from the type variety. Hence to make the nomenclature up-to-date, the following two combinations have been proposed. A key for separating the Indian varieties has also been given to aid in identification.

Dalzellia zeylanica (Gardn.) Wt. var. **malabarica** (Willis) Janardhanan comb. nov. *Lawia zeylanica* (Gardn.) Tul. emend. Willis var. *malabarica* Willis, Ann. Roy. Bot. Gard. Peradynia 1: 215, 1902; Cooke, Fl. Pres. Bomb. 2: 520, 1906; Gamble, Fl. Pres. Madras pt. 7: 1195, 1925.

Syntypes: Tinnevelli ghats, in the Tambraparni river, *C. A. Barber* 2847; S. Kanara, at Sullia, *C. A. Barber* 2150, 2153; Beltangadi, *C. A. Barber* 2516, 2524, 2525. N. Kanara, in the Kalanaddi, *Talbot* 1129 p. p. (BSI).

Distribution: Peninsular India (Endemic).

Dalzellia zeylanica (Gardn.) Wt. var. **konkanica** (Willis) Janardhanan comb. nov. *Lawia zeylanica* (Gardn.) Tul. emend. Willis var. *konkanica* Willis, Ann. Roy. Bot. Gard. Peradynia 1: 216, 1902; Cooke, Fl. Pres. Bomb. 2: 521. 1906.

Syntypes: Igatpuri, in the Thul ghat, *Willis* s. n.; Kasara, Thul ghat, *Willis* s. n.; Khandala and Lonavla (Lanauli), in the Bhor ghat, *Willis* s. n.; Sakarpathar, near Lonavla (Lanauli), *Woodrow* s. n.; Tiger Leap, near Khandala, *Woodrow* s. n.; Khadshi river, near Bhorkus, west of Poona, *R. K. Bhide* s. n.; Konkan, *Dalzell* s. n. (BSI).

Distribution: Western ghats (Endemic).

KEY TO THE THREE INDIAN VARETIES OF *DALZELLIA ZEYLANICA* (Gardn.) Wt.

1a. Thallus 20-35 cm in diam., much branched with flabelliform or ribbon-like apical lobes .. var. *zeylanica*
1b. Thallus not exceeding 25 cm in diam.:
2a. Thallus not exceeding 15 cm in diam. with frequent branching and ribbon-like or flabelliform lobes; leaves 3-8 mm long; capsules up to 2 mm long .. var. *malabarica*.
2b. Thallus reaching 15-25 cm in diam. with flabelliform lobes and crowded growing points; leaves reaching 16 mm long; capsules usually more than 2 mm long .. var. *konkanica*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author is thankful to Dr. G. Panigrahi, Emeritus Scientist, Botanical Survey of India, Howrah for going through the manuscript and for helpful suggestions. He is also thankful to the Director, Botanical Survey of India for facilities.

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SEVEN NEW RECORDS OF FERNS FROM ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS

The Fern Flora of Andaman & Nicobar group of Islands is poorly known. Kurz (1876), Prain (1891), Thothathri (1960, '73, '78), Nair and Srivastava (1962) at different times published enumeration lists of plants including ferns for some of these Islands. However, recent increased exploration activity from 1971 has brought out several hitherto unreported ferns, of which seven are here listed and briefly described. All the specimens are in the Herbarium of the Botanical Survey of India, Port Blair (PBL).

Angiopteris evecta (Forst.) Hoffm. Soc, Reg. Gott. 12: 29. t. 5. 1796; Bedd. Handb, 460. 1833.

2-3 wide spreading giant fronds from a short stout stumpy stock covered with fleshy leaf bases. Young fronds prominently circinnate.

In shade, along streams, with other ferns.

SOUTH ANDAMANS: Sipighat, inland hill forests in shaded places, *ca* 20 m, 6 Aug. 1976, *Balakrishnan & Chakraborty* 2581 (PBL). SOUTH NICOBARS: On East-West Road, 36.8 km from Shompen village, Great Nicobar Island, *ca* 50 m, 17 June 1977, *Balakrishnan* 5829 (PBL).

Schizaea digitata (L.) Sw. Syn. Fil. 150. t. 4. 1806; Bedd. Handb. 452. 1833.

Rhizome short, 3-4 cm long; frond erect, grasslike 20-25 cm long, 2-3 mm wide with prominent midrib. Fertile lobes digitate up to 15 in number; each 2-4 cm long, *ca* 2 mm wide.

SOUTH NICOBAR: On East-West Road, inland hill forest in hilly slopes, *ca* 30 m, 2 Dec. 1975, *Chakraborty* 3236 (PBL).

Cheilanthes tenuifolia (Burm.) Sw. Syn. Fil. 129 & 332. 1806; Bedd. Handb. 92. 1833. *Trichomanes tenuifolia* Burm., Fl. Ind. 237. 1768.

Rootstock small, short; rachis dark purplish; fronds dimorphic, tripartite.

SOUTH ANDAMANS: Chidiatapu. Shaded places in forests, 20 m, 12 July 1973, *Balakrishnan* 293 (PBL).

Vittaria zosterifolia Willd. Sp. Pl. 5: 406. 1810.

Epiphytes, rhizome long, creeping, fronds stalked, *ca* 30-60 cm long, 0.2-2.0 cm wide; sori marginal.

SOUTH NICOBARS: Campbell Bay to Alexandra road, 4 km, Great Nicobar, *ca* 50 m, 19 Aug. 1975, *Balakrishnan* 2957 (PBL).

Alsophila spinulosa (Hook.) Tryon in Contr. Gray Herb. 200: 82. 1970; Bedd. Handb. 6. 1833.

Tree *ca* 18 m long; stipes and lower part of rachis aruleated; frond bipinnate, prickles present on the lower part of the stem.

NORTH NICOBARS: Forest near Katchal Police Station, *ca* 10 m, 6 May 1975, *Chakraborty* 2525 (PBL).

Pronephrium triphyllum (Sw.) Holtt. in Blumea 20: 122. 1972. *Meniscium triphyllum* Sw. in Schrod. Journ. Bot. 1800 (L.); 16. 1801; Bedd. Handb. 397. 1833.

Rhizome slender, long creeping; stipes of sterile fronds 7-20 cm long; fertile frond trifoliate, the terminal one largest.

SOUTH NICOBARS: On East-West Road, 10 km from Campbell Bay, Great Nicobar, in shady hill slopes, *ca* 25 m, 2 Dec. 1975, *Chakraborty* 3237 (PBL).

Cyclosorus gongylodes (Schkur.) Link. Hort. Berol. 2: 128. 1833.

Rhizome slender, stipes *ca* 40 cm long; pinnae 12 × 1.2 cm long.

SOUTH ANDAMANS: Brookesabad, in marshy places, near streams, *ca* 50 m, 20 April 1973, *Balakrishnan* 98 (PBL).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am grateful to Dr. N. P. Balakrishnan, Regional Botanist, Botanical Survey of India, Port Blair. I am also thankful to the help rendered by the Officers and Staff of Cryptogamic Section of Botanical Survey of India, Howrah in identifying the ferns.

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