



Scientific Name	<i>Lagerstroemia speciosa</i> (L.) Pers.
Common Names	Pride of India, Rose of India, Queen's Crape Myrtle, Crepe Myrtle, Crepe Flower, Queen Flower, Banaba, Pyinma, പ്ലമരൂത്
Family	Lythraceae
Plant description	It is a fast growing ,medium sized,decicuous tree with an upright,round crown.The leaves turn red right before they fall in winters.The flowers appear in white and pink colour and look like delicate crape paper. They put up a striking flower show on road sides with is brightly coloured mauve or pink flowers. Often fluted, bark creamy-brown to light grey, smooth and peeling in papery flakes; inner bark pale brown and fibrous. Simple, opposite, broadly ovate to oblong, somewhat leathery, with prominent abaxial veins. Young leaves emerge glossy red, turning to pinkish and then finally green.the fruits are elipsoid or sub-globose woody capsules.They are green at first,but later turn brown and finally black.Th e fruits hang on to the trees.It is easily raised through seeds.
Distribution	It is native to tropical southern Asia. It is grown in South East Asia, China India, Bangladesh and the Philippines and even extends to Australia. It is native to India particularly in the western ghats of India covering Belgaum, north and south Kanara, Malabar and Travancore and also in Assam and West Bengal.
Uses	Seeds are narcotic, bark and leaves are purgative, roots are astringent, stimulant and febrifuge (fever removing). Decoction of leaves is used in diabetes. Its fruit is used locally applied for apathy of the mouth. Their timber is locally used for agricultural implements, carts, furnitures, oars, canoes and cooperage.
Flowering and fruiting time	Flowering occurs 3–5 years after planting and the main flowering season is April–June with a second flush in July–August. The fruits ripen in November–January.