TREES OF IUCAA

Spathodea Campanulata: Also known as African Tulip. It blooms in a fiery bright orange and is most common. Spathodea is a greek word meaning “spathe” referring to ladle structure of the bell shaped flowers. Also known as Fountain tree because the soft buds often contain a quantity of liquid and by squeezing them they could be made to emit a jet like water squirt.

Location: Kund and also next to IUCAA parking.

Jacaranda Mimosaeifolia: A tree of medium height. It blooms with blue flowers from March to May. Its canopy is similar to that of the more common Gulmohar, and hence is also known as Neeli Gulmohar.

Location: In Kund, next to statue of Albert Einstein.

Anthocephalus Cadamba: Also known commonly as Kadam. A fully mature Kadam tree can reach up to 45m in height. It is a large tree with a broad. It is quick growing, with broad spreading branches and grows rapidly in the first 6–8 years. The fruit occur in small, fleshy capsules packed closely together to form a fleshy yellow-orange infructescence containing approximately 8000 seeds.

Location: In Kund, next to the dome, behind the statue of Galileo.

Caesalpinia pulcherrima: Also known as Peacock Flower, Krishna Chuda and Red Bird of Paradise. Red Bird of Paradise is the national flower of the Caribbean island of Barbados. It is a shrub growing to 3m tall. The flowers come in different colours of yellow, orange and pink. It is remarkably drought-resisting.

Location: In the fractal garden, in the centre quadrangle of Nalanda.

Tecoma Stans: More commonly known as Yellow Elder. It is a small tree. It's handsome yellow flowers and elegant foliage have made it popular garden shrub. One which retains its appearance practically throughout the year.

Location: Near IUCAA parking; can be reached through an exit door next to the Foucault’s Pendulum.
Alstonia Macrophylla: is a tree with a straight trunk and a high, narrow crown. It can grow up to 30m height. Flowers are about 7mm in diameter, white, with narrow corolla tube, placed terminal on twigs. Fruits are about 30cms long, green and filled with many small hairy seeds that are dispersed far and wide by the wind.

Location: In the gardens in front of Chandrasekhar Auditorium.

Kigelia Africana: Also known as sausage tree. The tree grows up to a height of 20m. Its distinctive feature is its fruit. The fruit is a woody berry from 30–100cm long and up to 18cm broad; typically it weighs between 5 and 10kg, and hangs down on long, rope-like peduncles. The fresh fruit is poisonous and strongly purgative; fruit are prepared for consumption by drying, roasting or fermentation.

Location: In the gardens in front of Chandrasekhar Auditorium.

Bombax Ceiba: Also known as Silk Cotton tree. It grows to an average of 20m, with old trees up to 60m in wet tropical weather. Red flowers with five petals appear in the spring before the new foliage. Its trunk bears spikes to deter attacks by animals.

Location: In the gardens in front of Chandrasekhar Auditorium.

Brassaia actinophylla: Also known as Umbrella Tree, is a large ornamental tree native to Australia. The canopy formed by the long leaves resembles an umbrella structure. They grow to a height of 30m. They are also suitable for keeping indoors.

Location: In the gardens in front of Chandrasekhar Auditorium.

Saraca Indica: Also known as Sita Ashok. It is indigenous to the Indian subcontinent. The Ixora-like flowers are usually seen in profusion of orange and scarlett clusters from February until May. It is believed that Sita, wife of Rama, when abducted by the evil Ravana, was kept in a garden among groves of Asoka trees.

Location: In the gardens in front of Chandrasekhar Auditorium.