Working Paper 258

Plant-Biodiversity Conservation in Academic Institutions: An Efficient Approach for Conserving Biodiversity Across Ecological Regions in India

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PLANT-BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION IN ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS: AN EFFICIENT APPROACH FOR CONSERVING BIODIVERSITY ACROSS ECOLOGICAL REGIONS IN INDIA

Sunil Nautiyal*

Abstract

In view of the fact that 2010 is the International Year of Biodiversity (IYB), with the slogan 'Biodiversity is Life', a study was undertaken to assess the biodiversity existing at the Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), an academic institution, and to understand how academic institutions could play a significant role in conserving biodiversity. ISEC is located in a sylvan 16-hectare campus at Nagarabhavi, abutting the Bangalore University's 'Jnanabharati' premises on the southwestern outskirts of the city. The Bangalore Urban Arts Commission has adjudged the ISEC campus as one of the best-maintained campuses in the city of Bangalore consistently for three years (www.isec.ac.in). The ISEC campus is home to more than 400 plant species comprising trees (28 per cent), shrubs (30 per cent), herbs (22 per cent), grasses (11 per cent) and creepers (8 per cent) belonging to 90 different families of the plant kingdom, such as Euphorbiaceae (26 per cent), Poaceae (21 per cent), Asteraceae (13 per cent), Bignoniaceae (8 per cent), Verbenaceae (7 per cent) and Apocynaceae, Caesalpinaceae, Acanthaceae (6 per cent) etc. Several threatened/vulnerable/endangered plant species such as Croton lawianus, Santalum album, Leptadenia reticulata and Ficus benghalensis var. krishnae are being conserved on the campus, and they exhibit a high degree of regeneration potential. Croton lawianus (critically endangered) endemic in the Western Ghats of India is found abundantly on the campus. A study of this aspect has its own importance since the existing biodiversity is being lost at an alarming rate and scientists have reported that a significant number of species is expected to be lost in the next couple of decades. This paper discusses how a few additional efforts can save biodiversity and contribute to "promote innovative solutions to reduce threats to biodiversity", one of the objectives of IYB 2010.

Keywords: International Year of Biodiversity, Academic Institutions, Biodiversity conservation, Endangered Species, ISEC

Introduction

There are approximately 3,00,000 plant species on the planet earth comprising flowering plants (87 per cent), non-flowering plants (0.32 per cent), ferns (4.4 per cent), mosses (5 per cent) and red and green algae (3.3 per cent) (World Conservation Union, IUCN online). As per a report, around 22 to 47 per cent of the world's plant species come under the endangered category (Graham, 2002). Current estimates put 13 per cent of global flora on the verge of extinction (Hotspot Science online). Although the total number of plant species worldwide remains unknown (estimates range from 3,10,000 to 4,22,000 species), calculations show that between 94,000 and 1,44,000 species are at the risk of dying out (Graham, 2002). Several studies indicate mass extinction of valuable species, as we have roughly altered half of the habitable surface of the earth besides impairing and destroying several ecosystems (Raven, 1987, Myers, 1990; Daily, 1995; Singh, 2002). However, some of the ecologically sensitive landscapes rich in bio-diversity and known as hotspots cover less than 2.5 per cent of the earth's surface. Two such landscapes located in India, viz., the Western Ghats and the Himalayas are

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responsible for India being recognised as one of the mega biodiversity countries of the world. These two biodiversity hotspots are home to nearly 16,000 plant species with the Western Ghats having 38 per cent and the Himalayas 62 per cent. About 2.1 per cent of the global plant species is endemic in these two hotspots (Conservation International, Hotspot Science).

In the present context, the biggest challenge is to conserve plant biodiversity which is threatened by various anthropogenic factors like burgeoning population, over-exploitation to meet the growing demands of various pharmaceutical and aroma-chemical industries in India. Apart from the facts mentioned above, in India, more than two lakh villages are classified as forest villages (Kumar 2006), and hence, the dependence of these communities on forest based resources is very high; a majority of the villages are home to various tribal groups and communities who have been experiencing social, economic and environmental stress and resource constraints because of a variety of factors. Therefore, there is a need to provide opportunities for these people living in harmony with nature to protect the forests they inhabit and simultaneously improve their economy. The Government of India, through various timely policy interventions, has been striving hard to conserve the valuable plant biodiversity both *in situ* and *ex situ*. The examples of *in situ* conservation include creation of protected areas as mentioned in IUCN categories (IUCN online) I-IV *viz.,* Strict Nature Reserve: protected area managed mainly for scientific purpose; Wilderness Area: protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection; National Park: protected area managed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreation; Natural Monument: protected area managed mainly for conservation of specific natural features; Habitat/Species Management Area: protected area managed mainly for conservation through management intervention; Protected Landscape/Seascape: protected area managed mainly for landscape/seascape conservation and recreation; Managed Resource Protected Area: protected area managed mainly for the sustainable use of natural ecosystems (Badman and Bomhard 2008). The IUCN reported 12 per cent of the planet's land surface as protected area, a drastic increase compared to 1962 when only 3 per cent of the earth surface had been estimated as protected landscape (IUCN 2005). Of the world's total protected area, the developing world accounts for 60 per cent (www.equatorinitiative.org). India has made significant and multidimensional efforts from the viewpoint of biodiversity conservation during the last three to four decades. India has one of the world's largest networks of protected areas with regard to *in situ* conservation. Up to 1970, India had 65 protected areas and this number increased gradually to 578 by 2002. India has proposed to increase the number of protected areas to 870 covering about 5.74 per cent of the country's total geographical area (Rodgers *et al*, online).

The effect of human activity on ecosystems is a big concern all over the world and it is particularly important to understand human influences on rural landscapes, where sustainability of the rural people is dependent on the surrounding natural resources. The study of various aspects of the interactions between humans and local ecosystems/landscapes is the key to understanding the development process and, hence, provides the basis for designing and developing strategies for ensuring the future sustainability of landscapes (Mander and Jongman, 1998; Schmidt-Vogt, 1998; Roberts *et al*., 2002). Sustainable landscape development is a crucial issue the world over and a debate is still going on with regard to the approach to be adopted for conservation, i.e., a non- segregated or

segregated approach. A non-segregated approach towards conservation refers to farm households and individual and common resources that are under integrated land management. In the current context, it can be defined as the landscape without a nature conservation programme. It means that the landscapes do not come under the IUCN category. However, a segregated approach addresses the multiple functions of land resources such as demarcation of areas for conservation, utilisation, preservation and development. In the current context, the IUCN categories of landscape management are implemented but due to complex human and ecosystem interactions in the developing countries, the segregated landscape approach has failed to bear the desired results (Nautiyal and Kaechele, 2007).

Table 1: *In Situ* & *Ex Situ* modes of conservation

Sl. No.	*In Situ* Conservation	*Ex Situ* conservation
1	On-site conservation	Off-site conservation
2	Conserves biodiversity in the natural habitats thus promoting a natural evolutionary process	Conserve biodiversity outside the natural habitats of species
3	*In situ* conservation maintains not only a wide range of genetic diversity but also the evolutionary interactions that allow for adaptation continually to the shifting environmental conditions, such as changes in pest populations or climate.	It is the process of protecting an endangered species (plant or animal) outside of its natural habitat; for example, removing part of the population from a threatened habitat and placing it in a new location, which may be a wild area or within the care of humans. The result is that the natural evolutionary process cannot be as strong as in case of *in situ* conservation.
4	Requires limited resources, but needs a strong policy perspective	More expensive to maintain and thus should be regarded as complementary to *in situ* conservation methods.
5	*In situ* conservation takes place in the natural habitats of species (plant/ animal) and thus, in many cases, creates conflicts in the context of peoples' livelihood strategies in the same region.	*Ex situ* conservation takes place outside of natural habitats and hence does not involve sharing of natural resource with humans. E*x situ* conservation could be the only option where *in situ* conservation is no longer possible.
6	In the developing countries, the debate concerns what should be the spatial extent of *in situ* conservation. Examples of *in situ* conservation are: Strict Nature Reserve: protected area managed mainly for scientific purposes; Wilderness Area: protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection; National Park: protected area managed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreation; Natural Monument: protected area managed mainly for conservation of specific natural features; Habitat/Species Management Area: protected area managed mainly for conservation through management intervention; Protected Landscape/Seascape: protected area managed mainly for landscape/seascape conservation and recreation; Managed Resource Protected Area (IUCN 2008)	Requires huge energy and monetary resources. In the context of natural disasters, *ex situ* conservation might play an important role in the regeneration of species. The main role of *ex situ* means of conservation is to create awareness and educate human beings. There are emergent threats to various sensitive ecosystems such as mountains, alpine, Himalayan ecosystems, Western Ghats, coastal region, fresh water ecosystem due to variety of driving forces such as burgeoning population, pollution, increased concentrations of CO_2, climate change etc. The survival of many species (plant/ animal) is in jeopardy. Thus such circumstances emphasize the role of *ex situ* methods in conservation, regeneration and breeding programmes of various species. The examples of *ex situ* conservations are gene banks (In vitro plant tissue and microbial culture collections), botanical gardens, zoological gardens (Collecting living organisms for zoos, aquaria, and botanic gardens for research and public awareness; tissue culture laboratories, arboretum, aquarium etc.
7	Protected area network, corridors to link fragmented landscapes such as habitats of species etc.	Establishment of botanical gardens, zoological gardens, conservation stands, gene banks, tissue culture etc.

On the other hand, establishing botanical and zoological gardens are examples of *ex situ* conservation of biodiversity. Although the *ex situ* conservation has been successful in more often than not, huge economic resources are required to maintain the process. Basic differences between *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation strategies are given in Table 1.

Methodology

Genesis of current research: Institutional efforts in conserving biodiversity

Although there are some limitations with regard to both the conservation approaches, in view of conserving our valuable biodiversity, we need both the approaches for future sustainability. However, in the meantime, there is a great need for promoting conservation programmes in the academic institutions on India. Indian institutions contributing significantly to conservation and management of valuable biodiversity, have yet gained enough attention. Academic institutions with vast areas can effectively involve themselves in conserving and regenerating the biodiversity of the regions in which they are located. The average area available with academic institutions across the country ranges from 20 - 250 hectares. This is calculated based on the average area available with major and middle level institutions in each State. Thus, we can use some portion of such land out for conservation and management of valuable plant bio-diversity. In this context, a study was undertaken recently at the Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC, www.isec.ac.in), Bangalore, on the inventorisation of the existing plant bio-diversity.

The phytosociological study was carried out following the standard method (Cottam and Curtis 1956; Ralhan et al. 1982; Saxena and Singh 1982, Nayak et al. 2000).

The geographical information of the study area was also recorded through the Global Positioning System (GPS) in respect of sample plots drawn randomly at the institute. Plant density was calculated using the following formula.

$$d = \frac{xn}{N}$$

d = Density
xn = Total number of individual species in all quadrats
N = Total number of quadrats studied

Satellite imagery was also used for developing the land cover map of the campus over two points of time. This aspect was undertaken after the vegetation structure of the area was studied. The cloud-free satellite data for ISEC was rectified. Image rectification was completed using the ENVI image to map registration method with the help of a toposheet 1:50,000. The ETM+imagery of ISEC was selected as a base map of the study area. Once the coefficients for the equations were determined, the distorted image co-ordinates for map positioning were precisely estimated, in terms of a mathematical notation (Lillesand et al. 2004). The average land area available with academic institutions in India was calculated based on the information from big, medium and small institutions available on internet in all the States of the country and computed country-wise. The information was obtained from secondary sources and from the institution's webpage.

Results

A. Plant-biodiversity of ISEC campus

Situated on 16 hectares of land on the outskirts of Bangalore City, ISEC is home to more than 400 plant species. About 320 species have been identified comprising 94 trees, 97 shrubs, 69 herbs, 26 creepers and 34 grass varieties (Figure 1). The flora of ISEC belongs to 90 different families of the plant kingdom with a majority of species belonging to Euphorbiaceae (26 per cent), followed by Poaceae (21 per cent), Asteraceae (13 per cent), Bignonaceae (8 per cent), Verbinaceae (7 per cent), Apocynaceae, Caesalpinaceae, Acanthaceae (6 per cent each) and many others. A listing of tree, shrub and herb species is given in Annexure I. Several endangered plant species *viz.*, *Croton lawianus*, *Santalum album, Leptadenia reticulata, Ficus benghalensis* var. *krishnae* species are being conserved on the campus and they exhibit a high degree of regeneration potential. *Croton lawianus,* an endangered species endemic to the Western Ghats biodiversity hotspot, is found in abundance on the campus. The density in 50m x 50m transect of some important species along with regeneration pattern is given in Figure 2. The economically important species such as *Santalum album* exhibits a very good regeneration pattern and so do other species. As *Santalum album* is highly exploited from the forests for its aroma property and has a huge economic potential. ISEC has created a very good micro-climatic environment for conservation and regeneration of this species. Figure 2 shows the density and regeneration potential of the important tree species at ISEC. The *Santalum album* tree (16), saplings (13) and seedlings (23) showed good density followed by *Acacia leucophloea, Pongamia pinnata, Phoenix sylvestris* and *Azadirachta indica.* The *Santalum album (*Shree-gandha or chandana*)* species has been utilised, cultivated and traded for many years, with some cultures placing a great significance on its fragrant and medicinal qualities. For these reasons, it has been extensively exploited, to the point where the wild population is vulnerable to extinction. *Santalum album* is vulnerable as per the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. It still commands high prices for its essential oil, but due to lack of sizable number of trees, it is no longer used as extensively as before. The plant is widely cultivated and lasts long, although harvest is viable after 40 years. Data shows that ISEC acts as a natural laboratory for *Santalum album*. Likewise, other institutions can also conserve some of the important species of the regions in which they are located. For a glimpse, a land cover map of ISEC over two points of time, i.e., 1973 and 2009, is presented in Figure 3a and 3b, respectively. In this classification, Landsat data (TM and ETM) was used. However, the species-wise classification requires high-resolution data (i.e., ASTER or QuickBird, LISS-IV). The land cover map of ISEC shows that about three decades ago, the entire land was bare with a small patch under shrubs and a few scattered tree species. However, the Landsat ETM data of 2009 shows the maximum extent of land covered by primary vegetation layer (tree vegetation), followed by land under herbaceous vegetation. ISEC campus is one of the best maintained campuses in Bangalore city.

Fig 1: No of species under different vegetation strata in ISEC Campus.

Fig 2: Density of important tree species on ISEC campus and their regeneration pattern.

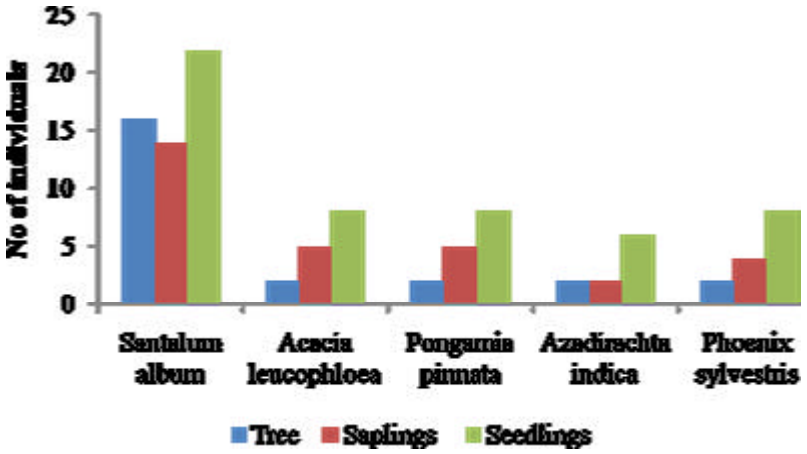


Fig 3a: ISEC campus during 1973

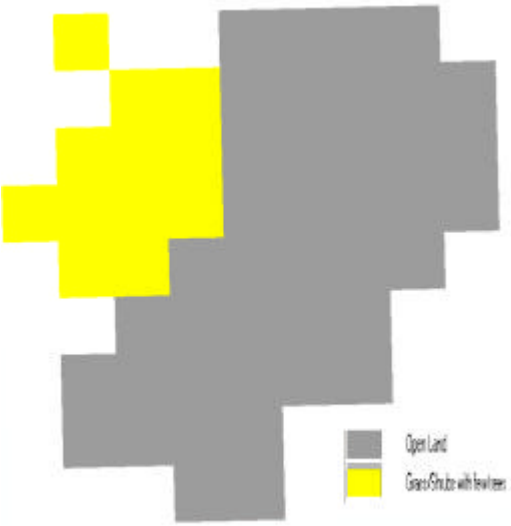
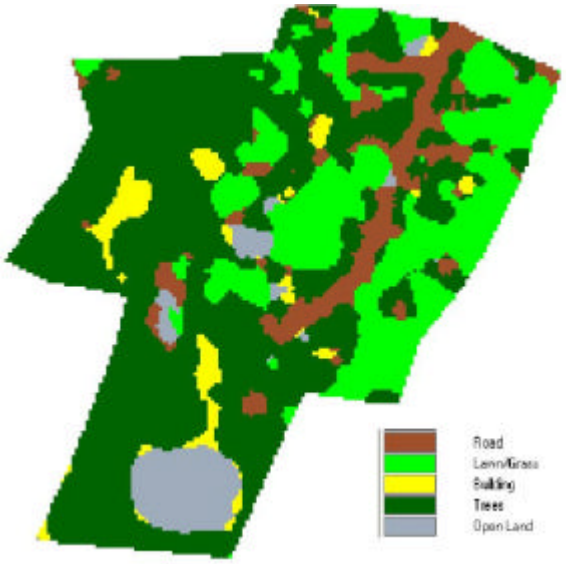


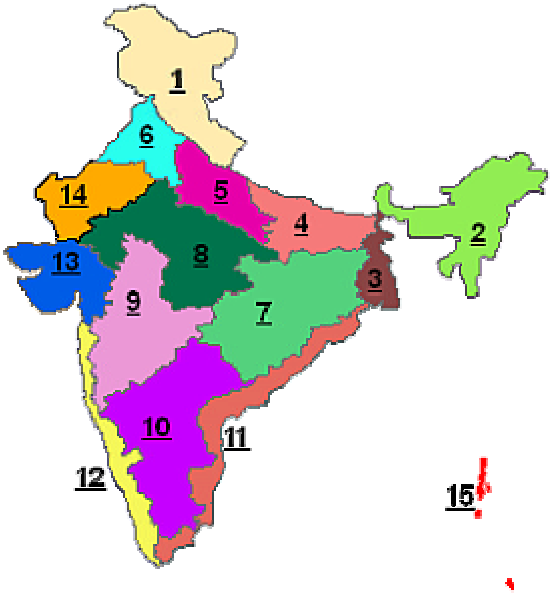
Fig 3b: ISEC campus during 2009



B. Academic Institutions' approach to plant-biodiversity conservation

As mentioned in the previous section of the article, the average land area available with academic institutions in India works out to 20 - 250 hectares. If some portion of this land area is planted with threatened/vulnerable/endangered species suited to the ecological zone, then each academic institution will play a significant role in conserving plant-biodiversity. The Planning Commission has demarcated the geographical area of India into 15 agro-climatic regions (http://www.krishisewa.com/krishi/Azone.html) *viz*., 1. Western Himalayan Region: Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand; 2. Eastern Himalayan Region: Assam, Sikkim, West Bengal & all North-Eastern states; 3. Lower Gangetic Plains Region: West Bengal; 4. Middle Gangetic Plains Region: Uttar Pradesh, Bihar; 5. Upper Gangetic Plains Region: Uttar Pradesh; 6. Trans-Gangetic Plains Region: Punjab, Haryana, Delhi & Rajasthan; 7. Eastern Plateau and Hills Region: Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa & West Bengal; 8. Central Plateau and Hills Region: Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh; 9. Western Plateau and Hills Region: Maharastra, Madhya Pradesh & Rajasthan; 10. Southern Plateau and Hills Region: Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu; 11. East Coast Plains and Hills Region: Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry; 12. West Coast Plains and Ghat Region: Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Goa, Karnataka, Maharastra; 13. Gujarat Plains and Hills Region: Gujarat; 14. Western Dry Region: Rajasthan; 15. The Island Regions: Andaman & Nicobar, Lakshadweep (Figure 4).

Fig 4: Agro-ecological zones of India



1. Western Himalayan Region
2. Eastern Himalayan Region
3. Lower Gangetic Plains Region
4. Middle Gangetic Plains Region
5. Upper Gangetic Plains Region
6. Trans-Gangetic Plains Region
7. Eastern Plateau and Hills Region
8. Central Plateau and Hills Region
9. Western Plateau and Hills Region
10. Southern Plateau and Hills Region
11. East Coast Plains and Hills Region
12. West Coast Plains and Ghat Region
13. Gujarat Plains and Hills Region
14. Western Dry Region, and
15. The Islands Region

http://www.nrcaf.ernet.in/aicrpaf/images/zones.png.

These agro-ecological regions in India harbour different kinds of plant biodiversity. Many endangered, rare, threatened plant species listed in the red data book are found in each agro-ecological region of the country. The important plant species of each agro-ecological region as recorded in the red data book are given in Table 2. However, so far, very limited information is available with regard to the role of academic institutions in terms of conserving plant-biodiversity. Therefore, there is a need to think of utilising the available space in the academic institutions to save our earth's biodiversity. Apart from *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation, academic institutions could prioritise a few (as 4-5 species) of them for conservation through conventional and non-conventional methods for further multiplication in their natural habitats and at the field level improve the livelihoods of farmers, if they are found to have a high economic potential. In this effort, the respective State forest departments could collaborate with the academic institutions in the purchase of seedlings for further activities related to environmental conservation. The species as listed in red data book of all the 15 agro-ecological regions of India are presented in Table 2.

Table 2: List of Important plant species in Red Data book across the Agro-Ecological regions in India

	Plant Species	Agro-ecological regions of India														
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1	*Acer hookeri Miq.*			v												
2	*Acer oblongum Wall. ex DC.*	v														
3	*Acer osmastonii Gamble*	v		v												
4	*Aconitum deinorrhizum STAPF*	v														
5	*Aconitum ferox WALL. EX SERINGE*		v													
6	*Aconitum balfourii STAPF*	v														
7	*Aconitum falconeri STAPF.*	v														
8	*Acorus calamus L.*		v	v			v					v	v			v
9	*Aegle marmelos (L.) CORREA EX. SCHULTZ*				v	v		v	v	v				v	v	
10	*Andrographis paniculata (BURM.F.)WALLICH EX NEES*				v	v		v				v				
11	*Angelica glauca EDGEW.*	v														
12	*Anogeissus pendula Edgew*														v	
13	*Aphyllorchis gollani Duthie*	v														
14	*Aquilaria malaccensis LAM.,*		v													
15	*Arenaria curvifolia Majumdar*	v														
16	*Arenaria ferruginea Sieber ex Spreng*	v														
17	*Arnebia benthamii (WALL. EX G.DON) JOHNSTON*	v														
18	*Atropa acuminata ROYLE EX LINDL.*	v														
19	*Begonia scutata Wall.*			v												
20	*Berberis affinis G.Don*	v														
21	*Berberis asiatica ROXB.*	v														
22	*Blumea bovei Vatke*													v		
23	*Boesenbergia siphonantha (Baker) M Sabu, Prasanth Kumar & J Skornickova*															v
24	*Boswellia ovalifoliolata Balakr. & A.N.Henry.*											v				
25	*Bulleyia yunnanensis Schlechter*			v												
26	*Butea monosperma var. lutea, (Lam.) Taub*											v				
27	*Calanthe pachystalix Reichb.f.ex Hook.f.*	v														
28	*Calygoum polygonoides*														v	
29	*Campylanthus ramosissimus Wight*													v		
30	*Ceropegia andamanica P.V.Sreekumar, K.Veenakumari & M.Prashanth*															v
31	*Ceropegia lawii Hook.f.*							v								
33	*Ceropegia mahabalei Hemadri & M.Y.Ansari*							v		v						

34	*Ceropegia odorata Nimmo*							v		v						
35	*Ceropegia panchganiensis Blatter & McCann*							v		v						
36	*Chonemorpha fragrans (MOON) ALSTON*															v
37	*Cissus spectabilis Hochst.ex Planch.*			v												
38	*Cleome gynandra L.*														v	
39	*Codonopsis affinis Hook.*			v												
40	*Commiphora wightii (Arn.) Bhandari*														v	
41	*Corallocarpus conocarpus Benth. & Hook.f.*													v		
42	*Costus speciosus Sm.*				v											
43	*Cryptocoryne tortuosa Blatter & McCann*							v								
44	*Curcuma amada Roxb.*				v											
45	*Curcuma angustifolia Dalz. & Gibs.*				v											
46	*Cycas beddomei Dyer*											v				
47	*Cyperus dwarkensis Sahni & Naithani*													v		
48	*Dactylorhiza hatagirea (DON.) SOO*	v	v													
49	*Decalepis hamiltonii WIGHT & ARN.*										v	v				
50	*Delphinium denudatum WALL. EX HOOK. F. & THOMS*					v										
51	*Dendrobium formosum Roxb.*															v
52	*Dendrobium grande Hook.f.*															v
53	*Dendrobium plicatile Lindl.*															v
54	*Didiciea cunninghamii King & Prain*	v														
55	*Dinochloa nicobarica R.B. Majumdar*															v
56	*Dioscorea bulbifera L.*				v											
57	*Dioscorea pentaphylla Wall.*				v											
58	*Dipcadi maharashtrensis D.B.Deb & S.Dasgupta*							v								
59	*Embelia ribes BURM.F.*		v	v	v		v	v				v				
60	*Euphorbia epiphylloides Kurz.*															v
61	*Flickingeria hesperis G.Seidenfaden*					v										
62	*Frerea indica Dalz.*							v		v						
63	*Fritillaria roylei HOOK.*	v							v							
64	*Gentiana kurroo ROYLE.*					v										
65	*Gloriosa superba L*				v	v		v	v	v				v	v	
66	*Hedychium spicatum BUCH.-HAM.*	v														
67	*Hildegardia populfoli (Roxb.) Schott & Endl.*											v				
68	*Hornstaedtia fenzilii (Kurz) K. Schum.*															v

69	*Janakia arayalpathra JOSEPH & CHANDRASEKARAN*										v					
70	*Korthalsia rogersii Becc.*															v
71	*Lactuca filicina Duthie ex Stebbins*	v														
72	*Leptadenia reticulate (Retz.) Wight. & Arn.*						v								v	
73	*Limonium stocksii Kuntze*													v		
74	*Luvunga scandens (BLUME) KURZ.*		v													
75	*Macaranga nicobarica N.P.Balakrishnan & P.Chakraborty*															v
76	*Mappia foetida MIERS.*			v												
77	*Meconopsis aculeata ROYLE*								v							
78	*Mitragyna parvifolia (Roxb.) Korth.*						v									
79	*Mitragyna parvifolia Korth.*														v	
80	*Myristica andamanica Hook.f.*															v
81	*Nardostachys jatamansi DC.*	v														
82	*Neonauclea gageana Merrill*															v
83	*Nepenthes khasiana KH.F.*		v													
84	*Nervilia aragoana GAUD.*											v				
85	*Oianthus deccanensis Talb*							v								
86	*Ophiorrhiza lurida Hook.f.*			v												
87	*Panax pseudoginseng WALL.*		v			v										
88	*Pavonia ceratocarpa Dalz.ex Mast.*													v		
89	*Phoenix rupicola T.Anders.*			v												
90	*Phyllanthus indofischeri S.S.R.Bennet*											v				
91	*Picrorhiza kurroa ROYLE EX BENTH*	v														
92	*Pimpinella tirupatiensis Bal & Sub*											v				
93	*Pimpinella tongloensis P.K.Mukherjee*			v												
94	*Piper longum L.*		v	v	v			v		v	v	v	v	v		
95	*Piper barberi GAMBLE.*												v			
96	*Podophyllum hexandrum ROYLE*	v														
97	*Polygonatum verticillatum (L.) ALL.*					v										
98	*Przewalskia tangutica MAXIM.*		v													
99	*Pterocarpus santalinus L.f.*											v				
100	*Pterocarpus santalinus L.F.*											v				
101	*Pueraria tuberosa (ROXB. EX. WILLD.) DC.*					v										
102	*Rauvolfia serpentina (L.) BENTH. EX KURZ*		v		v	v			v	v						
103	*Salacia oblonga WALL.*												v			

104	*Salacia reticulata WIGHT*												v			
105	*Santalum album L.*										v	v	v			
106	*Saraca asoca (ROXB.) DE WILDE*		v		v							v				v
107	*Saussurea bracteata Decne.*	v														
108	*Saussurea costus (FALC.) LIPSCH.*	v														
109	*Saussurea gossypiphora DON*					v										
110	*Saussurea obvallata (DC.) EDGEW.*					v										
111	*Schrebera swietenioides ROXB.*									v						
112	*Semecarpus travancorica BEDD.*												v			
113	*Shorea tumbuggaia Roxb.*										v	v	v			
114	*Strychnos aenea A.W. HILL.*												v			
115	*Syzygium alternifolium Walp.*											v				
116	*Syzygium travancoricum GAMBLE*												v			
117	*Taxus wallichiana ZUCC.*		v													
118	*Tecomella undulate (smith) Seeman.*														v	
119	*Terminalia arjuna (ROXB.) WIGHT & ARN.*				v	v			v							
120	*Terminalia pallida Brandis*											v				
121	*Trachycarpus takii (Kumaon Palm)*	v														
122	*Tribulus rajasthanensis M.M.Bhandari & V.S.Sharma*													v	v	
123	*Trichopus zeylanicus GAERTN.*												v			
124	*Urginea indica Kunth*				v											
125	*Urginea nagarjunae K.Hemadri & Swahari Sasibhushan*											v				
126	*Withania coagulans Dun.*						v								v	

Discussion

Biodiversity is nature's greatest gift to humanity. The current year, 2010, has been declared as the International Year of Biodiversity (IYB) by the United Nations. Biodiversity relates to the variety of life forms essential for sustaining the natural living systems or ecosystems that provide us with food, fuel, health, wealth and other vital services. Humans are part of this biodiversity too with the potential to protect or destroy it. Currently, our activities are destroying the biodiversity structure at alarming rates. These losses are irreversible and impoverish us all besides damaging the life support systems we heavily rely on. However, we can prevent it. We need to reflect on our activities and focus on the daunting challenges lying ahead to safeguard the biodiversity. Now is the time to act. Biodiversity is central to our very existence (Source Nature History Museum http://www.biodiversityislife.net/). Worldwide, there are 34 natural laboratories harbouring rich biodiversity – 'hotspots' which cover less than 2.5 per cent of the earth's surface but provide habitat for 90 per cent of the world's biodiversity (Biodiversity hotspots online). These hotspots also support about 20 per cent of the world's population, which is growing certainly at rates higher than the world's average growth rate of population (Biodiversity hotspots online.). Efforts made for conservation of valuable biodiversity can be traced back to 1875 when the Yellow Stone National Park was established in the United States of America (USA) for *in situ* conservation. Since then, several thousand million hectares of land across the world has been allotted for *in situ* conservation of biodiversity. In India alone, significant land cover has been segregated for protecting our natural landscapes. However, *ex situ* conservation approach was started much earlier than *in situ* conservation, almost dating back to the mid-Nineteenth Century when some great explorers started collecting information on plant biodiversity. Cohen *et al*, (1991, p 867-868) have discussed the eras of *ex situ* conservation efforts and development. At present, we are in the phase of 'more efficient use of biodiversity', that is the fourth phase of *ex situ* conservation. In the mid-Eighteenth Century (1850) *ex situ* conservation was started (first phase) and it extended up to 1950, during which utility was tested under the main theme of plant exploration and introduction. The second phase (1950-1980) was that of conservation, during which the wide spectrum of biodiversity was conserved based on utilisation. In the third phase, more emphasis was placed on international links of plant-biodiversity, long term viability and regeneration of old collections and researching wider gene pools. At present, greater emphasis is placed on efficient utilisation through advanced breeding programmes. Conservation along with biotechnology is increasing and more efficient networks are being established through several international bodies such as the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO), the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) and the International Board for Plant Genetic Resources (IBPGR) (now International Plant Genetic Resources Institute -IPGRI), etc (For more details see Cohen et al., 1991). India has made significant strides during this phase of *in situ* conservation efforts and India's gene bank is one of the biggest in the world. By contributing over 16,000 varieties of rice, India is the biggest contributor to the rice biodiversity bank (Times of India, 2010, 6 April).

These two direct approaches, which are more than a century old, have contributed significantly to the conservation efforts across the entire globe. *In situ* programmes are mostly active in biodiversity hotspots and harbour 90 per cent of life on earth. It means that high diversity could be maintained in

small areas of natural systems. Based on these facts, we can say that academic institutions can play an important role in conserving a significant number of plant species. A study of the flora at ISEC (*All-India Institute for Interdisciplinary Research and Training in the Social Sciences*) is an example of conserving biodiversity across academic institutions. Recently, a study was carried out for invetorisation of plant species in one of the top institutions in India, namely the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) — the vast campus contains more than 800 species of plants, including many indigenous and exotic species (Times of India, August 4, 2009). However, very limited work has been done on the inventorisation and potential of academic institutions to provide habitat for important plant species whose survival is in jeopardy. Although significant work has been carried out on *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation, both have their own pros and cons.

As for *in situ* conservation, in a majority of cases, it results in conflicts between local people and the government over the utilisation and preservation of resources, if the conservation and community development objectives are inconsistent. This has been creating hurdles in achieving the desired goals. Policy-makers and decision-takers have recognised the importance of biodiversity (flora and fauna) and this has resulted in the segregation (in the form of protected areas) of rich and diverse landscapes for biodiversity conservation. An approach that leads to the conservation of biological diversity is good, but such an approach should also address the concerns of human beings equally because human beings have been residing in areas rich in biodiversity since time immemorial (Hjortso *et al*, 2006). The experience of top-down conservation programmes in the last three to four decades has been found responsible for the breaking down of local community-nature relationship particularly in the developing countries. It has increased the hostility of the local people towards conservation/management programmes **(**Ramakrishnan 2000; Khadka and Nepal 2010). Unfortunately, in some cases, the local livelihoods (mostly of indigenous tribes) in the bio-diverse rich areas have received several setbacks due to the implementation of various conservation policies, though unintentionally. Apart from that, the ecological perspective of such programmes and time series satellite data relating to some of the protected areas show that the temporal pattern of the ecosystem processes has been changing because of the flawed approach and framework of the current policies with respect to hotspots due to change in vegetation dynamics. An integrated approach for ecosystem conservation and strengthening of local institutions for ensuring sustainable ecosystem management in such areas has been brought out by many studies (Ramphal 1993; Colchester 1997; Maikhuri *et al*, 2001; Hjortso *et al* 2006; Caro and Scholte, 2007).

Ex situ conservation also plays an important role in the conservation and preservation of biodiversity, but requires huge financial resources. With regard to conservation in natural habitats and conserving biodiversity outside natural habitats excluding zoological and botanical gardens and gene banks, very limited effort has been made to conserve biodiversity by academic institutions.

Academic institutions could play a very crucial role in conserving valuable biodiversity in several ways and that too with minimum financial support. Action oriented research that includes inventorization of the biodiversity, economic valuation, selection of ecologically valuable and economically useful plants for domestication, documentation of TEK (Traditional Ecological Knowledge), demonstration models for medicinal and aromatic plants (herbs, shrubs, trees), germination

experiments with regard to various species and workshops for stakeholders for creating awareness in each region will ensure better conservation and management of valuable plant biodiversity. ISEC also has been conserving some of the threatened and endangered species listed in Table 2. Academic institutions should play a major role in conserving species diversity as many of the species are fast vanishing because of the rapid depletion of the forest cover. Over the last century, erosion of biodiversity has been increasingly observed. Studies show that 30 per cent of all the natural species face extinction by 2050. Of these, about one-eighth of the known plant species are threatened with irreversible extinction. Some research findings report that each year species loss would go up 140,000 (based on Species-area theory) and the researchers working on biodiversity acknowledge that the rate of species loss is several times higher at present than at any point of time in human history (http://globaltopia.org/EARTH.html). Various factors are responsible for such a development and climate change is one of the major drivers for the same. Academic institutions should propagate herbal plants. It should also be cultivated on a large scale as main cash crops on agricultural lands. However, shrubs and tree species should be raised on the margins of agricultural fields for the development of agroforestry models.

At the outset, our main focus should be on raising seedlings of selected plant species (trees, shrubs or herbs). The experimental research in the Master's degree course and Master of Philosophy course of the science discipline should be encouraged for developing farmer-friendly (rural-biotechnology) and cost-effective technologies to raise seedlings on experimental plots. This should be directly linked to the forest department, which should purchase seedlings for wider multiplication. Along with seedlings a 'brochure' on the process, cultivation, economic and ecological use of each plant (written in local language or regional languages), should be distributed to the interested people/farmers. This will help people grow the species of their choice and they will get monetary benefits by selling seedlings to other interested farmers of the region from the very beginning phase. Consequently, the other people/farmers would be influenced to undertake cultivation of ecologically valuable and economically useful species on their main lands. In this innovation, the participation of students and scientists of the study region will be of great importance. They will help educate people in bringing/domesticating species of socio-ecological importance in their land. This approach will be of importance in community and degraded land rehabilitation programmes. Both scientific and traditional ecological knowledge bases related to various medicinal and aromatic plants should be taken into consideration while developing suitable rural agro-biotechnologies that will improve the livelihood options of the people in different ecological regions and also conserve biodiversity. Scientific and technological developments over the last 7-8 decades have significantly improvedd the life and livelihoods of a majority of the people worldwide. But many of the benefits of advanced development have not been produced the desired results because of the growing human population. Therefore, the diversity and abundance of many other plant species diminishes year after year. What happens to our biodiversity, to us and the creatures we share the world with in future depends on the actions that we take now (May 2002).Therefore, it would be very encouraging if we utilise the space available with academic institutions for biodiversity conservation. If our approach develops in a similar way, then the

stakeholders will be interested and willing to pay for learning lessons on conserving of mother earth's valuable resources on private premises for future generations.

Conclusion

The study on plant bio-diversity on ISEC campus reveals that academic institutions could play a significant role in the conservation of biodiversity. ISEC has provided a favourable micro-climate environment for conservation and regeneration of *Santalum album* (Sandalwood) and also to many other important plant species. Thus, this study supports the view that academic institutions could play a very significant role in conserving biodiversity with minimal effort which might support other institutions, such as forest department, in their rehabilitation programmes. Forest departments should ensure a responsible role for academic institutions in their rehabilitation programmes. Academic institutions should demonstrate the effectiveness of models through low-cost scientific interventions for wider dissemination. Although most of the institutions have relatively fair vegetation cover, there is a need to prioritise the species based on their status such as endangered, rare, threatened or endemic. The Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, and the State level organisations should approach the institutions in their zones to discuss which institute should prioritise which species first and accordingly provide some incentives to encourage young researchers for undertaking short-term research in their academic institutions to further develop techniques and approaches for multiplication of these species under local conditions so that direct benefits may reach the farmers. Apart from marketing, value addition of products of different species can be undertaken to improve the livelihood of the people. This would be a great contribution towards saving our valuable plant biodiversity. If we act now, it would be a real contribution from our side towards conserving and protecting our planet and species.

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Annexure

Annexure I: Plant-biodiversity of Institute for Social and Economic Change; *A - Tree species, B – Shrubs, C – Herbs, D-Creepers and E-Grass species*. (Nautiyal *et al*, 2010)

A. Tree species

Scientific Name	Family Name	Common Name (in English)	Vernacular Name
Acacia auriculiformis	Leguminosae	Acacia	***
Acacia farnesiana (L.) Willd.	Mimosaceae	Needle Bush	Kasturi jaali
Acacia melanoxylon, R. Br.	Mimosaceae	Blackwood	Jali
Achros sapota	Sapotaceae	Sapota	Chikku
Aegele marmelos (L.) Correa.	Rutaceae	Bael tree	Bilvapatre
Aglaia roxburghiana Miq.	Meliaceae	***	Tottilakaayi
Albizia lebbeck	Leguminosae	Lebbeck tree	Bagemara
Annona squamosa	Annonaceae	Cuastardapple	Seetaphala
Araucaria columnaris	Arucccariaceae	Cooks Pine	***
Atrocarpus heterophyllum	Moraceae	Jackfruit	Hebhalasu
Azadirachta indica	Meliaceae	Neem tree	Chikkbevu
Bauhinia variegata L.	Caesalpiniaceae	Yellow Bell	Arisina tega
Bixa orellana	Bixaceae	Annatto plant	Bangarakayi
Bombax ceiba	Bombacaceae	Silk cotton tree	Buragadmara
Bridelia retusa (L.) Sprengel.	Euphorbiaceae	Asana	Gojemara
Butea monosperma	Leguminosae	Flame of the forest	Muthugadamara
Caesalpinia pulcherrima	Caesalpiniaceae	Pecock flower	Kenjigida, Chennakeshavagida
Caesalpinia mexicana	Caesalpiniaceae	***	***
Calophyllum inophyllum L.	Clusiaceae	Beach mahogany	Pinne
Carica papaya	Caricaceae	Papaya	Parangi
Cascabela thevetial	Apocynaceae	Cook tree	Hirehalla
Cassia fistula L.	Caesalpiniaceae	Golden Shower	Kakke mara
Casurina equisetifolia	Casurinaceae	Australian oak	Sarvemara
Citrus limon	Rutaceae	Lemon	Limbe
Citrus reticulate	Rutaceae	Orange	Kitthale
Cocos nucifera	Palmaceae	Coconut	Tengu
Couroupita guianesis	Lecythidaceae	Cannonball tree	Nagalinga
Croton malabaricus Bedd.	Euphorbiaceae	Croton	Yettimara
Croton reticulates Heyne.	Euphorbiaceae	***	***
Croton tiglium L.	Euphorbiaceae	Croton oil seed	Japala
Dalbergia sisso	Leguminosae	Shisham	Irukuntimavu
Delonix regia	Leguminosae	Gulmohar	Kattikayimara
Diospyros crumenata Thwaites.	Ebenaceae	Persimmon trees	Thumri
Eucalyptus globulus	Myrtaceae	Eucalyptus	Nilgirimara
Eucalyptus mysorensis	Myrtaceae	Eucalyptus	Nilgirimara
Ficus bengalensis	Moraceae	Banyan tree	Aladamara
Ficus benjamina	Moraceae	Weeping ficus	***
Ficus elastica	Moraceae	Indian rubber	Rabar mara

Ficus benghalensis var. ***krishnae***	Moraceae	Makhan Katori,	***
Ficus racemosa	Moraceae	Cluster fig	Attimara
Ficus religiosa	Moraceae	Peepal tree	Aralimara
Filicum decipiens	Sapindaceae	Fern tree	Kaadu hoovarasi
Gmelina arborea Roxb.	Verbenaceae	Beech wood	Shivani
Grevillea robusta	Proteaceae	Silky oak	
Jacaranda mimosifolia D. Don.	Bignoniaceae	Blue Jacaranda, Black Poui	Neeli padari
Kigelia pinnata	Bignoniaceae	Kigelia	Kigelia pinnata
Lagerstroemia speciosa	Lythraceae	Queen of the flowers	Hole dasavala
Limonia acidissima	Rutaceae	Wood apple	Beldahannu
Mallotus phillippinensis M.	Euphorbiaceae	Monkey face tree	Kunkumada mara
Mangifera indica	Anacardiaceae	Mango	Mavinamara
Marcaranga indica Wight.	Euphorbiaceae	Parasol leaf tree	Bettadavare
Markhamia lutea	Bignoniaceae	Nile tulip tree	***
Melia composita Willd.	Meliaceae	***	Hebbevu
Melia azedarach	Meliaceae	Chinaberry tree.	Bevu
Michelia champaka	Magnoliaceae	Champaka	Sampige
Millingtonia hortensis	Bignoniaceae	Tree jasmine	Birate mara
Mimosa leucocephala	Mimosoideae	Subabul	
Moringa oleifera	Moringaceae	Horse radish tree	Nugeekaii mara
Muntingia calabura	Tiliaceae	Japanese cherry	Gasgase mara
Murraya koenigii	Rutaceae	Curry tree	Karibevu
Nyctanthes arbora-tristis	Oleaceae	Night jasmine	Parijatha
Peltophroum pterocarpum	Leguminaceae	Copper pod	Basavanapada
Phoenix sylvestris (L.) Roxb.	Arecaceae	Silver date palm	Ichalu
Phyllanthus emblica	Euphorbiaceae	Indian goose berry	Nelikaii
Plumeria alba	Apocynaceae	White frangipani	Bili kanegale
Polyalthia longifolia	Annonaceae	False ashoka	Ashoka Kambadamara
Pongamia glabra Vent.	Leguminosae	Indian Beech Tree	Hongemara
Pongemia pinnata	Fabaceae	Indian beech tree	Honge mara
Psidum guajava	Myrataceae	Guava	Seebe or Jamaphala
Salix tetrasperma	Salicaceae	Indian willow	
Santalinus pterocarpus	Fabaceae	Red sandal wood	Raktha chandana
Santalum album	Santalaceae	Sandal tree	Sree gandha
Schefflera actinophylla	Araliaceae	Umbrella tree	
Sclerophyrum pentandrum (Dennst.) Mabb	Santalaceae	***	Nay kuli
Spathodea companulata	Bignoniaceae	Foutain tree	Nirukai
Swietenia mahagoni	Meliaceae	Mahogany	Mahagone
Syzygium hemisphericum	Myrataceae	Rose apple	Pannerale
Syzygium jambos	Myrtacaeae	Rose apple	Jambunerale
Tabebuia impetiginosa	Bignoniaceae	Brazilwood	***
Tabebuia sp.	Bignoniaceae	***	***
Tamarindus indica	Caesalpiniaceae	Tamarind	Hunasemara
Tecoma argentia	Bignoniaceae	Trumpet tree	Gantehu

Tectona grandis	Verbenaceae	Teak	Sagvani
Terminalia catappa	Combretaceae	Indian almond	Kadu badami
Thespesia populnea	Malvaceae	Tulip tree	Bugurimara
Zizipus mauritiana	Rhamnaceae	Indian jujube	***
Zizypus jujube	Rhamnaceae	Chines jujube	Yellachi or Yagachi

B. Shrub species

Scientific Name	Family Name	Common Name (in English)	Vernacular Name
Abrus fruticulosus, Wall	Fabaceae	***	***
Abrus precatorius L.	Fabaceae	***	***
Abutilon indicum, G. Don.	Malvaceae	Indian Mallow	Tuttigidia
Acalypha fruticosa Forssk	Euphorbiaceae	***	***
Acalypha indica	Euphorbiaceae	Indian copper leaf.	Kuppegida
Acalypha wilkasiana	Euphorbiaceae	Copper leaf	***
Acalypha wilkesiana, M. Arg	Euphorbiaceae	Jacob's Coat.	***
Adhatoda zeylanica Medikus.	Acanthaceae	Malabar nut tree	Aadusoge
Adiantum capillus	Adiantaceae	Maidenhair fern	Hamsa raja
Allamanada chathartica	Apocynaceae	Allamanda	Arasinhu
Anthurium angustilaminatum var. gladiatum	Araceae	***	***
Barleria buxifolia L	Acanthaceae	***	Gubbee mullu.
Barleria prionitis L	Acanthaceae	Porcupine flower	Gorate
Boehmeria nivea	Urticaceaae	China grass	Kankhura
Boehmeria nivea Gaudich.	Urticaceae	***	***
Bougainvillea glabra, Choisy	Nyctanginaceae	Paper flower	Kagadada hoo gida
Bougainvillea spectabilis, Willd.	Nyctanginaceae	Paper flower	Kagadada hoo gida
Calotropis gigantea	Asclepidaceae	Gigantic weed	Yekka
Calotropis procera (Aiton) R. Br.	Asclepidaceae	Rubber bush,	Bili ekka
Carissa carandas L.	Apocynaceaea	Caranda	Kavalikayi gida
Carmona retusa (Vahl) Masam	Boraginaceae	***	Ele adike soppu
Cassia auriculata L.	Caesalpiniaceae	Tanner's Cassia	Honnavarike
Cassia sophera	Caesalpiniaceae	Senna Sophera.	Alvari
Cataharanthus pusillus	Apocynaceae	Ctaharanthus	Vishakanagilasoppu
Catharanthus pusillus Murray	Apocynaceae	Madagascar Periwinkle	Vishakanagilasoppu
Catunaregam spinosa	Rubiaceae	Moutain pomogranate	Karekayii gida
Chromolaena odorata (L.) King & H. Robinson	Asteraceae	Bitter bush	Communist kale
Clerodendrum phillipinum	Verbenaceae	Chinese glory brower	Mysore mallige
Corchorus capsularis L.	Tiliaceae	White jute	Senabu
Crossandra infundibuliformis	Acanthaceae	Firecracker flower	Kanakambra
Crotalaria juncea L.	Fabaceae	Sun hemp	Sanna senabu
Croton aromaticus L.	Euphorbiaceae	Croton	***
Croton caudatus Gies.	Euphorbiaceae	Croton	***
***Croton lawianus.* Nimmo**, (threatened endemic)	Euphorbiaceae	Croton	***
Croton oblongifolius	Euphorbiaceae	Rush foil	Togarasa

Dracaena reflexa	Agavaceae	Malaysia dracena	***
Duranta repens	Verbenaceae	Golden dew drop	***
Ecbolium ligustrinum(Vahl) Vollesn.	Acanthaceae	Green shrimp plant	Kappu karni
Euphorbia antiquorum L	Euphorbiaceae	Triangular Spurge	Kontekalli
Euphorbia elegans Sparg.	Euphorbiaceae	***	***
Euphorbia pulcherrima	Euphorbiaceae	Christmas flower	***
Glycyrrhiza glabra L.	Fabaceae	Liquorice	Gobrad gida
Hibiscus arnottianus	Malvaceae	White hibiscus	Bili dasavala
Hibiscus micranthus L. f.	Malvaceae	Hibiscus	Dasaval
Hibiscus rosa-sinensis L.	Malvaceae	Rose mallow	Dasvala
Iresine herbstii	Amarantahaceae	Blood leaf	***
Jasminum spp.	Oleaceae	***	***
Jasminum ovalifolium, Wight.	Oleaceae	Royal Jasmine	Sanna mallige
Jasminum sambac	Oleaceae	Arabian jasmine	Ellusuttu mallige
Justicia adhatoda L.	Acanthaceae	Malabar nut	Atarush
Lantana camara L.	Verbinaceae	Lantanas	Chadarang
Lantana indica Roxb.	Verbinaceae	***	***
Lantana trifolia L.	Verbinaceae	***	***
Leptadenia reticulata (Retz.) blt.and Am. (endangered)	Asclepidaceae	Jiwanti	Hiriyahalle.
Lawsonia inermis	Lythraceae	Mehendi	Gorante
Manihot esculenta Crantz.	Euphorbiaceae	Cassava	Margenasu
Meyna laxiflora Robyns	Rubiaceae	Muyna	Mullu kare
Musa paradisiaca L.	Musaceae	Banana	Bale
Mussaenda frondosa L.	Rubiaceae	Mussaenda	Hastygida
Nerium oleander Calysa	Apocynaceae	Rose bay	Kanagilu
Opuntia monacantha	Cactaceae	Prickly pear	***
Pandanus fascicularis Lam.	Pandanaceae	Screwpine	***
Pseuderanthemum carruthersii (Seem.) Guillaumin	Acanthaceae	Jacobs coat	***
Punica granatum	Punicaceae	Pomegranate	Dalimbe
Ricinus communis L	Euphorbiaceae	Castor	Haralu
Rosa leschenautiana	Rosacaea	Rose	Gulabi gida
Schefflera arboricola	Araliaceae	Drawf umbrella tree	***
Schefflera arboricola var. *varigata*	Araliaceae	Drawf umbrella tree	***
Solanum torvum Sw.	Solanaceae	Turkey berry	Kadusonde
Synadenium grantii	Euphorbiaceae	African milk bush	***
Tabernaemontana divaricata L.	Apocynaceae	Crape jasmine	Nandibattalu
Tarenna asiatica L.	Rubiaceae	Indian Wild Flowers	Papati
Tecoma stans (L.)	Bignoniaceae	Yellow bells	Gantehu
Triumfetta rhomboidea Jacq.	Tiliaceae	Diamond burr bark	Kadu bende
Triumfetta rotundifolia Lam.	Tiliaceae	Birdwing	Mena mallige
Urena lobata	Malvaceae	Caesarweed	Otte
Urena sinuata L.	Malvaceae	Burr Mallow	Otte
Vallaris solanaceae (Roth.) Kuntze.	Apocynaceae	Bread flower	Isamungari
Vitex negundo	Verbenaceae	Vitex	Lakki gidda

C. Herb species

Scientific Name	Family Name	Common Name (in English)	Vernacular Name
Aerva lanata (L.) Juss. ex Schultes	Amaranthaceae	***	Bili huli
Ageratum conyzoides L.	Asteraceae	Billy goat weed	Urhaal gida
Alternanthera sessilis (L.) R.Br	Amarathaceae	***	***
Anaphalis margaritaceae	Asteraceae	Western pearly everlasting	***
Andrographis serpyllifolia, W.	Acanthaceae	***	Sardaaligida
Argemone mexicana L.	Papveraceae	Mexican prickly poppy	Datturigidda
Asparagus densiflorus	Liliaceae	Emarland fern	***
Bambusa arundinacea (Retz.) Roxb.	Poaceae	Bidaru	Ande bidiru
Biophyutum Sentivum (L.) DC.Var.sensitivum	Oxalidaceae	Little Tree Plant	Akkigida,
Boerhavia diffusa L	Nyctanginaceae	Pig weed	Kommagida
Bryophyllum pinnatum (Lam.) Oken.	Crassulaceae	Air plant	***
Cajanus cajana	Fabaceae	Pigeon pea	Togari gida
Canna indica L.	Cannaceae	Indian shot plant	***
Capsicum annum L	Solanaceae	Chilli	Menasinakaii
Cassia tora L	Caesalpinaceae	Sickle pod	Chagache
Celosia argentea	Amaranthaceae	Cockscomb	Annesoppu
Centratherum anthelminticum (L.) Kuntze.	Asteraceae	Ipecac	Kari jirige
Chlorophytum bonnie	Liliaceae	Spider plant	***
Cissus quadraangularis L.	Vitaceae	Seasonvine	Amlavetasah
Cleome monophylla L	Capparridaceae	Spider flower	Koli kalinagide
Colocasia antiquorum. Schott	Araceae	Colocasia	Kesavu
Colocasia esculenta (L.) Scott.	Araceae	Colocasia	Kesave dantu
Corchorus aestuans L.	Tiliaceae	Ruderal herb.	Chunchu
Crinum asiaticum	Liliaceae	Crinum lily	***
Croton banplandianum	Euphorbiaceae	Kala bhangra	Alpha bedhi soppu
Croton lacciferus L.	Euphorbiaceae	Croton	***
Croton sparsiflorus, Mor	Euphorbiaceae	Garden croton	***
Curculige orchioides Gaertner	Hypoxidaceae	***	***
Curcuma domestica Valeton.	Zingiberaceae	Turmeric	Arishina
Curcuma zeodaria Rosc	Zingiberaceae	White turmeric	Ambe haladi
Cyanotis tuberosa (Roxb). Schultes and Schultes f.	Commelinaceae	Greater Cat Ears	Achchumullu
Dieffenbachia compacta	Araceae	Dumb cane	***
Euphorbia heterophylla	Euphorbiaceae	Fire plant	Beedi soppu
Euphorbia hirta	Euphorbiaceae	Snake weed	Accegida
Geranium nepalense	Geraniaceae	Napalese cranes bill	
Gloriosa superba	Liliaceae	Flame lily	Huliyuguru
Hybantus enneaspermus (L.) F. v. Muell.	Violaceae	Pink ladies slipper	Purusha ratna
Lagascea mollis	Compositae	Silk leaf	***
Lepidium sativum L	Brassicaceae	Pepper Grass	Allibija
Leucas aspera Spr.	Lamiaceae	Doranapuspi	Uttarani

Linum usitatissimum	Linaceae	Common flax	Agasi
Lycoperscion esculentum	Solanaceae	Tomato	Capparbadane
Nephrolepis cordifolia	Polypodiaceae	Fish bone fern	***
Nephrolepis falcata	Oleandraceae	***	***
Nephrolepis falcata (Cav.) C. Chr.	Polypodiaceae	Fishtail fern, Fancy frill fern	***
Nephrolepis sp.	Polypodiaceae	***	***
Nephrolepis sp.	Polypodiaceae	***	***
Oxalis corniculata	Oxalidaceae	Indian sorral	Ulisoppu
Phyllanthus amarus Schumarch. & Thonn.	Euphorbiaceae	Stone breaker	Nelnalli
Plectranthus amboinicus (Lour.) Sprengel	Lamiaceae	Coleus	Doddapathe gidda
Plumbago zeylanica	Plumbaginaceae	White flowered lead-wort	Chitramila
Ruta chalenpensia L	Rutaceae	Garden rue	Nagadali soppu
Sacodexus multiforus	Amaryllidaceae	Fireball lily	***
Salvia coccinea	labiatae	Scarlet sage	***
Sanseviaria trifasciata	Agavaceae	Snake plant	***
Solanum melongena L	Solanaceae	Eggplant	Badanekaii
Sonchus oleraceus L	Astraceae	Common sowthistle	Chakravati,
Spathiphyllum wallissii	Araceae	Peace lily	***
Stachytrarpheta jamaicensis Vahl.	Lamiaceae	Snake weed	Kaadu uttaraani,
Sterlitizia regine	Sterlitziaceae	Bird of Paradise	***
Tagetes erecta L	Asteraceae	Marigold	Cheendu huvu
Tagetes patula	Asteraceae	Marigold	Chenndu huvu
Tragia bicolor, Miq	Euphorbiaceae	***	***
Tridax procumbens L.	Asteraceae	Coat buttons	Addike soppu
Trigonella foenum-graecum L	Fabaceae	Menti plant	Menthe
Wedelia trilobata	Astraceae	Yellow dots	***
Zingiber zerumbet Roscoe. ex Smith.	Zingiberaceae	Shampoo Ginger	Agalu shunthi

D. Creepers

Scientific Name	Family Name	Common Name (in English)	Vernacular Name
Asparagus racemosus Wild	Liliaceaea	Shatavari	Halavu makkala tayi
Basella alba L	Basellaceae	Caeylon spinach basella	Baselle soppu
Basella rubra L	Basellaceae	Basella	Dodda basale
Bauhinia vahlii Wight & Arn	Caesalpiniaceae	***	Hepparige
Benincasa hispida	Cucurbitaceae	Ash guard	Bili kumbalakaii
Cardiospermum halicabum	Sapindaceae	Baloon vine	Bekkina budde gida
Clitoria ternatea (whiteand blue variety)	Fabaceae	Butterfly pea	Shankapushpi
Dioscoria alata	Dioscoreaceae	Water yam	Tuna genasu.
Dolichos lablab (L.) var. typicum Prain	Fabaceae	Hyacinth Bean	Chapparadavare
Gymnema sylvestre (Retz.) R. Br. ex Schultes.	Asclepidaceae	Gurmar	Madhu nashini
Hemidemis indicus	Asclepidaceae	Marijuana	Karibandha
Ipomoea alba L	Convolvulaceae	Moonflower.	Kadu kattikayi
Ipomoea batatas (L.) Lamk	Convolvulaceae	Sweet potato	Sihigenasu
Ipomoea digitata L.	Convolvulaceae	***	Nela gumbala
Ipomoea obscura (L.) Ker Gawler	Convolvulaceae	Obscure morningglory	Bokadi
Jasminum angulare	Oleaceae	***	Nitti mallige
Logenaria siceraria	Curcurbitaceae	Bottle guard	Sore kayi
Momordica balsamina L.	Cucurbitaceae	Balsam apple	Huchu toned balli
Momordica charantia	Cucurbitaceae	Bitter guard	Hagala kaii
Passiflora alba	Passifloraceae	Passion flower	***
Piper beetle	Piperaceae	Beetle	Vilayadele
Pyrostegia vensuta	Bignoniaceae	Golden shower	***
Scindapsus officinalis Schott	Araceae	Gajapipal	Adkebeeluvalli
Tinospora cardifolia (Willd.) Hook. f. & Thomson.	Menispermaceae	Tinosopra	Amruthaballi
Tragia involucarata L	Euphorbiaceae	Climbing Nettle	Churachurike gida
Toddalia asiatica (L.) Lam.	Rutaceae	Orange climber	Kindu mullu

E. Grass species

Scientific Name	Family Name	Common Name (in English)	Vernacular Name
Apluda mutica L. *var. aristata* (L.) Hackel. ex Baker.	Poaceae	***	Akku hullu
Arundinella pumila, Steud.	Poaceae	***	***
Arundinella setosa, Trin.	Poaceae	***	Hakkivarji hullu
Bothriochloa intermedia (R. Br) A. Camus.	Poaceae	Purple plume grass	Jenukaddi
Bothriochloa pertusa (L.) A. Camus.	Poaceae	Indian blue grass, hurricane grass	Aanekattu hullu
Brachiaria mutica Staf.	Poaceae	Para grass	Emme hullu
Cymbopogon caesius (Hook. & Arn.) Stapf.	Poaceae	Tsauri Grass	Anji hullu
Cymbopogon flexuosus Wats.	Poaceaea	Lemon grass	Shunthi hullu
Cyperus aristatus, Rottb	Cyperaceae	***	Jambu hullu
Cyperus rotundus L.	Cyperaceae	***	***
Cyperus triceps (Rottb.) Endl.	Cyperaceae	***	Anantagonde hullu
Dichanthium caricosum (L.) A. Camus.	Poaceae	Roadside bluestem	Kanda Bhattada hullu
Dinebra retroflexa Panz.	Poaceae	Viper Grass	Huligyan hullu
Eleusine indica (L.) Gaertner	Poaceae	Crowsfoot grass	Hakki kalina hullu
Eragrostiella bifaria (Vahl) Bor	Poaceae	***	Jadi hullu
Eragrostis cilianensis (All.) Vign	Poaceae	Sticy grass	Bettada akkabu hullu
Echinochloa colonum (L.) Link	Poaceae	***	Kaduharaka hullu
Echinochloa crusgalli (L.) P. Beauv.	Poaceae	Barnyard millet	Simpigana hullu
Heteropogon contortus (L.)	Poaceae	Black spear grass, tanglehead or pili	Karivunugada hullu
Imperata cylindrica (L.) P. Beauv.	Poaceae	Cogongrass	Neeruhatti hullu
Ischaemum rugosum Salisb.	Poaceae	Wrincle duck beak, saromacca grass	Kadukken hullu
Kyllinga nemoralis (Foster).	Cyperaceae	White water sedge	Anantakonde hullu
Oxytenanthera monadelpha (Thwaites).	Poaceae	***	Otte bidiru
Pennisetum americanum (L.) Leek.	Poaceae	Bulrush millet, pearl millet	Kambu hullu
Saccharum officinarum L	Poaceae	Sugar cane	Kabbu
Pennisetum purpureum. Schumach.	Poaceae	Elephant grass	Aane hullu

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