Available online at http://www.ijcrls.com

International Journal of Current Research in Life Sciences
Vol. 08, No. 10, pp.3233-3238, October, 2019

ISSN: 2319-9490

RESEARCH ARTICLE

DIVERSITY OF MEDICINAL PLANTS IN THE MARTHANDANTHURAI COASTAL VILLAGE OF KANNIYAKUMARI DISTRICT

[1,*]Jaya Kumar, S., [2]Rama Devi, P. and [1]Rejitha, S.

[1]Nesamony Memorial Christian College, Marthandam, Kanyakumari - 629 165, Tamil Nadu, India
*[2] Aditanar College of Arts and Science, Tiruchendur - 628 216, Tamil Nadu, India

Received 17th August, 2019; Accepted 11th September, 2019; Published 30th October, 2019

ABSTRACT

Medicinal plants have played an important role in treating and preventing a variety of diseases throughout the world. India is one of the most medico-culturally diverse countries in the world where the medicinal plant sector is part of a time honoured tradition that is respected even today. Therefore, the present Study was initiated to document the Medicinal plant wealth in the Marthandanthurai coastal Villages of Kanniyakumari district, Tamil Nadu, India. Taxonomically, a total of 57 plant species belonging to 51 genera and 34 families were recorded. Of these 30 (53%) were herbs, 11 (19%) were shrubs, 13 (23%) were trees and 3 (5%) were climbers/creepers. The plant parts used for the preparation of medicine, whole plants were found to be most frequently used for the preparation of remedies. The mode of preparations is paste, juice, decoction and powder. The medicinal plants of the study area have been used to treat 62 illnesses. The 62 various ailments against which ethnomedicinal treatments have been recorded in the study area can be grouped into 11 major categories of symptomatically and organ-system related diseases/ problems.

Key words: Medicinal plants, Marthandanthurai village, Diseases, remedies, herb, survey

Citation: Jaya Kumar, S., Rama Devi, P. and Rejitha, S. "Diversity of medicinal plants in the marthandanthurai coastal village of kanniyakumari district" *International Journal of Current Research in Life Sciences*, 08, (10), 3233-3238.

INTRODUCTION

Biodiversity is a part of our daily lives and livelihoods and constitutes the resources upon which families, communities, nations and future generations depend. Human society from the very beginning of its appearance on this earth has been indispensably associated with the plant kingdom for its survival. Plants provide our basic food crops, building materials and medicines. So far only about ten percent of plants have ever been evaluated for their medicinal or agricultural potential and so there are certainly many new drugs and new crops yet to be discovered. The World Health Organization (WHO) has estimated that 80% of the populations of developing countries still rely on traditional medicines, mostly plant drugs, for their primary health care needs. In traditional medicine, plant is required as a major component to cure many diseases caused by bacteria, fungi and virus in human. Herbs are mainly used for disease prevention and treatment. India is rich in its coastal population from the immemorial time with their traditional knowledge system which deals with the many significant aspects and the health problems of coastal communities. The coastal population has their own herbal homework to treat various diseases.

Corresponding author: **Jaya Kumar, S.,**
Nesamony Memorial Christian College, Marthandam, Kanyakumari - 629 165, Tamil Nadu, India.

The use of herbal medicines by coastal communities is inclined by distinct socio-cultural practices, support of traditional ability and services of traditional medicine. These people have much associated with their ambient environment and ecology and mainly depend on it for primary health care system, because of they live in remote areas as compared to modern facilities. India has a coastline of about 7516.6 km long with 2.02 million km exclusive economic zone and 0.13 million km continental shelf (Khoshoo 1996) and it covers nine states and two union territories. The coastal zone is an important biogeographically habitats of the Indian subcontinent (Rodgers and Panwar 1998). Kanniyakumari coastal line has a length of about 71.5 km with 47 coastal villages. Coastal vegetation contains many species of specific flora and thus it is an ecological storehouse rich in biodiversity and also has high ecological values.. These coastal villages have a population of 1,48,539 fishermen, forming 19 percent of the total fisherman population (7,90,408) in Tamil Nadu. Hence the present study was undertaken to document the ethnomedicinal wisdom of Marthandanthurai village, to assess the medicinal plant diversity of Coastal line and to enumerate information about morphologically useful parts of the medicinal plants to cure various ailments. Marthandanthurai is a coastal Village on the shore of the Arabian Sea in Kanniyakumari district, Tamil Nadu, India. It was situated near the border of Tamil Nadu and Kerala. This village is the part of Kollemcode Panchayat.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study Area

The present study was conducted in the Marthandanthurai coastal village. This village comes under Kollemcode Panchayat of Vilavancode Taluk. This village was a coastal Village on the shore of the Arabian Sea in Kanniyakumari district, Tamil Nadu, India. It was situated near the border with Tamil Nadu and Kerala on north-west to Kanniyakumari and southwest to Trivandrum. Kanniyakumari district is situated in the Southernmost tip of Tamil Nadu, Southern Peninsular India (77° 15′-77° 30′ E, 8° 30′-8° 15′ N), located in the part of Southern Western Ghats. The location of the study area had latitude 8.28 and longitude 77.11.

Climate and Soil: The climate of the district is warm and humid. The summer starts from March to May followed by southwest monsoon from June to September. October and November continued the post monsoon or retreating monsoon season with frequent thunderstorms. From December to February north east monsoon season present and first half of the season is confined with rains and rest is generally with bright weather. The soil of the district is broadly classified into two major groups namely, Red and Alluvial soil.

Data Collection: Regular field trips were made during the study period (November 2018 to March 2019). The information was collected from the coastal people. A total of 18 were interviewed and obtained information's, mainly concerning their knowledge on medicine from the plants and their parts, local names etc.

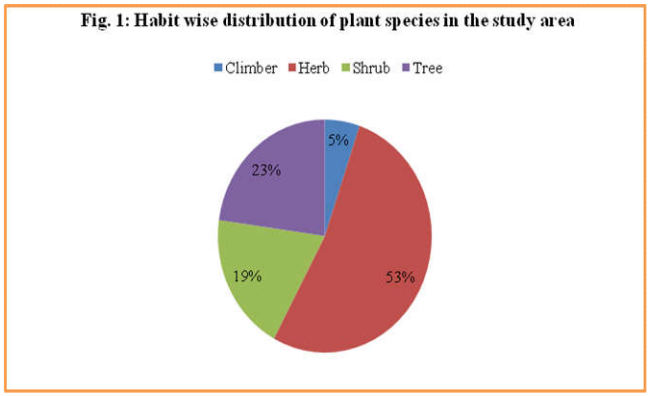
The biological information of the studied plant material was recorded in the field note book. Informants were asked to guide as to the places where these plants grow or to bring the drug they use. The medicinal uses of plants were checked through the literature available. The medicinal property of each plant was accepted as valid if atleast five separate informants had a similar opinion. The prepared herbarium and the specimens were carefully examined for the morphology differences the different genera and the taxonomic characters that distinguished each species of the same genus. To identify the species taxonomically, regional and local flora were referred (Gamble 1915-1936; Matthew 1999; Matthew 1982, 1983; Nair 2006). The boucher specimens were processed in the customary way and deposited in the herbarium of Botany, Nesamony Memorial Christian college, Marthandam. A systematic enumeration of medicinal plants has been arranged in alphabetical order. However botanical name, family, local name, common name where ever available, habit, growth form, useful parts followed by medicinal uses. The arrangement of families of angiosperms is based on APG IV system of classification with necessary alterations. All the species are arranged alphabetically under each family. Geographical maps are provided for the location of the Marthandanthurai Village, Kanniyakumari district, Tamil Nadu, India.

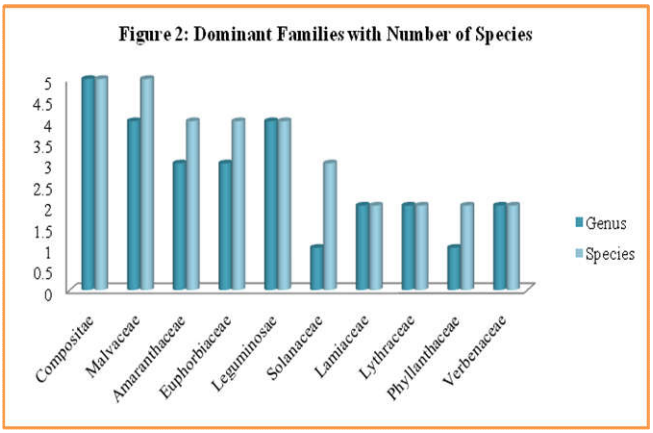
RESULTS

The ecosystem of Coastal villages is rich in important medicinal plant species. These plants are not only valuable as herbal drugs but also significant as a source of food, fodder, spices etc. The ethnobotanical information gathered from the study area of Marthandanthurai Coastal village.

Table 1. Habit wise distribution of plant species in the study area

Category	Species (n)	%
Herbs	30	53
Shrubs	11	19
Trees	13	23
Climbers	3	5





Diversity of Ethnomedicinal Plants: Taxonomically, a total of 57 plant species belonging to 51 genera and 34 families were recorded. Of these 30 (53%) were herbs, 11 (19%) were shrubs, 13 (23%) were trees and 3 (5%) were climbers/creepers (Figure 1, Table 1). Plant species, which are used in traditional medicine, are enumerated alphabetically according to their binomial names, followed by family names (Table 2). Of the 57 taxa, dicots were represented by 45 species belonging to 28 families and monocots by 6 species belonging to 6 families (Table 3). Based on the growth forms, total of 13 annuals species (23%) and 44 perennials (77%) were recorded from the study area (Figure 3). Family wise distribution shows that Compositae and Malvaceae was the dominant families represented by Compositae have 5 species under 5 genera, Malvaceae have 5 species under 4 genera, followed by Amaranthaceae, Euphorbiaceae and Leguminosae having 4 species each, Solanaceae having 3 species, Lamiaceae, Lythraceae, Phyllanthaceae and Verbenaceae having 2 species each, whereas 24 families (Anacardiaceae, Apocynaceae, Arecaceae, Cleomaceae, Combretaceae, Convolvulaceae, Cucurbitaceae, Cyperaceae, Meliaceae, Molluginaceae, Moraceae, Moringaceae, Musaceae, Myrtaceae, Nyctaginaceae, Oleaceae, Pandanaceae, Pedaliaceae, Poaceae, Rutaceae, Sapotaceae, Talinaceae, Xanthorrhoeaceae, Zygophyllaceae) were monospecific (Figure 2).

Plant Part Used for the Preparation of Medicine: In the present study the various plant parts used as medicines were whole plant (30), Leaves (13), fruits (4), Leaves and fruits (2),

Table 2.List of Ethnomedicinal Plants Recorded From the Study Area

Sl. No.	Name of the Species	Family	Local Name	Useful Part	Therapeutic uses
1.	*Abutilon indicum* (L.) Sweet	Malvaceae	Cheepu kai	Whole plant	Fever
2.	*Acalypha indica* L.	Euphorbiaceae	Kupaimaeni	Leaves	Headache and skin diseases
3.	*Acanthospermum hispidum* DC.	Compositae	Katu nerunchi	Whole plant	Fever and leprosy
4.	*Achyranthes aspera* L.	Amaranthaceae	Nayuruvi	Whole plant	Toothache, wounds and snake bites
5.	*Aloe vera* (L.) Burm.f.	Xanthorrhoeaceae	Kathalai	Leaves	Stomachache
6.	*Amaranthus cruentus* L.	Amaranthaceae	Keerai	Whole plant	Laxative and pains in the limbs
7.	*Amaranthus viridis* L.	Amaranthaceae	Kuppaikkirai	Leaves	Fever and eye infections
8.	*Azadirachta indica* A.Juss.	Meliaceae	Vepa maram	Leaves	Skin diseases like eczema and psoriasis
9.	*Bauhinia acuminata* L.	Leguminosae	Vellai mandaarai	Whole plant	Asthma, bladder stones, skin diseases and leprosy
10.	*Boerhavia diffusa* L.	Nyctaginaceae	Sarandai	Root	Heart diseases, skin disorders
11.	*Catharanthus roseus* (L.) G.Don	Apocynaceae	Nithia kalyani	Whole plant	Diabetes, malaria and cancer
12.	*Chloris barbata* Sw.	Poaceae	Mayir-kontai pull	Leaves	Skin diseases, fever, diarrhea
13.	*Chromolaena odorata* (L.) R.M.King & H.Rob.	Compositae	Kamyunist alai	Stem and leaves	Eye pains, antibiotic, anti-malarial
14.	*Cleome rutidosperma* DC.	Cleomaceae	Neelavela	Whole plant	Malaria, inflammation and deafness
15.	*Clitoria ternatea* L.	Leguminosae	Changu pushpam	Whole plant	Wounds
16.	*Coccinia grandis* (L.) Voigt	Cucurbitaceae	Kovakai	Whole plant	Leprosy, bronchitis, joint pain
17.	*Cocos nucifera* L.	Arecaceae	Thennai maram	Fruit	Pimples and black dots
18.	*Croton bonplandianus* Baill.	Euphorbiaceae	Milakai poondu	Whole plant	Snake venom, high fever, jaundice
19.	*Cyanthillium cinereum* (L.) H.Rob.	Compositae	Citevi	Seed	Coughs, intestinal colic, leucoderma
20.	*Cyperus rotundus* L.	Cyperaceae	Korai pul	Whole plant	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
21.	*Euphorbia heterophylla* L.	Euphorbiaceae	Paal perukki	Whole plant	Stomach-ache, intestinal worms
22.	*Euphorbia hirta* L.	Euphorbiaceae	Nilappala	Whole plant	Anticancer activity, skin diseases
23.	*Ficus religiosa* L.	Moraceae	Arasa maram	Whole plant	Against bites of venomous animals
24.	*Glinus oppositifolius* (L.) Aug.DC.	Molluginaceae	Thura poondu	Whole plant	Promote digestion
25.	*Gliricidia sepium* (Jacq.) Walp.	Leguminosae	Seemai agathi	Whole plant	Cough, fever, fractures, rheumatism
26.	*Gomphrena globosa* L.	Amaranthaceae	Vaadamalli	Flower	Cough, diabetes, bronchial asthma
27.	*Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* L.	Malvaceae	Chembaruthi	Leaves	Dandruff
28.	*Ipomoea pes-caprae* (L.) R. Br.	Convolvulaceae	Adapukodi	Whole plant	Rheumatism, colic, piles
29.	*Jasminum sambac* (L.) Sol.	Oleaceae	Mullai	Leaf and flower	Intestinal worms, jaundice, cancer
30.	*Lantana camara* L.	Verbenaceae	Unni chedi	Leaves	Rheumatism
31.	*Lawsonia inermis* L.	Lythraceae	Mailanchi	Leaves	Skin diseases
32.	*Leucas aspera* (Willd.) Link	Lamiaceae	Tumbai	Whole plant	Intestinal worm, scorpion bites and fevers
33.	*Mangifera indica* L.	Anacardiaceae	Manga maram	Whole plant	Ulcer
34.	*Manilkara zapota* (L.)P.Royen	Sapotaceae	Sapota maram	Whole plant	Fever, ulcers and diarrhea
35.	*Moringa oleifera* Lam.	Moringaceae	Murungai maram	Leaves and fruit	Indigestion, hair falling and eye diseases
36.	*Murraya koenigii* (L.) Spreng.	Rutaceae	Curry vepilai	Leaves	Vomiting
37.	*Musa x paradisiaca* L.	Musaceae	Vaazhai	Fruit	Stomach ache
38.	*Ocimum tenuiflorum* L.	Lamiaceae	Thulasi	Leaves	Cough and fever
39.	*Pandanus amaryllifolius* Roxb.	Pandanaceae	Ramba	Leaves	Fever, relieve indigestion and flatulence
40.	*Pedalium murex* L.	Pedaliaceae	Nerunji	Root and leaves	Gonorrhea and urethral stones
41.	*Phyllanthus acidus* (L.) Skeels	Phyllanthaceae	Cheemai nellikai	Whole plant	Cathartic and blood-enhancer for the liver
42.	*Phyllanthus niruri* L.	Phyllanthaceae	Keezhanelli	Whole plant	Chronic fever and jaundice
43.	*Psidium guajava* L.	Myrtaceae	Peraikai maram	Leaves and fruit	Diarrhea and diabetes
44.	*Punica granatum* L.	Lythraceae	Madulai	Fruit	Diarrhea and stomachache
45.	*Sida cordifolia* L.	Malvaceae	Arivalmukkan	Root and seed	Inflammation, asthmatic bronchitis
46.	*Sida rhombifolia* L.	Malvaceae	Karisalanganni	Whole plant	Swelling, headache and rheumatism
47.	*Solanum americanum* Mill	Solanaceae	Manathakali	Whole plant	Liver disorders, fever and dysentery
48.	*Solanum melongena* L.	Solanaceae	Katharikai	Whole plant	Blood cholesterol and regulate high blood pressure
49.	*Solanum violaceum* Ortega	Solanaceae	Thoothuvalai	Fruit	Diabetes and skin diseases
50.	*Stachytarpheta cayennensis* (Rich.) Vahl	Verbenaceae	Seemai nayuruvi	Whole plant	Malaria
51.		Compositae	Marigold	Whole plant	Treat boils, skin diseases and laxative
52.		Talinaceae	Pachai keerai	Whole plant	Measles and diabetes
53.		Leguminosae	Puli maram	Whole plant	Swellings
54.	55.	*Tagetes erecta* L.	Vethavankai	Whole plant	Jaundice, indigestion and diarrhea
56.	57.	*Talinum fruticosum* (L.) Juss.	Cheelaanthi maram	Leaves and flower	Skin disease
58.	59.	*Tamarindus indica* L.	Nerunji	Leaves	Stomach ache
60.	*Tridax procumbens* (L.) L.	Compositae	Odian pachilai	Leaves	Wounds, skin diseases and liver disorders

Table 3. Plant Parts Used for Medicinal Purposes

Sl. No.	Useful parts	No. of species
1.	Whole plant	30
2.	Leaves	13
3.	Fruit	4
4.	Leaves and fruit	2
5.	Leaves and flower	2
6.	Flower	1
7.	Root	1
8.	Root and leaves	1
9.	Root and seed	1
10.	Seed	1
11.	Stem and leaves	1

Leaves and flowers (2), Flower (1), Roots (1), Root and leaves (1), Root and seed (1), Seed (1), Stem and leaves (1). Whole plants are largely used in the study area. Entire plants are extracted for medicinal purposes in case of herbs. (Table 3). The plant parts used for the preparation of medicine, whole plants were found to be most frequently used for the preparation of remedies. The mode of preparations is paste, juice, decoction and powder.

Route of Administration and Dosage: Most of the medicinal plants were collected from wild habitats. The medicinal plants are mostly used in the form of decoction. Most of the remedies were taken orally. They were also used in direct application of the paste for ailments like skin diseases, wounds, heel cracks, poison bites, rheumatism, body pain and headache. Some of the ailments were treated by internal consumption as well as topical application such as poison bite, rheumatism and body pain and also, some of the ailments such as cold, cough, headache and fever were involved. Out of 57 plant species, particularly 15 species are used for fever, 8 species used for Cough, 7 species used for Rheumatism, 5 species used for stomach ache, 4 species used for jaundice, 3 species used for headache, 2 plants used for diarrhoea. Most of the collected medicinal plants have efficiency to fight against more than one disease. The most popular medicinal plants, in terms of the number of disease against which they are used, they are *Gliricidia sepium, Cyperus rotundus* (8 diseases each). 5 species (*Bauhinia acuminata, Coccinia grandis, Ipomoea pes-caprae, Manilkara zapota, Sida cordifolia*) are used in the treatment of 5 diseases.

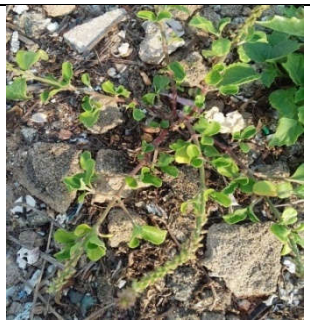
Table 4: Diseases Treated in the Ethnomedicine of Study Area

Category	Diseases/conditions included	No. of plant species
Skin problems	Scabies, eczema, leucoderma, skin tumours, skin inflammation, skin wounds, scalds, burns, psoriasis, pimples, black dots, heel cracks, itching, boils, measles.	17
Body pain/Swelling	Rheumatic pain, stomachache, swelling of joints, headache, joint pain	12
Urino-genital problems	Hemorrhage, urinary tract infection, urethral discharge, urethral stones, bladder stones, bladder inflammation	6
Gastro-intestinal problems	Constipation/ indigestion, dysentery, diarrhoea, intestinal gas, piles, dyspepsia, ulcers, liver disorders, nausea, vomiting	23
Respiratory problems	Cough, cold, asthma, bronchitis, diphtheria, bowel complaints	9
Chronic infectious disease	Leprosy, anemia	5
Peripheral artery disease	Limb pain	2
Animal bites	Scorpion bites, snake bites	5
Venereal disease	Gonorrhea, syphilitic affections	4
Hair problems	Graying of the hair, hair falling, dandruff	3

Selected medicinal plants in the Study Area

Acalypha indica

Acanthospermum hispidum

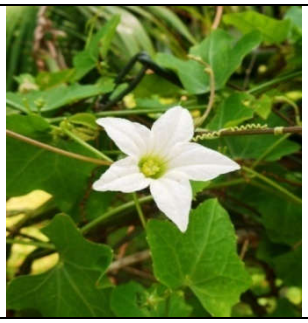


Achyranthes aspera

Amaranthus viridis

Boerhaavia diffusa

Catharanthus roseus



Coccinia grandis

Croton bonplandianus

Continue ….

			
Cyperus rotundus	***Lantana camara***	***Manilkara zapota***	***Murraya koenigii***
			
Pedalium murex	***Phyllanthus acidus***	***Solanum violaceum***	***Tribulus terrestris***

Ethnomedicinal Importance of the Plant Species: The medicinal plants of the study area have been used to treat 62 illnesses. The ailments such as scabies, eczema, leucoderma, skin tumours, skin inflammation, skin wounds, scalds, burns, psoriasis, heel cracks, itching, boils, measles, rheumatic pain, stomach-ache, swelling of joints, headache, joint pain, muscular stiffness and pain, urinary tract infection, urethral discharge, urethral stones, bladder stones, bladder inflammation, constipation/indigestion, dysentery, diarrhoea, intestinal gas, piles, ulcers, liver disorders, nausea, vomiting, cough, cold, asthma, bronchitis, bowel complaints, scorpion bites, snake bites. fever, jaundice, diabetes, fractures, deafness, eye diseases, tooth problems, edema, cancer, malaria, fungal infection, sleeping problems, blood cholesterol, blood pressure, heart diseases, leprosy, anemia, epilepsy, gonorrhoea, syphilitic affections, greying of the hair, hair falling, dandruff etc. The 62 various ailments against which ethnomedicinal treatments have been recorded in the study area can be grouped into 11 major categories of symptomatically and organ-system related diseases/problems, such as 17 plants are used for Skin problems, 12 species are Body pain/Swelling, 6 species are Urino-genital problems, 23 plants used for Gastro-intestinal problems, 9 species used for Respiratory problems. 5 species used for Chronic infectious diseases, 2 species used for Peripheral artery disease, 5 species used for Animal bites, 4 species used for Venereal disease, 3 plants used for Hair problems, 22 species used for Others diseases (Fever, jaundice, diabetes, fractures, deafness, eye diseases, tooth problems, edema, cancer, malaria, fungal infection, sleeping problems, blood cholesterol, blood pressure, heart diseases) (Table 4).

DISCUSSION

Medicinal plants have been used for millennia in virtually all cultures and serve both as a source of income and affordable healthcare. Worldwide, about 53,000 plant species are used for medicinal purposes (Hamilton 2004). According to an estimate of the World Health Organization (WHO), about 80% of the populations in the developing countries still rely on traditional medicine for their primary health care needs. India is rich in its ethnic diversity of which many aboriginal cultures have retained traditional knowledge concerning the medicinal utility of the native flora.

In the present investigation, a total of 57 medicinal plants belonging to 51 genera from 34 families were collected and recorded (Table 2). Similarly, Raafat *et al* (2008) recorded 121 medicinal species belonging to 96 genera and 37 families. The report is connected to the previous work (Heindrickson *et al* 2010; Muthukumar and Selvin Samuel 2010; Sahu *et al* 2011; Bartwal *et al* 2011; Bhandary and Chandrashekar 2014; Qasim *et al* 2014; Jenisha and Jeeva 2014) etc. The medicinal plants of the study area have been used to treat 62 illnesses. Heindrickson *et al* (2010) recorded 73 illnesses from the fishing communities of South Brazil. Muthukumar and Selvin Samuel (2010) reported 30 illness coastal areas of Tuticorin district. According to Bhandary and Chandrashekar (2014) recorded 42 ailments from the coastal Karnataka. The most popular medicinal plants, in terms of the number of disease against which they are used, they are *Gliricidia sepium, Cyperus rotundus* (8 diseases each), 5 species (*Bauhinia acuminata, Coccinia grandis, Ipomoea pes-caprae, Manilkara zapota, Sida cordifolia*) are used in the treatment of 5 diseases. The report is connected to the previous work of Bhandary and Chandrashekar 2014.

Latif (2002) reported that the *Aloe vera* fresh leaves are cut longitudinally and applied on the forehead and fever. According to Kanjilal *et al* (2003) *Aloe vera* the pulp of the plant with salt and fermented sugarcane juice is used for pain and inflammations of the body. *Aloe vera* decoction is used to cure ulcer (Jeyaprakash *et al* 2011). According to Sahu *et al* (2011) *Aloe vera* leaves are used skin burnings. According to Kanjilal *et al* (2003) *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* the stamen of the flower used in kidney troubles. Bhattacharya (2002) reported *Leucas aspera* leaf decoction used as antipyretic and Latif (2002) extracted juice of leaves and young shoots used for gastric disorder. According to Kanjilal *et al* (2003) *Murrya koenigii* leaves are very useful for digestive problems. *Solanum americanum* leaf decoction is used to cure ulcer (Jeyaprakash *et al* 2011). According to Chakraborty *et al* (2012), *Thespesia populnea* root are useful in curing dysentery and diarrhoea. According to Bhattacharya (2002) *Tridax procumbens* used to cut and wounds. The crude drug is obtained from medicinal plants. Due to the influence of modern medicine, the usage of traditional medicine becomes decreased day by day.

When the people need to small part of the plant, but they pullout the whole plant. So the wealth of medicinal plants decreases, so we have to conserve the medicinal plants and utilize the crude drugs obtained from medicinal plants.

Conclusion

The coastal plant species of the coastal village of Marthandanthurai has extremely important, which play a vital role in the medicinal and social life of people. Findings of the present investigation revealed that, the coastal village of Marthandanthurai have a very rich diversity of medicinal plants. Medicinal plants are still an important resource utilized for health maintenance of families of the fishing community of the study area. All together 57 medicinal plants, used for treating 62 different human ailments were recorded in the study area. Of these 30 (53%) were herbs, 11 (19%) were shrubs, 13 (23%) were trees and 3 (5%) were climbers/creepers belonging to 34 different families were recorded. Among the recorded species mostly whole plants are utilized as medicines. Other useful parts include Root, Stem, Leaves, Flower, Fruits and Seeds.

The crude drug obtained from medicinal plants can be used in the treatment of various diseases. The noteworthy findings stand out from this work, data suggests that people in the more isolated village know and consume more plants than people in the more accessible village. Conservation and judicious utilization of this coastal plant wealth is important because they have become threatened by over-exploitation. The findings of this study reveal that common plant species seen around us also play an important role in the treatment of various ailments. Due to the impact of urbanization, partial modernization and over exploitation of plant species for medicinal purposes there is chance for disappearance of some plant species in near future. Therefore, appropriate measures should be taken to conserve these plants for healthy and disease free life.

REFERENCES

Bartwal, M., Veena Chandra, & Rajwas, GS. 2011. 'Ethnomedicinal plant diversity among the Jaunsaries in Tons valley, Uttarakhand', National Conference on Forest Biodiversity: Earth Living Treasure, pp. 109-114.

Bhandary, JM. & Chandrashekar, KR. 2014. 'Diversity and use of ethnomedicinal plants in coastal Karnataka, India', BIODIVERSITAS, vol. 15, no. 1, pp. 89-93.

Bhattacharya, G. 2002. 'Ethnobotanical studies on some weeds of Gujarat, India, In Recent Progress in Medicinal Plants' (Ethnomedicine and pharmacognosy), Singh, VK, Govil, JN & singh, G. (eds) SCI Tech Publishing LLC, USA, vol. 1, pp. 33-40.

Chakraborty, T. Amal Kumar Mondal & Sanjukta Parui (Mondal) 2012. 'Studies on the Phytoresources of coastal dune flora ant West Bengal and adjacent Orissa, India', International Journal of Science and Nature, vol. 3, no. 4, pp. 745-752.

Gamble, JS. & Fischer, CEC. 1915-1936. 'The Flora of the Presidency of Madras', Part I- II, Adlard and Son Ltd, London.

Hamilton, AC. 2004. 'Medicinal plants, conservation and livelihoods', Biodiversity and Conservation, vol. 13, pp. 1477-1517.

Heindrickson, A., Cunha Meretika, Nivaldo Peroni & Natalia Hanazaki 2010. 'Local knowledge of medicinal plants in three artisanal fishing communities (Itapoa, Southern Brazil), according to gender, age and urbanization', Acta bot. bras, vol. 24, no. 2, pp. 386-394.

Jenisha, SR. & Jeeva, S. 2014. 'Traditional remedies used by the inhabitants of Keezhakrishnanputhoor- A coastal village of Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu, India', Medicinal & Aromatic Plants, vol. 3, no. 4, pp. 2-5.

Jeyaprakash, K., Ayyanar, M., Geetha, KN. & Sekar, T. 2011. 'Traditional uses of medicinal plants among the tribal people in Theni District (Western Ghats), Southern India', Asian Pacific Journal of Tropical Biomedicine, pp. 520-525.

Kanjilal, PB., Kotoky, R. & Sharma, J. 2003. 'Traditional medicinal plants of North- East India', In Recent Progress in Medicinal Plants', Ethnomedicine and pharmacoghosy , Singh, VK, Govil, JN, Hasm, S and Singh, G (eds) Stadium Press, LLC, USA, vol. 7, pp. 205-230.

Khoshoo, TN. 1996, 'Vesicular-arbuscular mycorrhizae of Hawaiian dune plants', Curr Sci, vol. 71, pp. 506-513.

Latif, A. 2002. 'Traditional herbal drugs in cancer.A classification and scientific evolution'. In Recent Progress in Medicinal Plants', Ethnomedicine and pharmacognosy, Sing, VK, Govil, JN & Singh, G (eds) SCI Teach Publishing LLC, USA. vol. 1, Pp. 253-264.

Matthew, KM 1999. 'The Flora of the Palani Hills South India', The Rapinat Herbarium, Thiruchirapalli, Tamilnadu, vol. 3.

Matthew, KM. 1982. 'Flora of Tamil Nadu Carnatic, Rapinent Herbarium, Tiruchirappalli', pp. 1-3.

Matthew, KM. 1983. 'The Flora of the Tamil Nadu Carnatic'.

Muthukumar, K & Selvin Samuel, A 2010, 'Traditional herbal medicines of the coastal diversity in Tuticorin district, Tamil Nadu, India', Journal of Phytology, vol. 2, no. 8, pp. 38-46.

Nair, PKR. 2006. 'Whither homegardens, In: Kumar, BM & Nair, PKR (eds.), 'Tropical Homegardens: A Time-Tested Example of Sustainable Agroforestry', Advances in Agroforestry, Springer, Dordrecht, The Netherlands, vol. 3, pp.355-370.

Qasim, M., Zainul Abideen, Muhammad Yousuf Adnan, Raziuddin Ansari, Bilquees Gul & Muhammad Ajmal Khan 2014. 'Traditional ethno-botanical uses of medicinal plants from coastal areas of Pakistan'. Journal of Coastal Life Medicine, vol. 2, no. 1, pp. 22-30.

Raafat, H., Abd El-Wahab, Mohamed Zaghloul, S, Wafaa Kamel, M & Abdel Raouf Moustafa, A. 2008. 'Diversity and distribution of medicinal plants in North Sinai, Egypt', African Journal of Environmental Science and Technology, vol. 2, no. 7, pp. 157-171.

Rodgers, WA. & Panwar, HS. 1998. 'Planning wildlife Protected Area Network in India', Wildlife Institute of India, Dehra Dun, India, vol. 1.

Sahu, SC., Pattnaik, SK., Sahoo, SL., Lenka, SS. & Dhal, NK. 2011. 'Ethnobotanical study of plants in the coastal districts of Odisha', Current Botany, vol. 2, no. 7, pp. 17-20.

****