

Hon. Nishikant Bhosale-Patil (Dada) Founder, Prakash Shikshan Mandal, Islampur

Prakash Shikshan Mandal's

LOKNETE RAJARAMBAPU PATIL
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DIST-SANGLI (MAHARASHTRA) INDIA

DEPARTMENT OF DRAVYAGUNA



ATIBALA

Marathi: Petari

Botanical name: Abutilon indicum

Synonyms: Sidaindica, Abutilon asiaticum, Abutilon arborescens

Family: Malvaceae (Mallow family)

Common name: Indian Mallow, Country Mallow, Abutilon, Indian abutilon

Description: Indian Mallow is an erect velvety-pubescent shrub with circular-ovate or

heart-shaped leaves with coarsely crenate-serrate margins. The plant can reach up to 1-2 m. The leaves are alternately arranged, and have long stalks and have velvety, soft, pale hairs on them. Orange-yellow flowers, 2-3 cm across, occur solitary in axils, on long stalks, 4-7 cm. Orange-yellow petals are triangular-obovate, 1 cm long or slightly more, staminal-tube hairy with stellate hairs. Fruit is quite interesting - it is circular in shape, consisting of 11-20 radiating hairy carpels, brown when dry; each carpel flattened, somewhat boatshaped. Seeds are kidney-shaped. The plant is a weed commonly found on disturbed land. Flowering: September-April.

Attributes: Ras – Madhur Vipak – Madhur Virya – Sheet

Guna-Laghu, Snigdha, Piccila

Medicinal uses: Extract of water-soaked dried seeds is used as purgative. Leaves are used as tonic. Roots are taken as infusion in fever.