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A Study on Traditional Medicinal Plants of Thiruvithancode Panchayat, Kanyakumari District, Tamilnadu, India.

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Abstract

Since time immemorial plants and its derived products have a traditional use for treatment of numerous pathological illness. Plants an essential part of daily life nowadays, although in many parts of the world there is evident loss of traditional knowledge in use of wild medicinal and edible plants. The present study was conducted to document the knowledge and use of medicinal plant species used by the traditional healers to treat different human ailments in the study area. The present study revealed that the uses of 64 species of plant distributed in 58 genera belonging to 35 families which were commonly used by the elderly people and traditional healers of the study area. Herbs form the major source of medicine consisting of about 42.2% followed by trees, shrubs and climbers comprising 23.4%, 18.7%, and 15.6% respectively. Fabaceae, Lamiaceae and Solanaceae are the most dominant families consisting of about 5 species each. This is followed by Acanthaceae, Asteraceae, Cucurbitaceae, Myrtaceae and Piperaceae which are represented by 3 species each. The most dominant genera are Piper and Solanum which include 3 species each. This is followed by Ocimum and Phyllanthus are represented by 2 species each. The rest of the genera are represented by single species each. Different plant parts such as leaves, root, stem, rhizome, flower, fruit, seed, tender shoot, prop root and milky latex are used for the preparation of herbal medicines to treat different diseases. The medicinal plants found in the study area is needed to be explored for phytochemical and pharmacological studies. At the same time suitable measures should be taken for the conservation of these valuable plants.

Key words: Traditional knowledge, documentation, medicinal plants, Thiruvithancode panchayat, Kanyakumari District

1. INTRODUCTION

Since the origin of life on earth man has been in harmony with the nature. The nature provides a lot of knowledge about plant wealth. Traditionally this information has been passed from generation to generation which has being practiced by the Indigenous group of people of different areas. These groups of people possess the distinct seed habits, culture, which reflects the traditional medicine. Even today, this herbal medicine is in practice to cure variety of diseases [1]. In India about 47,000 plant species are distributed in different vegetation zones [2]. This is ranking eighth in the world biodiversity. Out of these plants about 8,000 species are known to be medicinal importance. Around 2,500 plant species are used in the Indian Systems of Medicine such as Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy [3].

Traditional medicine based on herbal remedies has always plays an important role in the health systems of many countries. In India the native people are exploiting a variety of herbals for effective curing of various ailments. The useful part, preparation and administration of drugs varied from one place to other.

Traditional medicine and ethno botanical information play an important role in scientific research, particularly when the literature and field work data have been properly evaluated. India is one of the twelve mega – biodiversity countries of the world having rich vegetation with a wide variety of plants with medicinal value. In many countries, scientific investigations of medicinal plants have been initiated because of their contribution to healthcare. Herbal medicines have good values in treating many diseases including infectious diseases, hyper tensions, etc. [4].

India is endowed with rich wealth of medicinal plants which are widely used by all section of people either directly as folk remedies or different indigenous system of medicine or indirectly in the pharmaceutical preparations of modern medicines [4]. The growing demand of the herbal products in

the domestic and global market also makes the use of ecosystem specific medicinal plants a livelihood strategy. At present India is experiencing great pressure on its, resources due to its fast-growing population[5]. During the past two decades the human activities on commercialization of plant-based drugs and demand from the pharmaceutical industry for domestic needs and the export of herbal drugs leads scarcity of medicinal plants in forests and plains. The utility and need of botanical exploration in the country is to identify and search the economically important medicinal plant which has to be propagated and conserved for future generation [6].

Many works have been reported specially among the rural and tribal communities of India[7-16]. The present study mainly focuses on plant species used by the local people of Thiruvithancode panchayat of Kanyakumari District for their primary healthcare needs.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

2.1 Description of the study Area

The present study was carried out in and around Thiruvithancode panchayat, Kalkulam taluk, Kanyakumari District. Location of the Kanyakumari District is bounded between 77°05' and 77°35' of the Eastern longitude and 8° 5' and 8°35' of the Northern latitude. The elevation of the district from sea level is to 1.829 mts. Thiruvithancode town panchayat, with population of about 19000 of which 9240 (49%) are male and 9483 (51%) are female. Total geographical area of Thiruvithancode panchayat is 11 km^2 and it is the 6th biggest city by area in the sub district. Kalkulam is its subdistrict head quarter and the distance from the city is 2 km from the the study area. Maximum temperature here reaches up to 33. 5°C and minimum temperature goes down to 23.9°C.

2.2 Medicinal Plant survey

Ethnomedicinal plant informations were gathered by interview method. The present data is outcome of field research carried out as part of ethnomedicinal studies during July 2018 to March 2019. The aim of this study is to document the wild plants used for medicinal purposes by the local communities in their traditional health care system and to assess the status of medicinal plant diversity in and around Thiruvithancode panchayat of Kanyakumari District. Intensive surveys were carried out to collect data on traditional knowledge on uses of medicinal plants and ethnomedicinal practices by local communities of villages in and around the present study area. The target groups were interviewed based on their occupation which includes medicinal plant collectors, practitioners and local farmers.

2.3 Plant collection, Identification and Preservation

Frequent field trips have been made in and around Thiruvithancode panchayat during the study period from June 2018 to March 2019. Representative samples of medicinal plants were collected from the study area only when species identification was not possible in the field and preserved as herbarium as per the standard methods. All the herbarium specimens were deposited in the P.G. and Research Department of Botany, S. T. Hindu College, Nagercoil.

2.4 Enumeration of Medicinal flora

The collected medicinal plants were identified for their local medicinal uses through ethnobotanical interviews with local healers, medicinal plant collectors, medicinal plant practitioners and farmers adjacent to the study area. The medicinal properties of the plants were identified from the pertinent available literature (Google search engine) and also from codified medicinal systems (Siddha, Ayurveda, Homeopathy and Unani). All the collected medicinal plants were enumerated with legitimate binomial nomenclature, local name, local medicinal uses, and mode of preparation and dosage.

Table -1: Enumeration of medicinal plants and their uses in Thiruvithancode Panchayat

Sl.No.	Binomial (Family)	Local Name / Habit	Ailments
1.	***Acalypha indica* L.** (Euphorbiaceae)	Kuppaimeani / Herb	The leaves extract obtained is taken orally to cure cold.
2.	***Achyranthes aspera* L.** (Amaranthaceae)	Naiuruvi / Herb	The leaves along with *Allium cepa* bulb are ground into paste and apply as a cure for wounds.
3.	***Adhatoda vasica* L.** (Acanthaceae)	Adhatoda / Shrub	Leaves are crushed and the extract obtained is taken orally for curing wheezing.
4.	***Aegle marmelos* (L.) Correa.** (Rutaceae)	Vilvam / Tree	The dried leaves are ground into powder. The powder is mixed with two table spoon honey and it is consumed orally to cure urinary problems.
5.	***Aloe vera* (L.) Burmf.** (Asphedelaceae)	Sottu kattazhai / Herb	The raw inner succulent part of the leaf is taken orally in the empty stomach in every morning is used to reduce the body temperature.
6.	***Amaranthus dubius* Mart.ex.thell.**	Arakkeerai / Herb	The whole plant is heated with ghee and it is taken orally to cure cold and fever.

	(Amaranthaceae)		
7.	***Andrographis paniculata* (Burm. f.) Nees.** (Acanthaceae)	Nela vembu / Herb	The leaves boiled with water made into decoction and it is taken orally to cure fever.
8.	***Annona muricata* L.** (Annonaceae)	Mulseethapalam / Tree	The fruit are edible. It is used to cure cancer.
9.	***Areca catechu* L.** (Arecaceae)	Kamuku / Tree	The tender shoots are roasted with oil and apply over the swelling as bandage, it is used to cure inflammatory pains.
10.	***Azadirachta indica* A. Juss.** (Meliaceae)	Neem tree / Tree	The leaves along with *Curcuma longa* are ground into paste and the paste is taken orally to cure stomach pain.
11.	***Azima tetracantha* Lan.** (Salvadoraceae)	Esanku / Shrub	The leaves extract is mixed with rice flour and heated; it is taken orally to cure heat burn. The leaves are ground into paste and apply in painful area to reduce the pain.
12.	***Calotropis gigantea* L.** (Apocynaceae)	Earuku / Shrub	A drop of milky latex is used as a drop for ear ache.
13.	***Capsicum annuum* L.** (Solanaceae)	Kanthari milaku / Herb	The pickle form of the *Capsicum annuum* is used to control high blood pressure.
14.	***Cardiospermum halicacabum* L.** (Sapindaceae)	Mudakkathan / Climber	Equal amount of *Cardiospermum halicacabum, Sida cordifolia*, green *Coriandrum sativum* seeds, *Allium sativum*, *Achyranthus aspera* boiled with water, made into decoction. The decoction is taken orally as a cure for sprain and joint inflammation.
15.	***Carica papaya* L.** (Caricaceae)	Papaya / Tree	The leaves extract is taken orally to cure fever. The fruits are edible. It is used to repel intestinal worms.
16.	***Cassia occidentalis* L.** (Fabaceae)	Coffee senna / Herb	The leaves are ground into paste and it is applied as a cure for pimples.
17.	***Centella asiatica* (L.) Urban.** (Apiaceae)	Vallarai / Herb	*Centella asiatica* leaves, *cuminum cyminum* seeds and *Allium cepa* bulbs are ground into paste and it is taken orally to cure obesity. The *Centella asiatica* leaves are ground into paste, mixed with coconut milk and it is consume regularly asa cure for ulcer.
18.	***Cissus quadrangularis* L.** (Vitaceae)	Pirandai / Climber	*Cissus quandrangularis* along with coconut are pounded into paste, mixed with water and it is taken orally to cure stomach pain. The pickles prepared from *Cissus quadrangularis* is good for gastric problems.
19.	***Cleome gynandra* L.** (Cleomaceae)	Thaivalai / Herb	Leaves are ground into paste and it is applied over the infected area of head as a cure for Alopecia areata
20.	***Clerodendrum infortunatum* L.** (Lamiaceae)	Perukilai / Herb	The leaves are ground into paste and applied in pimples, till it is cured.
21.	***Clitoria ternatea* L.** (Fabaceae)	Sanku bushpum / Climber	The leaves are ground into paste and the paste is applied as a cure for pimples.
22.	***Coccinia indica* grandis (L.) Voigt.** (Cucurbitaceae)	Kovaikai / Climber	The leaves extract is applied over head to cure eye irritation.
23.	***Cocos nucifera* L.** (Arecaceae)	Tennai maram / Tree	Coconut milk is mixed with honey and it is taken orally to cure ulcer.
24.	***Curcuma longa* L.** (Zingiberaceae)	Manjal/ Herb	Rhizome of *Curcuma longa* along with *Azadirachta indica* leaves are ground into paste and it is applied in an infected area as a cure for infection due to insects.
25.	***Cynodon dectylon* L. pers.** (Poaceae)	Arukampul / Herb	The leaves along with *Curcuma longa* are ground into paste and apply as a cure for ring worm. The whole plant is ground into paste is mixed with water and it is taken orally to reduce body heat.
26.	***Dautra metal* L.** (Solanaceae)	Oomatham / Shrub	Inhalation of the smoking of the dried flower is used as a cure for wheezing. Leaves are heated with gingelly oil and apply over the

			painful areas to cure pain.
27.	***Eclipta prostrata* (L.) L.** (Asteraceae)	Kaiyanthirai / Herb	The leaves ground into paste and apply in an infected area to cure skin infection.
28.	***Ficus benghalensis* L.** (Moraceae)	Aalamaram / Tree	The prop root is ground into paste and it is applied over the infected areas to cure insect bites.
29.	***Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* L.** (Malvaceae)	Sembaruthi / Shrub	Leaf extract is mixed with water and it is taken orally to cure white discharge.
30.	***Hygrophila auriculata* Schumach.** (Acanthaceae)	Neer nulli / Herb	The leaves and seeds of *Hygrophila auriculata* and seeds of *Tribulus terrestris* are boiled with water and the decoction is taken orally to cure fever.
31.	***Indigofera aspalathoides* Dc.** (Fabaceae)	Siva vembu / Shrub	The dried leaves are ground into powder, mixed with coconut oil and apply the oil in an infected area as a cure for leprosy.
32.	***Lantana camara* L.** (Verbenaceae)	Poocheti poo / Shrub	The root extract along with dried ginger is ground into paste and mixed with water. Filter it, the filtrate is used as mouth wash to cure teeth problems.
33.	***Lawsonia inermis* L.** (Myrtaceae)	Maruthani / Shrub	The leaves are ground into paste and apply over the whitlow and the pimples area.
34.	***Manilkara zapota* (L.) P. Royen.** (Sapotaceae)	Sapota / Tree	The young unripened fruits are ground into paste, the paste is mixed with porridge water and it is taken orally as a cure for dysentry.
35.	***Marsilea quadrifolia* L.** (Marsileaceae)	Aaliak keerai / Herb	The leaves are ground into paste, mixed with milk and it is taken orally to cure ulcer and stomach pain.
36.	***Mentha spicata* L.** (Lamiaceae)	Puthina / Herb	The *Mentha spicata* leaves, the rhizome of *Zingiber officinale* and honey are ground with *Citrus limon* juice, mixed with water and filter it, the filtrate is taken orally to cure bloating of stomach.
37.	***Mimosa pudica* L.** (Fabaceae)	Thottal vadi / Herb	The leaves are crushed and the extract obtained is taken orally for children to cure cold.
38.	***Momordica charantia* L.** (Cucurbitaceae)	Pakarkai / Climber	The fruits are ground into paste, mixed with water and the filtrate is taken orally to control diabetes.
39.	***Morinda tinctoria* Roxb.** (Rubiaceae)	Manjanathi / Tree	Leaf extract is mixed with onion extract and lime and it is allowed to sedimentation, the supernatant obtained is taken orally as a cure for dysentery.
40.	***Moringa oleifera* Lam.** (Moringaceae)	Murungai / Tree	The leaves are mixed with salt and crush, the extract obtained is taken orally to cure stomach pain.
41.	***Mukia maderaspatana* (L.) M. Roem.** (Cucurbitaceae)	Musumusuki / Climber	The leaves boiled with gingelly oil and it is applied over the head to cure eye irritation.
42.	***Murraya koenigii* (L.) Sprengel.** (Rutaceae)	Karivepillai / Tree	Leaves of *Murraya koenigii, Alternenthera sessilis, Eclipta prostrate, Desmodium triflorumn* are ground into paste and the extract obtained is mixed with coconut oil, boiled and used as hair oil. It is used to cure hairfall problem and whitening of the hair.
43.	***Nerium oleander* L.** (Apocynaceae)	Arali / Shrub	Leaves crushed along with betel leaf, the extract obtained is mixed with coconut oil is heated. Apply the oil as a cure for rashes and wounds.
44.	***Ocimum basilicum* L.** (Lamiaceae)	Thiruneetupachalai / Herb	The fresh leaves can be eaten raw. It is used to control heart beat at normal level.
45.	***Ocimum tenuiflorum* L.** (Lamiaceae)	Thulasi / Herb	The leaf extract is mixed with honey and is taken orally to cure cough.
46.	***Pergularia daemia* (forssk.) chiov.** (Asclepiadaceae)	Vealiparuthi / Climber	Chillies are soaked in the leaves extract of *Pergularia daemia* for overnight, then dried and powdered. The powder is mix with honey and consume it to cure bloated stomach. Dried, Powdered root is mixed with 4 table spoons of milk and it is taken orally to repel intestinal worms.
47.	***Phyllanthus emblica* L.** (Phyllanthaceae)	Nelli / Tree	The crushed fruit, *Aloe vera* extract are boiled with coconut oil and apply the oil to reduce the whitening of

			the hair.
48.	***Phyllanthus niruri* L.** (Phyllanthaceae)	Keezhanelli / Herb	Leaves extract is mixed with coconut oil and boiled it. Apply the oil over the head to reduce the heat in head. Leaves and cumin seeds are ground into paste, the paste is mixed with coconut milk and it is taken orally for curing jaundice.
49.	***Piper betle* L.** (Piperaceae)	Vettilai / Climber	Leaves along with piper fruit can be eaten raw as a cure for indigestion and cold.
50.	***Piper longum* L.** (Piperaceae)	Thippili / Climber	*Piper longum* along with rice flour are ground into powder and add sugar with it, the powder is eaten orally to cure cough.
51.	***Piper nigrum* L.** (Piperaceae)	Nalla milagu / Climber	The leaves of Piper *nigrum*, *Vitex negundo*, *Eucalyptus oblique*, *Azadirachta indica*, *Murraya koeigii and bark of Azadirachta indica* are boiled with water, made into decoction and it is taken orally to cure cold, cough.
52.	***Plectranthus amboinicus* (Lour.) Spreng.** (Lamiaceae)	Karpuravalli / Herb	*Piper nigrum* seeds and *Plectranthus amboinicus* leaves are boiled with coconut oil and the oil is applied over the head to cure cold.
53.	***Psidium guajava* L.** (Myrtaceae)	Koyya / Tree	The leaves are boiled with water, filter it, the filterate is taken orally to cure diabetes. The leaves made into decoction and it is taken orally to cure dysentery.
54.	***Punica granatum* L.** (Lythraceae)	Mathulai/ Shrub	The fruit extract is mixed with honey and it is taken orally to cure giddiness.
55.	***Ricinus communis* L.** (Euphorbiaceae)	Aamanaku / Shrub	The seeds along with *Curcuma longa* are ground into paste and it is applied over the dark spots in the face to remove the dark spots.
56.	***Solanum nigrum* L.** (Solanceae)	Manathakkali / Herb	The leaves along with *Allium cepa* bulbs, *Cuminum cyminum* seeds are boiled with water filter it and the filtrate is taken orally to cure ulcer.
57.	***Solanum trilobatum* L.** (Solanaceae)	Thuthuvalai / Herb	The leaves along with *Nigella sativa* and *Lawsonia inermis* are boiled with oil, the oil is applied in head as a cure for headache and cold.
58.	***Solanum virginianum* L.** (Solanaceae)	Kandankathari / Herb	The dried rhizome of *Zingiber oflicinale*, *Coriandrum sativum* seeds, *Cuminum cyminum* seeds are boiled with water, made into decoction, the decoction is taken orally to cure fever.
59.	***Syzygium cumini* (L.) skeets**. (Myrtaceae)	Naval / Tree	The dried seeds are ground into powder. The powder is mixed with hot water and it is taken orally to prevent the diabetes.
60.	***Tagetes erecta* L.** (Asteraceae)	Kamanthi malar/ Herb	The leaves along with *Solanum trilobatum*, *Solanum virginianum* are boiled with water and the decoction is taken orally to cure fever.
61.	***Tamarindus indica* L.** (Fabaceae)	Puli / Tree	Dissolve the palm sugar in the fruit extract of *Tamarindus indicus*, mixed with water and it is taken orally to cure urinary problems.
62.	***Tribulus terrestris* L.** (Zygophyllaceae)	Nerunji / Herb	The leaves are boiled with water made into decoction and it is taken orally as a cure for cold and fever.
63.	***Tridax procumbens* L.** (Asteraceae)	Thatha poo / Herb	The leaves are crushed; the extract obtained is applied over the wound for quick healing.
64.	***Vitex negundo* L.** (Verbenaceae)	Nochi / Shrub	Leaves are ground and made into paste and apply over the swelling area as a cure for inflammation.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of the present floral diversity exploration on medicinal plants used for various diseases by rural as well as elderly people and traditional healers of Thiruvithancode panchayat has yield information on 64 plants belonging to 35 families. These include herbs, shrubs, trees and climbers. They are mostly found growing either in waste land as weeds or in forest slopes and sometimes widely distributed in all places. Some of them are cultivated near the houses particularly of traditional healers.

Herbs form the major source of medicine consisting of about 42.2% followed by trees, Shrubs and Climbers comprising 23.4%, 18.7%, and 15.6%, respectively.

Different plant parts like leaves, roots, stem, fruit, root, flowers, fruits, seeds, rhizome, latex and sometimes the whole plant are used as medicines for various diseases (Table 1).

Lamiaceae, Fabaceae and Solanaceae are the dominant families which are represented by 5 members respectively. This is followed by the families such as Acanthaceae, Asteraceae,Cucurbitaceae, Myrtaceae and Piperaceae are consists of about 3 species each. The families like Amaranthaceae, Apocynaceae, Arecaceae, Euphorbiaceae, Phyllanthaceae, Rutaceae and Verbenaceae are having 2 species each. The remaining families such as Annonaceae, Apiaceae, Lythraceae, Malvaceae, Marsileaceae, Moraceae, Moringaceae, Poaceae, Rubiaceae, Salvadoraceae, Sapindaceae, Sapotaceae, Vitaceae, Zingiberaceae and Zygophyllaceae are represented by only one number each.

The most dominant genera of the study area are Solanum and Piper which include 3 species each. It is followed by Ocimum and Phyllanthus having 2 species each. The remaining 54 genera are represented by single species each.

In many cases various plant parts such as leaves, root, stem, rhizome, flower, fruit, seed, whole plant, latex, tender shoot and prop root are used to prepare the medicine for various diseases such as infection, wheezing, bloated stomach, intestinal worms, inflammation, head heat, jaundice, alopecia aerate, body heat, skin infection, cold, heart burn, body pain, eye irritation, head ache, ear ache, insect bite, dark spot, wound, dysentery, cough, white hair, white discharge, stomach pain, pimples, ulcer, obesity, ringworm, gastric problem, fever, indigestion, leprosy, urinary disease, cancer, teeth problem, sprain, controlling the heart beat to normal level, diabetes, blood pressure were cured by 64 medicinal plants.

Leaves from 39 plants are invariable used alone as cure for various diseases. Form this observation it is noted that various diseases such as inflammation, jaundice, body heat, skin infection, cold, cough, stomach pain, and headache can be cured by the leaves.

The observation revealed that fruit from 9 plants are used to cure cough, headache, ulcer, white hair, cancer, dysentery, diabetes, blood pressure and urinary diseases. The whole plant and leaves from 3 plants are used to cure cough, Ringworm and cold. The roots from 2 plants were used to cure teeth problem and cold, fever. The seed from 2 plants are used to cure dark spots and diabetes. Stem from *Clerodendrum infortunatum* alone is used for curing pimples. The latex of *Calotropis gigantea* is used as a cure for ear ache.

The whole plant of *Mentha spicata* is cure used to stomach problems. The rhizome of *Curcumo longo* is used to cure to infection. The leaves and root of *Pergularia elaemia* is used to cure bloated stomach and intestinal worms. The fruits and leaves of *Carica papaya* is used to cure stomach worms and fever.

The flower and leaves of *Datura metal* is used as a cure for wheezing, stomach pain and joint pain.The whole plant and stem of *Cissus quadrangularis* is used to cure stomach pain and Gas trouble. The leaves and seeds of *Hygrophila auriculata* is used for treating fever. The prop roots of *Ficus benghalensis* is used to treat insect bites.

The medicinal plants of the study area, their botanical names, family, habit, useful part, ailments and application mode are listed in table 1.

Traditional healers have good knowledge about the use of many plants. They believe that all afflictions are caused by supernatural forces. They use their eyes, ear, nose and hands to diagnose the diseases this way of diagnose is interesting because they live in interior areas and lack the use of modern scientific equipment for treatment they however treat diseases using medicinal plants, herbal medicines prescribed by tribal healers are either preparation based on single plant part or a combination of several plant parts.

Our above findings are in conformity with that of previous author [17]. who mentioned that Asteraceae was the most dominant family of medicinal plants for the purpose of human ailments treatment in the North eastern states of India. But our findings are slightly different from the medicinal plant species of Fabaceae, Lamiaceae and Solanaceae which are reported to be used by the tribes of Thiruvithancode panchayat as top families.

Traditional medicine based on herbal remedies has always played a key role in the health system of many countries. In India the native people are exploiting a variety of herbals for effective curing of various ailments. The useful part, preparation and administration of drugs varied from one place to other. However, the knowledge of herbal medicine is gradually perishing. Although some of the traditional herbal men are still practicing the art of herbal healing effectively. These plants are frequently used by the local inhabitants of the area for treatment of various diseases. Ethno medicinal studies have offered immense scope and opportunities for the development of new drugs. Tamil Nadu is spotted with tribal pockets, rich in germplasm of medicinal plants.

4. CONCLUSION

The present documentation on the traditional medicine of the study area emphasizes that many people of the region still depend upon herbal medicine for treatment of human diseases. Thorough biochemical investigation and clinical trials of local traditional medicines may provide new direction for human health care system. These medicines have been reported to have lesser or negligible side health effects on humans in comparison to other medical treatments.

Therefore, it has become essential and need of the hour to focus on conservation of these plants. State Government has to conduct vigorous conservation and sustainable management programmes among local people for the development of this sector.

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