

reaching posterior margin of head; F1 long, subequal to preceding 4 segments combined; F2-F7 transverse; club formed of apical 3 segments, terminal segment more than 2x preceding one; eyes oval, antero-ventrally pointed; placed on median line, maximum diameter 0.21x HW; frontal carinae and antennal scrobes absent.

Thorax : Elongate, broad anteriorly; pro-mesonotum forming a single convexity; mesonotum narrow; pro-mesonotal suture absent; meso-metanotal suture deep, thorax emarginate in this suture; metanotum dorsally flat; meso- and metanotum laterally slightly compressed; propodeal spines strong, curving upwards and forwards from their bases, bulla of metapleural gland widely separated from propodeal spiracle, propodeal spiracle small, situated high on side, approaching dorsal line and a little mid line; metapleural lobes rounded, metasternal process absent; legs of moderate size; mid and hind tibiae with simple spur; claws simple.

Abdomen : Petiole with a long thick peduncle in front; node low and weakly conical in profile; peduncle anteriorly with an acute ventral spine beneath; petiole dorsally emarginate; spiracle at about mid length of peduncle, post petiole reduced, shallow in profile, helcium very deep; in dorsal view post petiole 1.8x broader than petiole node. Gaster : T1 dorsally flat, strongly convex ventrally, T1 extremely dorso-ventrally compressed in profile immediately behind post petiole; in dorsal view attachment to post petiole broad; tergites strongly covering sternites. T1 covering more than half length of gaster.

Plesiotype : Worker. INDIA : Kerala, Calicut University Campus, Coll. S. Sheela, 17.vi.1995 (DZCU)

Other material examined : 1 Worker, INDIA : West Bengal, Calcutta, Coll. S. N. Ghosh, 5.vi.1997.

Distribution : INDIA : Uttar Pradesh : Dehradun; Assam : Kaziranga; Kerala : Calicut; Tamilnadu : Walayar forest, Coimbatore, Siruvani; West Bengal : Calcutta. *Elsewhere* : Nepal : Kathmandu; Myanmar : Pegu; Hongkong : King's Park; Japan : Is. Ishigaki, Mt. Omoto; China : Back Liang.

Discussion : So far 7 species have been reported from this genus of which only a single species *recurvispinosa* represents the Indian subcontinent. In 1890, Forel described this species from Poona under name *Trigonogaster recurvispinosus*.

This species differs from its nearest relatives *R. pickburni* and *R. hebe* in that : (1) in *pickburni* and *hebe*, the propodeal spines much narrower and occipital margin of head broadly rounded vsz : propodeal spines not much narrower and occipital margin of head narrowly rounded. (2) Basal tooth of mandible acutely pointed in *pickburni* vsz : basal tooth of mandible broad and bifurcated at tip in *recurvispinosa*. (3) Post petiole in dorsal view narrower in *hebe* vsz : broader in *recurvispinosa*.

SUMMARY

The present work "Redescription of a little known Myrmicine ant *Recurvidris recurvispinosa* (Forel) (Hymenoptera : Formicidae)" is an attempt to provide sufficient description of the species with detailed diagrams, which can be properly utilized for comparison, if one comes across some other species of the genus *Recurvidris*. The genus is distributed through the Oriental and Indo-