



JOURNAL OF BIODIVERSITY AND CONSERVATION

EDITORIAL

Medicinal wealth of Jamtara Forest Division, Jamtara, Jharkhand

Sanjeet Kumar

Ambika Prasad Research Foundation, Odisha, India

Email-Id: sanjeetaprf@gmail.com

ARTICLE INFO

Article History

Received: 25 May 2023

Keywords: Medicinal Plants, Jamtara, Jharkhand

Received in revised form: 26 May 2023

Accepted: 19 June 2023

Medicinal plants are an integral part of our culture, rituals, and traditional therapeutic systems. They have been added as per our landscapes and the needs of local people's health. There are numbers of such foods and cultural practises that can be observed as per landscapes, like Mahaprashad in Odisha state, where a lot of medicinal ingredients are added that are more suitable for the people of coastal areas. Therefore, local medicinal plants and associated cultures are very important.

In the month of May 2023, the team of Ambika Prasad Research Foundation was working on the biodiversity of Jamtara Forest Division (JFD), Jamtara, Jharkhand, and found that there are a number of medicinal plants that have been used by the local tribal communities (Figure 1) that are unexplored. The documentation is important for sustainable development and the conservation of such a valuable state asset. After a 7-day survey, the team observed many key medicinal plants like *Drosera burmannii*, *Abrus precatorius*, *Terminalia arjuna*, *Polygala crotalarioides*, *Pterocarpus marsupium*, *Gymnema sylvestre*, *Asparagus racemosus*, *Meyna spinosa*, etc. In the first phase of the survey, the team enumerated about 322 plants from JFD. It was noticed that the population of some medicinal

plants is declining, like *Meyna spinosa*, *Pterocarpus marsupium* etc. Therefore, plantations of such medicinal plants are needed. The team is thankful to the field staff and Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Jamtara Forest Division, Jamtara, Jharkhand.



Figure 1: Discussion on local medicinal plants with Santhal community in JFD, Jamtara, Jharkhand