* Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 369. 1892, *non* L. 1753.

*Local name* : 'Kanshura'.

Herbs creeping and rooting at the nodes. Leaves lanceolate, spathes peduncled, ovate lanceolate, base cordate. Flowers blue. Capsule oblong, beaked. Seed tubercled, dark brown.

*Fl. & Fr.* : July - November.

*Distrib.* : India : Peninsular N.E. & N.W. India, Eastern Himalaya, Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Tropics and subtropics ; Sri Lanka.

*Uses* : Leaves used as vegetable and fodder and also for poulticing sores. Plant juice is also used to cure itches, burns and boils.

#### ARECACEAE

**Areca triandra** Roxb., Fl. Ind. 3 : 617. 1832; Becc. & Hook.f., in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 406. 1892 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 264. Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 16. 1989.

*Local name* : 'Jungli Supari'.

Slender palms *ca* 10 m tall. Leaves *ca* 1.8 m long ; leaflets 40 - 90 cm long, solitary or 2 - 3, joined together especially in the upper part of leaf, falcate-acuminate. Fruits 1.7 cm long, oblong, smooth, orange coloured turning scarlets when ripe.

*Fl. & Fr.* : March September.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands. N.E. India ; South East Asia.

*Uses* : Tender shoots are used as vegetables by the tribes. Leaf extract is used externally for cuts and wounds. Fruits are masticatory.

**Calamus andamanicus** Kurz. in J. Asiat. Soc. Beng. 43 : 211, t. 274. 1874 & For. Fl. Brit. Burma 2 : 519. 1877 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 16. 1989.

Stems soft, scandent, 5 cm in diam. Leaves 2 - 3 m long, rachis prolonged into a long armed whip-like cirrhous, leaf sheath not flagelliferous. The rows or crest of spines breaking off easily on leaf sheaths and petioles, distinguish it from others canes. Fruits 1.8 cm long, conically beaked.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Great Nicobar Islands. Endemic.

*Uses* : Stem is used for making baskets, sticks and furniture by the settlers.

**Elaeis guinensis** Jacq., Select Am. 280. 1763.

*Local name* : 'Red Oil Palm'.

Trees, *ca* 6 m tall. Leaves prickly at petioles and rachis, glossy dark green. Flowers yellowish in clusters. Fruits red in clusters.

*Fl. & Fr.* : July - August.

*Distrib.* : India : Cultivated in Little Andaman ; Tropical Africa.

*Uses* : Source of palm oil obtained from the fleshy pericarp.

**Korthalsia rogersii** Becc. in Ann. Roy. Bot. Gard. Calcutta 12 : 131. 1918 ; Blatt., Palms Brit. Ind. Ceylon 270. 1926 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl., Ind. Enum. Monocot. 19. 1989.

*Local name* : 'Lal Bet'.

Trees *ca* 8 m tall. Stem slender. Leaves pale green ; leaflets *ca* 4 cm broad at widest part, upper margin acutely dentate. Inflorescence *ca* 15 cm long. Fruits orange-red, globose.

*Fl. & Fr.* : March May.

*Distr.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Endemic.

*Uses* : Stem is used for making furniture and sticks.

*Notes* : Growing in Inland Forest on sandy loam soil.

**Licuala peltata** Roxb., Fl. Ind. 2 : 179. 1832; Becc. & Hook.f. in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 430. 1893 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 269. 1923 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 19. 1989.

*Local name* : 'Selai Patti'.

Small palms. Stem 1.5 - 3 m tall. Leaves 0.9 - 1.8 m across, petiole 1.2 - 3.6 m long. Flowers yellow in pendulous spikes. Fruits orange-coloured.

*Fl. & Fr.* : February March.

*Distrib.* : India : E. & N.E. India, E. Himalaya, Andaman & Nicobar Islands ; Myanmar.

*Uses* : The Leaves are extensively used for thatching purpose as these are being spread out on the roof.

#### PANDANACEAE

**Freycinetia insignis** Bl., Rumph. 1 : 158. t. 42. 1837 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 488. 1893 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 260. 1923 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 177. 1989.

*Local name* : 'Climbing Pandanus'.

Lofty branched climbers. Leaves spiny

at margins, ligular. Inflorescence long peduncled ; spathe ovate ; acute. Fruiting spadices rounded at both ends.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Island ; Myanmar.

**Pandanus andamanensis** Kurz in J. Asiat. Soc. Beng. 38 : 148. 1869 ; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 485. 1893 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 260. 1923 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 177. 1989.

*Local name* : 'Bread fruit tree'.

Trees *ca* 8 m tall, stem simple or branched. Leaves sword shaped, spinulose. Flowers fragrant on a spadix enclosed in leafy spathe. Fruits *ca* 30 cm diam., green, scarlet red when mature.

*Fl. & Fr.* : May - October.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands. Endemic.

*Uses* : Fruits are edible as staple food. Leaves are used for thatching purpose.

#### CYPERACEAE

**Bulbostylis barbata** (Rottb.) Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6 : 651. 1893 ; Vasudeva Rao in J. Econ. Tax. Bot. 155. 1986 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 33. 1989. *Scirpus barbatus* Rottb., Prodr. 27. 1772 & Descr. Ic. Pl. 52, t. 17, f. 4. 1773.

Slender annuals, up to 25 cm high. Leaves short filiform. Heads 4 - 18 mm

across; spikelets 3 - 8 × 1 - 1.5 mm ; glumes ovate, mucronulate. Nuts broadly obovate, triquetrous.

*Fl. & Fr.* : August - May.

*Distrib.* : Throughout India including Andaman Islands ; Sri Lanka ; Singapore.

*Ecol.* : Growing in warm tropical climate.

**Kyllinga nemoralis** (J.R. & G. Forst.) Dandy ex Hutch. & Dalziel, Fl. W. Trop. Afr. 2, 2 : 487. 1936 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 60. 1989. *Thryocephalon nemorale* J. R. & G. Forst., Charct. Gen. Pl. 129. t. 65. 1776. *Cyperus kyllingia* Endl., Cat. Hort. Vindob. 1 : 94. 1842.

Perennials with short or long creeping rhizome, 3 - 40 cm high. Stem approximate to distant. Spikelets 3 - 3.5 × 1.5 mm ; glumes mucronate, red dotted all over, keel winged in the upper half, wings ciliolate - spinulose. Nuts *ca* 1 - 1.5 mm long.

*Fl. & Fr.* : August.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman Islands, Assam, Madhya Pradesh.

**Mapania cuspidata** (Miq.) Vitt. var. *petiolata* (Clarke) Vitt. in J. Arnold Arbor. 20 : 213. 1939.

Tufted sedges with deep root system. Leaves crowded, blades oblong to linear, narrow at base, apex tapering into linear tail. Spikes oblong up to 18 mm long. Nuts ellipsoid.

*Fl. & Fr.* : September - January.

*Distrib.* : India : Nicobar Islands. Java, Thailand, Malaya.

*Notes* : Introduced in the garden.

#### POACEAE

***Dinochloa scandens*** (Bl. ex Nees) O. Ktze., Rev. Gen. Pl. 773. 1891 ; Holtt. in Gard. Bull. Singapore 16 : 84. 1958 ; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Ind. Enum. Monocot. 277. 1989. *Bambusa scandens* Bl. ex Nees in Flora 7 : 291. 1824. *Dinochloa andamanica* Kurz in J. Asiat. Soc. Beng. 42 : 253. 1873 ; Parkinson, For. Fl. Andaman Islands 272. 1923. *D. tzankorreh* (Schutt.) Buese var. *andamanica* (Kurz) Gamble in Ann. Roy. Bot. Gard. Calcutta 7 : 112. t. 98. 1896 ; Hook.f, Fl. Brit. India 7 : 415. 1896.

*Local name* : 'Climbing Bamboo'.

Scandent bamboos ca 90 m in length with zig-zag branches bent at the internodes. Leaves 27 × 7.5 cm. Flowers in narrow terminal panicles.

*Fl. & Fr.* : April - May.

*Distrib.* : India : Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Western Malaysia, Also available in some parts of north of Malaya.

*Uses* : Culms are used for basket works.

#### CONSERVATION

Conservation of plant resources involves essentially long-range management. It is

indeed a holistic concept and encompasses whole spectrum of activities from *in-situ* conservation dealing with population, communities and eco-system on one hand, and on the other, deals with *ex-situ* involving botanical gardens, arboreta and biological bank for storing pollen, seed, tissue, organ and genes.

In the historical past in India, there has been a culture of gardens. There is an inverse correlation between the number of botanical gardens and arboreta and the richness of flora.

The insular species are generally characterised by a small gene pool, reduced interspecific competition, in breeding and small population size by virtue of which they are more vulnerable to extinct due to habitat destruction. Conservation of rare and threatened endemic species as well as extra Indian species has become inevitable for ensuring the preservation of species diversity in the Islands. The establishment of National parks and Biosphere reserves in Mt. Harriet and Saddle peak is under active consideration for habitat conservation in the centres of speciation. Apart from these, Great Nicobar Islands has already declared as biosphere reserve. So far the conservation strategies were species oriented. With the increasing population beyond carrying capacity and various developmental activities in the inhabited Islands, several measures are suggested by Saldanha (1989) to maintain the balance between development and

conservation of wild germ-plasm of endemics, economically potential plant species as well the medicinal plants which are being used in traditional remedies since ages. Apart from this a list of rare, threatened and endangered species of Andaman & Nicobar Islands has already been published (Balakrishnan & Vasudeva Rao, 1983).

The establishment of Botanical Survey of India in 1890 with the basic objective of carrying out floristic survey, its function gradually expanded during the successive plan periods and now comprise listing and conservation of the endangered plant species as one of the major function. Consequent upon this the Andaman & Nicobar Circle was entrusted with the development and maintenance of its own Experimental Botanic Garden-cum-Arboretum. As the total number of indigenous plant species in the Islands being around 2,200, the endemic and extra Indian species account for about 40% of the total species enumerated. Keeping in view of the various developmental and tourism related activities, many of the rare, endangered and endemic species are collected

from their natural habitats and are being introduced in the garden for multiplication and cultivation, as reflected in this publication. However, many more species are yet to be collected during future exploration for introduction in the garden.

#### CONCLUSION

Dhanikhari Experimental Garden-cum-Arboretum comprises an area of *ca* 30 h. of forest land having a virgin patch of rich plant diversity with 2 h. of cleared land earmarked for nurseries and other plots for introduction of rare and endangered plant species. The effort was made to bring out an account of the plants grown under *ex-situ* and *in-situ* conditions at the experimental garden-cum-arboretum resulting about 211 species belonging to 180 genera and 75 families. Grasses, sedges and ferns have not been included in this treatment intentionally as they are dealt with elsewhere.

The assessment of the total constituents of the flowering plants (211) of Dhanikhari Experimental garden have been made (*Table-1*). Habitwise analysis of those plant species has also been indicated (*Table-2*).

*Table-1* : Assessment of the total constituents of the Flowering Plants of Dhanikhari Experimental Garden.

| Group            | Families | Genera | Species |
|------------------|----------|--------|---------|
| Dicotyledonous   | 60       | 139    | 162     |
| Monocotyledonous | 15       | 41     | 49      |
| Total            | 75       | 180    | 211     |

*Table-2. : Habitwise analysis:*

| Habit             | No. of Species |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Trees             | 70             |
| Shrubs            | 37             |
| Lianas / Climbers | 36             |
| Herbs             | 68             |

The plant species have been categorised in various categories depending upon their utility and economical potential in different aspects as indicated in *Table - 3*.

*Table-3 : Plants used in different purposes*

| Categories          | No. of Species |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Medicinal           | 73             |
| Wild food           | 48             |
| Other economic uses | 50             |
| Timber              | 10             |
| Wild ornamental     | 45             |
| Growing as weed     | 11             |

*Table-4 : Distributional pattern of plant species of Dhanikhari Experimental Garden in Andaman & Nicobar Islands/Mainland, India/Outside India.*

| S. No. | Species distributed in                                                 | No. of species |
|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1.     | Andaman & Nicobar Islands and in mainland India.                       | 147            |
| 2.     | Endemic to India confined at Andaman & Nicobar Islands.                | 30             |
| 3.     | Andaman & Nicobar Islands and outside India but not in mainland India. | 34             |

It is interesting to note that many species have their phytogeographical significance on the basis of phytogeographical

distribution of plant species growing in garden, they have been categorised in three sections (*Table-4*).

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