**HANDOUT FOR MORPHOLOGY OF FLOWERING PLANTS**

* The flower is a modified shoot, meant for sexual reproduction.
* The flowers are arranged in different types of inflorescences.
* They exhibit enormous variation in structure, symmetry, position of ovary in relation to other parts, arrangement of petals, sepals, ovules etc.
* After fertilisation, the ovary is modified into fruits and ovules into seeds. Seeds either may be monocotyledonous or dicotyledonous.
* They vary in shape, size and period of viability.
* The floral characteristics form the basis of classification and identification of flowering plants.
* This can be illustrated through semi-technical descriptions of families. Hence, a flowering plant is described in a definite sequence by using scientific terms.
* The floral features are represented in the summarised form as floral diagrams and floral formula.