Bumble bee visitation of Brahma Kamal (*Saussurea obvallata*, Asteraceae) in the Tawang District of Arunachal Pradesh, India

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Brahma Kamal are rare flowers found in high-altitude regions of the Himalaya, where bumble bees are the primary pollinators. Bumble bees are cold-adapted bees, and in India their distribution is in Himalayan Mountain ranges. We study this plant and bumble bees in the Bumla pass at about 4300 m above mean sea level (amsl) in the Eastern Himalayan Ranges in the Tawang District, Arunachal Pradesh, India. The present study systematically reported the occurrence of Brahma Kamal, which was rarely recorded in Arunachal along with a report of six species of bumble bee (*Bombus abnormis*, *Bombus lemniscatus*, *Bombus mirus*, *Bombus pressus*, *Bombus prshewalskyi* and *Bombus sikkimi*) visitors from high altitude region of state of Arunachal Pradesh, India. The flowering time of the Brahma Kamal is in the month of August, and the optimal period to record bumble bees is from June to August. This new report focuses on the extreme east of India, in the Eastern Himalaya, and adds to the data on Brahma Kamal distribution and bumble bee occurrence for future research on pollination, species distribution, threat and conservation.

Keywords: Bee visitation, Brahma Kamal, bumble bee, East Himalaya.