Appendix-A

Some Popular Kinds of Flowers

**Lotus**: Lotus unique among flowers, a favourite of Lord Budha, is now the national flower. The national flower lotus is an aquatic plant ‘Nymphaea’ species with broad floating leaves and bright fragrant flowers that grow only in shallow water. The leaves and flowers float and have long stems that contain air space. It represents purity, wisdom and progress from the lowest to the highest. The lotus is usually of red, pink and yellow to creamy white in colour. The big attractive flowers have many petals overlapping in symmetrical pattern. Once having seen the blooming lotus, you never forget it.

**Rose**: No other flower has played such a major role in our lives as rose. Having been the nature best creation, it enjoys number one position among all flowers. Rose is generally very healthy plant and lives for a long time if it is properly maintained. Rose oil and rose products have been widely used in high-class perfumes, colognes and cosmetics. Rose cultivation is a highly remunerative proposition. Business and demand of rose flowers has increased tremendously all over the world.

**Chrysanthemum**: Also commonly known as ‘Glory/Queen of the East’ or as ‘Mum’ in short in the U.S.A. It is one of the most widely cultivated garden flower and ranks probably next to the roses in popularity. It has a beautiful range of colour shades, widely
different flower shapes and height range. It is the second largest cut flower grown all over the globe. It is one of the most popular and commercial flower crops grown in India. In the different states of India it is grown under different names *guldandi* in the Hindi peek, *chandramallika* in the eastern states, *santanti* in the south states and *shevanti* in the western states.

**China Aster** : It is an excellent cut flower. It is cultivated in many parts of the country especially around Bangalore all the year round. The colour range is so large that today China aster is one of the most valuable garden flowers.

**Carnation** : It is essentially a florist crop, widely cultivated on a commercial scale in different parts of the world. It belongs to the family caryophyllaeae and a member of the genus dianthus. The word Dianthus is derived from the Greek world ‘dias’, ‘a god’, or ‘divine’ and ‘anther’, ‘a flower’, hence continuously known as ‘Divine flower’.

**Tulips** : Tulips suit a wide range of planting schemes and are excellent in the rock garden, in formal bedding, as elegant cut flowers and for containers. Their bold flowers are generally simple in outline and help upright, with colours that are often bright and strong.

**Dahlia** : These gorgeously coloured flowers are very popular in the Indian gardens and are widely used for garden display and indoor decoration. Dahlias have a wide range of flower colours and diversity
in the form of the flowers. Dahlias are excellent for providing cut flowers and bloom vigorously throughout summer.

**Jasmine**: It is the most common flowers in Indian gardens and also important commercially as flowers of some species are valued as cut flowers and a few yield essential oil for the perfumery industry. The flower is cultivated in India from olden time as is evidenced in the book Kamasutra written by Vatsayana (A.D. 300-400). Most of the Jasmine flowers are used for preparing garlands for ‘nari’ decoration especially in south India, and also for the purpose of worship. A large quantity of some species is also consumed for extraction of essential oils.

**Marigold**: Marigold is one of the easiest annual popular annual flowers in India, for garden display as well as for commercial cultivation. The plants, with their attractive flower colours bloom for a considerably long period and the flowers keep remarkably well when cut. All these favourable points make marigold one of the most popular annual flowers in India, for garden display as well as for commercial cultivation. In popularity of cut flowers, marigold probably ranks next only to Jasmines in India.

**Orchids**: These distinctive plants are highly valued in the International florist trade due to their intricately designe spectacular brilliant colours and delightful appearance. Orchids cut flowers have emerged as the leader in the international market and have immensely
contributed to the economy of several developed and developing countries. It has a largest family among flowers, plants around 25000 to 30000 species.

**Lily** : The symbol of purity, lilies have been in cultivation for centuries and have acquired religious and mystical association. Lilies are one of the most leading cut flowers and rank fourth among the ten leading cut flowers. The first three being rose, gladiolus and carnation. It has beautiful attractive and bright flowers with comparatively long life.

**Gladiolus** : It is an important cut flower crop, grown commercially in many parts of the world. It has gained popularity owing to its unsurpassed beauty, attractive colours, various sizes and shapes of the flowers, variable spike length and long vase life. Gladiolus, with their beautiful spikes, produce flowers from October to March in the plains and from June to September in the hills of India.

**Irises** : These beautiful flowers were originally named after Iris, the Greek goddess of the rainbow, as the shades of these colouring and markings are reminiscent of those of the rainbow.

**Delphiniums** : are among the most attractive of the fall perennials, with their showy spires of flowers. Making a spectacular display in that summer herbaceous borders. In addition, to the classic blues, hybrids are available in a broad range of colours. Plants should be severely staked to support the heavy flower spikes.
**Tuberose**: is essentially a florist's flower and a leading commercial crop because of its multipurpose use. It is extracted for its highly valued natural flower oil. Tuberose is grown largely in the southern states of America, Italy, France, South Africa, Farmosa, Egypt and in many tropical and subtropical areas in the world. Tuberose is grown for garden decoration in pots, beds and borders. The flowers are used in Java in vegetable soups. The flowers are used for making garlands, to make ornaments for bridal make-up and for button holes. Tuberose flower oil is one of the most valuable and expensive raw materials for perfume.

**Anthurium**: Anthurium is extremely beautiful and commercially important flower. Anthurium andreanum is an epiphytic plant with a somewhat vine-like habit of growth. These herbaceous perennial plants of the tropical regions are famous for their attractive and long lasting flowers. The plants are characterized by the presence of colourful spathe and hundreds of small flowers on the spadix rising from the base of the spathe. This plant produces three to eight leaves per year depending upon nutrition and environment.