



Ethno medicinal plants as natural remedies in Chhatarpur district of Madhya Pradesh

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Abstract : 39 locally available plants of 20 families have been listed which are used by the local people of Chhatarpur district against various diseases. Plant species with their botanical names, family, local names, parts used and their medicinal uses are enlisted.

Key Words : Folklore, Ethno-medicinal, Traditional use, Chhatarpur district

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INTRODUCTION

An ethno-botanical survey has been conducted in Chhatarpur district (M.P.) during 2008. Chhatarpur district is a part of Central India and lies in Satpura hill range adjoining Vindhyan scarp bordering Uttar Pradesh. It lies between 20° 26'N to 25°20' N latitude and 78°59' to 80°26' longitude. The knowledge of herbal medicines is old age and the villagers still practice herbal medicines for the treatment of various diseases.

Traditional medicine plays an important role in health care of the people not only in India but also in several other countries like Jordan, Saudi Arabia and China (Khalil, 1995)

Kiirtikar *et al.* (2001) had compiled vast information about Indian medicinal plants covering ethnic information as well as established indigenous Ayurvedic literature like Charak Samhita.

In India Lone *et al.* (2008), Dixit and Pandey (1984) and Sinha and Dogra (1985) have reported some plant used as folk medicine for the ailment of various diseases.

A lot of work has been done on ethno-medicinal plants in Madhya Pradesh by Rai *et al.* (2000) Koli *et al.* (2002), Saxena *et al.* (2002). The ethnomedicinal plants of Chhatarpur district (M.P.) are reported in the present article.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The survey was performed during the period of Sep. 2008- Jan. 2009. During the survey information was collected on the basis of local vaidyas, Ojhas and senior people having knowledge of local herbs. Collected plants were pressed and dried using blotting papers at room temperature. The dried specimens were disinfected and fixed on herbarium sheets. Identification was done by the botanist of Botany Department Maharaja Autonomous P.G. College, Chhatarpur (M.P.).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The study reveals that tribals have a vast knowledge about medicinal uses of plants growing in study area. It has a great floristic diversity of medicinal plants (Table 1). Out of these plants, five belong to Leguminosae, four belong to Euphorbiaceae, four belong to Amaranthaceae, Manispermaceae, Papaveraceae, Convolvulaceae, Solanaceae, Boraginaceae, Mimosaceae, Malvaceae and Rutaceae.

Out of all these plants *Andrographis paniculata* is the most common medicinal plant in the field of Chhatarpur district. The 13 plants were presently recorded for the treatment of malaria from this area (Table 2). There is need of training on

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