AMENDMENTS TO APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

A. PROPOSAL

Inclusion of Nepenthes khasiana in Appendix I.

B. PROPONENT

The Republic of India.

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Taxonomy

11. Class: Dicotyledonae

12. Order: Aristolochiales

13. Family: Nepenthaceae

14. Species: Nepenthes khasiana
Hook.f. in DC. Prodr. 17:102. 1873

15. Common Names: English: Indian pitcher plant
French:
Spanish:

16. Code Numbers: -

2. Biological Data

21. Distribution: Jaintea Hills and Garo Hills in Meghalaya State, N.E. India. Endemic.

22. Population: Vulnerable in the wild.

23. Habitat: In cool, shady, moist, boggy hill slopes along streams at an altitude of approximately 1,300-1,500 m, in subtropical evergreen forests; rainfall 300-500 mm.

3. Trade Data

31. National Utilization: Being over collected as a botanical curiosity and for teaching; pitcher sap considered medicinal for eye troubles.

32. Legal International Trade: Extent unknown but pitchers with leaves are reported to be collected for teaching and exported for musea.

33. Illegal Trade: Extent unknown but reportedly over-collected in the past for trade; reports also indicate that plants were uprooted for introduction and cultivation in some botanic gardens in the country as well as outside without any accurate figures.

34. Potential Trade Threats:

341. Live Specimens: Entire live plants for introduction trials elsewhere in the country and outside; extent unknown.

342. Parts and Derivatives: 'Pitchers' with leaves for botanical teaching and as curiousities for musea/botany departments; pitcher sap reportedly locally used for eye diseases; long flowering inflorescence for musea, besides collections for herbaria both in the country and outside.

4. Protection Status

41. National: The habitat in Jaintea Hills near Jorain has been recently declared as a Pitcher Plant Reserve and some protection is given by the Meghalaya State Forest Department banning collection and destruction of its population and habitat. A few plants are being reared in the experimental gardens of the BSI at Yercaud in the Shevaroy Hills (alt. c. 1,500 m.) in South India and in the Indian Botanic Garden, Howrah of the Botanical Survey of India. The plants at Howrah are not producing healthy pitchers possibly due to local climatic conditions. The species has been listed as threatened in the threatened plants lists/publications brought out by the Botanical Survey of India (Scientific Authority CITES India); also the species has been suggested for inclusion in the Schedules of the Indian Board for Wildlife Act for protective measures.

42. International: The species is being proposed for inclusion in Appendix I of CITES.

43. Additional Protection Needs: Ex situ conservation in several other botanic gardens and conservatories in the country, multiplication by tissue culture methods and re-introduction of seedlings into its natural habitat to supplement and enrich its populations; stricter vigilance for in situ conservation safeguards.

5. Information on Similar Species

Other species of the genus do not occur in India; plants are easily recognizable.

6. Comments from Countries of Origin

This species is endemic to India occurring only in two small areas as outlined above; other comments as stated above.

7. Additional Remarks

A very elegant looking insectivorous plant species of immense biological interest with leaf apices modified as flask-like pitchers and having significance in the distribution of the genus phyto-geographically.

8. References

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