The botanical, ecological and phytogeographical details of the humid tropics wealth of India have until recently occupied a little attention. Need for thorough exploration of the tropical wealth has been emphasised from time to time, and discussions held on this subject under the auspices of UNESCO (Kandy, 1956; Bogor, 1958; Ivory Coast, 1959). At Kandy symposium it was resolved:

'............... that for a proper description of vegetation types necessary for many practical purposes in forestry, agriculture, land surveys etc.; it is of the utmost importance that the taxonomic study of all tropical floras should be encouraged. We recognise the value of the floras of Africa and Malaysia and urge that modern floras should be prepared, more especially of Burma, Ceylon, India and Pakistan ...........

In accordance with this resolution, the present work on the humid tropics of the western ghats in the district of North Kanara and Coorg was taken up. The progress achieved has been presented.