



## Diversity of nostocaceae (Cyanophyceae) of gossaigaon subdivision, Kokrajhar District, Assam, India

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### Abstract

Gossaigaon is a subdivisional area of Kokrajhar district which is escaped attention of algal diversity by botanical researchers. The present studies was carried out on the diversity of family Nostocaceae, (cyanophyceae or blue green algae) during June 2017 to July 2018 (for one year) and a total 33 species were identified. However, it has attempt to explore the algal biodiversity systematically taking consideration on morphological characters. Among the identified species, *Anabaena* carried highest number (14) followed by *Nostoc* (8), *Cylindrospermum* (6), and *Anabaenopsis*, *Wollea*, *Pseudanabaena* and *Aulosira* represent by single species. Cyanophyceae flora are sensitive to nutrient enrichment. It was found that the seasonal variation is a special character among these algae. *Anabaena azollae* is common and present in any kind of habitat water.

**Keywords:** morphology, nostocaceae, diversity, Gossaigaon subdivision.

### 1. Introduction

Blue green algae or Cyanophyceae are pioneer oxygenic phototrophic organisms on earth. They can grow well either in nutrient rich or at low nutrient concentrations (Philipose, 1960; Munawar, 1970b; Fogg, 1975) [10, 9]. Nostocaceae is a family of cyanophyceae which are simple filamentous heterocystous for which they can fix nitrogen symbiotically with fungi, lichen, mosses and ferns. As nitrogen fixing organisms in the environments, they can increasing yield of many crop plant (Song et al 2005) [14]. Though it is simple or primitive in cellular organization, they are very important groups for soil fertilization. They can grow and survive in all kinds of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems for their adaptability to any kind of environmental conditions and stresses (Castenholz, and Waterbury, 1989; Tandeau de Marsac and Houmard, 1993; Potts, 1999) [4, 16, 11]. PH, carbon dioxide, organic matter, alkalinity, nitrates and phosphates are important factors in their distribution. Cyanophyceae algae used as indicator of pollution and biodegrading organisms (Subramanian and Uma, 1996) [15]. The present literature reveals that there are many workers in this field in Assam (Buragohain and Yasmin, 2014; Yasmin et al, 2015; Gurumayum and Senapati, 2017; Dihingia and Baruah, 2017; Barman et al, 2015; Sarma and Rout, 2017) [3, 7, 8, 6, 2, 13].

### 2. Materials and Methods

The present study was carried out in Gossaigaon subdivision under Kokrajhar district, Assam. The area is situated at the latitude of 26. 4371 °N and longitude 89. 9767 ° E. The maximum average temperature of the area is 30.18°C and minimum is 18.94°C. The average rainfall is 297.93 mm.

The algal samples were collected from all kinds of habitat water both from polluted and non-polluted water bodies like ponds, ditches, beels, streams & rivers, rice fields during the study period covering all seasons. The samples were collected into a proper labelled vials with habitat water to its 1/3 capacity. At the same

time the other important characters like, their occurrence, habitats, color and nature were noted down in note book. Identification were done with the help of the monographs of Desikachary (1959) [5]. Anand (1989) [1]. And Prescott (1962) [12]. At the same time the microphotographs were taken by Nikon camera.

### 3. Results and discussion

A total 33 cyanophyceae algal species belonging to 6 genera under the family Nostocaceae were identified during study periods. All of them are simple filamentous heterocystous forms. Maximum number of species were reported from *Anabaena* (12 species), followed by *Nostoc* (8 species), *Cylindrospermum* (6 species), Rest were carried by single species i.e *Anabaenopsis*, *Aulosira* and *Pseudanabaena*. *Anabaena* sp. was reported as dominant species. Their morphotaxonomic characters description are given below-

#### Division Cyanophyceae

#### Order Nostocales

#### Family Nostocaceae

#### Genus *Anabaenopsis*

**1. Species:** *Anabaenopsis circularis* Wolosz. Et Miller (Plate I, Fig.1) Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 354, 1959. Trichome free swimming, spirally coiled with, with 1-1 ½ spirals, 4.0-5.2 µm broad; cells spherical with granules; heterocysts spherical. Habitat: Planktonic in pond; locality-Gossaigaon; collection no-29, 53

**2. Species:** *Cylindrospermum alatosporum* Fritsch (Plate I, Fig.2) Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 362, pl. 64, fig. 9, 1959. Thallus thin trichome 3.2- 3.6 µm broad; cells barrel-shaped as long as broad; heterocysts ellipsoidal, 4.3 µ long and 7.7-10.5 µ long; spores single, sometimes in a row, 10-21 µm

broad and 20-30  $\mu$  m long . Habitat: On Deeping rocks in temporary rain water; locality-Gossaigaon; collecting no-129

**3. Species:** *Cylindrospermum mucicola* Kützing ex Born.et Flah. (Plate I, Fig.3) Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 366, pl. 65,fig.3,1959.Anand, Handbook of Blue-Green Algae,49, fig.149,1989. Thallus expanded, mucilaginous; trichomes 3.0-4.4 $\mu$ m broad, constricted at the cross-walls; cells cylindrical; heterocysts oblong; spores oval, 8.2-10.8 $\mu$ m broad, 10.0- 18.5 $\mu$ m long. Habitat: Moist soil (rice field); locality-Gossaigaon; collecting No-87

**4. Species:** *Cylindrospermum gorakhpurens* Singh, RN (Plate I, Fig.4) Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 363, pl. 74, fig. 4, 1959. Trichome blue green, single, constriction at the cross walls,3.2-5  $\mu$ m broad; cells cylindrical; heterocysts ellipsoidal, one at each end of the trichome; spores ellipsoidal with rounded apex 6.4-7.9 $\mu$ m broad, and 13.5-17.0 $\mu$ m long,yellowish brown, outer membrane provided with a delicate needle shaped projections. Habitat: Paddy field, and ditches; locality-Saraibil, Gossaigaon; collecting no-93, 41

**5. Species:** *Cylindrospermum musicola* var. *kashmiriensis* Bharadwaja (Plate I, Fig.5) Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 367, pl. 64, figs. 3,5,12, 1959. Thallus mucilaginous ,thin ,bluish-green; trichomesslightly constricted at the joints, cells barrel shaped,2.1-2.8  $\mu$ m broadand2.4-6.8  $\mu$  m long ,heterocysts one at either end,ellipsoidal,3-4.6 $\mu$ m broad and 5.4-10 $\mu$  m long; spores adjoining to heterocysts ,5.4-8.00  $\mu$  broad and 9-12.60  $\mu$ m long . Habitat: Temporary pond; locality -Saraibil; collecting no-51

**6. Species:** *Cylindrospermum stagnale* (Kütz) Born.et Flah. (Plate I, Fig.6) Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 363, pl.65 fig.9.1959; Anand, Handbook of Blue-Green Algae, 49, fig. 150, 1989. Thallus attached or free floating , trichomes 3.3-4.0 $\mu$ m broad , constricted at the cross walls ; cells cylindrical , heterocysts sub spherical 5.6-6.3  $\mu$ m broad10.4-15.9  $\mu$ m long ; spores cylindrical with rounded ends, 10.2-16.5  $\mu$ m broad and 32.8-36.7  $\mu$ m long. Habitat: On moist soil (rice field); locality-Gossaigaon; collecting No-123

**7. Species:** *Cylindrospermum stagnale* f. *variabilis* Prasad (Plate I, Fig.7) Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 364, pl. 64, fig. 1, 1959. Thallus mucilaginous, light blue green, forming mat; trichomes 2.6-3.8  $\mu$ m broad, constricted at the cross walls; heterocyst both ends of filaments, cylindrical, spores elongate formed singly, 6.5-14.6 $\mu$  broad and 10.6-24.8  $\mu$ m long. Habitat: Floating in rice fields; locality- Gossaigaon; collecting No-30

#### Division Cyanophyceae

#### Order Nostocales

#### Family Nostocaceae

#### Genus Wollea

**8. Species:** *Wollea bharadwajae* Singh, RN. (Plate I, Fig.8) Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 372, pl. 73, fig .1, 1959. Trichome 5-5.9  $\mu$  m broad ; cells barrel shaped ;heterocysts 6-7  $\mu$  m broad ; spores 10.2- 12.5  $\mu$  m broad and 12- 12.8  $\mu$  m long , formed in a rows of three on either side of the heterocyst . Habitat: Free floating on paddy; locality- Gossaigaon; collecting no -88, 73

#### Division Cyanophyceae

#### Order Nostocales

#### Family Nostocaceae

#### Genus Nostoc

**9. Species:** *Nostoc calcicola* Brevisson ex Born. et Flah. (Plate I, Fig.9) Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 384, pl. 68, fig.1,1959; Anand, Handbook of Blue- Green Algae, 49, fig. 151,1989.

Thallus mucilaginous, filament loosely entangled; sheath indistinct ,colorless; trichome 2.7 $\mu$ m broad ,pale blue green ; cells barrel shaped;heterocysts subspherical, 3.4 $\mu$ m broad ; spores subspherical ,4.2-5 $\mu$ m broad . Habitat-paddy fields; locality - Gossaigaon, Grahampur, Saraibil; collecting no -6, 32, 38

**10. Species:** *Nostoc carneum* Ag. Ex Born. et Flah. (Plate I, Fig.10) Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 381, pl. 69, fig.6, 1959; Anand, Handbook of Blue-Green Algae, 49, fig. 152, 1989. Thallus leathery, irregularly expanded, gelatinous; filaments loosely contorted, flexuous; sheath indistinct, colorless; trichome 3.2-3.7  $\mu$ m broad; cells upto twice as long as broad; heterocysts oblong; spores oval to ellipsoidal. Habitat-on moist soil, floating in pond; locality- Gossaigaon; collecting no-28,151

**11. Species:** *Nostoc commune* Vaucher ex Born. et Flah. (Plate I, Fig.11) Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 387, pl. 68, fig.3, 1959; Anand, Handbook of Blue-Green Algae, 49, fig. 153, 1989. Thallus gelatinous, membranous or leathery, sometimes irregularly torn,blue green; filaments entangled;sheath distinct at the periphery,; trichome 4.0-5.4 $\mu$ m broad,cells short barrel shaped; heterocysts spherical; spores as big as vegetative cells. Habitats-on moist soil at the edge of beel; locality- Grahampur; collecting no-43

**12. Species:** *Nostoc hetei* Dixit (Plate I, Fig.12) Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 389, pl. 67, fig.2 Thallus spherical; trichomes 3.2-5.6 $\mu$ m broad, irregularly curved and densely entangled; heterocysts single, or in short chains, spherical; spores not seen. Habitat-stagnant water with submerged plants in rice field; locality-Grahampur, Saraibil, Gossaigaon; collecting no-26, 46 109, 24, 19

**13. Species:** *Nostoc linkia* Bornet ex Born, ET Flah. (Plate I, Fig.13) Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 377, pl.69, fig.4, 1959; Anand, Handbook of Blue-Green Algae, 49, fig. 157, 1989. Thallus varying in size; filaments densely entangled, flexuous or highly coiled; sheath colourless; trichomes 3.2-3.8  $\mu$ m broad; cells short barrel shaped; heterocysts subspherical; spores subspherical. Habitat-attached with other algae and submerged plant in rice fields; locality - Grahampur, Gossaigaon; collecting no- 56, 141

**14. Species:** *Nostoc linkia* var. *arvensis* Rao, C.B. (Plate I, Fig.14) Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 377, pl. 67, fig. 1, 1959. Thallus gelatinous, filaments numerous ;trichomes 4-4.8  $\mu$ m broad , cells spherical or barrel shaped , 4.4-5.2  $\mu$ m long ; heterocysts spherical 4.9-7  $\mu$ m broad ; spores in long chains . Habitat-on moist soil in rice fields; locality- Gossaigaon; collecting no- 27, 61

**15. Species:** *Nostoc muscorum* Ag. Ex Born. ET Flah. (Plate I, Fig.15) Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 385, pl. 70, fig. 2, 1959.

Thallus irregularly expanded, filaments densely entangled; trichomes with no definite mode of arrangement, cell 4.3  $\mu\text{m}$  broad, 3.4  $\mu\text{m}$  long; heterocysts spherical, 4.2-5.6  $\mu\text{m}$  broad and 5.5-6.8  $\mu\text{m}$  long; spores oblong, many in series. Habitat-free floating in rice fields; locality -Gossaigaon, Saraibil, Grahampur; collecting no-116, 33, 63,

**16. Species:** *Nostoc punctiforme* (Kütz) Geitler Hariot. (Plate I, Fig.16) Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 374, pl. 69, fig. 1, 1959.

Thallus globose, attached, densely entangled; sheath hyaline; trichome 3.2- 3.8  $\mu\text{m}$  broad, cells barrel shaped, blue green, heterocysts 4- 6  $\mu\text{m}$  broad. Habitat -on moist soil of rice field; locality-Grahampur; collecting no-203

#### Division Cyanophyceae

#### Order Nostocales

#### Family Nostocaceae

#### Genus *Anabaena*

**17. Species:** *Anabaena ambigua* Rao, C. B. (Plate II, Fig.17)

Anand, Handbook of Blue-Green Algae, 45, fig.129, 1989. Trichomes completely enclosed in mucilaginous envelope or sheath ; ensheathed trichomes free floating ,generally occurring single,occasionally in dense clusters, 10.8- 48.8  $\mu\text{m}$  broad ;trichomes straight;cells barrel shaped with deep constriction at the joints 4.2-6  $\mu\text{m}$  broad and 3.2-4.9 $\mu\text{m}$  long heterocysts spherical broader than normal cell; spores ellipsoidal . Habitat-free floating on paddy field; locality-Grahampur, Gossaigaon; collecting no -60,208

**18. Species:** *Anabaena anomala* Fritsch. (Plate II, Fig.18)

Desikachary, Cyanophyta,398, pl. 73, fig. 2, 1959; Anand, Handbook of Blue-Green Algae,45, fig. 130, 1989.

Trichomes moniliform; apical cell rounded, obtuse apex; cells 3.0-3.4 $\mu\text{m}$  broad; heterocysts rare, intercalary, single, spherical, 3.5-5.7 $\mu\text{m}$  broad; endospore thin.

Habitat-floating in rice fields; locality-Grahampur, Gossaigaon; collecting no-11,212

**19. Species:** *Anabaena azollae* Strasburger. (Plate II, Fig.33)

Prescott, Algae of Western Great Lakes, 515, pl. 115, fig. 12,13, 1982. Trichome endophytic, inhabiting inside the tissues of *Azolla pinnata* Wiled; cells spherical to sub globose, 3.6-4.2 $\mu\text{m}$  broad and 4.7-5.8 $\mu\text{m}$  long; heterocysts ovate, 4.0-4.6 $\mu\text{m}$  broad and 6.2-6.4- $\mu\text{m}$  long; akinates ellipsoidal.

Habitat-endophytic in the leaf of *Azolla pinnata* on rice fields and common in any other water body; locality-Gossaigaon, Saraibil, Grahampur; collecting no-67, 120, 75, 23,185

**20. Species:** *Anabaena circinalis* Rabenhorst ex Born. et Flah. (Plate II, Fig.19) Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 414, 1959.

Trichomes circinate, seldom straight; cells barrel-shaped or spherical; heterocysts subspherical, 7.6-8.8 $\mu\text{m}$  broad; spores cylindrical, ends rounded, 16.2-18.5 $\mu\text{m}$  broad and 30.4 $\mu\text{m}$  long, away from the heterocysts.

Habitat-planktonic in ditches; locality-Gossaigaon, Grahampur; collecting no-188, 55

**21. Species:** *Anabaena doliolum* Bharadwaja. (Plate II, Fig.20) Desikachary,Cyanophyta,410, pl. 78 fig. 3, 1959; Anand, Handbook of Blue-Green Algae, 45, fig. 131, 1989.

Trichome single , straight , curved , 3.6- 4  $\mu\text{m}$  broad ; cells barrel shaped , heterocysts barrel- shaped , 5.3- 6.0 $\mu\text{m}$  broad and 6.4- 8.5  $\mu\text{m}$  long ; spores ellipsoidal ,with pointed apices in long chains ,adjoining the heterocysts .

Habitat-ditches, pond; locality -Gossaigaon; collecting no-54, 24

**22. Species:** *Anabaena fertilissima* Rao, C. B. (Plate II, Fig.21)

Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 398, pl. 74, fig. 1 ,1959; Anand, Handbook of Blue-Green Algae, 45, fig. 132, 1989.

Trichome single, with round end cells ; cells barrel shaped, trichome 4.6-5.8  $\mu\text{m}$  broad ;heterocyst rare , intercalary ,6-7.6  $\mu\text{m}$  broad ; spores in long chain , often making the whole trichome sporogenous, adjoining the heterocyst,4.6-7.6  $\mu\text{m}$  broad and 3.4- 7.8  $\mu\text{m}$  long . Habitat -on moist soil (Ditches); locality - Gossaigaon; collecting no - 64

**23. Species:** *Anabaena fuellebornii* Schmidle. (Plate II, Fig.22)

Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 401, pls. 71, fig. 11 and pl. 75 , figs. 1,3 , 1959. ; Anand, Handbook of Blue-Green Algae, 45, fig.133, 1989. Trichome straight or coiled ; cells cylindrical with rounded ends , 4-5  $\mu\text{m}$  broad ,up to 10  $\mu\text{m}$  long ,end cell round ; heterocyst barrel shaped with round ends , 4.5-6.8  $\mu\text{m}$  broad and 10.3- 11.6  $\mu\text{m}$  long ; spores on one side of the heterocyst , single or in pairs ,ellipsoidal about 9.8-14.8  $\mu\text{m}$  broad and up to 19.8  $\mu\text{m}$  long with fine spiny or papillate wall. Habitat-free floating on rain paddels, paddy field; locality- Gossaigaon; collecting No: 72, 8

**24. Species:** *Anabaena iyengarii* Rao.C.B. (Plate II, Fig.24)

Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 408, pl. 76, fig. 5, 1959; Anand, Handbook of Blue-Green Algae,45,fig.133,1989.

Trichome single, 3.8-4.0 $\mu\text{m}$  broad, tapering at the ends; cells barrel shaped, as long as broad; heterocysts barrel shaped; spores ellipsoidal both sides of the heterocysts, 8.0-10.0  $\mu\text{m}$  broad and 10.6-18.8 $\mu\text{m}$  long. Habitat-present in ponds, beel; locality: Gossaigaon, Saraibil; collecting no- 22, 66, 59

**25. Species:** *Anabaena iyengarii* var. *tenuis* Rao, CB. (Plate II, Fig.23) Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 408, pl. 76, fig.1, 1959.

Thallus free floating, pale blue green; trichomes straight,3.7- 4.5 $\mu\text{m}$  broad; end cell conical with rounded apices; cells barrel shaped, as long as broad; heterocysts spherical, 4.9-6.8 $\mu\text{m}$  broad and 5.6-10.5 $\mu\text{m}$  long; spores ellipsoidal with rounded ends single or in pairs on either side of heterocysts, 7.8-9.5  $\mu\text{m}$  broad and 9.0- 19.8 $\mu\text{m}$  long. Habitat-present in beel, pool; locality-Gossaigaon, Saraibil; collecting no-198, 40

**26. Species:** *Anabaena oscillarioides* Bory ex Born.et Flah. (Plate II, Fig.26) Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 417, pl.71, fig.7, 1959; Anand, Handbook of Blue-Green Algae, 45, fig. 137, 1989.

Thallus gelatinous; trichome 4.0-5.6 $\mu\text{m}$  broad; cells barrel shaped as long as broad; heterocysts spherical; spores on both sides of the heterocysts; single or 2-3, cylindrical, 6.8-8.2 $\mu\text{m}$  broad, 18.9-35.0 $\mu\text{m}$  long. Habitat-on rice fields; locality-Gossaigaon, Grahampur, Kachugaon; collecting no-7,111, 25



**27. Species:** *Anabaena spiroides* Klebahn. (Plate II, Fig.30) Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 395, pl. 71, fig. 9, 1959.

Trichome single, free floating, regular spirally coiled; cells spherical; heterocyst subspherical; spores elongate, next to heterocyst. Habitat-free floating in tank; locality-Grahampur; collecting no-7, 121, 24.

**28. Species:** *Anabaena spiroides* var. *contracta* Klebahn. (Plate II, Fig.27) Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 396, 1959.

Trichome free floating, single, spiral 18.9-23.7  $\mu\text{m}$  broad and 10-15.4  $\mu\text{m}$  distant; cells spherical 6.2-7.6 broad, mostly shorter than broad.

Habitat-free floating on pond, ditches; locality-Gossaigaon, Grhampur, Saraibil; collecting no -11, 133, 35

**29. Species:** *Anabaena unispora* Gardner. (Plate II, Fig.28)

Desikachary, 403, pl. 77, fig. 1, 1959. Thallus thin; trichome intermixed with other algae, cells 3.6-4.0 $\mu\text{m}$  broad, and 4.4-4.8 $\mu\text{m}$  long, constricted at the cross walls; heterocysts larger in size; akainetes single, ellipsoidal, developed in one side of the heterocysts, the size of the spores is variable, 12.4-13.8 $\mu\text{m}$  broad, and 18.9-24.7 $\mu\text{m}$  long. Habitat- in temporary rain water with other algae and in pond; locality-Gossaigaon, Grhampur, Saraibil; collecting no- 44, 37, 20

**30. Species:** *Anabaena utermöhlII* Geitler. (Plate II, Fig.25)

Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 415, pl. 74, fig.2, 1959. Trichomes single, free floating, often regularly, sometimes irregularly spirally coiled; spirals 17-28.7 $\mu\text{m}$  broad; sometimes uncoiled; cells 3.5-4.2  $\mu\text{m}$  broad, 4.2-5.4 $\mu\text{m}$  long; heterocysts elongate; spores bent, on both sides of the heterocysts, 7.2-8.0 $\mu\text{m}$  broad, 18.2-19.8 $\mu\text{m}$  long. Habitat-free floating on pond; locality-Gossaigaon; collecting no-79, 13

**31. Species:** *Anabaena variabilis* Kützing ex Born. ET Flah. (Plate II, Fig.29) Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 410, pl. 71, fig.5, 1959.

Thallus thin, gelatinous; trichome 3.0-4.5  $\mu\text{m}$  broad, constricted at the cross walls, end cell conical; cells barrel-shaped; heterocysts spherical; spores formed centrifugally in catenate series, away from heterocysts, oblong, yellowish brown in colour.

Habitat- attached on damp walls; locality- Gossaigaon; collecting no-70, 12

#### Division Cyanophyceae

##### Order Nostocales

##### Family Nostocaceae

##### Genus Pseudanabaena

**32. Species:** *Pseudanabaena schmidlei* Jaag.O. (Plate II, Figs.31-32) Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 219, pl. 75, fig. 4, 1959. Thallus free floating, blue green; trichomes 5.6- 7.0 $\mu\text{m}$  broad, up to 300  $\mu\text{m}$  long; cells more or less as long as broad. Habitat-free floating in any stagnant water, beel, rice field; Locality-Grahampur, Gossaigaon; collecting no-201,208,113

#### Division Cyanophyceae

##### Order Nostocales

##### Family Nostocaceae

##### Genus Aulosira

**33. Species:** *Aulosira fritschii* Bharadw. (Plate II, Fig. 34)

Desikachary, Cyanophyta, 432, pl. 80, figs. 7-12, 1959. Filaments unbranched, 19.5-15.8  $\mu\text{m}$  broad, straight; sheath hyaline; trichome constricted at the cross walls; cells longer than broad; heterocyst single and intercalary, cylindrical; spores in long chains formed centrifugally interrupted by vegetative cells. Habitat -in pond with other submerged plants; locality -Saraibil; collecting no- 58

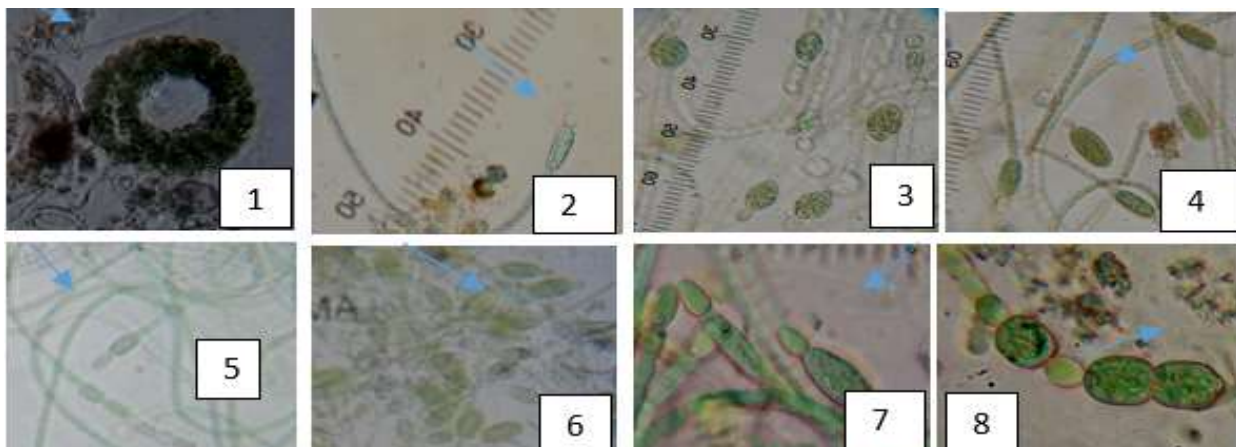
#### 4. Conclusions

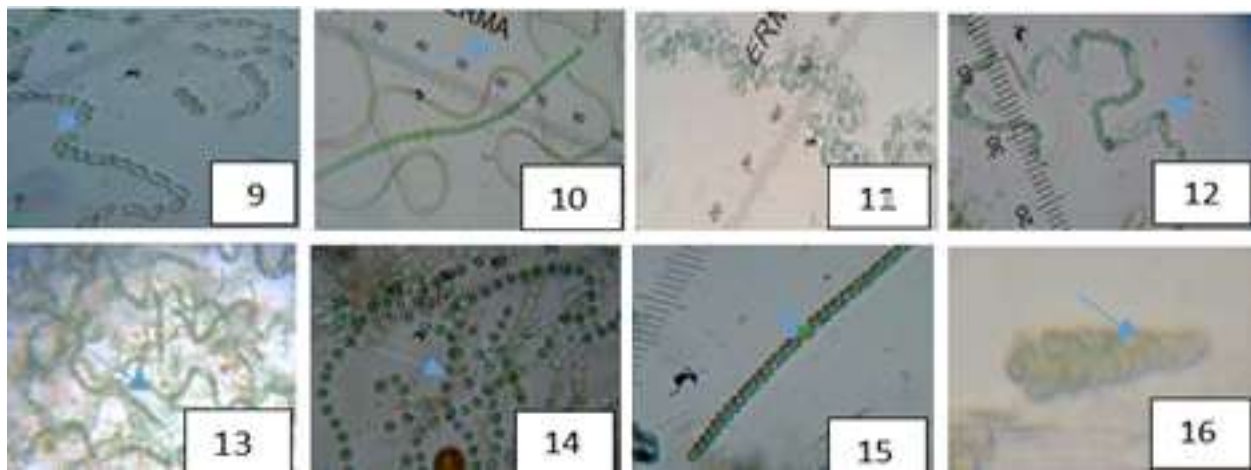
The present study has identified a total 34 cyanophycean species from different habitat water of Gossaigaon subdivision. All species were heterocystous filamentous and belongs to 7 genera. Among these taxa *Anabaena* carried highest no (13), followed by *Nostoc* (9), *Cylindrospermum* (6) and *Anabaenopsis*, *Wollea*, *Aulosira* and *Pseudanabaena* represent by single species.

The study has reported that the area is rich in cyanobacterial population which are very important for the growth and yields of rice crop particularly in this area.

Lastly it can be concluded that these heterocystous filamentous algae increase the soil fertility by adding  $\text{N}_2$  into the soil naturally.

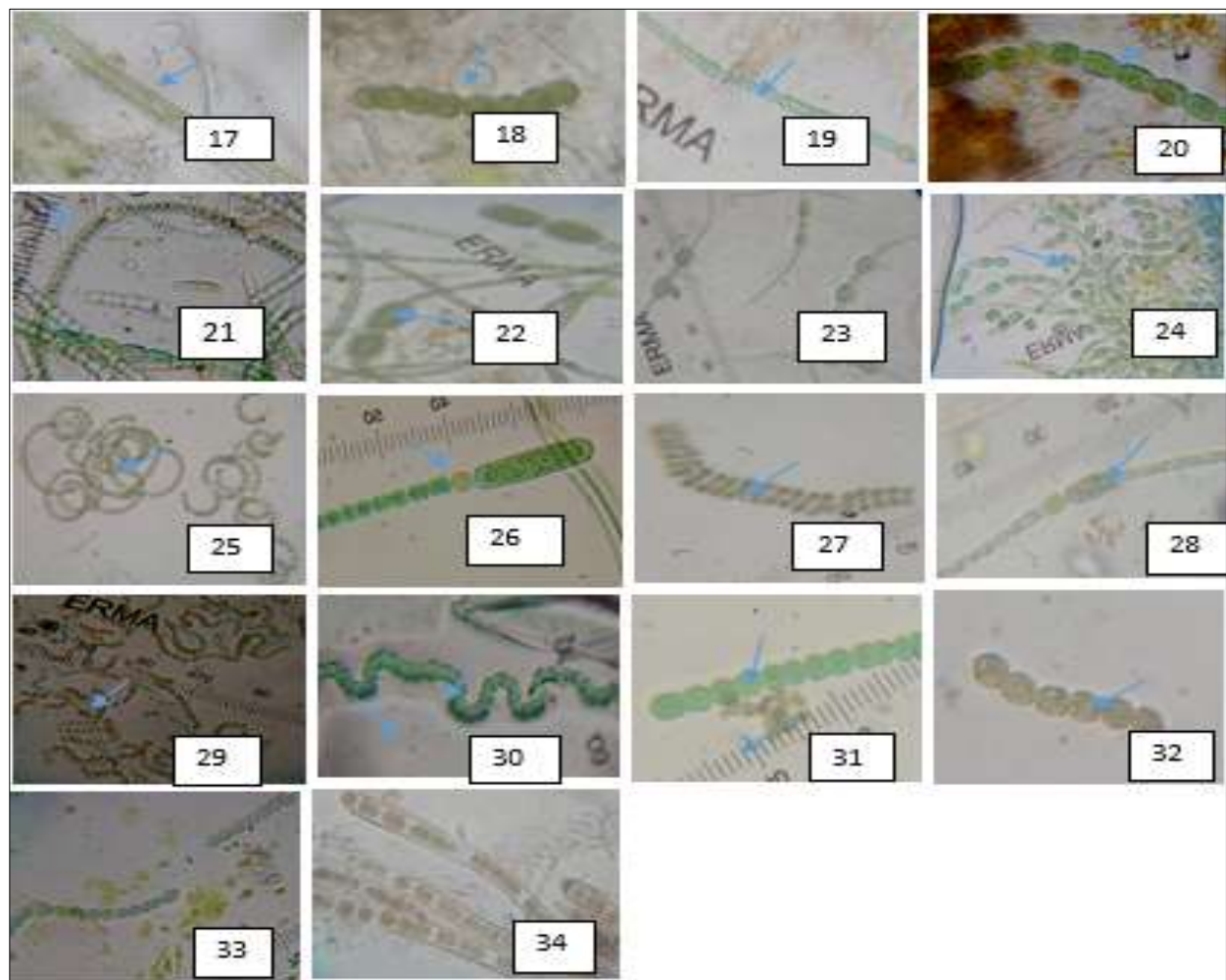
#### Photographic Plate I





**Fig 1:** *Anabaenopsis circularis* Wolosz. Et Mille, 2) *Cylindrospermum alatosporum* Fritsch , 3) *Cylindrospermum muscicola* Kützing ex Born et Flah, 4) *Cylindrospermum gorakhpurensis* Sing, R.N., 5) *Cylindrospermum muscicola* var. *kasmiriensis* Bharadw, 6) *Cylindrospermum stagnale*(Kütz) Born et Flah, 7) *Cylindrospermum stagnale* f. *variabilis* Prasad , 8) *Wollea bharadwajae* Sing,R. N., 9) *Nostoc calcicola* Breb., 10) *Nostoc carneum* Ag., 11) *Nostoc commune* Vaucher ex Born. ET Flah, 12) *Nostoc hatei* Dixit, 13) *Nostoc linckia* (Roth) Bornet ex Born. ET Flah, 14) *Nostoc linckia* v. *arvensis* Rao, CB, 15) *Nostoc muscorum* Ag. Ex Born. ET Flah., 16) *Nostoc punctiforme* (Kütz) Hariot.

## Photographic Plate II



**Fig 2:** *Anabaena circinalis* Rabenh, 20) *Anabaena doliolum* Bharadwaja, 21) *Anabaena fertilissima* Rao, CB, 22) *Anabaena fuellebornii* Schmidle, 23) *Anabaena iyengaraii* var. *tenuis* Rao, C.B. 24) *Anabaena iyengaraii* Rao, CB, 25) *Anabaena utermöhlai* Geitler, 26) *Anabaena oscillarioides* Bory ex Born ET Flah, 27) *Anabaena spiroides* var. *contracta* Klebahn 28) *Anabaena unisporea* Gardner, 29) *Anabaena variabilis* Kützing ex Born. ET Flah. 30) *Anabaena spiroides* Klebahn, 31&32) *Pseudoanabaena schmidlei* Jaag. O., 33) *Anabaena azollae* 34) *Aulosira fritschii* Bharadw

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