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An Ethnobotanical Survey of Some Medicinal Plants used by Traditional Healers of Adilabad Dist, Telangana State

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Abstract

The history of medicinal plants is as old as history of civilization, world over. The relevance of local herbal health traditions has not diminished despite the giant strides made in the field of modern medicine. India, a mega diverse nation, is one of the richest nations in terms of biological diversity. India owes this to its position in the tropical and subtropical latitudes. The traditional medicine industry in India mostly belongs to the small-scale category, in ethnobotanical studies, the major contribution has been in the field of medicine. A large number of ethnomedicinal information remained endemic to certain regions or people due to lack of communication. In recent the premier industrial houses have also entered the field of manufacture of ayurvedic and herbal products. In fact, modern or western medicine too is the beneficiary of herbal traditions in as much as 25% of the drugs of this class are plant-based. The major families which occupied first, and second position were Mimosaceae-12sp Euphorbiaceae-9sp, and all 149 plant species belonging to 57 families were documented and authentically identified. This bespeaks not only of the economic potential but also the sustained relevance of traditional medical science in modern times. The main aim of the survey is to prepare a ready check-list of medicinal plants present at and around Adilabad hills used by local herbalists and village folklore to cure various human and cattle ailments.

Keywords

Ethnobotanical survey, Medicinal Plants Traditional Healers, Adilabad Dist, Telangana.

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INTRODUCTION

Documentation of Ethno- botanical studies of any area have attained importance due to fast depletion of folklore knowledge and their uses because of modern life styles. The present use of modern medicine is leading to various illnesses of unknown nature in human beings. The dominant Allopathic systems of Medicine though providing treatment quickly to many diseases but also cause deleterious side effects on human body. All these factors are forcing the man to look for alternative sources more ultimately the plant origin. The usefulness and efficacy of the plants as curative agents of many human diseases is long known. Traditionally, the

knowledge of plants as source of medicines for different diseases is well known through traditional medicinal systems like Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, Homeopathy, Chinese's and Tibetan medicine.

The vast tracts of Indian sub-continent and its rich flora and fauna are still to be explored. The people living in the forests and its vicinity and tribal's are using many plants for their several health problems. These people living away from the modern society and lack of proper health care facilities are still depending on their native medical practices for the primary health care.

The importance of traditional system of medicine has now been recognized all over the world. The traditional medicinal practices have become the integral part of social culture, particularly in the countries of third world. Ethno-botanical information plays an important role in scientific evaluation, efficacy and active principles of the medicinal plants. Early man on this earth would have hunted in the jungle for plants and animals to meet with his hunger, and search for some materials like skin, bark or foliage to protect him from rigorous of weather. The term Ethnobotany was first coined by John William Harshberger in 1895. The term Ethnobotany has often been considered synonymous with traditional medicine or with economic value of the plants, in other words, Ethnobotany can also be defined as the study of total natural and traditional interrelationships between man and plants as well as animals. Initial studies on Ethnobotany in the world in the last 75 years have been primarily devoted to the preparation of inventories of plants of certain regions or specific ethnic groups. Many scientists, naturalists and thinkers from outside the community of Ethnobotanists started emphasizing the importance of Ethnobotanicical inquiries and explorations. Faulks (1958) wrote the first book on Ethnobotany entitled "An introduction to Ethnobotany". Subsequently Jain (1981) published a book with the title of "Glimpses of Indian Ethno botany" and it is a compilation of various Ethnobotanically related articles of different phytogeographical areas and tribes of India. The present study deals with Traditional medicinal plants existing in the district of Adilabad district related with the traditional medicinal practices of local tribal and folklore community, Gondi. Kolams Naikpod, Golla, Kurma, Lambada, Chenchu and other village heads and local practitioners. The work is aimed at documentation, availability, utility and methodology of drug preparation by these communities in the fields of primary healthcare of human being as well as veterinary health practices. As of today, there is no proper scientific documentation of healing practices of these communities. To record the traditional medicinal practices of the folklore and Trible community of Adilabad district and the potentiality of TRADITIONAL BOTANICAL KNOWLEDGE: of the local people. 1. Botanical identification and herbarium preparation of the plants used by them. The plants which are in use for curing the diseases by them, for different ailments. 2. To record the methodology followed by them in diagnosis during administration and curing of the diseases. 3.Publication of the scientific data in the form of documentation for future scientific studies. To record the botanical identification, which is the sheet anchor for the scientific documentation of traditional knowledge,

ENUMERATIONS

In the enumeration, the family and taxons are arranged alphabetically. Ethnobotanical uses of some medicinal plant parts used by tribes for some diseases:

- *Abrus precatorius* Linn. (**Fabaceae)** Root powder is taken orally along with cow's milk to treat corpion sting and snakebite.
- *Abutilon indicum* L. (**Malvaceae)** Leaf juice and root are taken orally to treat dental problems.
- *Abutilon indium* (L.) Sweet. (**Fabaceae)** Leaf paste is applied over the spot of scorpion sting.
- *Acacia catechu* (L.f.) Willd. (**Fabaceae)** The stem bark of *Acacia catechu* and tips of *Holoptela integriafolia* are ground to paste and applied on the wounds for eight days.
- *Acacia chundra* (Roxb. Ex Rottl.) Willd. (**Mimosaceae)** Stem bark extract (1 tablespoonful) is administered with goat milk for 4 days, with a day gap after every dose for asthma. Bark is kept in the home for get rid of fear (Evil spirit).
- *Acacia farnesiana* (L.) Willd. (**Mimosaceae)** Fruit powder is given orally with milk for dogbite.
- *Acacia leucophloea* (Roxb.) Willd (**Mimosaceae)**Paste of fresh stem bark is applied topically to treat cuts and wounds.
- *Acacia nilotica* (L.) Del (**Fabaceae)** Dried stem bark powder mixed with camphor and ghee applied on wounds.
- *Acacia nilotica* (L.) Willd. Ex Del. (**Mimosaceae)** Bark powder is applied along with oil for burns.
- *Acacia pennata* (L) Willd.(**Mimosaceae)** Stem bark along with that of *Semecarpus anacardium* (each 100 g) are pound and the extract is given orally for 3 days for fits (Somma, Murcha)

- *Acalypha indica* L. (**Euphorbiaceae)** Leaves with salt and turmeric are ground to powder and mixed with sesame oil, applied on the patches of ring worm infection. Leaf paste is applied topically to treat skin diseases.
- *Achyranthes aspera* L (**Amaranthaceae)** Leaf paste is applied topically to treat cuts and Wounds.
- *Acorus calamus* L.(**Araceae)** Dried rhizome is ground in water and the paste is given orally to children for clarity of speech.
- *Adhatoda vasica* Nees (**Acanthaceae)** Leaves are ground with the flowers of *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* and taken orally to treat asthma
- *Aegle marmelos* Corr.ex.Roxb (**Rutaceae)** Leaf paste is applied topically to heal wounds. The pulp of fruit is given with water to children suffering with dysentery.
- *Aerva lanata* (L.) Juss. Ex Schult (**Amaranthaceae)** Juice of whole plant is taken orally to treat cough, sore throat and wounds. Leaf juice is instilled in ears.
- *Alangium salvifolium* (L.f.) Wang (**Alangiaceae)** Fruits are eaten for loss of appetite for Anorexia. Stem bark extract and leaf paste are applied as plaster for bone fracture.
- *Aloe vera* L. (**Liliaceae)** Sap mixed with oil is heated and the mixture is applied on hair for hair growth and good sleep.
- *Ampelocissus latifolia* (Roxb.) Planch (**Vitaceae)** 200 ml of stem juice is administered orally once a day for 2 days for Anorexia
- *Andrographis paniculata* (Burm.f.) (**Acanthaceae)** Wallich ex Leaf paste is applied topically at the bitten site of snake; beetle and sorpion.Powdered leaf is mixed with cow or goat's milk and taken orally to treat diabetes.
- *Anodendron paniculatum* (Roxb.) DC. (**Apocynaceae)** Bark extract is bandaged for bone fracture.
- *Anogeissus latifolia* (Roxb. Ex DC.) Wall. Ex Guill. & Perr. (**Combretaceae)** Bark extract (4 tea spoons) along with pepper (2 tea spoons) is given twice a day for 10 to 15 days for asthma
- *Asparagus gonoclados* Baker (**Liliaceae)** Tuber is eaten for fertility.
- *Asystasia gangetica* (L.) T.Anderson (**Acanthaceae)** Leaf powder is mixed with coconut oil and applied topically to healwounds (burns).
- *Azadirachta indica* A. Juss. (**Meliaceae)** Leaf paste is applied topically on the body to treat small pox, rheumatism and skin diseases. The young twigs are used as toothbrush to develop strong teeth.
- *Blumea mollis* (D.Don) Merr.(**Asteraceae)** Leaf smoke is inhaled for cough.
- *Boerhaavia diffusa* L.(**Nyctaginaceae)** Root paste is applied topically to treat hydrocele.
- *Bombax ceiba* L. (**Bombacaceae)** Bark extract is given orally to increase sperm count.
- *Boswellia serrata* Coleb (**Burseraceae)** Gum is applied over the bitten area for dog bite.
- *Buchanania lanzan* Spreng. (**Anacardiaceae)** Gum and rice are pounded and the powder is administered for 3 or 4 days for chest pain.
- *Calotropis gigantean* (L.) R. Br. (**Asclepiadaceae)** Latex drops (3 or 5) mixed with sesame oil (2 spoons) are instilled in ears (2 or 3 drops).
- *Canavalia virosa* (Roxb.) Wt. & Arn. (**Convolvulaceae)** Leaves extract is applied on the affected part once daily for three days for ring worm.
- *Capparis sepiaria* L. (**Capparaceae)** Bark and neem bark (1:4) are crushed and the extract is given orally for 2 days after menstruation for contraceptive.
- *Capparis zeylanica* L. (**Capparaceae)** Root bark is ground with water, boiled and taken orally to treat indigestion and also roots made into an amulet; it is believed to infuse occult powers (Evil spirit).
- *Caralluma umbellate* Roxb. (**Asclepiadaceae)** Pulp of the young plants is applied over the burned parts.
- *Cardiospermum halicacabum* L. (**Sapindaceae)** Root is boiled with oil and applied on head before bath to treat throat infection and headache.
- *Careya arborea* Roxb. (**Lecythidaceae)** Infusion of flowers is given after childbirth to heal ruptures.
- *Cassia absus* L. **(Caesalpiniaceae)** Seeds are ground into paste and applied topically to treat skin diseases and headache.
- *Cassia auriculata* L. **(Caesalpiniaceae)** Flowers are crushed and mixed with goat's milk and taken orally to prevent white discharge in women and seed powder with honey is taken orally for diabetes.
- *Cassia occidentalis* L. **(Caesalpiniaceae)** Leaf paste is applied topically to treat scabies and to heal bone fractures.
- *Cassine glauca* (Roxb.) O. Kuntze (**Celastraceae)** Roots tied to wrist to keep-off evil spirits.

- *Catharanthus roseus* G. Don. (**Apocynaceae)** Whole plant is powdered and mixed with cow's milk and taken orallyto treat diabetes.
- *Ceriscoides turgid* (Roxb.) Tirveng. (**Rubiaceae)** Bark juice is administered for diarrhea
- *Chamaesyce hirta* (L.) Small (**Euphorbiaceae)** Whole plant is pounded with salt and turmeric and applied as cream for boils, blisters & cuts.
- *Chomelia asiatica* (L.) Kuntze. (**Rubiaceae)** Root juice along with garlic is instilled in nose for fits (Somma, Murcha).
- *Cinnamomum verum* Presl. (**Lauraceae)** Decoction of stem bark is taken internally to treat cough, dysentery and to keep the body cool.
- *Cissus quadrangularis* L (**Vitaceae)** Paste of stem is taken orally for easy digestion. Tender internodes and leaves are pickled and eaten for Anorexia.
- *Citrus aurantifolia* (Christm.) Swingle. L.(**Rutaceae)** Decoction of leaves is inhaled to get relief from fever, headache and cold.
- *Cleome viscosa* L. (**Capparaceae)** Leaf paste is applied topically to heal wounds.
- *Clerodendrum inerme (*L.) (**Verbenaceae)** Leaf is ground in water and the juice is taken orally to treat fever.
- *Clitoria ternatea* L. (**Fabaceae)** Root powder is mixed with water and taken orally to treat indigestion, eye diseases and headache.
- *Coccinia grandis* (L.) J. Voigt (**Cucurbitaceae)** Leaf Juice is mixed with butter and applied topically to treat skindiseases. Leaf paste is applied to cuts and wounds
- *Coldenia procumbens* L. (**Boraginaceae)** Juice of leaf is taken orally to prevent white discharge in women.
- *Coleus aromaticus* Benth (**Lamiaceae)** Leaf juice is taken orally by children to treat indigestion and cough.
- *Costus speciosus* (Koenig) Smith (**Zingiberaceae)** Rhizomes are pound and 1 teaspoonful of juice is taken orally by tribals for abortion.
- *Curculigo orchioides* Gaertn (**Hypoxidaceae)** Tubers are dried and powdered and one teaspoonful is taken orally with milk one every day for aphrodisiac.
- *Cynodon dactylon* L. Pers. (**Poaceae)** Decoction of whole plant is taken orally to keep the body cool.
- *Cyperus rotundus* L. (**Cyperaceae)** Paste of dried tuber is applied on breast of women to secrete more milk and applied topically on bitten site of scorpion
- *Datura metel* L. (**Solanaceae)** Few drops of leaf juice is poured into ear to treat earache.
- *Dichrostachys cinerea* Wight & Arn. (**Mimosaceae)** Leaf paste is applied to cuts.
- *Dillenia pentagyna* Roxb (**Dilleniaceae)** Stem bark pounded with ginger and peppers are applied as bandage.
- *Diospyros peregrine* (Gaertn.) (**Ebenaceae)** Barke extract is taken orally for asthma
- *Dodonoea viscose* (L.) Jacq. (**Sapindaceae)** Leaves pounded with turmeric are bandaged over the affected part of bone fracture.
- *Drypetes roxburghi* (Wall.) Hurusawa (**Euphorbiaceae)** Bark extract is given orally for cough.
- *Eclipta prostrata* L (**Asteraceae)** Leaf powder is mixed with coconut oil & applied on the hair regularly for healthy and black hair.
- *Enicostemma axillare* (Lam.) Royle (**Gentianaceae)** Whole plant is pounded and applied to boils.
- *Euphorbia antiquorum* Linn (**Euphorbiaceae)** Dried latex is taken internally in low dose to help free motion.
- *Euphorbia hirta* L. (**Euphorbiaceae)** The milky latex is applied topically to treat wounds and lip cracks.
- *Euphorbia tirucalli* L. (**Euphorbiaceae)** The stem is boiled with water and given to children to treat skin diseases.
- *Ficus benghalensis* L.(**Mimosaceae)** Stem latex is applied topically on heel cracks. Young stem is used as tooth brush.
- *Ficus racemosa* L. (**Mimosaceae)** Stem latex is applied topically to treat heel cracks.
- *Ficus religiosa* L. (**Mimosaceae)** Leaf powder is mixed with water and takenorally to get relief from body pain.
- *Flacourtia indica* (Burm.f.) Merr. (**Flacourtiaceae)** Bark juice is boiled in gingelly oil and the worm extract is applied to cuts.
- *Gloriosa superb* L. (**Liliaceae)** Bulbare pounded with garlicin goat milk given in early pregnancy
- *Grewia hirsute* Vahl (**Tiliaceae)** Roots are pounded and applied over for boils, blisters & cuts.
- *Gymnema sylvestre* R. Br. (**Asclepiadaceae)** Leaf powder is mixed with cow's milk and taken rally to treat diabetes. The root powder is taken orally and also applied on the bittenspot to treat snake bite.

- *Heliotropium indicum* L. (**Boraginaceae)** Paste of whole plant is applied topically to treat wounds and skin affections.
- *Hemidesmus indicus* Linn. R. Br.Muell.(**Asclepiadaceae)** Juice extracted from the whole plant is taken internally to keep thebody cool. Root juice is given orally for blood purifier.
- *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* L. (**Malvaceae)** Paste of fresh leaves is applied on the hair for healthy and black hair.
- *Holarrhena pubescens* (Buch. Ham.) Wall. Ex Don (**Asclepiadaceae)** A pinch of bark is placed in the mouth to relieve cough.
- *Holoptelia integrifolia* (Roxb.) planch (**Ulmaceae)** Bark juice (1/2 glass) is given twice a day for a week.
- *Hybanthus enneaspermus (*L) Muell (**Violaceae)** Paste of whole plant is applied topically to treat cough. Whole plant dried and powdered. One teaspoonful is taken orally with milk every day twice for Aphrodisiac.
- *Hymenodictyon orixense* (Roxb.) Mabb. (**Rubiaceae)** Bark juice is bandaged for bone fracture.
- *Lannea coromandelica* (Houtt.) Merr. (**Anacardiaceae)** Stem bark pounded with turmeric are bandaged over the affected part.
- *Lantana camara* L. (**Verbenaceae)** A handful of flower is ground with coconut oil and applied topically on the head to get relief from headache.
- *Lawsonia inermis* L. (**Lythraceae)** Leaf powder is mixed with coconut oil and applied topically to treat cuts and wounds.
- *Lepidagathis cristata* Willd (**Acanthaceae)** Presence of one plant in home in every sunday is good for health.
- *Leucas aspera* (Willd.) Link. (**Lamiaceae)** A bunch of leaves is boiled and the vapour is inhaled to cure head ache and fever.
- *Lippia nodiflora* Mich.: (**Verbenaceae)** Paste of leaves is applied topically to treat swellings and wounds.
- *Litsea glutinosa* (Lour.) C.B. Robins (**Lauraceae)** Bark juice is taken orally for maternal pain.
- *Mangifera indica* L. (**Anacardiaceae)** The latex from leaf and stem bark is used to treat heel cracks.
- *Melochia corchorifolia* L. (**Sterculiaceae)** Boiled leaf is taken as food to help in free motion.
- *Merremia emarginata* (Burm.f.) Hall.f. (**Convolvulaceae)** Decoction of the whole plant is taken internally to treat stomach problems.
- *Mimosa hamata* Willd.(**Mimosaceae)**Bark extract pound in cows' milks along with garlic is advised to men thrice a day for 3 days for increase in potency.
- *Mimosa pudica L*.(**Mimosaceae)**Leaf paste is applied topically to treat cuts and wounds. Root extract (2 spoons) given once a day for two days for diarrhoea.
- *Morinda tinctoria* Roxb. (**Rubiaceae)**Leaf juice is given orally to children before food for easy digestion.
- *Moringa concanensis* Nimmo ex Dalz. & Gibs.(**Moringaceae)**Stem bark extract (2 spoonfuls) is administered with sugar for 4 days for cough.
- *Moringa oleifera* Lam.(**Moringaceae)**The leaf is taken as food and it reduces body heat and to treat indigestion and eye diseases. Flower is taken as food and it gives chillness to eyes and increases sperm production in men.
- *Mukia maderaspatana* (L.) M. Roemer (**Cucurbitaceae)**Leaf powder is mixed with boiled rice and taken orally to treat cold and cough.
- *Murraya koenigii (*L.) Sprengel (**Rutaceae)**Juice of tender leaves is taken orally to arrest vomiting.
- *Nerium oleander* Sol. (**Apocynaceae)**Juice prepared from the stem bark is boiled with gingelly oil and two drops are poured into ear to treat ear pain.
- *Ocimum sanctum* L. (**Lamiaceae)** Tulsi Leaves are crushed with onion bulbs and the juice is taken orally to treat cough, cold and headache
- *Odina wodier* Roxb. Fl. (**Anacardiaceae)** Juice of leaves is taken orally to prevent white discharge in women.
- *Oldenlandia umbellata* L. (**Rubiaceae)** The root paste is applied topically to arrest bleeding.
- *Phyllanthus amarus* Schum. & Thnn. (**Euphorbiaceae)** Fresh leaves are ground and mixed with a cup of cow or goat's milk and taken internally to cure jaundice.
- *Phyllanthus emblica* L. (**Euphorbiaceae)** Fruit powder is mixed with cow's or goat's milk and taken orally to treat cold and cough
- *Plumbago zeylanica* L. (**Plumbaginaceae)** Root pound with garlic in milk is given to children for fits (Somma, Murcha).

- *Polyalthia longifolia* (Sonn.) Thwaites. **(Annonaceae)** Juice extracted from the fresh stem bark is taken orally to treat indigestion.
- *Pongamia pinnata* (L.) Pierre. **(Fabaceae)** Juice of root is mixed with equal amount of coconut milk, boiled and applied topically to cure wound and gastric trouble.
- *Rauwolfia tetraphylla* Linn. **(Apocynaceae)** Paste of the whole plant is mixed with castor oil and applied pically to treat skin diseases.
- *Ricinus communis* L. **(Euphorbiaceae)** The leaf juice is taken orally, or washed leaves are tied on the breast to increase secretion of milk in women. The oil prepared from the seeds is applied on lower stomach to get relief from stomachache
- *Sanservieria roxburghiana* Schult. **(Liliaceae)** Juice of warmed leaf is poured into ear to treat ear pain.
- *Sarcostemma acidum* (Roxb.) Voigt. **(Periplocaceae)** Columns grounded in goat milk and put as band for bone fracture.
- *Schlelichera oleosa* (Lour.) Oken: **(Sapindaceae)** Stem bark extract is applied over the chest twice a day till relieved of pain.
- *Scleria corymbosa* Roxb. **(Cyperaceae)** Root juice is given orally for blood purifier.
- *Semecarpus anacardium* L. **(Anacardiaceae)** Seed resin is applied over dogbite.
- *Sida acuta* Burn. **(Malvaceae)** Arival manai poondu Leaf paste is applied topically to heal cuts, wounds and to get relief from headache.
- *Smilaxperfoliata* Lour **(Liliaceae)** One tea spoonful juice of tubersis taken orally before sleeping.
- *Solanum nigrum* L **(Solanaceae)** Whole plant parts are taken as food to treat cough.
- *Solanum surattense* Burm.f **(Solanaceae)** Root extract (1 tablespoon) is given orally after 3 days of menstruation for 5 or 6 days for fertility.
- *Solanum torvum* Sw. **(Solanaceae)** Leaf juice is taken orally to reduce body heat.
- *Solanum trilobatum* L. **(Solanaceae)** Unripe fruits are prepared as curry or roasted in gingelly oil and taken orally along with food to strengthen the body. The leaf juice is taken orally to treat cough and itching.
- *Spermacoce hispida* L **(Rubiaceae)** The seeds are crushed into paste and taken orally to treat stomach problems.
- *Sphaeranthus indicus* L. **(Asteraceae)** Leaf, flower and seeds are ground into paste and applied topically to treat skin diseases and piles.
- *Stachytarpheta jamaicensis* Vahl. **(Verbenaceae)** Paste of stem and root bark is applied topically to treat dysentery.
- *Strychnos nux-vomica* L. **(Loganiaceae)** One table spoon **(**Bark extract) is given along with honey and ginger for dysentery.
- *Syzygium cumini* (L.) **(Myrtaceae)** Paste of stem bark is applied topically to treat swellings. The ripe fresh fruits are taken orally to reduce body heat.
- *Tamarindus indica* L. (Caesalpiniaceae) Dried fruits are taken orally to treat eye infections and fruit pulp is applied externally on affected part once daily till cured for cracked sole.
- *Tectona grandis* L.f **(Verbenaceae)** Leaf juice (200 g) and honey (100 g) are mixed and taken every day with milk for 40 days for elephantiasis**.**
- *Terminalia arjuna* Roxb.Ex. Dc Wight & Arn. **(Combretaceae)** Fruit paste is applied topically on wounds. Bark powder is boiled with water and inhaled to cure headache to kill worms in teeth. One tea spoon powder is given with one glass of water or cow/goat milk for three months for anaemic. Stem bark extract is given daily to strengthening the heart functions as a cardiac tonic.
- *Terminalia bellerica* (Gaertn) Roxb. **(Combretaceae)** One tea spoonful seed powder is given with sugar or honey thrice a day for two days for Stomach pain.
- *Tinospora cordifolia* Miers. **(Menispermaceae)** Leaf paste is applied topically to treat wounds.
- *Toddalia asiatica* (L.) Lam. **(Rutaceae)** Leaf paste is applied along with pepper for boils, blisters & cuts.
- *Trianthema portulacastrum* L. **(Aizoaceae)** Decoction of roots is taken internally to treat Constipation and asthma.
- *Tribulus terrestris* L. **(Zygophyllaceae)** The fruit and root are mixed with boiled raw rice, taken orally to prevent white discharge in women and to treat urinary troubles. Ground 10 g seeds with 10 g dry roots of *Withania somnifera* to make powder. One tea spoonful powder is given internally daily with milk during bed time for 30 days for impotency.
- *Tridax procumbens* L. **(Asteraceae)** Leaf paste is applied topically on cuts and wounds
- *Trigonella foenum-graecum.L (***Fabaceae)** Five gram of seeds is chewed to cure diarrhoea twice daily for two days.

- *Tylophora indica* (Burm.f.) Merr (**Asclepiadaceae)** Root juice is given orally for Asthma
- *Vanda tessellate* (Roxb.) Hook. Ex G.Don. (**Orchidaceae)** Extract of white (velamen) roots (1 spoon) given once a day for 3 days for dysentery.
- *Vitex negundo* L. (**Verbenaceae)** Leaves are boiled in water and the vapour is inhaled twice a day to get relief from headache, fever, cold, and cough.
- *Wattakaka volubilis* Cooke (**Asclepiadaceae)** Leaf paste is applied topically to treat rheumatic pain, cough and fever severe cold.
- *Withania somnifera* (L.) Dunal (**Solanaceae)** Juice of tuber and milk is advised for females with no children.
- *Woodfordia fruticosa* (L.) Kurz. (**Lythraceae)** Flowers are pounded in cow milk for blood purifier.
- *Wrightia tinctoria* (Roxb.) R. Br (**Apocynaceae)** Juice of seeds taken orally to treat indigestion.
- *Xanthium strumarium* L. (**Asteraceae)** Roots tied to get rid of the baneful (noxious) influence, as that of an evil eye.
- *Xylia xylocarpa* (Roxb.) Taub (**Mimosaceae)** With roots tied to hand, one can move in the forests, even at night, without the fear of evil spirits.
- *Zingiber officinalis* Rosc. (**Zingiberaceae)** 5ml extract of fresh rhizome is given internally in the early morning for 3 days for cough. One-gram rhizome is decocted along with 2 g of *Piper nigrum* 10g root bark of *Plumbago zeylanica,* 1 seed of *Semecarpus* anacardium in half litre water, 20 ml decoction is given internally by adding tea spoonful of cow ghee once daily for 3 days for Sexually transmitted disease.
- *Zizyphus mauritiana* Lam. (**Rhamnaceae)** Leaf and bark decoction is boiled and it is used to take bath to treat severe body pain. Dried bark powder is applied topically to treat wounds.
- *Zizyphus rugosa* Lam. (**Rhamnaceae)** Leaf paste is bandaged for bone fracture.

DISCUSSION

The major families which occupied first and second position were Mimosaceae-12sp Euphorbiaceae-9sp, and all 149 plant species belonging to 57 families were documented and authentically identified. According to a report of the World Health Organization (WHO), three forth of the World population cannot afford the products of the modern medicine and have to rely on the use of traditional medicine of plant origin (Rai *et al,* 2000). The herbal remedies mentioned are of certain general and specific ailments, such as snake bite, cough, and scorpion sting, head ache, back pain body pains, cold, dandruff, dog bite, fever, hair loss, jaundice, inflammation, joint pains, lice killer, skin ailments, ear pains, eye problems, red and white discharge in women, loss of semen in urine in men, tooth ache and gum problems, stomach ache, bone fractures, conception and menstrual problems and wound healing. The resource persons are mostly lambadas, chenchus and some elderly people of local villages. The people practice and cure almost all ailments or diseases or wounds very effectively with simple locally available plants without involving much financial commitment, in majority of the cases they treat freely.

CONCLUSION

The country has a number of alternative medicines, like Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathic systems which are predominantly based on plant based raw materials in most of their preparations and formulations. Herbal preparations for various purposes including pharmaceutical and cosmetic form part of traditional biodiversity uses in India. India is one of the twelve mega biodiversity countries in the world representing 6.5 percent of world's know wildlife and 12 percent of plant life. Of this ten percent of flora is on the verge of extinction, and many more are on the threatened list while some of them are already rare of disappeared due to in hospitable atmosphere created by man to the plants.

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