



**NATIONAL CONFERENCE CUM WORKSHOP**  
on

**Interdisciplinary Approaches to Taxonomy, Conservation, and  
Economic Utilization of Floriculturally and Medicinally  
Important Orchids and Orchid Show**



**DATES** March 21-23, 2020

**VENUE** Botanical Survey of India, Eastern Regional Centre,  
Woodlands, Laitumkrah, Shillong- 793 003, Meghalaya

**ORGANIZED BY**

The Orchid Society of India (TOSI), Department of Botany, Panjab  
University, Chandigarh- 160 014, UT  
&

Botanical Survey of India (BSI), Kolkata- 700 064, West Bengal

**JOINTLY WITH**

North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Umshing Mawkynroh,  
Shillong- 793 022, Meghalaya

## INTRODUCTION

India is a country with huge diversity of plants amongst which Orchidaceae is one of the largest families of flowering plants with about 1256 species belonging to 155 genera of which nearly 388 are endemic to India. Orchids account for a large share of global floriculture trade and are estimated around 10% of international fresh cut flower trade. They have taken a significant position in cut flower industry due to its attractiveness, diversity in forms, shape and color, high productivity, right season of bloom, and easy packing and transportation. Postharvest life of orchid cut flowers is influenced by preharvest factors like varietal or species differences, light intensity, sugar level of flowers, temperature and water loss. The hybrids of *Dendrobium*, *Vanda* and *Mokara* remain perfect from 7 days to 30 days. Apart from their aesthetically appealing beauty that serves great purpose in the floricultural sector, they are rewarded with quality of being medicinally and therapeutically important which caters to resolve various health related issues. Linking of indigenous knowledge of orchids with modern research activities provides a new reliable approach to the discovery of novel drugs. Orchids have long been commercialized as ornamental plants in the horticultural and floricultural trade, involving several distinct types of markets and consumers. This trade is, unsurprisingly, dominated by species with attractive flowers. The vast majority of contemporary orchid trade involves artificially propagated plants and cut flowers cultivated in commercial greenhouses. They are re traded for a wide range of purposes and at many different scales, from large-scale commercial trades through to subsistence use in medicines, ornaments, food etc. There are also others, emerging commercial uses of orchids, such as in perfumes and cosmetic products, that has been subject to lesser resourceful exploitation. Deforestation and indiscriminate collection of wild orchids for horticulture and traditional medicine have caused numerous orchids to become endangered from their natural habitats. An extreme anthropogenic pressure on these species has lead to their rapid depletion in their natural habitat and caused a substantial imbalance in the nature. Immediate remedial measures for the conservation of natural sites to ensure their sustainable mode of utilization and proper procedure for harvesting and trading as well as regular monitoring of orchids in relation to climate scenario are required to understand the dynamics of these species for a well planned strategic conservation. The cultivation of orchids as a venture climbing vocation still requires a great deal of varietal improvement through conventional and biotechnological means, strengthened postharvest technology, and development of appropriate marketing network. Management and sustainable development of National Orchid Heritage into a rewarding resource is thus a necessary requisite and hence there is strong need for availability of improved genotypes, cost effective propagation protocols and cultivation systems, and conservation strategies so as to efficiently utilize and obtain biological and social benefits of these medicinally and floriculturally significant Orchids.

**The Orchid Society of India (TOSI)** established in 1984 and registered under the Societies Registration Act with its Headquarters at Botany Department, Panjab University, Chandigarh aims to i) promoting orchid awareness, advancement and knowledge dissemination; ii) projecting the importance of improvement and propagation of Indian Orchidology; iii) igniting the scientific and commercial importance of orchids in both rural and urban regions. In order to fulfill these aims, the Society provides a common forum for exchange of ideas amongst the orchid scientists, growers and enthusiasts by organizing meetings, conferences, symposia, lectures, poster exhibition, orchid shows, painting competition regarding orchids, at regular intervals. The Orchid Society of India (TOSI) and Botanical Survey of India (BSI), Kolkata jointly with North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Shillong are organizing a National Conference cum Workshop on "Interdisciplinary Approaches to Taxonomy, Conservation and Economic Utilization of Floriculturally and Medicinally Important Orchids" and Orchid Show at Botanical Survey of India (BSI), Eastern Regional Centre, Woodlands, Laitumkhrah, Shillong, Meghalaya during March 21-23, 2020. The programme will also include a workshop for interaction of orchid scientists and farmers.

## CONFERENCE

The Conference shall address itself to different areas of Orchid Biology and Taxonomy, Orchid Diversity and Effect of Climate Change, Conservation and Restoration Ecology, Floriculturally and Medicinally Important Orchids and Commercialization, Economic Utilization and Societal Benefits. Several leading orchid scientists, growers, entrepreneurs, enthusiasts, and policy planners are expected to participate and enlighten the audience on the conference theme. Besides the inaugural and plenary sessions, the conference comprise of 4 technical sessions. Each technical session will have 1-2 lead lectures (20-25 min duration including 5 min for discussion), by invited speakers followed by some contributed papers (10-15 min duration). Facilities of overhead and LCD projectors shall be available. The contributed papers shall be selected on merit and some of these will be allocated to poster session, which shall be a major attraction of the conference. For each poster presentation, 1m<sup>2</sup> area shall be made available. The outstanding posters shall be awarded. The abstracts of the lectures and accepted papers will be made available during the conference and the full papers shall be published in the conference proceedings/ special volume of our internationally acclaimed peer reviewed and refereed journal, The Journal of The Orchid Society of India [**J. Orchid Soc. India**; ISSN: 0971-5371 with NAAS Rating: 3.90].

## ON THE SPOT PAINTING COMPETITION, PHOTOGRAPHY AND FLOWER ARRANGEMENT COMPETITION: (March 21, 2020)

To create awareness about orchids at the grass root level, an On the Spot Painting Competition is being organized under different categories (school children, college students and open for all). In case of school children, the entries shall be invited under 3 sub-categories depending upon the class groups which are (1-4, 5-7, 8-12). The paintings will be adjudged by an expert committee and in each category, two prizes will be given. For the photography competition, one can submit original printed photographs of orchids showcasing either inflorescence or pollination behavior of the flower with their respective pollinators clicked in the natural surroundings or environment on the day of the event. The flower arrangement competition is open to all individuals. This is a group activity with no more than 2 individuals. Arrangements are to be made from fresh orchid flowers and final arrangements have to be displayed on the table top. Participants must bring their own containers, flowers and other material required for decoration. Use of artificial paint and plastic is prohibited. Judging will be based on creativity, concept and originality.

## ORCHID SHOW (March 21-23, 2020)

An orchid show depicting live plants, photographs and paintings has also been planned with a view to create awareness and educate people about the importance of genetic (morphological) diversity in orchids. Many orchid species and hybrids shall be exhibited besides those that are botanically, medicinally and economically significant. Some of the highly esteemed institutes/ organizations/ commercial growers have confirmed their participation. We hope that this wonderful show of orchid plants will delight everyone.

On behalf of TOSI, I have the immense pleasure to invite you cordially to participate in the conference and enrich its proceedings by contributing research papers in any of the listed themes of the conference. I am sure that despite your very busy schedule, it shall be possible for you to accept this invitation and confirm your participation by mailing the enclosed registration form. You are also requested to send the abstract(s) of your paper (s), latest by November 30, 2019 to Secretary TOSI, Convener and Organizing Secretary of the Conference, Department of Botany, Panjab University, Chandigarh-160 014. An electronic version of the abstract may also be sent through an e-mail (ptosichd@yahoo.com).

**Full papers conforming to the style and format of J. Orchid Soc. India may please be submitted to our office, i.e., Secretary & Editor, The Orchid Society of India, Department of Botany, Panjab University, Chandigarh-160 014, latest by December 15, 2019.**

**Prof Promila Pathak**  
Convener & Organizing Secretary

## ABOUT BOTANICAL SURVEY OF INDIA (BSI), KOLKATA

Botanical Survey of India (BSI), founded 13 February 1890, is Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change's organization for survey, research and conservation of plant resources, flora and endangered species of India, including by collecting and maintaining germplasm and gene bank of endangered, patent and vulnerable plant species. BSI was formally instituted by East India Company (EIC) on 13 February 1890 under the direction of Sir George King who became first ex-officio Director, earlier he had been superintendent of Royal Botanic Garden, Calcutta since 1871. The Calcutta Garden became the headquarters of the Survey and was given regional responsibility for Bengal, Assam, North East, Burma, and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The Survey flourished for about half a century and generated both material base and literature for taxonomic research. After independence, Dr E K Janaki Ammal was appointed as Officer on Special duty by Government of India in 1952, for revival of Botanical Survey for building the much desired inventory of the country's rich plant resources. The prime objectives of the survey are undertaking intensive floristic surveys and collecting accurate and detailed information on the occurrence, distribution, ecology and economic utility of plants in the country; collecting, identifying and distributing materials that may be of use to educational and research institutions; and acting as the custodian of authentic collections in well planned herbaria and documenting plant resources in the form of local, district, state and national flora. The activities of the BSI were publicized largely through its official organs, namely its annual reports and its records.

### About North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Shillong

North-Eastern Hill University, is a Central University established on 19 July 1973 by an Act of the Indian Parliament. The university is in the suburb of Shillong, the state capital of Meghalaya, India. The objectives of the University shall be to disseminate and advance knowledge by providing instructional and research facilities in such branches of learning as it may deem fit; to pay special attention to the improvement of the social and economic conditions and welfare of the people of the hill areas of the North-Eastern region, and, in particular, their intellectual, academic and cultural advancement. The Department of Botany has been in the forefront of teaching and research in Plant Sciences since its establishment in 1974. The UGC recognized the contributions and the excellent work carried out by this department and upgraded it to the level of *Centre for Advanced Studies in Botany* 2007.

### About The Venue: BSI, Eastern Regional Centre, Shillong, Meghalaya

The Eastern Regional Centre, Shillong is concerned with exploration and inventory of the flora of Northeast India, comprising the states of Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya Mizoram Nagaland and Tripura. This Centre's herbarium (ASSAM) has a holding of about 2,60,000 specimens of flowering plants and about 11,000 specimens of non-flowering plants, including about 600 type specimens. The Centre also has a Library, Museum, National Orchidarium and a Tissue Culture Laboratory, besides an Experimental Botanic Garden at Barapani, where a total of 756 species of angiosperms, 13 gymnosperms, 49 pteridophytes and 53 bryophytes of Northeast India are conserved.

### Information for Visitors

A beautiful city encircled by pine trees, Shillong is the capital of Meghalaya. It derives its name from Lei Shyllong, an idol worshipped at the Shillong Peak. The soothing climate makes Shillong suitable to visit in all seasons. The light drizzles and the cooling gentle wind adds to the joy of visiting this hill station. This place is also known as the 'Scotland of the East'. One can find descendants of the Khyrim, Myliem, Maharam, Mallaisohmat, Bhowal and Langrim tribes. The exciting mountain peaks, crystal clear lakes, breathtakingly beautiful golf courses, museums and the zoo are the key reasons why people visit Shillong. Apart from the natural beauty, it also acts as the gateway to Meghalaya, the state famous for heavy rainfalls, caving, tallest waterfalls, beautiful landscapes and amazing people and culture. Interestingly, it has a very westernized culture and it has a very young feel to it. Shillong is also famous as the music capital of India, as many prominent musicians have hailed from this place. Many music events keep happening throughout the year, making it a very lively place.

### How to Reach the Venue, BSI, Shillong

On arrival at the Guwahati airport, taxis are available on hire from airport to reach the Institute. The total journey between Guwahati & Shillong takes around 2 h 12 m in a bus. The bus ticket price for the journey is approximately Rs.1400. The taxi fare to travel from Guwahati to Shillong will cost Rs. 1800 for one way. Taxis are also available on shared bases (Rs. 500/- per person).

### Post Conference Tour

Cherrapunji (also known as Sohra or Churra, means 'the land of oranges') in Meghalaya is one of the wettest places on the planet and the only place in India to receive rain throughout the year. The town of Cherrapunji is nestled in the East Khasi Hills about 50 km southwest of the state's capital, Shillong.

### REGISTRATION

The conference is open to all those who are interested in orchids but, is obligatory for the participants to register themselves. The registered delegates shall be entitled to conference kit, participation in all sessions, and visit to Orchid Show. The registration fee shall be charged as per the following schedule

#### Category

TOSI member  
Non-members  
Spouses/Students/Accompanying delegates

#### Early Birds

Till Nov 30, 2019

Rs.3500/-  
Rs. 4000/-  
Rs. 3000/-

#### Registration

w.e.f. Dec 1, 2019

Rs. 4000/-  
Rs. 4500/-  
Rs. 3500/-



on

(March 21-23, 2020)

**I am interested in:**

Please tick

- a) Attending the Conference as an observer delegate
- b) Presenting a Paper (oral/poster)
- c) Sponsoring the Conference

Name: Prof./Dr./Mr./Ms.

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Designation \_\_\_\_\_

Address:

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Tentative Title of the Paper

Presenting Author:

I will be accompanied with \_\_\_\_\_ / none

Date of Arrival \_\_\_\_\_, Departure \_\_\_\_\_

Accommodation required (on payment basis) Yes/No (Hotel/Guest House)

Whether interested in Optional Tour on March 23, 2020: Yes/No

Registration fee of Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ sent through \_\_\_\_\_

DD\*/Cheque\*\* No. dated

Place:

Date:

Signature

### Registration Fee

**Till Nov 30, 2019    w.e.f. Dec 1, 2019**

TOSI member	Rs.3500/-	Rs. 4000/-
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Non-members	Rs. 4000/-	Rs. 4500/-
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Spouses/Students/Accompanying delegates	Rs. 3000/-	Rs. 3500/-
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\* The duly filled registration form along with registration fee must reach on or before Nov 30, 2019 to Prof (Dr) Promila Pathak, Secretary & Chief Editor, TOSI and Convener and Organizing Secretary, National Conference cum Workshop on Orchids and Orchid Show, Botany Department, Panjab University, Chandigarh-160 014 (UT).

\* DD/ Cheque towards registration fee should be made in favour of Secretary, The Orchid Society of India (TOSI), Chandigarh.

**\*\* For outstation cheques, please add Rs. 100/- as bank charges.**

**Note: Further information shall be sent only to those conveying their willingness to participate.**



**Professor (Dr) Promila Pathak**  
**Convener and Organizing Secretary, National Conference**  
**on**  
**Interdisciplinary Approaches to Taxonomy, Conservation,**  
**and Economic Utilization of Floriculturally and Medicinally**  
**Important Orchids and Orchid Show**

**Secretary & Editor TOSI**  
**Department of Botany**  
**Panjab University, Chandigarh- 160 014 (UT)**

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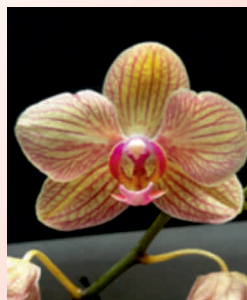
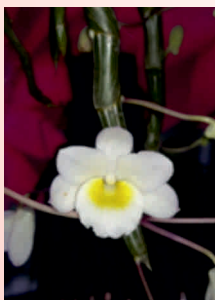
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- National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), (Govt. of India), New Delhi
- Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), (Govt. of India), New Delhi
- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Mumbai



**For further information, please contact:**

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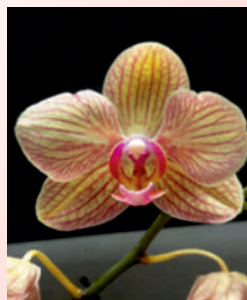
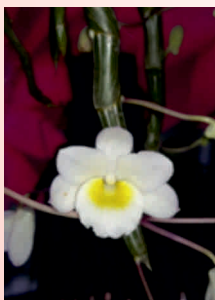
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