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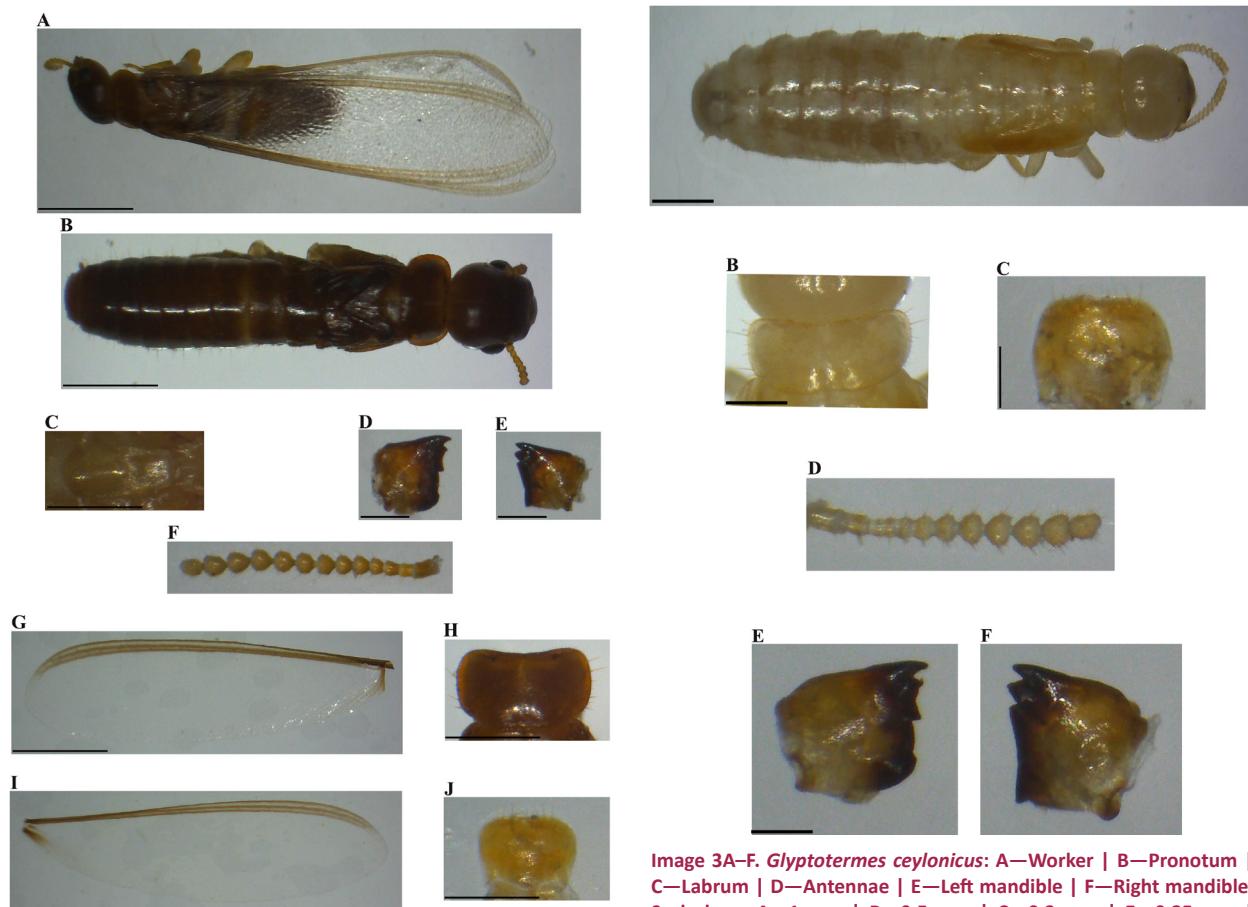
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**Image 2A–J.** *Glyptotermes ceylonicus*: A—Imago with wing | B—Imago without wing | C—postmentum | D—Left mandible | E—Right mandible | F—Antennae | G—Fore wing | H—Pronotum | I—Hind wing | J—Labrum. Scale bars: A—1 mm | B—1 mm | C—0.25 mm | D—0.5 mm | E—0.5 mm | F—0.25 mm | G—2 mm | H—0.75 mm | I—2 mm | J—0.3 mm. © Authors.

## DISCUSSION

Kalotermitidae is a monophyletic lineage (Inward et al. 2007); it contains lower termites that evolved during the Cretaceous period. Three species of Kalotermitidae are preserved in Miocene amber from the Dominican Republic, which belong to the living genera *Cryptotermes*, *Glyptotermes*, and *Incisitermes* (Rohr et al. 1986). The higher distribution and abundance of *Glyptotermes* in the Neotropical (34.2%) and Indo-Malayan (31.5%) regions suggest, the genus had its origin in either of these regions. They got dispersed in the late Jurassic or early Cretaceous to the Australian and Papuan regions and dispersed through the Bering land bridge (Emerson 1952, 1955) or they originated in southern landmass when they were contiguous and dispersed before landmass drifted apart according to Warner's hypothesis (Chhotani 1970). Either of the two theories gives an insight into the reason behind the peculiar distribution.

**Image 3A–F.** *Glyptotermes ceylonicus*: A—Worker | B—Pronotum | C—Labrum | D—Antennae | E—Left mandible | F—Right mandible. Scale bars: A—1 mm | B—0.5 mm | C—0.3 mm | D—0.25 mm | E—0.25 mm. © Authors.

Studies show that East Gondwana, including India, split from West Gondwana between 165 and 150 million years ago (Krutzsch 1989; McLoughlin 2001; Briggs 2003). The collision of the Deccan plate (comprising India, Sri Lanka, and Seychelles) with Laurasia during the Eocene between 55 and 40 million years ago led to the rise of the Himalayan chain (Partridge 1997; Willis & McElwain 2002). The tropical climate of this region supports the development of the tropical biome in southeastern Asia. Sri Lanka was probably connected to India until 6,000 years ago, with a continuous stretch of tropical rain forest, which permitted the exchange of fauna of these regions. Later, Sri Lanka separated from the Indian mainland due to rise in sea levels (McLoughlin 2001).

Roonwal & Chottani (1989) conducted extensive studies on the termite fauna of the Indian subcontinent and reported 12 species of *Glyptotermes*. Thakur et al. (2010), introduced a new species, *Glyptotermes roonwali*, from northern India. Amina & Rajmohana (2016), introduced a new species, *Glyptotermes chiraharitae*,





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