ABSTRACT

Dindori forest Division is one of the richest source of medicinal plants in Madhya Pradesh state. Present paper deals with the medico-botanical survey work of all the 7 forest ranges of Dindori forest division which describes 116 medicinal plants which are commonly used in Ayurvedic pharmacies/drug industries and are also used by local inhabitants. The plants are arranged in alphabetical order of their botanical names followed by Botanical description, parts used and their action etc.

KEYWORDS: Medicinal Wealth of Dindori, Rich source of Medicinal plants, Important for Ayurvedic pharmacies.

INTRODUCTION

Geographically Madhya Pradesh state is situated in the central part of India between latitudes 21.2°N-26.87°N and longitude 74°02'-82°49' E Out of which Dindori distt. lies between latitudes 22° 57’ N and longitudes 81° 04.48’ E. The district (area 6,128 Km² ) is located on the eastern part of Madhya Pradesh bounded with the district of Jabalpur in the East, district Umaria and Anuppur in the North and North West, Mandala in South east, and Mungeli district of Chhattisgarh in the South.

The forest cover is about 60% of the entire area of the district. Dindori forest division is divided into total 7 ranges namely Shahpur, Dindori, Mahadwani, Amarpur, Samnapur, Bajang and Karanjiya with its respective beats. About 64% of the population belongs to tribal communities like Koel, Gond, Korwa, Baiga, and others.
Physiographically Dindori Forest Division falls under Satpura Range of hills. Mixed red and black soil usually alternates in this area. The red soils are light textured and usually devoid of lime concretions and free carbonates. The commonest form is sandy clay. They are usually deficient in nitrogen, phosphorus, organic matter and lime. Narmada and Silgi are major rivers as source of water flow in the district. Study was made to assess the potential of pharmaceutically important medicinal plants with the view to establish conservational aspect of high valued medicinal plants in the areas of study.

The studies on Flora, medicinal plants and ethnobotanically used medicinal plants in the treatment of various ailments by different tribal communities of Madhya Pradesh has been described by Maheshwari, 1964; Saxena 1986, Brijalal and Dubey, 1992, Varma et al., 1993; Singh and Sharma, 2011; Ahirwar, 2011, 2015; Soni et al., 2012; Ahirwar et al., 2011; Prana and Ahirwar, 2013 and others. Use of medicinal plants were described in texts (Kirtikar and Basu, 1935; Jain, 1991 and Chopra et al., 1956).

Forest

The vegetation of this division varies mostly on the influence of biotic factors like cultivation, fires, grazing, lopping, industrial development, construction of dams, road buildings and other human activities. Generally the forest present in Dindori division is gradually degrading. Almost four types of forest are found in Madhya Pradesh state namely (i) Northern tropical semi- evergreen forests, (ii) Tropical moist deciduous forest, (iii) Tropical dry deciduous forests, (iv) Tropical thorn forests. Main forest of Dindori forest division may be categorized as follows.

Source of Map: Google map.

Location of Dindori in Madhya Pradesh (India).
Tropical dry deciduous forests
It is dominated by entirely deciduous and lower storey trees and shrubs consisting of several deciduous species giving the whole forest a look of dryness. The common tree species growing in this forest are Ailanthus excels, Anogeissus latifolia, Boswellia serrata, Buchanania lanzan, Carissa sp. Cordia mcleodii, Careya arborea, Dalbergia latifolia, Diospyros melanoxylon, , Emblica officinalis Grewia sp., Gmelina arborea, Haldinia cordifolia, Mitragyna parviflora, Pterocarpus marsupium, Sterculia urens, Terminalia sp. and a variety of smaller tree and shrubs like Butea monosperma, Helicteres isora, Lagerstroemia parviflora, Wrightia sp. Ziziphus sp., Flacourtia sp., and Woodfordia fruticosa etc. There are several climber species like, Asparagus racemosus, Bauhinia vahal, Bryonopsis laceniosa, Celastrus paniculatus, Cissampelos pareira, Cryptolepis buchananii, Echnocarpus frutiscens, Smilax zeylanica, and Tinospora cordifolia.

Tropical thorn forests
It is dominated by low thorny hard leaved evergreen trees and xerophytes. The common species of this forest are Acacia catechu, A. nilotica, Aegle marmelos, Catunaregam spinosa, Carissa carandens Euphorbia nerifolia, Flaccorbia indica, Mimosa pudica. Randia uliginosa, Ziziphus jujube, Z. xylopora. The degraded stages present a picture of scrub or even dry grassland which is mostly found in most of the forest areas.

MATERIAL AND METHODS
Medico-botanical survey of Dindori Forest Division covering Dindori district of Madhya Pradesh was conducted during December 2012. Plant materials were collected with mature plants having flowers and fruits and specific size of plant parts for standard herbarium
preparation. Characteristic features of the collected plant materials like, habit, habitat, flower colour, distribution and occurrence were recorded in field book. Collected plant materials were pressed under blotting sheets which were regularly changed at an interval of 2-3 days which depends upon the moisture content of the collected samples. Change of blotting sheet was usually made up to 6-7 times or till complete drying of the collected specimens. Poisoning of collected sample was done in 1% solution of Mercuric chloride in 90% alcohol. After poisoning, plant materials were shade dried and mounted on the standard herbarium sheet. Identification of mounted specimen was done with the consultation of different floras, followed by matching of the specimens with the standard pre-identified specimens kept in the Herbarium of the Institute. The herbarium vouchers and herbarium sheets are deposited in the Herbaria of National Vrakshayurveda Research Institute, Jhansi (Acronym-JHS).

While describing the concept of distribution i.e. abundant, common, sporadic and rare the study was conducted by the use of quadrat at least at 5 frequent spots in varying beats of different ranges of the study areas wherein for herbs quadrat sizing 5m², for shrubs 100 m² and for tree species a line transect with 500 meter line was used then density of the plants per unit area (herbs and shrubs) or line per 100 unit (tree species). Where in following distributional criteria were adapted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distribution</th>
<th>Frequency herb</th>
<th>Frequency shrub</th>
<th>Frequency per 100 unit tree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abundant</td>
<td>&lt; 50</td>
<td>&lt;20</td>
<td>&lt; 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common</td>
<td>25-50</td>
<td>10-20</td>
<td>15-20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sporadic</td>
<td>15-25</td>
<td>5-10</td>
<td>10-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rare</td>
<td>&gt;15</td>
<td>&gt;5</td>
<td>&gt;10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Enumeration of medicinal plants**

Enumerations of medicinal plants are arranged alphabetically with botanical names (Latin name) with Scientist name followed by Family name, Ayurvedic name (Ay. N.) and or Local name (L.N.), salient features of the plant and distribution with field number, occurrence and various uses of different parts in various systems of medicines are being given.

**Acacia catechu** (L.f.) Willd. (Mimosaceae) Ay. N. Khadir, L.N. Khair Medium sized deciduous tree with hooked spines and flowers white in axillary pedunculate spikes, 7030, Pitari Beat, Samanapur, Range, sporadic.

Stem Bark: astringent.
**Acacia nilotica** (L.) Willd. (Mimosaceae) Ay. N. Babool, L.N. Babool. Medium sized tree with paired spines with yellow inflorescence and lomentum fruits, 7062, Mohanjira Beat, Amarpur Range, abundant.

Gum: Used in diarrhea, dysentery, useful in diabetes mellitus.

Stem Bark: astringent, demulcent.


Perennial herb with terminal spikes, 6972, kandha Tola Beat, Karanjya Range, common.

Plant: pungent, purgative, diuretic, dropsy, piles, boils, skin eruptions, colic and snake bite.

Seeds: emetic.


Plant: diuretic, astringent.


Rhizomes: emetic, stomachic, in dyspepsia, colic, remittent fevers, nerve tonic, bronchitis, dysentery of children, insectifuge, in snake bite.


Leaves: used as antispasmodic, cough, chronic bronchitis, asthma, insecticidal.


Whole plant: used in fever and erysipelas.


Ripe fruits: aromatic, cooling, laxative.

Unripe fruits: astringent, digestive, stomachic, in diarrhoea. Root bark: In intermittent fevers.

**Ageratum conyzoides** L. (Asteraceae) Ay N. Sahadevi Bhed, Herb with blue/ white flower, 6998, Chanda Beat, Bajang Range, abundant.

Leaves: applied to cuts and sores and externally in ague.

Juice of root: antilithic.
**Ailanthus excelsa** Roxb. (*Simaroubaceae*) Ay. N. Arlu, L. N. Maharukha. Tall tree with dense crown of leaves, flowers in axillary panicles, 7059, Mohanjira Beat, Amarpur Range, sporadic.

Bark: used in dyspepsia, tonic, febrifuge, expectorant, antispasmodic, chronic bronchitis and asthma, as astringent in diarrhoea and dysentery.


Plant: galactogogue, cholagogue, febrifuge.

Stem and Leaves: Used in snake-bite.

**Amaranthus spinosus** L. (*Amaranthaceae*) Ay. N. Tanduliya. Herb with greenish flower, 7021, Mohiti Beat, Samanapur Range, common.

Root: Menorrhagia, Gonorrhoea, eczema, Colic & lactogogue. Leaves & roots: Boiled given to children as laxative.

Plant: Snake bite.


Bark: Bitter, astringent.

Plant: In scorpion sting and snake bite.

**Argemone mexicana** L. (*Papaveraceae*) Ay. N. Swarnkshiri, L. N. Bharbhanda. Erect annual prickly herb with yellow latex, 7007, Chanda Beat, Bajang Range, common.

Root: used as alterative, in chronic skin diseases.

Seeds: laxative, emetic, expectorant and demulcent.

Seed oil: purgative, used in cutaneous affection.

Plant latex: used in dropsy, jaundice and cutaneous affection.

**Artocarpus lakoocha** Lam. (*Moraceae*) Ay. N. Lakuch, L. N. Barahal. Tree, flowers yellow, 6987, Burgaoon Beat, Karanjiya Range, rare.

Root: used in diarrhoea.

Fruits: laxative, tonic.

Plant: galactagogue, cholagogue, febrifuge, and in snake bite.
Root: refrigerant, diuretic, aphrodisiac, antiseptic, antidysenteric, galactogogue and as demulcent in veterinary medicine.

**Bauhinia vahlii** Wt. & Arn. (Caesalpiniaceae) Ay. N. Lata Kanchnar, L. N. Mahul, Mohlain. Gigantic climber with white or buff flowers, 6937, Sangrampur Beat, Shahpur Range, sporadic.
Seeds: tonic, aphrodisiac.
Leaves: demulcent.

**Bidens pilosa L. (Asteraceae)** Herb with yellow flower, 6980, Pandri Pani Beat, Karanjiya Range, common.
Leaves: In Brazil leaves used as styptic and as vulnerary, applied to foul ulcers and swollen glands. In Gold Coast leaf Juice is squeezed into eyes or ears to cure eye or ear complaints.

Gum: diaphoretic, diuretic, astringent, in rheumatism, nervous and skin diseases.

**Bridelia retusa** Spreng. (Euphorbiaceae) H. Khoja; Herb, L.N. Kasai. Tree with small globose fruits, 6913, Mohitara Beat, Shahpur Range, sporadic.
Roots and Bark: astringent, Bark with Gingili oil used as liniment in rheumatism.

**Bryonopsis laciniosa** (L.) Naud. (Cucurbitaceae) Ay.N. Bahupatra. Climber with red fruit, 7033, Pitari Beat, Samanapur Range, common.
Plant: bitter, aperients, tonic, used in bilious attack, in fever with flatulence
Leaves: applied to inflammation.

**Buchanania lanzan** Spreng. (Anacardiaceae) Ay. N. Priyal, L. N. Char, Chironji. Large tree with tomentose elliptic oblong leaves. 7014, Mohiti Beat, Samanapur Range, sporadic.
Gum: used in diarrhoea.
Kernel: used as ointment in skin diseases. Oil used as substitute for almond oil in native medicinal preparation.
**Butea monosperma** (Lamk.) Taub. (Fabaceae) Ay. N. Palasha, L. N. Chheula. A middle sized tree with crooked trunk, trifoliate leaves and red flowers, 7052, Jaitpuri Beat, Amarpur Range, abundant.

Leaves: astringent, tonic.
Seeds: anthelmintic.
Flowers: astringent, diuretic, depurative and aphrodisiac.
Gum: astringent, used in diarrhoea and dysentery.


Leaves: juice given with curds and yellow zedoary in heat eruptions of children.

**Caesalpinia decapetala** (Roth) Alston (Caesalpiniaceae) Shrub with bright yellow flower, 6952, Shahpura Beat, Shahpur Range, abundant.

Leaf: Used in Vietnam as immunomodulator and antiinflammatory. In Japan it is used in neuralgia.

Shrub with white flower, 6901, Karopani Range, common.

Root Bark: used in dysentery, substitute for Ipecacuanha, diaphoretic, expectorant, emetic, in form of a paste applied to elephantiasis.
Tincture of leaf used in intermittent fever.
Latex: Irritant, in combination with *Euphorbia neriifolia* used as purgative.
Flowers: powder used in colds, cough, asthma and indigestion.

**Careya arborea** Roxb. (Lecythidaceae) Ay. N. Kumbhi, L. N. Khumbi. Medium sized tree with large white flowers and globose fruit, 6959, Dhobi Beat, Mehadbani Range, sporadic.

Bark: astringent, demulcent, antipyretic and antipyretic in eruptive fevers particularly in small pox and snake bite.
Flowers: given with honey as demulcent in coughs and colds.

**Carissa carandas** L. (Apocynaceae) Ay. N. Karmard, L. N. Karonda. Profusely branched spiny shrub, leaves oblong or subcordate, flower white, 6941, Sangrampur Beat, Shahpur Range, abundant.

Fruits: antiscorbutic, unripe fruits astringent.
Root: bitter, stomachic, anthelmintic.
Leaves: decoction given in remittent fevers.

*Cassia fistula* L. (*Caesalpiniaeae*) Ay. N. Aragwadh, L. N. Sonari, Shonalu. Middle sized tree with yellow flower and cylindrical fruits, 6935, Surkhi Beat, Shahpur Range, common.
Root: astringent, tonic, febrifuge, purgative.
Leaves: juice used in skin diseases.
Fruits: cathartic, antirheumatic.
Seeds: emetic.

*Cassia occidentalis* L. (*Caesalpiniaeae*) Ay. N. Kasmarda. Herb with yellow flower, 6966, Matiya Beat, Mehadbani Range, sporadic.
Plant: febrifuge, purgative, diuretic and tonic.
Leaves roots and seeds: purgative.
Seeds & leaves: used externally in skin diseases, antipyretic.

Leaves: laxative.
Seeds: in skin diseases like ringworm and itch.
Root: in snake bite.

Fruit: irritating, emetic, used as fish poison. Fruit pulp: in dysentery, anthelmintic, abortificient, Ground to course powder applied to tongue and palate for fever and incidental ailments of children during teething.
Bark: astringent, given internally and also applied externally when bone ache during fever, externally applied during anodyne in rheumatism.

Gum: tonic, alterative, astringent, laxative in bowel complaints,
Tender leaf: emollient, root: diuretic, in scorpion sting, unripe fruit: astringent, demulcent, root juice cures diabetes.
**Celastrus paniculatus** Willd. (*Celastraceae*) Ay. N. Jyotishmati, L. N. Malkangani. Large shrub with simple leaves and small globose fruits, 7057, Mohanjira Beat, Amarpur Range, common.

Stem bark: abortifacient.

Seeds: bitter, laxative, emetic, stimulant, aphrodisiac, in rheumatism, leprosy, gout, fevers and paralysis.

Oil used in beriberi and powerful stimulant.

**Centella asiatica** (L.) Urban. (*Apiaceae*) Ay. N. Mandukparni, L. N. Brahmi. Herb with reniform leaves and greenish flower and fruit, 6981, Pandri pani Beat, Karanjiya Range, common.

Whole plant: alterative, tonic, skin diseases and blood purifier.

Leaves: tonic, for improving memory, useful in syphilitic skin diseases.

**Chicorium intibus** L. (*Asteraceae*) H. Kasni. Herb with blue flower, 6899, Dindori Range, sporadic.

Plant used as tonic, in fever, vomiting, diarrhea, and spleen enlargement., root: as stomachic and diuretic.

**Cissampelos pareira** L. (*Menispermaceae*) Ay. N. Patha, L. N. Akandi. Annual climber with glabrous reniform leaves, flowers in spikes, 6962, Matiyari Beat, Mehadbani Range, sporadic.

Root: Bitter, antiperiodic, diuretic, purgative, stomachic, in dyspepsia, diarrhoea, dropsy, cough and urinary troubles.

Leaves: External application for itch.

**Coix lachryma-jobi** L. (*Poaceae*) S. N. Gavedhuka, H, N. Gurlu. Herb with white grey fruit, 7015, Mohiti Beat, Samanapur Range, sporadic.

Seed: tonic, diuretic, root: menstrual disorderIn Tongking grain: considered blood purifier and diuretic.

**Colebrookia oppositifolia** Sm. (*Lamiaceae*) H. N. Binda. Pansra. Shrub, flower white like squirrel tail, 6910 Mohitari Beat, Shahpur Range, common.

Root: Preparation used in epilepsy.

Leaf: applied to wound, and bruises
Convolvulus numularius L. (Convolvulaceae) Herb, flower white, 6922, Surkhi Beat, Shahpur Range, sporadic.
Whole plant: used as antioxidant and antibacterial.

Cordia macleodii (Griff.) Hk.f. (Boraginaceae) L. N. Dahiman. Large tree with oblong to oblanceolate leaves fruit ovoid drupe, 6908, Kudwari Beat, Shahpur Range, abundant.
Stem bark: used in jaundice.

Leaves: toxic.
Plant: used in a preparation given to children as a cure for rickets.

Rhizome: prescribed in piles, jaundice, asthma, diuretic, tonic, aphrodisiac, used as poultice for itch and skin diseases.

Plant: purgative, used externally against itch, internally in protracted fever, infusion for washing of sores.
Seeds: carminative, anthelmintic, and alterative.

Dalbergia latifolia Roxb. (Fabaceae) S. Shishapa, LN. Sisama. Tree with greenish pod, 6965, Matiyari Beat, Mehadbani Range, sporadic.
Plant: bitter tonic, stomachic, used in dyspepsia, diarrhoea, leprosy, obesity and worms.

Dioscorea bulbifera L. (Dioscoreaceae) Ay. N. Varahikand. Climber, twinning to the left with cordate leaves and greenish flowers, 6925, Surkhi Beat, Shahpur Range, sporadic.
Tuber: used in piles, dysentery, syphilis and applied to ulcers.

Diospyros melanoxylon Roxb. (Ebenaceae) Ay. N. Tenduka, L. N. Biripatta, Tendu. Middle sized evergreen tree with ovate elliptic leaves, fruits globose berry, 6940, Sangrampur Beat, Shahpur Range, abundant.
Stem bark: astringent. decoction used in diarrhoea, dyspepsia and as tonic.
Leaves: diuretic, carminative, laxative and styptic.
Dried flowers: useful in urinary, skin and blood diseases.

*Elaedendrum glaucum* Pers (Celastraceae) H.N. Bakra, L.N. Kaikar. Evergreen tree, with white greenish yellow flower, 6945, Surkhi Beat, Shahpur Range, sporadic.
Leaf: Powdered leaf used for fumigation to relieve hysterical syncope.
Root: Fresh root bark rubbed into water to make paste and applied to swellings.

Plant: astringent, cardiac tonic, alterative, febrifuge and in snake bite.
Root: given to arrest vomiting, powdered with peeper applied to toothache.
Leaves: bruised and boiled in coconut oil applied to ulcers and eczema.
Root and leaves: in decoction form used as emollient, given in dysuria, diarrhoea, dysentery and swellings or pains in stomach.

*Embelia robusta* CB Clark. (Myrsinaceae) H.N. Vay bidang Bhed. L.N. Bidang. Shrub with small fruit, 6928, Surkhi Beat, Shahpur Range, rare.
Fruit: antiseptic, carminative, anthelmintic.
Dried root bark” toothache.

Fruits: considered as acrid, cooling, refrigerant, diuretic, laxative, diarrhoea and dysentery, jaundice, dyspepsia and cough.

*Eugenia heyneana sensu Duthie* (Myrtaceae) Ay. N. Kath Jamun. Tree flowers yellowish, fruit small in size, 7029, Pitari Beat, Samanapur Range, common.
Stem bark: astringent,
Leaf juice: used in dysentery,
Fruit juice: made into vinegar for stomachache, carminative and diuretic.
Seeds: used in diabetes.


**Evolvulus alsinoides** (L.) L. (Convolvulaceae) Ay. N. Neel Shankhapushpi, L. N. Shankhapushpi. Erect or prostrate annual herb covered with silky hairs, flowers on peduncle with blue petal, 6951, Shahpura Beat, Shahapur Range, common. Plant: bitter, tonic, febrifuge, vermifuge and in dysentery. Leaves: made into cigarettes smoked in chronic bronchitis and asthma.

**Ficus benghalensis** L. (Moraceae) Ay. N. Vat, L. N. Bad, Bargad. Large tree with aerial prop root, elliptic ovate leaves with subglobose orange red coloured receptacle, 7044, Jaitpuri Beat, Amarpur Range, sporadic. Milky juice: applied externally for pains, in rheumatism and lumbago. Stem bark: infusion given as tonic, astringent, used in dysentery, diarrhoea and diabetes. Leaves: applied as poultice to abscesses.

**Ficus hispida** L. f. (Moraceae) Ay. N. Kasth udumber, L. N. Bhuin Gular, Daduri. Medium sized tree with obovate hispid leaves, with sub-globose green coloured receptacle, 7040, Jhamul Beat, Samanapur Range, sporadic. Fruits, seeds, and stem bark: used as purgative and emetic.

Fruits: astringent, stomachic.

*Flacourtia indica* (Burm. f.) Merr. (*Flacouriaceae*) Ay. N. Vikankat. Small spinous tree with subglobose black fruit, 7046, Jaitpuri Beat, Amarpur Range, sporadic.

Fruits: used in jaundice and enlarged spleen.

Gum: given in cholera.


Leaves: juice demulcent, used in gonorrhea, cough and to remove foetid discharges and worms from ulcers.

Plant: used in snake bite and scorpion sting.


Fruit and root: used in diarrhea and dysentery.

Root: pounded in water and applied externally to hasten suppression and as dressing of wounds.

*Haldina cordifolia* (Roxb.) Ridsd. (*Rubiaceae*) Ay. N. Haridru, L. N. Haldu. Large tree with cordate leaves, flowers in globose yellowish green head, 6963, Matiyari Beat, Mehadbani Range, sporadic.

Stem bark: febrifuge, antiseptic.

Plant: juice used to kill worms in sores.


Rhizome: used as carminative tonic stimulant, liver disorders, diarrhea, inflammation and pains.

Flower: used in eye complaints.

*Helicteres isora* L. (*Sterculiaceae*) Ay. N. Avartani, L. N. Ainthi. Large shrub, with cordate leaves, fruit twisted capsule, 7047, Jaitpuri Beat, Amarpur Range, common.

Fruits: demulcent, astringent, useful in the gripping of bowels and flatulence of children.

Stem Bark: used in dysentery and diarrhoea.

Root: juice used in diabetes.
Root and root bark: expectorant, demulcent, astringent and antigalactagogue.

**Hygrophylla auriculata** Sch. (Acanthaceae) Ay. N. Kakilikashyam Talmakhana. Spiny herb with blue flower, 6947, Shahpura Beat, Shahpur Range, common.

Root decoction: diuretic,

Seeds: gonorrhoea and spermatorrhoea with milk sugar.

Leaf root and seeds: diuretic, applicable in jaundice, rheumatism, anasarca and urino-genital track diseases.


Root: Substitute for Sarasparilla, demulcent, alterative, diaphoretic, diuretic, tonic, loss of appetite, fever, skin diseases, as blood purifier in leucorrhoea, syphilis and rheumatism.

Leaves: Decoction used in fevers.


Root: as emollient, in Cambodia, mostly for fumigation of piles in china appreciated for restorative haemostatic and antifebrile properties.

**Jatropha curcas** L. (Euphorbiaceae) S. Kananeranda. Shrub with greenish fruit, 7000, Chanda Beat, Bajang Range, sporadic.

Roasted nuts purgative, seeds: purgative

Plant juice: useful in scabies, eczema and ring worm.

Twigs: used as tooth brush for swollen gums,

Leaves: used as decoction and cataplasm to the mammies as a lactagogue,

Plant: fish poisoning.

**Kydia calycina** Roxb. (Malvaceae) S. N. Pola, Pula. Tree with greenish fruit, 7049, Jaitpuri, Beat, Amarpur Range, common.

Leaves: pounded and made into paste applied in rheumatism and lumbago.

**Lagerstroemia parviflora** Roxb. (Lythraceae) L. N. Lendia, Jarul, Senha. Small tree with white flower and trilobed fruit, 6912, Mohitari Beat, Shahpur Range, common.

Stem bark and leaves: purgative.
Root: astringent, stimulant and febrifuge.

Seed oil: powerful and dangerous cathartic.

Root: crushed and applied on the breast when it swells and milk does not pass through the nipples.
Leaves: decoction used as tonic.
Flower heads: ashes applied to burns and scalds.

*Linum usitatissimum* L. (*Linaceae*) S. Alasi; Herb, with blue flower, seeds brown shiny, 6931, Surkhi Beat, Shahpur Range, cultivated.
Dried seeds: used as demulcent, and in form of poultice in gout and stomachic swelling.
Stem bark and leaves: used in gonorrhea.
Flowers: nervine and cardiac tonic.
Oil: mixed with lime water used in burns.

*Madhuca longifolia* (J. Konig) J.F. Macbr (*Sapotaceae*) Ay. N. Madhuk, L. N. Mahua. Large tree with white latex, leaves glabrous obovate to ovate, fruit berry, 6938, Sangrampur Beat, Shahpur Range, abundant.
Flowers: yield a distilled spirit which is astringent, tonic, appetizing, regarded as cooling tonic, used in cough in forms of decoction.
Bark: used in decoction as astringent and tonic.

*Mallotus philippinensis* (Lam.) Muell.- Arg. (*Euphorbiaceae*) Ay. N. Kampillak, L. N. Sinduri. Small tree with young parts rusty pubescent, flowers in spikes, fruits tricuspid, covered with bright red granules, 6900, Karopani, Range, rare.
Fruits: glands and hairs on the fruits, bitter, anthelmintic, cathartic and styptic.

Whole plant: used in epilepsy.
**Melia azadirach** L. *(Meliaceae)* Ay. N. Mahanimb, H. Bakain, Tree with blue flowers, fruit yellow, 7036, Jhamul Beat, samanapur Range, sporadic.

Root bark: fruit, flower and leaves: deobstruent, resolvent, alexipharmic,

Flower and leaves: applied as poultice to relieve nervous headache,

Leaf juice: used internally as anthelmintic, diuretic,

**Mentha arvensis** L. *(Lamiaceae)* Ay. N. Pudina herb, aromatic, 7016, Mohiti Beat, Samanapur Range, cultivated.

Dried plant: antiseptic, carminative, stomachic, refrigerant, stimulant, diuretic.

**Mentha piperata** L. *(Lamiaceae)* L. N. Pipermint. Herb, aromatic with menthol, 7001, Chanda Beat, Bajang Range, cultivated.

Essential oil from plant: antiseptic, stimulant and carminative.

Whole plant: stimulant, stomachache, carminative, vomiting and as infants cordial.

**Mimosa pudica** L. *(Mimosaceae)* Ay. N. Lajjalu, L.N. Chhui-mui. Under shrub with sensitive leaves and pink flower on heads, 7002, Chanda Beat, Bajang Range, sporadic.

Root: decoction used in piles and fistula.

Leaves: applied to hydrocoele.

**Mitragyna parvifolia** (Roxb.) Korth. *(Rubiaceae)* Ay. N. Kadamb bhed, L. N. Mundi. Large tree with ovate leaves and glabrous stipules, flower heads globose creamy white, 6936, Sangrampur Beat, Shahpur Range, common.

Stem bark and root: given in fever and colic.

Stem bark: ground and made into a paste applied for muscular pains.

**Moringa concensis** Nimmo *(Moringaceae)* Ay. N. Sigru Bheda, Tree flowers red, 7023, Mohiti Beat, Samanapur Range, cultivated.

Root: used as stimulant in paralytic affections and intermittent fever, used in epilepsy and chronic rheumatism, carminative, stomachic, cardiac tonic.

Fruit: in liver and spleen diseases and paralysis.

Flowers: stimulant and aphrodisiac.

Seed oil: used externally in rheumatism.

Gum: used for dental caries.
**Murraya paniculata** (L.) Jack. *(Rutaceae)*  
LN. Hotil, Shrub with yellowish green flower, 6986, Buraon Beat, Karanjiya Range, sporadic.
Root bark: Ground root bark is rubbed and used on body swellings,
Leaves: Powdered leaf is used as application to fresh cuts.

**Nicotiana tabacum** L. *(Solanaceae)*  
Leaves: sedative, narcotic, emetic, antiseptic used in rheumatic swelling, skin diseases, scorpion sting and fish poison.

**Nyctanthus arbortristris** L. *(Nyctaginaceae)*  
Ay. N. Shephalika, Harsringar. Small tree, with creamy white flower fragrant, 7055, Jaitpuri Beat, Amarpur Range, common.
Leaves: used in fever and rheumatism, fresh juice with honey used in chronic fever.
Leaf decoction: is also useful in sciatica.
Expressed leaf juice is used for intestinal worms.

**Nymphaea rubra** Roxb. ex. Andr. *(Nymphaeaceae)*  
Ay. N. Raktakumudini, L.N. Kamal.  
Aquatic herb with perennating root stock, leaves orbicular, flowers pinkish, 6886, Karopani Range, abundant.
Rootstock: Powder given in dyspepsia, diarrhoea and piles.
Flowers: Decoction prescribed in palpitation of heart.

**Oroxylum indicum** Vent. *(Bignoniaceae)*  
Ay. N. Shyonaka. Tree, flowers yellowish with brown streaks, 7017, Mohiti Beat, Samanapur Range, rare.
Root bark: astringent, tonic, useful in diarrhea and dysentery.
Stem bark: powdered with turmeric and cures sore backs of horses.
Tender fruits: carminative, stomachache
Seeds: purgative.

**Oxalis corniculata** L. *(Oxalidaceae)*  
Leaves: cooling, refrigerant, stomachache, antiscorbutic.
Whole plant: used in scurvy diseases.

**Physalis minima** L. *(Solanaceae)*  
Ay. N. Tankari,  
Herb with greenish fruit, 6997, Khannath Beat, Karanjiya Range, common.
Fruit: Tonic, diuretic, aperients.
Leaf: Leaf juice mixed with mustard oil and used in earache.

Root: appetizer, used in skin diseases, diarrhea, dyspepsia, piles.

Stem bark: In bleeding piles.
Seeds: Used in skin diseases like herpes and scabies. Oil used in rheumatism.

Seeds: used as stomachic, anthelmintic, diuretic, leprosy, leucoderma and other skin diseases.

*Pterocarpus marsupium* Roxb. (*Fabaceae*) Ay. N. Bijak, L. N. Bija. Large tree with pinnately compound leaves, fruit compressed pod, 6892, Karopani Range, rare.
Gum: Used as astringent, in diarrhoea and pyrosis, used for toothache.
Stem bark: Astringent.
Leaves: Useful in external application for bolis, sores and skin diseases.

Tree, fruits like
Snake up to 3 feet length, 6957, Khudari Beat, Mehadbani Range, common.
Stem: wood oil used in cutaneous affections.

*Randia uliginosa* (Retz) Poir (*Rubiaceae*) Ay. N. Gangati, H. N. Pindalu Tree with greenish fruit, 7053, Jaitpuri Beat, Amarpur Range, common.
Unripe fruit: Roasted in wood ashes and used in dysentery.
Root: Boiled in ghee used in dysentery.

Root: sedative, reduces blood pressure,
Leaves: decoction used in labours to increase uterine contraction, removal of opacities of the cornea of eyes.

Seeds: purgative, scorpion sting, fish poisoning.
Seed oil: purgative.
Leaves: applied to the head in headache and as poultice for boils.

Root: tonic, astringent, blood purifier.
Stem: used in snake bite and scorpion sting.

*Schleichera oleosa* (Lour.) Oken. (*Sapindaceae*) Ay. N. Koshamra, L. N. Kusum. Medium sized tree with brown colour young leaves, pinnately compound leaves 7043, jaitpuri Beat, Amarpur Range, common.
Stem bark: Astringent, rubbed up with oil as a cure for itch.
Seeds: Powder applied to ulcers of animals for removing maggots. Oil used for cure of itch and acne, efficient and stimulating agent for the scalp.

Nut: bruised and applied to osuteri to procure abortion, wormifuge.
Gum: used in scrofulous venereal and leprous affection and nervous debility.

*Shorea robusta* Gaertn. f. (*Dipterocarpaceae*) Ay. N. Shal, L. N. Sal, Sarai. Large evergreen tree with simple leaves, inflorescence axillary or terminal panicle, 6918, Surkhi Beat, Shahpur Range, abundant.
Resin: Astringent, detergent, in dysentery, aphrodisiac, gonorrhoea, weak digestion and also for fumigation.

*Sida acuta* Burm f. (*Malvaceae*) L. N. Bariar. Undershrub with ovate acute leaves, yellow flowers, 6893, Karopani Range, common.
Root: Astringent, cooling, tonic, useful in nervous and urinary diseases and blood disorders.
**Smilax zeylanica L. (Smilacaceae)** Ay. N. Chobchini Bhed. Climber with black fruits, 7025, Pitari Beat, Samanapur Range, common.

Root: used as substitute for Sarsaparilla in the treatment of venereal diseases, applied for rheumatism and pains in the lower extremities, used in blood less dysentery.

**Spilanthes calva DC. (Asteraceae)** L. N. Akarkarha. Herb with yellow heads on terminal peduncles, 6896, Dindori Range, abundant.

Flower heads: Tincture used to relieve toothache and mosquito larvicide.

Seeds: Chewed for salivation during dryness of mouth.

**Sterculia urens Roxb. (Sterculiaceae)** L.N. Kulloo. Tree with palmately lobed leaves, flowers yellow, 6943, Dharayagaon Beat, Shahpur Range, sporadic.

Gum: Used as substitute for tragacanth and in throat affection.

Leaves and tender branches: when steeped in water yield a mucilaginous extract which is useful in pleuro-pneumonia in cattle.

**Syzygium cumini (L.) Skeels (Myrtaceae)** Ay. N. Jambu, L.N. Jamun, Tree with jamuni colour fruit, 7020, Mohiti Beat, Samanapur Range, sporadic.

Bark: astringent.

Leaves: Boiled and used for sour eyes.

Fruit: used in liver diseases.

Seeds: Diabetes.

**Tephrosia purpurea (L.) Pers. (Fabaceae)** Ay. N. Sharpunkha. Profusely branched undershrub with pinkish red flower, 6924, Surkhi Beat, Shahpur Range, rare.

Plant: Tonic, laxative, used as anthelmintic for children, used internally as a purifier of the blood and considered as cordial.

Root: Bitter, given in tympanitis, dyspepsia and chronic diarrhoea.

**Terminalia bellirica (Gaertn.) Roxb. (Combretaceae)** Ay. N. Bibhitaka, L. N. Bahera.

Large deciduous tree with globose fruit, 7061, Mohanjira Beat, Amarpur Range, abundant.

Fruits: Bitter, astringent, tonic, laxative, antipyretic, used in piles, dropsy, diarrhoea, leprosy, biliousness, dyspepsia and headache.

Kernel: Narcotic.
Stem: bark decoction astringent used in diarrhea applied locally to ulcer, bark diuretic, cardiotonic.

Root: tonic, purgative, diuretic, febrifuge, ophthalmic.

**Ventilago denticulata** Willd. (Rhamnaceae) H. N. Rai Dhani. Climber with yellowish winged fruit, 6954, Khudari Beat, Mehadbani Range, rare.
Bark and Young Shoot: Juice of bark and young shoot applied over body during pain.

**Vernonia cinerea** (L.) Less. (Asteraceae) Ay. N. Sahadevi. Annual erect or decumbent herb with flowers in heads on umbellate cyme, 7013, Mohiti Beat, Samanapur Range, sporadic.
Plant: Considered as diaphoretic, decoction used to promote perspiration in febrile conditions, used as a remedy for spasm of the bladder and strangury. Juice given in piles.
Root: Given in dropsy.
Flowers: Administered for conjunctivitis.
Seeds: Used as anthelmintic and alexipharmac.

Leaves: Aromatic, tonic, vermifuge, dried one smoked for relief of headache and catarrah, used in rheumatism, decoction with long peeper given in fever.
Root: Expectorant, febrifuge, tonic.
Dried fruits: Vermifuge.
Flower tops: Astringent, leucorrhoea and chronic diarrhoea.

Dried flowers: Used as astringent, in dysentery, derangements of liver, disorders of mucous membrane and in haemorrhoids.
**Ziziphus mauritiana** Lamk. (Rhamnaceae) Ay. N. Badar, L. N. Ber. Deciduous tree with spines and greenish yellow flowers, 7026, Pitari Beat, Samanapur Range, common.

Leaves: Form a plaster in strangury.

Fruits: Mucilaginous, styptic, purify blood, and aid digestion.

Root: Decoction used in fever and powder applied to wounds and ulcers.

Bark: Considered to be a remedy in diarrhoea.

**Zizyphus xylopyrus** (Retz.) Willd. (Rhamnaceae) Ay. N. Ghonta, L. N. Ghont. Small tree, greenish flowers with brown globose stony fruit, 7048, Jaitpuri Beat, Amarpur Range, sporadic.

Root bark: Decoction used to heal fresh wounds.

Fruits: Stomachic.

The paper is represented by photographs of selected medicinal plants (Photo plate-1.)

**DISCUSSION**

Dindori forest division falling under Dindori district of Madhya Pradesh is very rich in the above listed important medicinal plants as represented by over 100 species of medicinal...
plants in a single Forest Division which is almost different from the medicinal plants wealth of adjoining divisions in the State like Satna (Maheshwari and Dwivedi, 1988; Jain, 1991; Prana and Ahirwar, 2013; Gaur and Lale, 2015). Soni et al. (2012) had described 34 ethnomedico botanical plants from Dindori district of Madhya Pradesh which are in use by tribal people of the areas.

The present account of herbal wealth of Dindori forest division highlights the information on important medicinal plants which are being exploited for their pharmaceutical use. The important medicinal plants used in Ayurveda and other system of medicines are Acacia catechu, A. nilotica, Achyranthes aspera, Acorus calamus, Adhatoda zeylanica, Adiantum lunulatum, Aegle marmelos, Anogeissus latifolia, Centella asiatica, Celastrus paniculatus, Cissampelos pareira, Coix lachrymal-jobi, Emblica officinalis, Evolvulus alsenoides, Gmelina arborea, Hedychium coronarium, Helictera isora, Hygrophylla ariculata, Madhuca indica, Mallotus philippensis Oroxyllum indicum, Pterocarpus marsupium, Sida acuta, Sterculia urens, Tephrosia purpurea, Terminalia bellirica, Thalictrum foliolosum and Woodfordia fruticosa, are most common in this division.

Maximum number of plants in Dindori Forest Division belongs to Fabaceae with 8 species, followed by Euphorbiaceae with 7 species and Asteraceae with 6 species. Families having four species are Amaranthaceae, Caesalpiniaceae, Rubiaceae however remaining families are represented by 3 species (Mimosaceae and Moraceae) with two species (Acanthaceae, Apocynaceae, Asclepiadaceae, Bignoniaceae, Celastraceae, Combretaceae, Convolvulaceae, Lamiaceae, Lythraceae, Malvaceae, Myrtaceae, Poaceae, Sterculiaceae and Verbenaceae). Rest of the families like Anacardiaceae, Apiaceae, Araceae, Asparagaceae, Bombacaceae, Burseraceae, Cucurbitaceae, Dioscoreaceae, Dipterocarpaceae, Ebnaceae, Flaccortiaceae, Hypoxidaceae, Lacythridaceae, Linaceae Marsiliaceae, Meliaceae, Moraceae, Moringaceae, Myrsinaceae, Nyctaginaceae, Oxalidaceae, Papaveraceae, Plumbaginaceae, Ranunculaceae, Rhamnaceae, Rutaceae, Sapindaceae, Sapotaceae, Simarobalaceae, Smilacaceae, Solanaceae, Tiliaceae and Zingiberaceae are represented by only one species.

**CONCLUSIONS**

Dindori Forest Division is very rich in medicinal plants belonging to varying climatic zones from tropical to temperate. This information on the medicinal plant wealth of the area will serve as basic material for various research studies, besides being an important source of information for the pharmaceutical industries at large scale. After going through existing
position of distribution of medicinal plants in various forest areas of Dindori Forest Division it is concluded that the plants of *Acorus calamus*, *Adhatoda zeylanica*, *Adiantum lunulatum*, *Aegle marmelos*, *Anogeissus latifolia*, *Centella asiatica*, *Celastrus paniculatus*, *Cissampelos pareira*, *Evolvulus alsinoides*, *Helictera isora* *Mallotus philippensis* *Thalictrum foliolosum* needs for mass cultivation whereas the plants of *Achyranthus aspera*, *Hygrophylla ariculata*, *Plumbago zeylanica*, *Sterculia urens*, *Tephrosia purpurea*, *Woodfordia fruticosa* and *Zizyphus mauritiana* have sufficient potential for systemic collection to avoid deficiency from natural habitat. Plants of *Caesalpinia decapetala* which is distributed in the areas of the Study areas is used in Japan (Kazunori Ogawa et al., 1992) and Vietnam.

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