

GARDEN

The College has a lush green garden sprawling over a vast expanse of land. A wide variety of colourful annual and perennial flowering plants and bushes in myriad hues (exotic and ornamental), ferns, cycas and fruiting trees, are some of the many highlights of this garden. It also hosts some very rare plants not common in this part of the Country. The front part of the garden looks attractive with several varieties of potted colourful annuals and is maintained by the Alumni Association. A careful planting of various indigenous and exotic tree species has enhanced the beauty of the surroundings and brought a change in the skyline of the landscape of the College. The canopy of the trees not only provide the much-needed shade and the best kind of relief in an era of global warming but also hosts a wide variety of birds, small mammals like bats and squirrels and different types of butterflies and insects. The vast, well maintained lawns, not only add to the beauty of the College, but are also used for leisure and recreation by the students. The College has ensured that the open space of the College is utilized in an efficient manner.

The garden has a very rich floral diversity with trees like *Ailanthus excelsa*, *Albizia lebbek*, *Alstonia scholaris*, *Annona reliculata*, *Anthocephalus cadamba*, *Artocarpus heterophyllus*, *Azadirachta indica*, *Bambusa*, *Bauhinia purpurea*, *B. variegata*, *Cassia fistula*, *C. siamea*, *Casuarina equisetifolia*, *Ceiba pentandra*, *Cocos nucifera*, *Dalbergia sisoo*, *Delonix regia*, *Embllica officinalis*, *Erythrina indica*, *Eucalyptus*, *Ficus bengalensis*, *Lagerstroemia speciosa*, *Madhuca indica*, *Mangifera indica*, *Peltophorum pterocarpum*, *Phoenix sylvestri*, *Pithecetobium dulce*, *Polyalthia longifolia*, *Psidium guajava*, *Putranjiva roxburghii*, *Salmalia malabarica*, *Samania saman*, *Spathodea campanulata*, *Syzygium cumini*, *Swietenia mahagoni*, *Tamarindus indicus*, *Tectona grandis*, *Terminalia arjuna*, *Vitex negundo*, *Zizyphus mauritiana*, etc. Many of these trees are tagged with name plates showing their Scientific and Common names to educate and make the students aware of the plants growing in their Campus. Some very rare trees in the Garden include *Grewia asiatica* (Bengali: Phalsa or Falsa), *Guazuma tomentosa* (Hindi: Rudraksha, Bengali: Nipaltunth), *Jacaranda mimosifolia* (Hindi: Neeli gulmohur, Bengali: Neelkanth) *Magnolia* (Bengali: Himchampa) and *Pterospermum reticulatum* (Bengali: Kanak Champa)



The canopy of *Ficus bengalensis* providing the much needed shade



The trees of *Alstonia scholaris* (Bengali: Chatim), *Lagerstroemia speciosa* (Bengali: Jarul) and *Ailanthus excelsa* (Indian Tree of Heaven) adding to the beauty of the College



The economically important plant of *Terminalia arjuna* (Bengali: Arjun) - an asset for the College



A view of the New Science Building adorned by the trees of *Anthocephalus cadamba* (Bengali: Kadam), *Artocarpus heterophyllus* (Bengali: Kathal), *Azadirachta indica* (Bengali: Neem), *Ficus bengalensis* (Bengali: Bot), *Grewia asiatica* (Bengali: Falsa), *Psidium guajava* (Bengali: Pyara), *Syzygium cumini* (Bengali: Jam), *Tamarindus indicus* (Bengali: Tetul) and *Zizyphus mauritiana* (Bengali: Kul)



The green campus with the lush green lawns



The rare tree of *Grewia asiatica* (Bengali: phalsa or falsa)



The plant of *Magnolia grandiflora* (Himchampa)– a rare plant growing only in select well maintained gardens (an exotic plant, native to Florida and south eastern US)



***Pterospermum reticulatum* (Bengali: Kanak Champa) - Another threatened plant due to habitat loss growing in the garden**



***Guazuma tomentosa* (Hindi: Rudraksha, Bengali: Nipaltunth) – a rare medicinal plant found in the Caribbean, South America, Central America, Mexico and only in some parts of India**



The flower garden at the entrance of the College (Maintained by the Alumni Association)



Cycas – Adding to the beauty of the garden

MEDICINAL PLANT GARDEN

The Department of Botany has maintained a medicinal plant garden where many plants of ethnomedicinal importance have been grown. This is to sensitize the students about our traditional knowledge of herbal medicine and popularize the usefulness of commonly available and frequently used medicinal plants. It is also an attempt to conserve some rare and threatened species of medicinal plants.



BUTTERFLY GARDEN

The Department of Zoology has also developed and maintained a butterfly garden in the Hostel campus as part of a UGC-Major Research Project [Ref. No. F.No. 41-56/2012 (SR) dt. 13.7.12] under Dr. Anuradha Chaudhuri, with a large number of flowering plants which serve as hosts to different species of butterflies.

Habitat degradation is a multivariate issue. Many natural butterfly habitats have been lost to human activities like construction of buildings and roads, use of pesticides and herbicides and even woody encroachment, and non-native plants. Creating new habitat reduces the impacts of habitat fragmentation and degradation.

A butterfly garden can create, improve, and maintain habitat of the butterflies. It helps to increase the number and diversity of butterflies in our immediate surroundings which in turn creates a healthy ecosystem.





Already many species of butterflies have made this butterfly garden their home and breeding ground.





Common Mormon



Common Palmfly



Tawny Coster



Tailed Jay



Common Eggfly



Common Mormon



Common Rose



Common Mormon



Some caterpillars of the butterflies



Some caterpillars of the butterflies