



Figs. 4–6. *Myrmica curvispinosa* sp. nov., (Gyne) 4. Head in full-face view; 5. body, lateral view; 6. body, dorsal view.

petiole has a very long peduncle (ESLI 0.29, PI_1 1.71). Whereas in *M. inezae* a concave ridge separates the scutum from the scutellum, propodeal spines are much longer, and the petiole has a shorter peduncle (ESLI 0.41, PI_1 1.63).

Etymology. The species is named after the shape of propodeal spines, which are curved at the tips.

Ecology. *Myrmica curvispinosa* sp. nov. has been collected by the hand picking method from a nest under stones in a patchy *Cedrus* forest in a temperate region of the Himalayas. The forest was surrounded by cultivated fields and an apple orchard. The temperature recorded at the site was 23 °C. One paratype and ergatoid were collected from another locality (Kothi), beneath a stone in moist soil. The area was surrounded by a patchy *Cedrus* forest with grass cover and located under the foothills of Peer-Panjal range of the Himalayas, covered with snow from October to mid-March.

Myrmica kothiensis Bharti et Sharma sp. nov.

Material examined. Holotype Worker, India, Himachal Pradesh, Kothi, 32.319325°N, 77.197945°E, 2479 m, 16.vi.2003; paratypes, 3 workers from the nest of holotype. All specimens are in PUAC (No. 193). One paratype will be deposited in BMNH.

Description. Worker (Figs. 10–12, Table 2). Head longer than wide, with slightly convex sides and rounded occipital corners; mandible with 8 teeth (apical and preapical ones are the largest), longitudinally rugulose; clypeus convex, pointed anteriorly, with coarse longitudinal rugae; frontal triangle smooth and shiny; frontal lobes narrow, frontal carinae curved outward to merge with the rugae that surround the

antennal sockets; only frons with longitudinal rugae, rest of the head reticulate; antennae 12 segmented with a 4 segmented club, feebly curved at base, without any trace of lobe or carina, longitudinally rugulose, $\frac{1}{4}$ th longer than head length.

Mesosoma in profile convex, pro-mesonotal dorsum coarsely reticulate, rugose with few transverse rugae on mesonotum; sides of the pronotum with transverse rugae, rest of the mesosoma longitudinally rugose; metanotal groove longitudinally rugulose; propodeal dorsum with short transverse rugae, surface between rugae smooth and shiny; propodeal spines thick, long and straight, not curved at tips, surface between their bases transversally rugulose, declivity smooth and shiny, propodeal lobes rounded; petiole with long peduncle but reduced sub-petiole process, dorsum of peduncle weakly rugulose, petiole node concave anteriorly, rounded above, punctulate and reticulate, sides reticulate; postpetiole dorsum rugulose, sides longitudinally rugulose. Gaster smooth and shiny.

Short sub-decumbent hairs on sides of the head, long erect hairs on whole head dorsum including the clypeus, mesosoma, petiole, postpetiole and gaster. Short suberect hairs present on gaster as well. Head, mesosoma, petiole, postpetiole and gaster brownish-black; mandibles, legs and antennae yellowish brown.

Males and gynes unknown.

Differential diagnosis. *Myrmica kothiensis* sp. nov. belongs to *inezae* species group as it possesses long peduncle, long propodeal spines and antennae feebly curved at the base without any trace of lobe or carina, but it well differs from *M. inezae*, *M. radchenkoi* and *M. rigatoi* by the presence of coarse reticulation on pronotal dorsum, transverse rugosity on meso-propodeal dorsum, and other morphometric