## 16) MEDIA COVERAGE



E-News: Envis Centre, Ministry of Environment & Forest, Govt. of India pecimen of the species was collected at night from a steep bank of a Lüberia."



VISION

## S R Yadav selected as honorary fellow at National Science Academy

TNN | Undated: Nov 7 2016 10:20 IST





KOLHAPUR: The former head of







the department of botany at the Shivaji University, Kolhapur (SUK), S R Yadav has been selected as the honorary fellow at the National Science Academy.

Yadav has guided over 20 PhD students and 11 MPhil scholars and has published over 200 research papers across various national and international research iournals.

8/14/2019

1,000 rare saplings to be planted at Shivaji University, Kolhapur - Times of India

#### THE TIMES OF INDIA

### 1,000 rare saplings to be planted at Shivaji University, Kolhapur

KOLHAPUR: The research fellows from Shivaji University, Kolhapur are eagerly waiting to start the planned plantation drive from June 7 that will enrich the varsity's sprawling campus with 1,000 rare and endangered plants

The 100 Rare, Endangered and Threatened (RET) plant species have been collected from all parts of the country, stretching from the Andaman and Nicobar islands to the Western Ghats. They have been identified and selected from villages across country. The varsity will plant 10 saplings of each of the 100 species that will grow in the five-acre area behind the Bhasha

"We had planned this activity and our faculty members and research scholars were preparing for past six months. More than 800 pits have been dug so far. The plantation drive will begin from June 7 and will be conducted in a phased manner," said SR Yadav, Head, Department of Botany, SUK.

He added, "The place, once fully developed, will be useful to educate people and create awareness on environmental issues, biodiversity, conservation and sustainable utilization of bio-resources. We are already conserving as many as 700 different plant species at our lead botanical garden and that experience will come handy too."

The grant from the Rajiv Gandhi Science and Technology Commission will be used to maintain the plants. The Rs 1 crore grant received for the upkeep of the lead botanical garden will also be used for this initiative.

An official from the botany department told TOI, "The RET plant species, such as Hopea Ponga, which is found exclusively in the Western Ghats, has been over-exploited due to its economic importance. It will be one of the RET species to be planted at



"The university's 853-acre campus is the city's lungs with over 700 tonnes of oxygen liberation every year because of its current tree cover (13,000). Such plantation drive is a step for transforming the campus into a biodiversity park. The university has already submitted a proposal to turn its campus into a biodiversity hub in the future," said an SUK official.

The university's botany department has the distinct status of being the country's first lead botanical garden. It has managed to survive nearly 24,000 saplings of almost 250 plant species using limited water resources in the past few years.

Besides, the once barren land spread across 30 acres behind BhashaBhavan on the campus is now hosting over 350 rare, Endangered and threatened (RET) plant species, which were collected from several areas across the country.

The department has also developed two huge ponds to invite winged visitors well as to maintain ecological balance on the campus. According to the univers officials, the vater ponds are important for migratory birds as well as for t development of local fauna.









New non-native weed leaves researchers in a fix

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When researchers from Shivaji University in Kolhapur, Maharashtra, during a survey of plants variety at the agricultural fields in drier parts of Karnataka's Belgavi district stumbled upon an exotic weed 'Ethulia gracilis Delile', they panicked.

They had reasons. This was for the first time that a new weed 'Ethulia gracilis Deble' of the Asteraceae family was recorded which has a history of propagating easily and fastly in all habitats negatively affecting native flora, crop production and human health as well.

owever, what is a matter of serious concern is that the species has been recorded for the first time from India of it is unknown how it got introduced here, said the researchers even as they called for immediate measures to rb its growth before it start creating havoc on Indian agricultural fields.

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The second largest angiosperm family after Orchidaceae, many species of Asteraceae are weeds in cultivated fields as well as forest areas. Some of them are aggressive invasive weeds and can seriously affect the native local plant biodiversity, human health and crop productivity, said the team of researchers comprising Jagdish Dalaw, Sneha Bramhadande, Chirag Narayankar, Suraj Patil, Shrirang Yadav from Department of Botany, Shivaj University in Kohapur.

Hence, this weed should be eliminated at the earliest, they maintained.

# ६० औषधी वनस्पती उजेडात

कोल्हापुर टाइम्स टीम

शिवाजी विद्यापीठात देशातील पहिली लीड बोर्टेनिकल गार्डन बनवण्याची संधी शिवाजी विद्यापीठाला मिळाली आणि गेल्या दोन ते अडीच वर्षांत जगभरातील दुर्मीळ वनस्पती व त्यांच्या उपयक्ततेबाबत संशोधनाला चालना मिळाली आहे. दोन वर्षांत वनस्पतीशास्त्रात संशोधन करणाऱ्या विद्यार्थी व संशोधकांनी दिलेल्या अभ्यासभेटीतून या गार्डनचा हेत् साध्य झाला. या गार्डनमधील संशोधनातून आजवर ६० औषधी वनस्पतींचा शोध लागला आहे.

देशातील अन्य विद्यापीठाकडून केंद्र सरकारने या लीड बोर्टेनिकल गार्डनसाठी प्रस्ताव मागविले होते. यात शिवाजी विद्यापीठाने बाजी मारली, केंद्रीय पर्यावरण आणि वन मंत्रालयाकडून २००७ मध्ये पश्चिम प्रजातीचे जतन, संगोपन आणि संवर्धन भारतातील पहिली लीड बोर्टेनिकल म्हणन विद्यापीठाच्या वनस्तपतीशास्त्र विभागातील उद्यानास प्रदेशनिष्ठ प्रजातींचे जतन पश्चिम मान्यता मिळाली. केंद्रीय मंत्रालयाकड्न सरकारी संस्थांकड्न एकुण सुमारे ५ दुर्मिळ आणि लुप्त होत चाललेल्या कोटी रुपयांच्या निधीतून बॉटॅनिकल वनस्पती आहेत. गेल्या दहा वर्षांत गार्डनची उभारणी झाली. सुमारे ६ पाम, ताड, माड याच्या देशभरातील एकर जागेत हे गार्डन विस्तारले आहे. सुमारे १०० हुन अधिक प्रजातीच्या देश आणि परदेशातील अनेक दुर्मिळ विया आणून लागवड केली. यातील वनस्पतींच्या आहेत.



## बोटॅनिकल गार्डनमुळे वाढला संशोधनाचा टक्का



केले आहे.

बोर्टेनिकल गार्डनमध्ये २००० घाटांतील स्थानिक वनस्पतींच्या समारे



बोटॅनिकल गार्डनला दर महिन्याला दोन हजार विद्यार्थी. संशोधक भेट देतात. या

गार्डनमधील दुर्मीळ वनस्पतीचा अभ्यास करून विभागाने ६० प्रकारच्या नवीन औषधी वनस्पतीचा शोध लावला आहे. तसेच शैक्षणिक संस्था आणि कॉलेजसाठी वनस्पतीची रोपे मोफत दिली आहेत. या गार्डनमधील वनस्पतींना कोलकत्ता, लखनोसह देशभरातून मागणी आहे.

- डॉ. देवानंद शिंदे, कुलगुरू

७० प्रजातील या ठिकाणी आहेत. पामच्या इतक्या प्रजाती एका ठिकाणी असलेल्या देशातील प्रमुख ४ बोटॅनिकल गार्डनपैकी एक शिवाजी विद्यापीठ आहे.

त्सुनामीनंतर अंदमान निकोबार सुमारे अडीच कोटी रुपयांसह अन्य २ हजार प्रदेशनिष्ठ प्रजाती आहेत. यात परिसरातील वनस्पतींच्या दुर्मिळ प्रजाती आणन त्यांचे संवर्धनही याठिकाणी केले आहे. गार्डनमध्ये ॲजिओस्पर्म १०४८. जिम्नोस्पर्म २२ आणि टेरिडोफायटा ६३ अशा एकुण ११३३ प्रजातींच्या

## Shivaji University researchers discover 4 plant species in Western Ghats

BY PIYUSH BHUSARI, TNN | UPDATED: JUN 01, 2014, 01.03 AM IST

Post a Comment

KOLHAPUR: For Manoj Lekhak, assistant professor at the department of botany of the Shivaji University, Kolhapur (SUK) and Sharad Kamble, a senior research fellow at the same department, routine studies in the Western Ghats two years ago turned into discovery of new plant species.

Big Change: The end of Five-Year Plans: All you need to know

The researchers stumbled upon four new species while collecting data on their routine studies in different parts of the Western Ghats such as villages in Kerala, hills of Niligiri and Morjai plateau at Gaganbawda taluka in Kolhapur district. According to them, of the four new species- Chlorophytum sharmae, Piper dravidii, Brachystelma vartakii and Branchystelma mahajanii-only potential benefits of Piper dravidii can be elaborated, as other species need extensive study.

The researchers said new species are separated from their nearest ancestor by a million years of evolutionary process. So it becomes difficult to spot and identify two different species at a place like the Western Ghats, which already hosts thousands of rare, endemic and threatened plant species.

The discovery of the new species was confirmed in the research articles published in the April 2014 issue of the London-based quarterly scientific Kew Bulletin journal. The scholars took a unanimous decision to name all the plant species after experts in the field across the country as a tribute to their work.

Lekhak said about the discovery, "The findings were done at Morjai plateau in Gaganbawda taluka of Kolhapur district, Ebbanad village in Nilgiri district of Tamil Nadu and Periya village in Kasargod district of Kerala. Though at first we were unsure if these species were new or related to their genus, after sufficient research at molecular level and discussions with experts we came to know about the discovery."

Lekhak and Kamble, along with other research members- S R Yadav, Avinash Adsul and Siddharthan Surveswaran- studied different characteristics of the plants at the molecular level.



#### WEDLE'S & BROOKURS

#### Two new species of moss rose discovered in south India

Both new species of Portulaca grow in sandy soil accumulated on rocky plateaus of Badami and Guledgudda taluks. They are restricted in distribution and are facing constant anthropogenic threat



The southern penninsular region of India is a biodiversity hotspot. Several new species of animals, plants and insects have been discovered in this region in the past. This year two new species of *Portulaca*, commonly known as moss rose, have been added to this list.

The two new species were discovered from Badami hills in Bagalkot district of Karnataka by botanists from the Shivaji University in Kolhapur, Maharashtra. The species have been named *Portulaca badamica* and *Portulaca lakehminarasimhamiana*.

Portulaca badamica is named after the site of its discovery that is, the Badami hills, while the second new species—Portulaca lakshminarasimhaniana—honours Pakshirajan Lakshminarashimhan, who is the head of the Botanical Survey of India, western regional circle in Pune, for his significant contribution to plant taxonomy.





#### Science

## New invasive weed spotted in Karnataka

Kollegala Sharma Mysuru | Updated on December 04, 2018 | Published on December 04, 2018

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Plant scientists have sounded an alarm over a new weed that has been spotted in parts of Karnataka.

The plant, identified as Ethulia gracilis Delile, is growing wildly as a weed in several places of Belagavi district of Karnataka and may have come from Africa. It was first collected near Nipani-Chikodi road in the late monsoon of 2017. During subsequent visits, researchers spotted it in Mahalingpur, Mudhol and Jamkhandi Taluks of Bagalkot district also.

"There are good chances of this weed spreading to other parts of the country like other noxious weeds like Parthenium and Lantana," fear researchers from the Department of Botany, Shivaji University, Kolhapur, who have conducted the study. The research findings have been published in journal Current Science.

"It does not affect any specific crop, but is growing in the cultivated fields of drier parts of Karnataka, adversely affecting on the growth of many crops just like other weeds such as Parthenium, Vernonia, Tridax, Chromolaena," Jagdissh Dalavi,who was involved in the identification of the new weed, told India Science Wire.