

AMENDMENTS TO APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

A. PROPOSAL

Transfer of Cycas beddomei from Appendix II to Appendix I.

B. PROPOSENT

The Republic of India.

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Taxonomy

11. Class: Gymnospermae
12. Order: Cycadales
13. Family: Cycadaceae
14. Species: Cycas beddomei  
Dyer in Trans Linn. Soc. London, Ser.2.  
Bott.ii, p.85.t.17.1883
15. Common Names: English: Beddome's Cycad  
French:  
Spanish:

16. Code Numbers: -

2. Biological Data

21. Distribution: India. Endemic to Cuddapah-Tirupati hills in the southern Eastern Ghats, peninsular India.
22. Population: Vulnerable, due to extensive denudation of its range; over-exploitation due to its professed medicinal properties (Nayar & Ahmed, 1986).
23. Habitat: On exposed lateritic, gneissic and quartzitic rocky slopes along streams in dry deciduous forests at the altitude of 300-900 m.

3. Trade Data

31. National Utilization: Exploited for professed medicinal uses of its cones in preparing rejuvenating tonics by the local tribes.
32. Legal International Trade: Unknown.
33. Illegal Trade: Unknown.
34. Potential Trade Threats:
341. Live Specimens: Although threats due to trade are presently not known, they are likely to occur for the species is elegant for cultivation in botanic gardens and in horticulture.

342. Parts and Derivatives: The cones are considered rejuvenating by local tribes and may be over-exploited in trade.

4. Protection Status

41. National: The species has been included as threatened in the lists published by the Botanical Survey of India and has been proposed for inclusion in the Schedules of the Wildlife Protection Act for a ban on its collection and on destruction of its habitats. Being included in the Plant Red Data Book of India (Eds. M.P. Nayar & A.R.K. Sastry).
42. International: The family Cycadaceae is included in Appendix II of CITES. Now proposed for inclusion in Appendix I of CITES.
43. Additional Protection Needs: Complete ban on unregulated collection and destruction of surviving populations and their habitats; introduction into botanic gardens and conservatories for ex situ protection.

5. Information on Similar Species

The cycad species are easily recognised from their 'palm-like' habit and cone shaped male and female reproductive structures and the 'open-seeded fruits'.

6. Comments from Countries of Origin

The species being endemic to a limited range is now vulnerable due to exploitation of its reproductive cones and destruction of its habitats, if unchecked these would lead to eventual extinction of the natural populations in the near future.

7. Additional Remarks

Nil.

8. References

- Jain, S.K. and A.R.K. Sastry, 1980. Threatened Plants of India. A State of the Art Report, 40. Botanical Survey of India & MAB, Department of Science and Technology, Dew Delhi.
- Nayar, M.P. and M. Ahmed, 1986, in M.P. Nayar and A.R.K. Sastry (Ed.). Plant Red Data Book of India. (In press).