



Are you  
interested in  
knowing the  
biodiversity  
around  
you?

# Here is a Training for you in Plant Systematics with a focus on Parataxonomy !

A 10-day Training Programme in Taxonomy  
November 21 to 30, 2020

*Venue: M. S. Swaminathan Botanical Garden,  
Wayanad, Kerala - 673 577*



Taxonomists- are those who discover, describe, and define our fellow species living on Earth! Unfortunately, as in the case of the wild species endangerment, taxonomists are also becoming an endangered species in this world! This is happening when it has estimated that at least another 10-12 million species are yet to be discovered and described.

Properly planned training become necessary to address this challenge and to realize the importance of taxonomy, both at teachers' and learners' level.

**Over 80%**

of the undescribed species are in the tropical world.

But there are only a handful of taxonomists or skilled people who would be able to discover them



**Trained Taxonomists can address to a great extent the problem of decline in the taxonomic skills, as well as the reduction of trained people who can work on the taxonomic systems of life in this planet.**

Along with the academically qualified taxonomists, there is an urgent need for a trained cadre of para taxonomists in India to save, study and conserve the rapidly vanishing biodiversity. Though occasional trainings being conducted in India by various survey organizations, still only a very few records to show professionally designed and organized trainings for on-the ground conservation action. The cases where the subject areas of para taxonomy and professional taxonomy are twined in for capacity building also not many in this country. This warrants an urgent need

for a well-conceived taxonomy training programme where the subject is taught in a participatory manner and with follow-up of back to home actions.

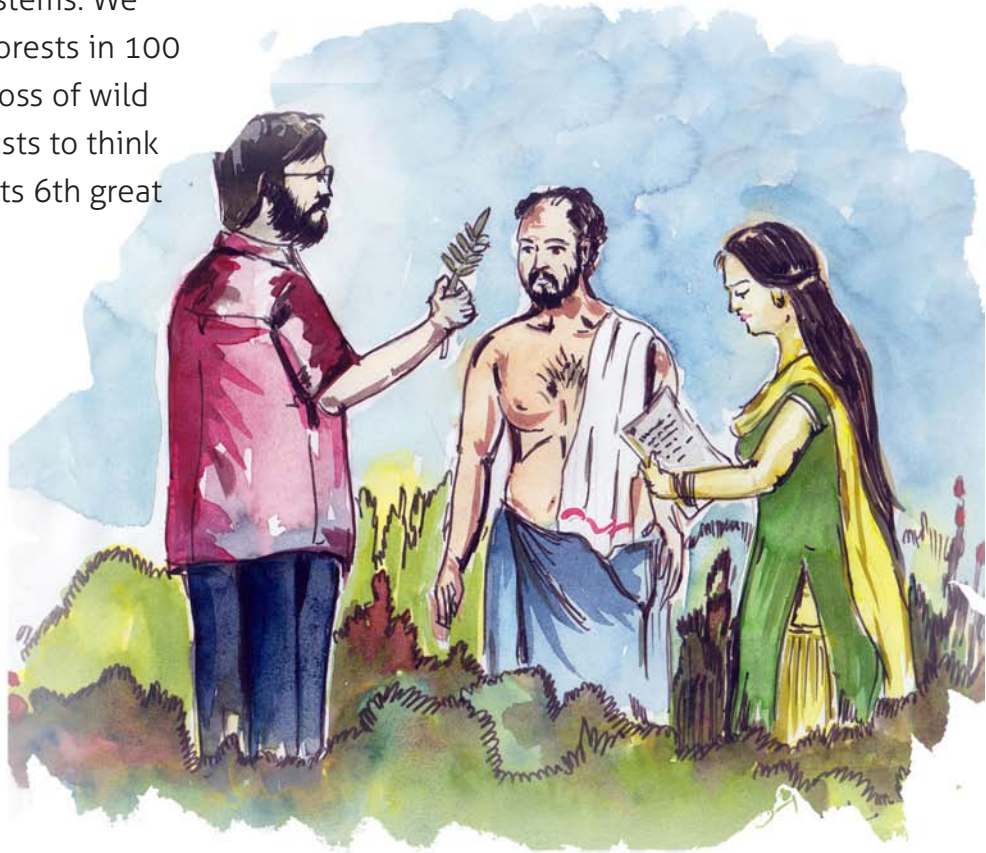
MSSRF's experience shows students in general in colleges and universities of many Indian states are obliged to study the taxonomic descriptions/theories and memorize the scientific names in a mechanical way. As a result of such teaching approach students have driven away from learning taxonomy!



# **One MILLION Species are THREATENED WITH EXTINCTION!**

## **Many ECOSYSTEMS are IN THE BRIM OF a COLLAPSE!**

The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) estimated that one million species are threatened with extinction! Extinction of species beyond the threshold leads to the collapse of ecosystems. We may completely lose the rainforests in 100 years from now! The massive loss of wild species forced environmentalists to think that the Planet is undergoing its 6th great extinction phase!





**MSSRF's Training to  
make a new generation  
Taxonomists to  
Save the Rare, Endemic  
and Threatened  
Species of India**

## Who will benefit?

Both non-professional and teachers will be the most benefited lot of this training as this is an opportunity to get the techniques of learning and teaching taxonomy innovatively and simplistically. The Training will also serve as a flagship initiative to increase the research student's interest in taxonomy, and move up the awareness of the general public about the need and significance of taxonomy. This experience can contribute to the efforts related to biodiversity conservation, sustainable use, and benefit sharing.



## **Duration, Location & Project period**

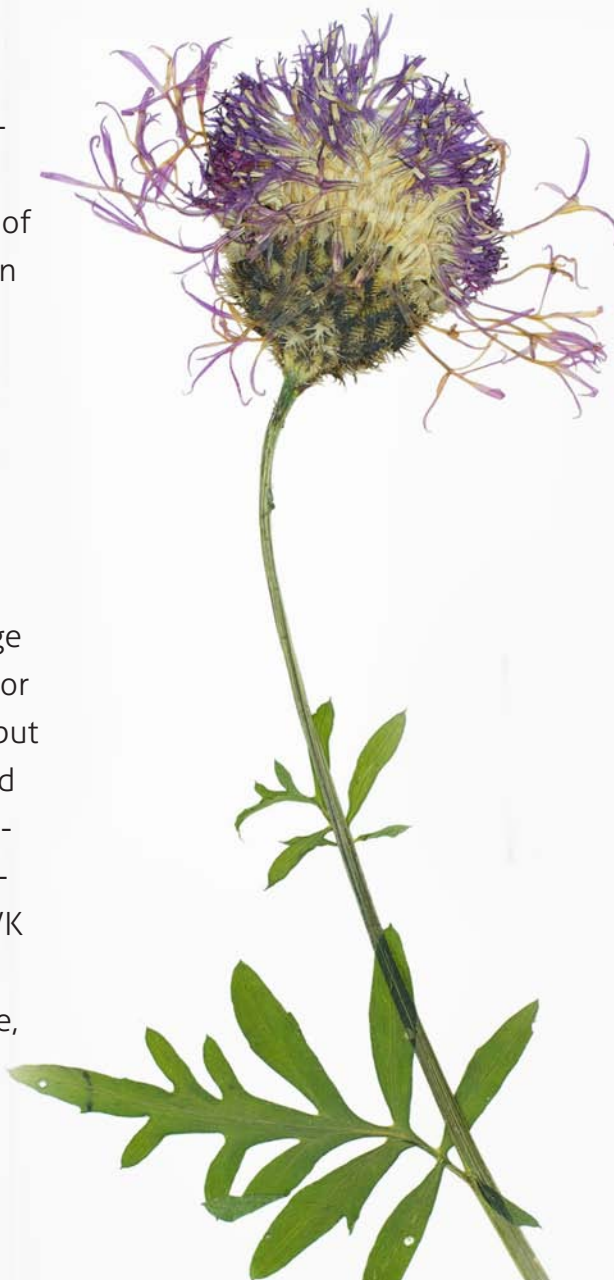
The proposed training is offered for a batch of 30 candidates with a designed package of deliverables and will be conducted twice a year in Summer vacation (April-May) and during the third quarter of the year. Ten training modules have been identified to stem the programme.

**See our website**

**[www.mssbg.mssrf.org](http://www.mssbg.mssrf.org)**

## **How to Apply?**

Applications are called from a wide range of people- firstly, those who have no prior experience or knowledge in taxonomy, but genuine interest in the identification and classification of species; secondly, scientists, and lecturers, from General Universities, ICAR Institutes, CSIR Institutes, KVK and Reputed NGOs, and thirdly JRFs, RA and SRFs from the fields of Plant Science, Environmental Science, Environmental Ecology and Microbiology.



**Registration will open from  
July 1, 2020**

**Course Fee Rs: 10,000**

(Registration Fee Rs. 2000; Course Fee: Rs. 8000)



**M. S. SWAMINATHAN BOTANICAL GARDEN**  
Garden for RET & Wild Food Plants

Director

**M. S. Swaminathan Botanical Garden**  
M S Swaminathan Research Foundation  
Puthoorvayal, P.O. Meppadi, Wayanad,  
Kerala - 673 577, India  
Tel ; 04936 204477, 207019  
office@mssrfcabrc.res.in,  
www. mssbg.mssrf.org