SHOWER OF GOLD

General Details	
Reference	https://biophilia.lk/database/plant/shower-of-gold
Scientific Name	*Cassia fistula*
Sinhala Name	???? (EHELA), ?????? (ERAHANDI, ERAHENDI)
Tamil Name	????? (KAVANI), ?????? ???? (KONREI MARAM), ???????????? ???? (TIRUKKONTAI)
Other Common Names	Purging cassia, Purging fistula, Indian laburnum, or Pudding-pipe tree
Synonyms	
Plant Family	Fabaceae
Plant Group	Angiosperms (Enclosed Seed)
Plant Types	Small Tree
Morphologies / Crown Architecture	Upright Standard Canopy Weeping Canopy

Categories	Border Plants Colorful Plants Common Landscaping Plants Courtyard Plants Dry Zone Plants Flowering Plants Herbal Plants Home Garden Plants Intermediate Zone Plants Light Green Plants Low leaf density plants Medium Size Trees Ornamental Plants Parking Area Plants Roadside Plants Seasonal Plant Shady Plants Fast Growing Plants Sun Loving Plants Trees Cultivating plants Partially Deciduous Plants Medium Maintenance Plants Medium Size Shrubs Bees and Butterfly Attractive Plants Attractive plant Suitable for Hotel Landscapes Small Tree Decorative plants

Native Regions	Southeast Asia
Distributions	Ranges from eastward throughout India to Myanmar and Thailand and south to Sri Lanka and southern Pakistan
Habitat	Dry deciduous forest at lower altitudes. Open forest and grassland
Elevation	Above sea level up to 1,300 m
Average Height	8m
Maximum Height	12m
Average Width	10m
Maximum Width	12m
Root Systems	Tap Root
Propagations	By Seeds By Cutting
Indoor	N/A
Medicinal Use	Yes

MedicinalValue	Every part is used medicinally by the Singhalese as a purgative. The ripe pods and seeds are widely used in both traditional and conventional medicine as a laxative. The root-bark, leaves and flowers also have laxative properties, but to a lesser extent In modern medicine, the fruit pulp is sometimes used as a mild laxative in paediatrics. The fruit pulp and leaves are rich in anthraquinone derivatives (around 2%), and glycosides, which are responsible for the laxative properties. The fruit pulp is richin pectins and mucilage. In-vitro and in-vivo tests have shown that the seed powder has amoebicidal and cysticidal properties against Entamoeba histolytica and that it could cure intestinal amoebiasis of humans. The aqueous fraction of the pods has produced a significant decrease in glycaemia. Aqueous and methanolic bark extracts have shown significant anti-oxidant and anti-inflammatory activities. An alcohol extract of theleaves has shown antibacterial activity in vivo against Staphylococcus aureus and Pseudomonas aeruginosa, plus accelerated wound healing. A water extract of the leaves has shown antifungal activity against the human skin pathogens Trichophyton spp., Epidermatophyton floccosum and Microsporum ferruginum. The pods are used as a remedy for malaria, blood poisoning, anthrax, diabetes and dysentery. The pods contain a sweet, sticky pulp. A decoction of this is taken as a cure for kidney stones, as a vermifuge and as a laxative. The pulp is extracted from the pods by bruising them and then boiling them in water, after which the decoction is evaporated. It may be obtained from fresh pods by opening them at the sutures and removing the pulp with a spatula. The pulp is apt to become sour if long exposed to the air, or mouldy if kept in a damp place. The bark or leaves are widely applied to skin problems[299. Broken bones and tropical ulcers are bandaged with bark scrapings and leaf sap. The heartwood is traditionally applied as an anthelmintic. A decoction of the roots is applied to purify wounds and ulcers. In India the roots are used to treat fevers. The concentration of sennoside in the leaves of Cassia fistula is highest soon after the onset of the rainy season, when new leaves have appeared and flowering started. The sennoside content of the pods is highest at the mid-stage of fruit maturation, when the pods are pale brown.

Benefits & Uses	The bark is used for tanning and dyeing. The seeds of Cassia fistula are a potential commercial source of seed gum, a potential binder for the pharmaceutical industry. The water soluble gum isolated from the seeds has been evaluated for its binding properties for formulations of tablets. The gum showed overall superiority in viscosity and binding properties as compared to other binders. The heartwood is yellow; it is distinctly demarcated from the white sapwood. The wood is reddish. The grain is straight to slightly interlocked; the texture moderately coarse;the wood is hard, heavy, strong and durable. It provides a hard multipurpose timber that can be used for buildings, carts, fence posts, agricultural implements etc. The wood is used to make a good quality charcoal. The trees are grown as ornamentals; the flowers are used to decorate temples for religious ceremonies.
Plant Diseases	Root Rot Disease Powdery Mildew Leaf Spot
Foliage	
Leaf / Habit	Partially Deciduos
Leaf Shape	Ovate shape
Arrangements	Simple
Leaf Arrangement	Alternate leaf arrangement
Leaves	Deciduous, 15–60 cm (6–24 in) long, and pinnate with three to eight pairs of leaflets, each leaflet 7–21 cm (3–8 in) long and 4–9 cm (1.6–3.5 in) broad. The flowers are produced in pendulous racemes 20–40 cm (8–16 in) long usually drop in April as a prelude to flowering
Flowering	
Is Flowering ?	Yes

Blossoms	Five-petaled, bright yellow flowers bloom in 8-18" pendulous terminal racemes which cover the tree with profuse bloom
Blooming Season	May; June; July
Fruiting	
Bears Fruits ?	Yes
Fruit	Does not attract wildlife; fruit, twigs, or foliage cause significant litter; showy
Fruiting Season	August
Maintenance	
Level	Medium
Soil Types	Sandy Soil Clay Soil Loam Soil Acidic (pH 5.5>) to Alkaline (pH 8.5 <) Well Drained Soil
Water	Medium/Moderate
Sunlight	Full Semi Shade
Humidity	High
Edibility	
Is Edible ?	N/A
Legal Status	

Flora Fauna Protection Ordinance 2009 Amendment, Sri Lanka	Not Evaluated