



**GOVERNMENT DEGREE COLLEGE, MEDAK**

**JIGNASA STUDENT PROJECT**

**DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY**

**TOPIC:**

**“MEDICINAL PLANTS USED BY RURAL PEOPLE OF  
NEARBY VILLAGES TO AKKANAPET FOREST OF  
MEDAK DISTRICT”**

**MENTOR**

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## **ABSTRACT**

The tribal knowledge regarding the uses of plants for various purposes indicates their general awareness and intimate dependence on the surrounding plants. Tribal people mainly depend on their traditional knowledge to cure their ailments. Ethnomedicinal studies cumulatively contribute medicinal knowledge, since they are practiced and tested for a long period. The traditional practices are economical as the medicinal plants are easily available to them. This information is generally passed on verbally from one generation to another.

This project gives the information about the traditional knowledge of medicinal plants that are in use by rural people of some nearby villages to Government Degree College of Medak district, Telangana. The study was done through interacting with the people of Pathur, Shamnapur, Gangapur, Jhansilingapur, Tonigandla and Parvathapur villages has resulted in the documentation of 30 medicinal plants. The people of these villages not only depend on the plants from their surroundings but also from the Akkannapet forest for the source of medicines. Akkannapet is situated in Medak district, comes under Ramayampet mandal with longitude 78.40672 and latitude 18.10535. The total area of Akkannapet is 1068 hectares. The forest area covered under this locality is 135.23 hectares. The forest of Akkannapet is covered with rich flora and fauna.

The data was gathered by the student teams personally from the traditional healers of the villages. For this purpose, the local elderly people whose empirical knowledge was respected by everyone in the area were interviewed besides owners of cattle, goat and sheep.

“The utility of all the wild plants for various purposes was not recognized in one day or in one century; it is the result of the progressive development of human cultures”. The species of plants that are used for medication for different ailments have been collected, identified and relevant data have been provided. In the enumeration, data was presented. The details of folk drug plants like common name, part used, method of preparation,

dosage recommended, and precautions were recorded for each medicinal claim.

Some medicinal plants for example:

- 1. *Achyranthes aspera* Linn. (Uttareni) (AMARANTHACEAE)  
Erect stiff herb. Found on roadsides and waste places
- Uses:
  - Burns: Leaf juice applied externally as a lotion.
  - Cold & Cough: 10gm of root powder administered with a cup of cow's milk daily twice (3days)
  - Scorpion sting: Leaf paste rubbed over the bitten area.
  
- 2. *Buchanania lanzan* Spreng. (Morri) (ANACARDIACEAE)
- Moderate tree. Common in dry deciduous forests)
- Uses:
  - Edible: Seed pulp eaten.
  - Body pains: Gum dissolved in cold conjee, extract applied locally.
  - Bone fracture: Stem bark crushed with goat milk, extract (30 ml) administered daily twice for fortnight.
  -
  
- 3. *Cassia fistula* Linn. (Rela) (CAESALPINIACEAE)
- Moderate tree . Plains and forests
  - Rheumatism: 12-15ml of flower extract administered daily once for fortnight.
  - Redding of skin by insect bite: paste of Stem /bark applied over the bitten area

The plant-based ethno human and veterinary curative techniques found in Medak district, for Abdominal diseases, Stomachache, Anti-fertility, Back ache, Body pains, Body swellings, Bone fracture, Burns, Cold & cough, Jaundice, Diabetes, Dog bite, Ear-ache, Epilepsy, External tumours, Eye diseases, Foot cracks, Gastric trouble, Insect bite, Scorpion sting, Snake bite, stones in Kidney etc. And Rheumatism in cattle, Wounds, Boils, ulcers for veterinary ailments.


The study shows that knowledge and usage of herbal medicine for the treatment of various human and veterinary diseases and disorders in local villages is still a major part of their life and culture.

The medicine is prepared from the different parts of the plants like leaves, tender tips, flower, fruit, seed, stem, bark, root, gum and latex. Most medicines were taken orally and some used for external application. No side effects were reported by the informants as a result of the use of different remedies.

As a conclusion, the results of present study provide the evidence that medicinal plants continue to represent an important asset to the health care in the local villages of Medak district.

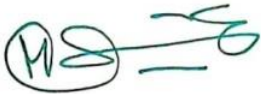
The interesting findings of the present study require further research and the various indigenous practices have to be evaluated by pharmacological validation.

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