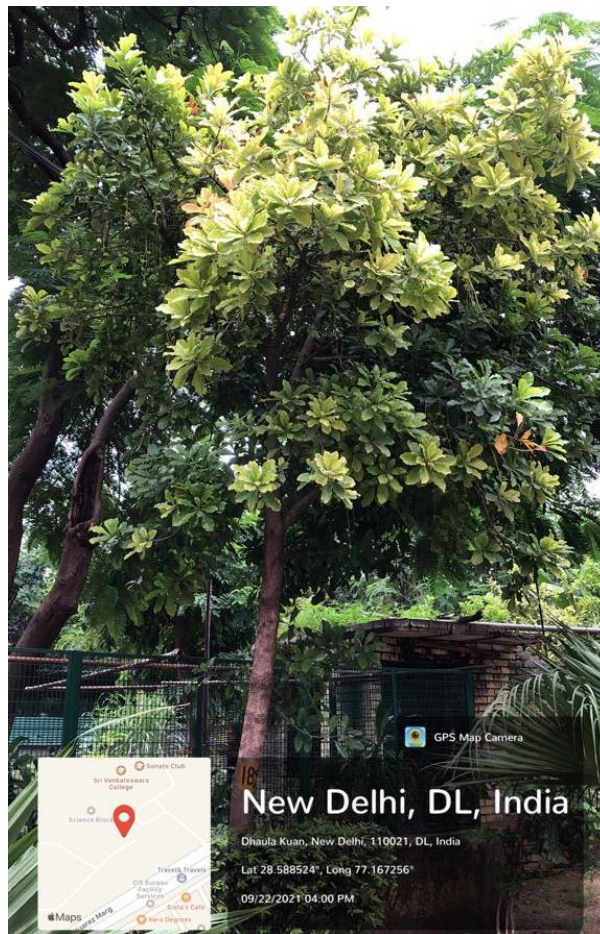


## *Terminalia chebula*



**Common Name:** Black or Chebulic Myrobalan

**Scientific Name:** *Terminalia chebula*

**Family:** Combretaceae

It is a medium to large deciduous tree growing up to 30 meters in length and 1 meter in girth. It is native to South Asia, Nepal east to southwest China and South to Sri Lanka, Malaysia and Vietnam. The leaves are alternate to sub-opposite in arrangement, oval, 7-8 cm long and 4.5-10 cm broad with a 1-3 cm long petiole. They have an acute tip, chordate at the base, margin entire, glabrous above with a yellowish pubescence below.

The dull white to yellow flowers are monoecious, and have a strong, unpleasant odour. They are born in terminal spikes or short panicles. The fruits are smooth ellipsoidal to ovoid drupes, yellow to orange-brown in colour, with a single angled stone.

**Medicinal Uses:** It is a main ingredient in the ayurvedic formulation *Triphala*, which is used for kidney and liver dysfunctions. The dried fruits are also used in Ayurveda as a purported antitussive, cardi tonic, homeostatic, diuretic and laxative.

**Economically Important Part:** Fruit