



STUDY OF FLORAL DIVERSITY AND LOCAL HERBAL HEALERS OF MANDLA DISTRICT OF MADHYA PRADESH (GONDWANA REGION) FOR INDIGENOUS HERBAL REMEDIES

M.K. THAKUR¹, K.P. SAHU² AND SATISH KUMAR JHARIYA^{1*}

¹Department of Botany and Environmental Science,
Govt. Model Science College (Auto), Jabalpur

²Deptt. of Botany, Govt. Motilal Vigyan Mahavidyalaya, Bhopal

*Corresponding author: satishjhariya88@gmail.com

ABSTRACT: Ethno-botanical study conducted during 2013-14 in tribal's communities of villages Gadhi, Chandwara, Kupariya and Padariya of tehsil Ghughri, block Mohgoan in Mandla district. The field survey were conducted to document the biological floristic diversity and uses of plants to cure different ailments such as eye infection, asthma, skin disease, tuberculosis, eczema, fit, fever, cough and cold, impotency, leucorrhoea, blood pressure, piles, snake bites etc. A list of medicinal plants and their reported traditional use was compiled during the survey. Door to door interview was conducted using a questionnaire in all the four villages during the study. The result of the present study showed that 61 plant species belonging to 56 genera and 34 different families were used by the local inhabitants to cure 37 different ailments. The study also showed that these medicinal plants are used by the tribal's in the form of powder, paste, pills, juice, decoction or with artificial salts, alkali, oils, etc., and the source of medicine is either leaves, stem, barks, rhizomes, flowers or seeds.

Keywords: *Ethnobotany, traditional knowledge, biological floristic diversity.*

Citation: Thakur MK, Sahu KP, Jhariya SK (2016) Study of floral diversity and local herbal healers of Mandla district of Madhya Pradesh (Gondwana Region) for indigenous herbal remedies. *Indian J Trop Biodiv* 24(1): 47-56

Received on : 31 Dec. 2015
Accepted on : 28 Feb. 2016
Published on : 30 Jun. 2016

Traditional medicine system refers to health practices, knowledge and beliefs incorporating plants, animals and mineral based medicines, spiritual therapies, manual techniques and exercises, applied in combination to diagnose, treat, and prevent illnesses or maintain general well being (WHO, 2005; NNMDA, 2008). India has centuries old heritage of medicinal plants and herbal medicines for curing human illness. Medicinal plants are easily accessible health care alternative for the most of our population in rural and tribal areas. The life, tradition and culture of tribal's have remained almost static since last several hundreds of years. The knowledge accrued by the tribal's through generation's shows the in-depth understanding of the forest resources. The interaction of tribal people with the nature can normally be seen in Mandla forest area.

In India much of the literature relevant to ethno-botany in the vedic literature, Charak Shusruta and Charak Samhita appeared as the most important works. During pre - vedic period a large portion of this

country was covered with forests, which yielded a number of medicinal plants. These plants since many centuries are being used in Ayurvedic System of medicine and are still being used in various traditional and modern medicinal systems. Many such plants have become rare and endangered due to their extensively used since last three decades, as reported by various workers across the globe (Mace and Lande, 1991).

Madhya Pradesh has rich and varied flora due to its diversified topography and variable climatic condition. The state has 28 different tribes inhabiting Central, Eastern, Western, Northern and Southern zones of Madhya Pradesh. The *Gonds* constitute the largest tribe among the all tribes of the state (Rai, 2004; Jhariya, 2006).

In Central India along with *Gonds* other tribes such as *Bharias*, *Korku*, *Kol* and *Baiga* are the main tribes. The Eastern part of the state is dominated by *Oraons* with *Korwas*, *Nagasias* & *Gonds*. The Southern part is inhabited mainly by *Muria* and *Maria* along with *Gonds*,