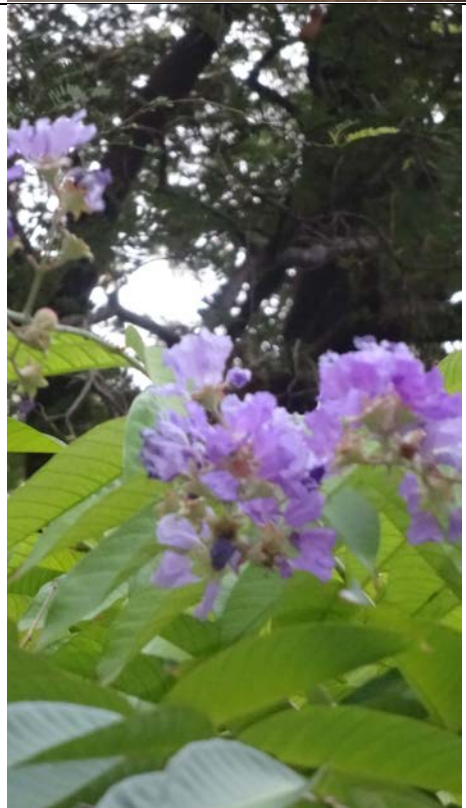


Pride of India

**Common name:** Pride of India, Queen of Flowers, Queen's crepe myrtle

**Botanical name:** *Lagerstroemia speciosa*; **Family:** Lythraceae; **Name in Tamil:** *Kadali, Kadalimugai, Kadalippuva, Pumarudu*



**Field identification:** A moderate sized, deciduous tree but can reach heights of 60 feet. Trunk straight. Bark pale brown, flakes off in irregular patches. Branches spread widely. Green leaves, paler on underside, on stout stalks, oblong-lance shaped, nearly opposite, 5-8 inches x 1.3-3 inches, with bluntly pointed tips, with prominent main veins. Flowers, in erect panicles 8-15.7 inches; each flower with six mauve, pink, or lilac crinkly petals. Fruit spherical, woody, 2 cm, splitting open when dry. **Location on campus:** Front and Behind College Building and Women's Hostel, Scudder Crescent, Animal House  
**References:** (i) Blatter, E. & Millard, W.S. (1997) Some Beautiful Indian Trees. Mumbai: Bombay Natural History Society/ Oxford University Press. p100-104. (ii) Krishen, P. (2006) Trees of Delhi: A field guide. Dorling Kindersley, New Delhi. p72-3.