

TRADITIONAL BOTANICAL KNOWLEDGE OF SOME MEDICINAL PLANTS OF ANANTAGIRI HILLS IN VIKARABAD,VIKARABAD DISTRICT, TELANGANA STATE, INDIA

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ABSTRACT

India is endowed with a rich biological heritage. It has more than 53 million tribal people under 300 tribal communities, constituting about 8% of the total population of the country. The tribal knowledge regarding the uses of plants for various purposes indicates their general awareness and intimate dependence on the surrounding. The relevance of local herbal health traditions have not diminished despite the giant strides made in the field of modern medicine. The most surprising fact is that, even today, 75% of the world population belonging to developing countries are still dependent on traditional medicine for their care. Anantagiri Forest constitutes an important, non-renewable living resource. So there is an urgent need to protect the rich biological diversity and heritage of Anantagiri forest. Proper measures must be taken by the government to utilize the rich resources without harming the environment. The present study is aimed at knowing about the rich medicinal plants present in and around Anantagiri hills used by local herbalists and village folklore to cure various human ailments. The major families which occupied first and second position were Mimosaceae-12spEuphorbiaceae-9sp, and all 149 plant species belonging to 57 families were documented and authentically identified.

KEYWORDS: *Biodiversity of Anantagiri Hills, Rangareddy District, Human Medicine, Telangana*