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Cure of asthma and jaundice disease by the traditional and ethnic people of Mandar Block, Ranchi, Jharkhand, India through medicinal plants

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Abstract : In the recent era, the people of urban areas of India also depend upon the folk knowledge of ethno medicinal plants for the treatment of different diseases. It is therefore necessary to preserve this indigenous knowledge on traditional medicines by proper documentation, identification of plant species used and preparation of herbal also. This paper reports an identification of medicinal plants used for the treatment of Asthma and Jaundice disease by the traditional and ethnic people of Mandar Block.

Keywords : Traditional people, manaki, pahan, horopaths, pahan and ojhas.

INTRODUCTION

Medicinal plants have always been a fundamental resource for human being and also provided health care to the people since the dawn of civilization. In the modern era, the rural as well as urban people have a great inclination towards the use of medicinal plants. They use the medicinal plants for the cure of common diseases of health related issues. The most common remedies among the people as Ulcer, Constipation, Fever, Cough, Cold, Jaundice, Snakebites, Asthma, Piles, etc are cured through medicinal plants. The local people of Mandar Block, Ranchi District of Jharkhand State has explored through their indigenous practices by using medicinal plants for the remedies of Asthma and Jaundice.

The people of Mandar Block have vital knowledge concerned to the ethnomedicinal plant species. The tribal and scheduled population of the Mandar Block comprises

of Munda, Oraon, Birhore, Santhals Rajwar, Ganju, Ravidas, Rajak. These people are dependent completely upon the local herbal medicinal plants for the remedies of common diseases. People dwelling Mandar Block are having a intimate and long association with the indigenous flora for their cultural activities and basic necessity.

METHODS AND MATERIALS

During the study course, field surveys were completed by the help of Pahans, Ojhas, Manakis, Horopaths and traditional people. They were requested to provide the information against plant used for the cure of Asthma and Jaundice. The tribals of Mandar Block were very gawky in nature and they didn't want to disclose the all concerned precious information to other. They got annuity after a long span of time to supply the required information. The tribal person knows only the common name of herbal plants. The all precious information with their common name was recorded as per prescribed

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methodology. The all herbarium of concerned plants were shifted and submitted to the P.G. Department of Botany, Maharaja College, Ara (Bhojpur), Bihar.

All the recorded information is being listed as under with their local name, family name, botanical name and others. The reference and the principle of every plant have been listed after consulting The Wealth of India: A Dictionary of Indian Raw Materials and Industrial products (1948-1976).

For Asthma

1. *Papaver somniferum* Linn. (Papaveraceae) "Post"
D.E.P., VI(I) 17, 150; C.P. 845; Fl. Br. Ind., I, 117.
Opium is prescribed in Asthma. The principle opium alkaloids are thebaine, papaverine, codeine, narcotine, and morphine. Among them morphine is the most important.
2. *Argemone mexicana* Linn. (Papaveraceae) "Satyanashi"
Wlth. India- Raw Materials, I, 116; Fl. Br. Ind., 117; Kirt and Basu, Pl. 54.
The juice of leaf or root is useful in it. The seeds yielded Agemone oil which contains two alkaloids as dihydrosanguinarine and sanguinarine.
3. *Albizia lebbek* Benth. (Mimosaceae) "Siris"
With India- Raw Materials, I, 43; Fl. Br. Ind., II, 298.
The Juice of flower is prescribed. The flower on stem distillation gives colorless sweet smelling oil. The oil yielded benzyl Alcohol, benzoic Acid and p- nitrobenzoate after fractionation.
4. *Piper longam* Linn. (Piperaceae) "Pipli"
D.E.P., VI(I) 258; C.P., 891; Fl. Br. Ind., V, 78; Kirt and Basu, III, 2128, Pl. 821A.
The root and its fruit attributed with numerous medicinal uses in Asthma, bronchitis and cough. The presence of piperine, pipartine and alkaloids are occurred in it.
5. *Alpinia galangal* (Linn.) Willd. (Zingiberaceae) "Barakulanjar"
Wlth. India- Raw Materials, I, 62; Fl. Br. Ind., VI, 253; Kirt and Basu, Pl. 949.
Powder of its Rhizomes is prescribed for Asthma. Cineol, Camphor, probably d- pinene and methyl cinnamate occur in the essential oil.

6. *Artocarpus integrifolia* Hook (Moraceae) "Kathal"
Wlth India- Raw Materials, I, 125; Fl. Br. Ind., V, 541.

The juice of its root is prescribed. Supogenins occurs in its stems and leaves. The leaves yield cycloartenone, cycloartenol, β - sitosterol and tannins. They show estogenic activity.

For Jaundice

1. *Curcuma longa* Linn. (Zingiberaceae) "Haldi"
D.E.P. II, 659; C.P. 445; Fl. Br. Ind., VI, 214.
Rhizome powder is prescribed. The choleric action of the essential oil of rhizome is attributed to p- tolymethylecarbinol.
2. *Aloe barbadensis* Mill. (Liliaceae) "Ghi- Kuvar"
Wlth. India - Raw Materials, I, 61; Bailey, 1949, 209; Hodge, Econ. Bot., 1953, 7, 107.
Juice of whole plant is prescribed. The leaves contain barbaloin, chrysophenol, glycoside and the aglycone and aloe-emodin.
3. *Ricinus communis* Linn. (Euphorbiaceae) "Erandi"
D.E.P. VI(I), 506; C.P. 915; Fl. Br. Ind., V, 457.
Juice of its fruit is useful. Ricin and albumin are the principal toxic substance. Ricin is excreably toxic than all other species of mammals.
4. *Curculigo orchioides* Gaertn. (Amaryllidaceae) "Kali Musli"
D.E.P., II, 650; Fl. Br. Ind., VI, 279.
Juice of its tuberous root is useful. The analysis of the drug shows the presence of ether extract, alcohol extract, water, tannin, ash, crude fiber and starch.
5. *Argemone mexicana* Linn. (Papaveraceae) "Satyanashi"
Wlth. India- Raw Materials, I, 116; Fl. Br. Ind., 117; Kirt and Basu, Pl. 54.
Latex of the plant is useful in it. The latex contains the alkaloids, berberine and protopine.
6. *Achyranthes aspera* Linn. (Amaranthaceae) "Latjeera"
Wlth. India- Raw Materials, I, 24; Fl. Br. Ind., IV, 730.
Juice of its root is prescribed. The seeds yield two types of saponins: Saponin A and Saponin B.
7. *Citrullus colocynthis* Schard. (Cucurbitaceae) "Makal"

D.E.P., II, 328; C.P., 316; Fl. Br. Ind., II, 620; Kirt and Basu, Pl. 460.

Its root juice is prescribed. The active principle of colocynth includes a bitter amorphous alkaloid and a resin, both of which have violent purgative action.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This interim survey confirmed about the vital knowledge of the tribals and other inhabitants of the Mandar Block of Ranchi District. They are veteran to identify the medicinal plants and have a sound knowledge about the uses of these plants in the treatment of Asthma and Jaundice. 13 different plant species form 13 genera were recorded for the uses in the treatment of Asthma and Jaundice.

The general people are not well known about these medicinal plants. Further a brief account on ethnomedicinal uses of documented plant species has been verified by cross checking with the knowledgeable persons, experienced informants, medicine person. For the safety purpose of human being, further these herbal species were also examined by therapeutic and pharmaceutical persons.

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