

TREATMENT OF SPECIES

Paratopula andamanensis (Forel) **comb. n.**
(figs 15, 16)

Sima andamanensis Forel, 1903: 403. Holotype male, ANDAMAN IS.: Petite Andaman Bumla Creek (MHN) [examined].

Known only from a single male, *andamanensis* was brought to my attention by Philip S. Ward of the University of California. Whilst checking type-material of Pseudomyrmecinae he noticed that this specimen definitely did not fit in that subfamily. At BMNH we showed its close relationship with *oculata* and *ceylonica* males (diagnosis above), and hereby transfer *andamanensis* into the genus *Paratopula*.

MALE.

P. andamanensis is closely related to *oculata*, the two sharing the same form of depressed rectangular head capsule (fig. 8), characteristic overall shape of petiole and postpetiole (figs 16, 17), and alitrunk structure. The two differ in the following respects. In *andamanensis* the middle and hind tibiae lack projecting hairs, whereas in *oculata* long fine tapering projecting hairs are conspicuous. In *andamanensis* the fifth gastral tergite is broadly triangular, enlarged and shield-like, and conceals the elongate genital parameres from dorsal view. Conversely, in *oculata* the fifth gastral tergite is a narrow transverse sclerite and the elongate parameres project freely from the gastral apex. The propodeal declivity is more nearly vertical in *andamanensis* and the dorsum and declivity round together through a narrower curve than in *oculata*, where the declivity is not so steeply sloped (figs 16, 17). With the alitrunk in profile the propodeal spiracle is closer to the margin of the declivity in *oculata* than in *andamanensis*, and comparison of figs 16 and 17 will show the differences in shape and relative dimensions of the petiole and postpetiole.

WORKER & FEMALE.

Unknown. Just possibly *andamanensis* may represent the male of one of the species known from Borneo. The possibility is faint but must be borne in mind by any future student of this genus.

Paratopula ankistra sp. n.
(figs 1, 6)

HOLOTYPE WORKER.

TL 5.9, HL 1.20, HW 1.00, CI 83, SL 0.90, SI 90, PW 0.72, AL 1.68. Propodeal spines elongate, downcurved along their length (fig. 1). Metapleural lobes relatively large and hooked upwards at their tips. Dorsal (outer) surfaces of middle and hind tibiae with appressed fine pubescence but lacking stouter suberect to erect hairs.

Mandibles finely and densely shagreenate, with a few scattered shallow pits which are almost effaced; equipped with 9 visible teeth (perhaps a tenth tooth concealed by the clypeal margin). Median impression of clypeus shallow. Head slightly more elongate and narrower than is usual in the genus (CI 83), and the scapes relatively long (SI 90). Maximum diameter of eye 0.26 x HW. Leading edge of scape with a distinctive row of short erect hairs. Weakly developed frontal carinae present. Dorsum of head between frontal carinae predominantly longitudinally rugose, but occipitally and in the space between the carinae and the eyes a loose open rugoreticulum is present. Ground-sculpture everywhere finely granulate to reticulate-punctate. Pronotal dorsum very shallowly transversely concave. Lateral margin of pronotum separated from mesonotum by a distinct impression. Maximum width of mesonotal dorsum about equal to that of propodeum (c.0.40), distinctly less than the width of the pronotal dorsum. Metanotal groove broad and shallow. Alitrunk everywhere with a loose open rugoreticulum, many of the reticular meshes broken or incomplete. Ground-sculpture as head, opaque. Petiole node in dorsal