

Akorkanta



Ashok

colours in the bare nature at the end *Magh* (one of the two months consisting winter). They have a long blossom – from spring to summer. It seems that they are in charge of welcoming the spring. Then comes the *Ashok*. The bright red flowers sparkle against the long leaves.

*Ashok* has hardly any comparison. At the fag end of the spring comes *Hapormali* (*Villaris heynei*) and *Akorkanta* (*Alangium salvifolium*) as symbols of purity. They are preceded by short lived yellow flowers. The air is filled with fragrance and the bumble-bee is attracted towards the pollen. The ground under the tree gathers the fallen petals of yellow. Such a beautiful flower- bearing trees are rare in city parks.

If you go along Rokeya Sarani or towards the central Shaheed Minar along Fuller Road you must be enthralled by one kind of fragrance. If it is windy this fragrance will reach far. The tall *Telshur* (*Hopea odorata*) will point at its source. The other



Roktokanchon



Udal

Madhobi and *Neelmoni*. *Madhobi*, the short lived flower of the spring has a tinge of yellow. Neelmoni looks as if they were blue butterflies- ready to fly; the petals are like wings. They bloom to compensate the dearth of blue.

*Konokcahampa* is an innate wild tree of the traditional Bengal which has got a wide reference in our folk literature as well. They prepare to bloom at the end of *Phalgun* (one of the months consisting Spring). First a couple of auburn leaves appear and then the whole tree is covered with flowers of the spring are *Kurchi* (*Holarrhena antidysenterica*), *Lotkaful* (*Baccaurea ramiflora*), *Shoti* (*Curcuma zedosria*), *Borun* (*Crataeva nurvala*), *Mohua* (*Madhuka indica*), *Nagesshor* (*Mesua nagassarium*). The Vants (*Clerodendrum viscosum*) also have a very acute fragrance. The dusk light is reflected on the tender leaves of *Mehoganai* and *Banyan* trees. The wild gust of wind in the open fields creates a cloud of dust. And then the wind of *Chaitra* ripples in the vast fields of rice and tender jute.