

**REVIEW ARTICLE ON ETHNOMEDICINAL PLANTS USED BY  
TRIBES ACROSS INDIA**

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**ABSTRACT**

The rich and diverse cultural heritage of India is reflected in the traditional knowledge and practices of its indigenous tribes, especially in the field of ethnomedicine. This review article aims to explore the medicinal plants that are exclusively used by tribal communities across various ecological zones of India, highlighting their therapeutic potential and conservation status. Tribes residing in different geographical regions, from the Himalayan foothills to the coastal areas and the dense forests of central India, utilize a wide array of plant species for treating various ailments. These plants are integral to the healthcare systems of tribal societies, often serving as the primary source of medicine. The article reviews the ethnobotanical knowledge of these plants, examining their traditional uses and/or pharmacological properties. This review aims to contribute to the documentation of indigenous knowledge, fostering the preservation of tribal traditions and promoting the importance and significance of these plants for modern pharmacology.

**KEYWORDS:** Ethnomedicinal plants, forests, tribes, traditional medicines, India.

**INTRODUCTION**

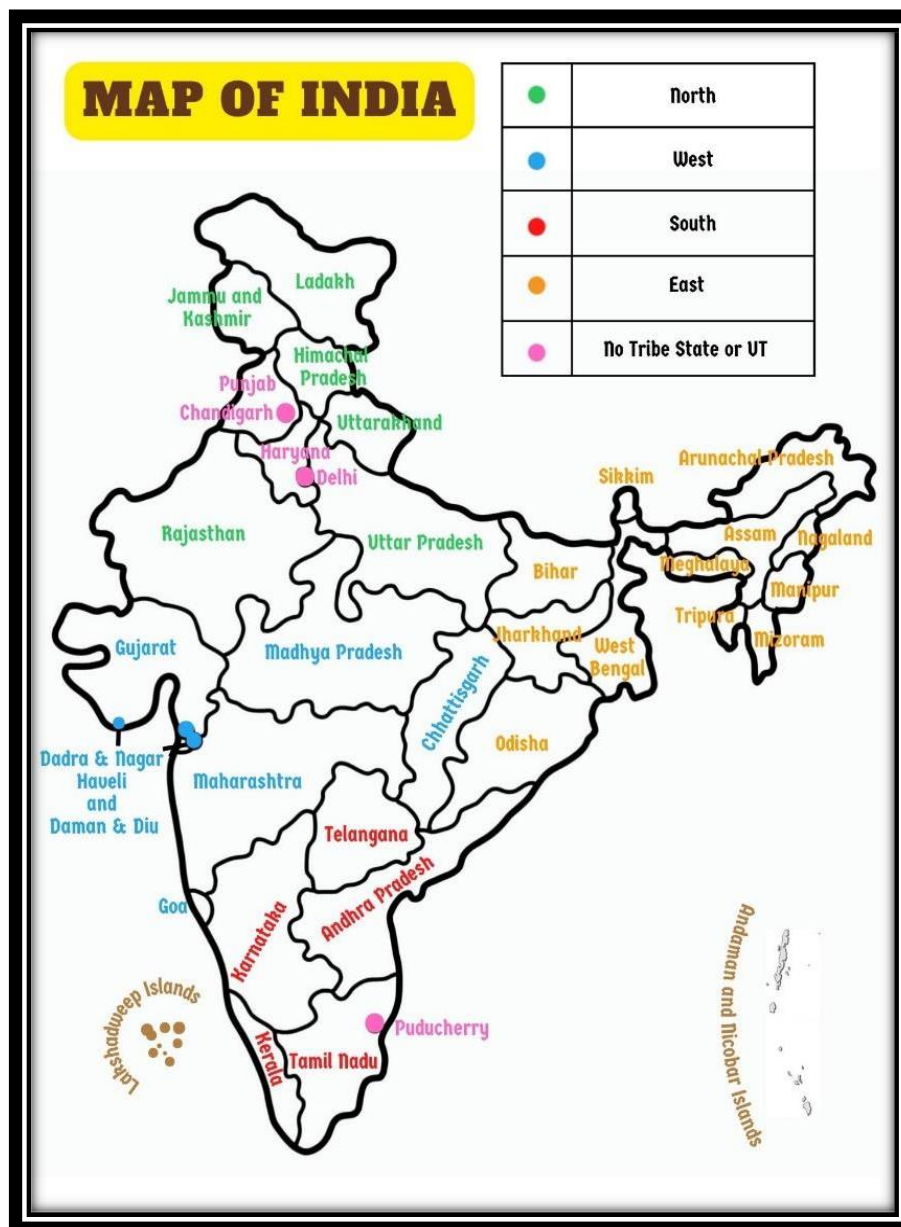
The dependency of human beings on plants is an age-old relationship, which is described as 'ethnobotany'. Ethnobotany comes from the term ethnology, which means the study of culture, so ethnobotany or ethnobiology is a scientific study of plants and human relationship, which shows plants as a primary source of need. Ethnobotany deals with various aspects in

which one of the most popular and common aspect is the study and use of ethnomedicines. Ethnomedicine involves the study of indigenous beliefs, concepts, knowledge, and practices among the groups of tribal and rural people for preventing, curing, and treating diseases. For human existence, since ancient times, especially, the ethnic or tribal community has a great dependence on local flora for medicinal and other purposes.<sup>[1,2]</sup> The traditional medicine system represents the indigenous beliefs, skills, and practices of rural and tribal communities based on their experiences to maintain their health.<sup>[3]</sup>

Medicinal plants are regarded as the gift of nature to humans. Various parts of medicinal plants, including herbs, shrubs, and trees, are used for curing diseases like neurodegenerative, inflammatory, anthelmintic, diaphoretic, diuretic, etc. According to WHO (World Health Organization), “medicinal plant is a plant, within which one or more of its part contains the substances, which can be further used for various therapeutic purposes, and serves as a precursor for semi- synthesis”.<sup>[4]</sup> Various bioactive compounds of plants called the secondary metabolites are the reason for their medicinal value and include glycosides, tannins, steroids, alkaloids, terpenoids, essential oils, etc.<sup>[5]</sup>

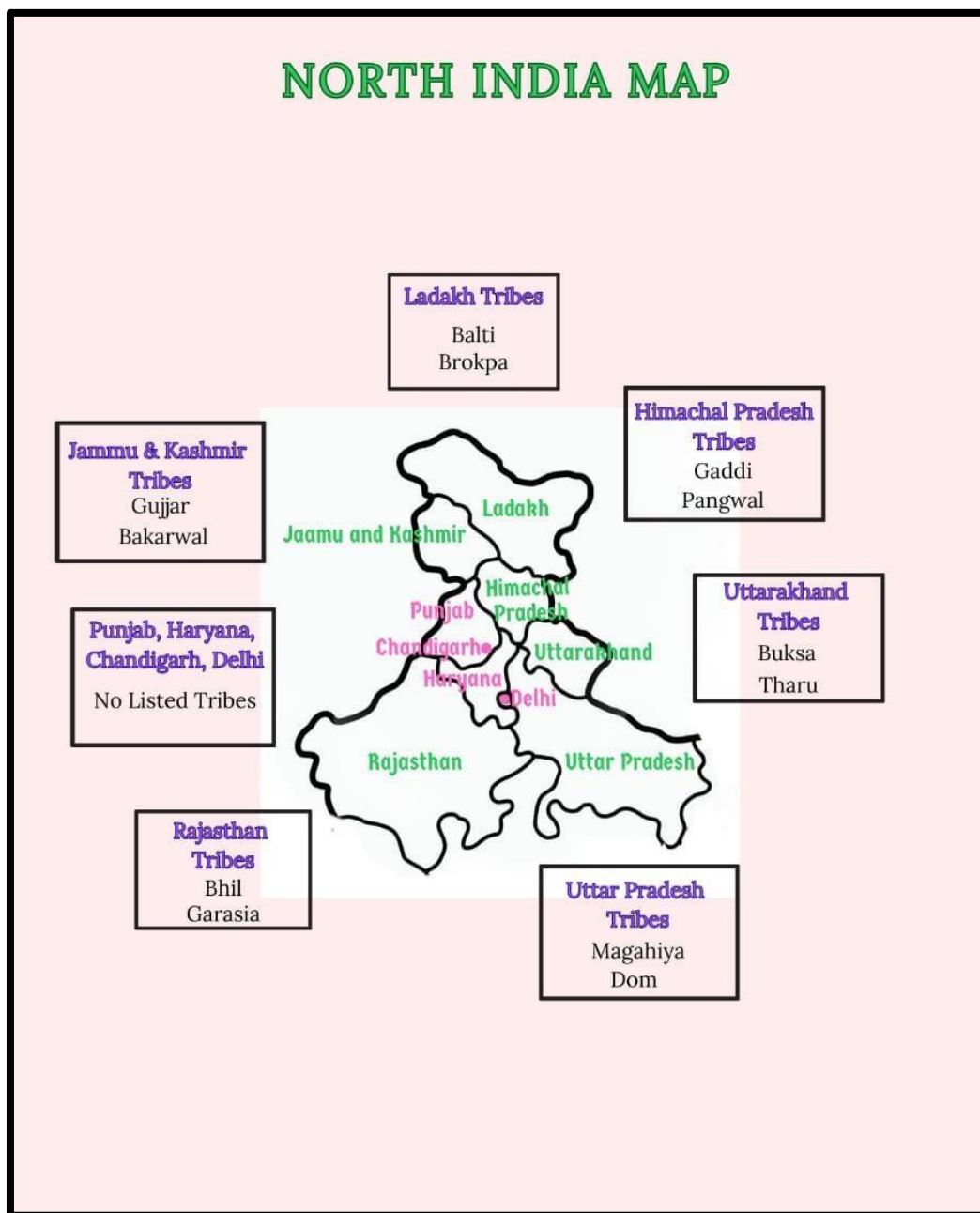
Traditional medicines play an efficient role in the preparation of herbal drugs for the betterment of people.<sup>[6]</sup> This system of medicines is used for curing diseases through the employment of agencies and forces of nature. Tribal people have their own system of medicines, which are age-old, and some of which are not documented in the literature. This tradition has been passed on from one generation to the other for treating diseases. The information on medicinal and various other plants comes from the ancient people when they started learning and making use of these traditional plants for various purposes.<sup>[7,8]</sup> India has many tribal groups living in different parts of the country, but there are some States and Union Territories (UT) where tribal groups do not reside and they are Haryana (State), Punjab (State), Chandigarh (UT), Delhi (UT) and Puducherry (UT).<sup>[9]</sup> The term of medicinal plants include various types of plants used in herbalism and some of these plants have medicinal activities. These medicinal plants are considered as a rich resource of ingredients which can be used in drug development and synthesis. Besides that, these plants play a critical role in the development of human cultures around the whole world. Moreover, some plants are considered as important source of nutrition and as a result of that these plants are recommended for their therapeutic values.<sup>[10]</sup> Ethnomedicines have made good contributions in the health care system in traditional medicines for the treatment of jaundice since ancient

times. There are two broad categories for the use of medicinal plants; firstly, plants are used traditionally only by local physicians for getting relief from illness, and secondly, the plants are used by pharmaceutical companies for their active ingredients.<sup>[11]</sup>



**Fig 1: Map of India with North Zone, West Zone, South Zone, East Zone, No Tribe State or Union Territory and Indian Islands written with different colours.**

## I. LIST OF ETHNOMEDICINAL PLANTS USED BY THE TRIBES LIVING IN NORTH INDIA



**Fig 2: North India Map with the names of Tribal Groups living in the respective State or Union Territory.**

**Table 1: Enlisting different ethnomedicinal plants used by the tribes living in North India.** <sup>[12-25]</sup>

STATE/ UNION TERRI- TORY (UT)	TRIBES	LIVING IN	SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME/ FAMILY/ HABIT/ CONSERVATION STATUS	PARTS USED	MEDICINAL USES
Jammu and Kashmir (UT)	1. Gujjar	Gulmarg mountain range	<i>i) Centaurea iberica</i>	Iberian knapweed/ Asteraceae/ Shrub/ Not evaluated	Thorns	Skin rashes
					Flowers	Wounds
	2. Bakarwal	Gulmarg mountain range	<i>ii) Malva neglecta</i>	Buttonweed/ Malvaceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Leaves	As body tonic, abdominal pain, constipation
			<i>i) Senecio chrysanthemoi- des</i>	Cheerful Senecio/ Asteraceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Flowers	Wounds
					Leaves	Asthma, bronchitis
Ladakh (UT)	1. Balti	Whole Ladakh	<i>i) Arnebia guttata</i>	Dremok/ Boraginaceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Leaves	Hair problems, cough, as blood purifier
					Roots	Cuts, wounds
			<i>ii) Oxytropis microphylla</i>	sTag-sha nagpo/ Fabaceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Roots and flowers	Joint pain
	2. Brokpa	Whole Ladakh	<i>i) Anaphalis tripplinervis</i>	Yaktso/ Asteraceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Whole aerial parts	Epidemic fever, chronic disease, genital problems, wounds
					Leaves, roots, shoots	Headache, ulcer, lung problems, liver problems, pharyngitis
Himachal Pradesh (State)	1. Gaddi	Dhauladhar Range	<i>i) Rumex dentatus</i>	Indian dock/ Polygonaceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Roots	Treatment against any type of poison
	2. Pangwal	Pangi Valley, Chamba district	<i>ii) Trillium govanianum</i>	Nag Chhatri/ Melanthiaceae/ Herb/ Endangered	Dried roots	Menstrual and Reproductive disorders
					Tuber	Stomach disorder
					Roots	Carminative property

			ii) <i>Meconopsis aculeata</i>	Blue Poppy/ Papaveraceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Flowers Roots	Eye disease Digestion problem
Punjab (State)	No listed tribes	-	i) <i>Pergularia extensa</i>	Dholi dudhi/ Asclepiadaceae/ Vine/ Not evaluated	Fruits and Leaves	Diarrhea, cough, rheumatism, asthma, bronchitis, piles
		-	ii) <i>Toona ciliata</i>	Toon tree/ Meliaceae/ Tree/ Least Concern	Flowers	As emmenagogue, menstrual disorder
Chandigarh (UT)	No listed tribes	-	i) <i>Crateva adansonii</i>	Barna/ Capparaceae/ Tree/ Least Concern	Barks and Leaves	Calculus, urinary organ infections
			ii) <i>Barleria prionitis</i>	Porcupine flower/ Acanthaceae/ Shrub/ Least Concern	Leaves Roots	Catarrhal infections in children, toothache Boils, glandular swelling
Haryana (State)	No listed tribes	-	i) <i>Senna occidentalis</i>	Coffee Senna/ Fabaceae/ Shrub/ Least Concern	Leaves	Skin and respiratory problems
		-	ii) <i>Cuscuta reflexa</i>	Giant dodder/ Convolvulaceae/ Herb/ Least Concern	Whole plant	Wounds, sores, itches, flatulence, diarrhea, fever
Delhi (UT)	No listed tribes	-	i) <i>Alysicarpus bupleurifolius</i>	Sweet Alyce Clover/ Fabaceae/ Herb/ Least Concern	Whole plant	Asthma, bronchitis, pneumonia, rheumatism, fever
		-	ii) <i>Molluga cerviana</i>	Threadstem carpetweed/ Molluginaceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Whole plant	Jaundice, oliguria, biliuria, fever, ophthalmalgia, vertigo
Uttarakhand (State)	1. Buksa	Tarai region, Indo-Gangetic Plains	i) <i>Holoptelea integrifolia</i>	Indian elm/ Ulmaceae/ Tree/ Least Concern	Barks	Leucoderma
			ii) <i>Colebrookea oppositifolia</i>	Indian squirrel tail/ Lamiaceae/ Shrub/ Least Concern	Leaves	Wounds
	2. Tharu	Tarai region, Indo-Gangetic Plains	i) <i>Premna latifolia</i>	Bombay Presidency/ Verbenaceae/ Tree/ Not evaluated	Stems	Boils, blisters, fungal infections
			ii) <i>Lygodium flexuosum</i>	Maiden hair/ Schizaeaceae/ Climber/ Not evaluated	Rhizome	Skin diseases

Rajasthan (State)	1. Bhil	Southern part of Rajasthan	i) <i>Echinops echinatus</i>	Usnakantaka/ Asteraceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Roots	During delivery pain for easy delivery, whooping cough Any affected part on the body
			ii) <i>Soymida febrifuga</i>	Indian Red Wood/ Meliaceae/ Tree/ Least Concern	Barks	
	2. Garasia	Southern part of Rajasthan	i) <i>Acanthospe- rmum hispidum</i>	Bristly starbur/ Asteraceae/ Subshrub/ Not evaluated	Leaves	Given to goats to increase milk production
			ii) <i>Dichrostachys cinerea</i>	Sicklebush/ Mimosaceae/ Small tree/ Least Concern	Barks, roots, fruit pods	
Uttar Pradesh (State)	1. Magahiya	Forests of Gorakhpur	i) <i>Ichnocarpus frutescens</i>	Black creeper/ Apocyanaceae/ Shrub/ Not evaluated	Roots	Spermatorrhoea
			ii) <i>Hemigraphis hirta</i>	Vanpoti/ Acanthaceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Leaves	Bone fracture
	2. Dom	Forests of Gorakhpur	i) <i>Blumea membranacea</i>	Kukronda/ Asteraceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Roots	Stomatitis
			ii) <i>Cordia vestita</i>	Bairola/ Boraginaceae/ Tree/ Data Deficient	Leaves	Cold and cough

## II. LIST OF ETHNOMEDICINAL PLANTS USED BY THE TRIBES LIVING IN EAST INDIA

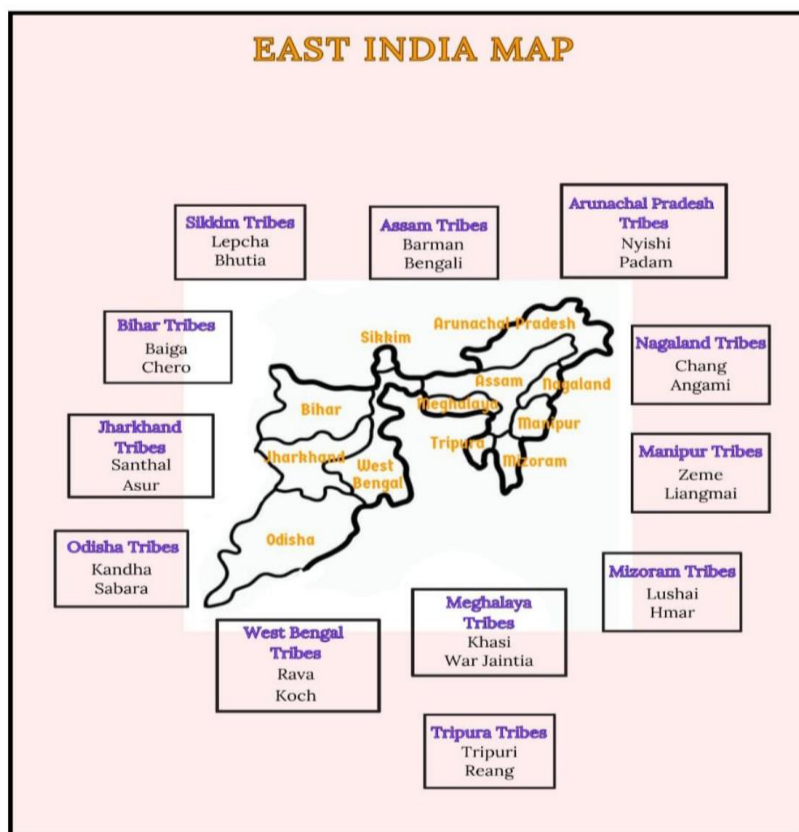


Fig 3: East India Map with the names of Tribal Groups living in the respective State.

**Table 2: Enlisting different ethnomedicinal plants used by the tribes living in East India.** [12-14, 26-42]

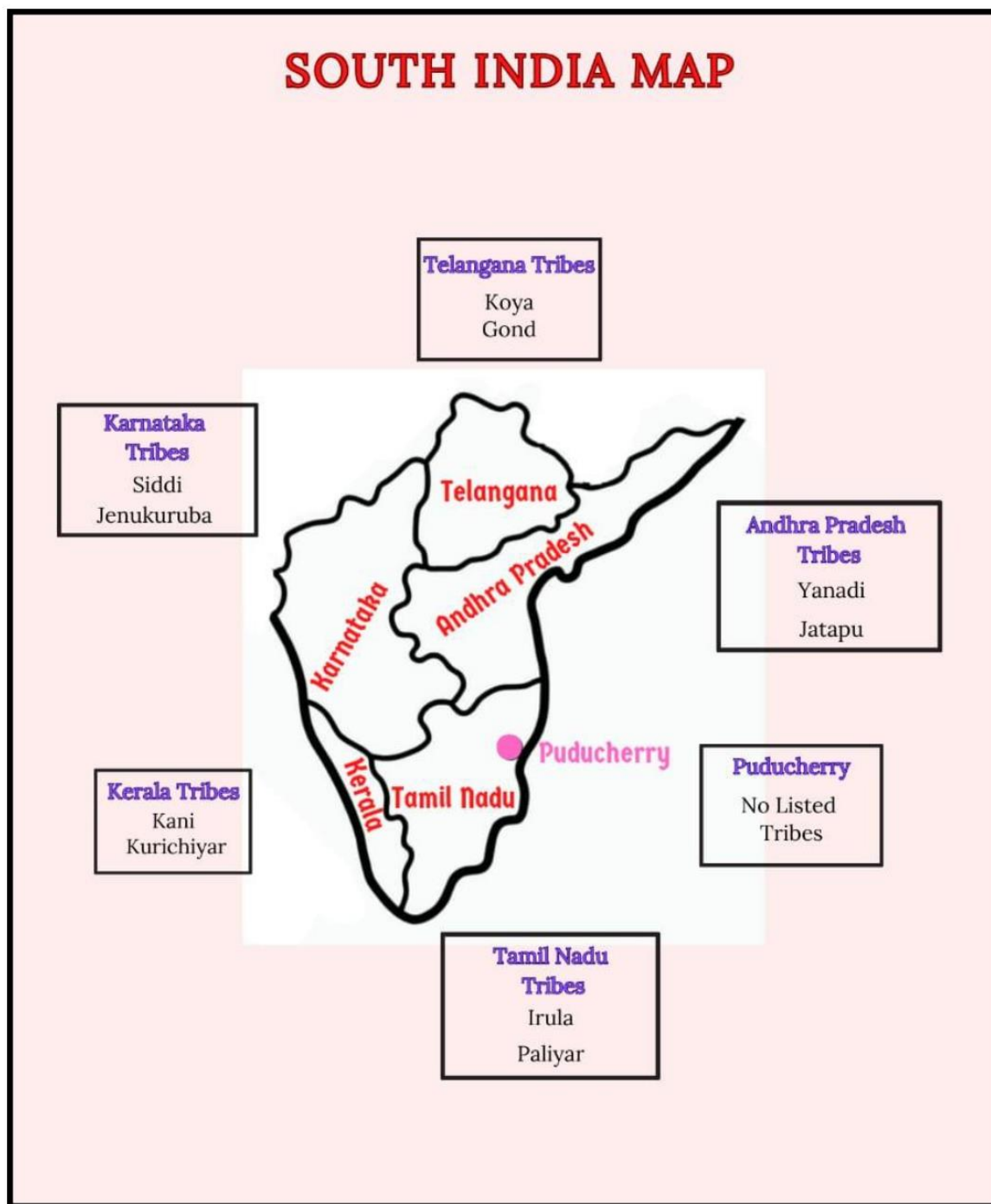
STATE/ UNION TERRIT- ORY (UT)	TRIBES	LIVING IN	SCIENTIF- IC NAME	COMMON NAME/ FAMILY/ HABIT/ CONSERVATION STATUS	PARTS USED	MEDICINAL USES
Bihar (State)	1. Baiga	Rural villages and forest areas of West Champaran district	i) <i>Spatholobus parviflorus</i>	Bando Lata/ Leguminosae/ Woody climber/ Least Concern	Seeds	Fungal infections between toes
			ii) <i>Argyreia bella</i>	Bhakan/ Convolvulaceae/ Climber/ Not evaluated	Leaves	Stomach pain
	2. Chero	Rural villages and forest areas of West Champaran district	i) <i>Artemisia nilagirica</i>	Mugwort/ Compositae/ Shrub/ Not evaluated	Leaves	Body pain, gout pain
			ii) <i>Cyanthillium cinereum</i>	Little Ironweed/ Compositae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Whole plant	All kinds of piles
Jharkhand (State)	1. Santhal	Angara and Namkum, Ranchi district	i) <i>Tabernaemo- ntana alternifolia</i>	Nag Kuda/ Apocyanaceae/ Small tree/ Not evaluated	Leaves	Wounds
			ii) <i>Aplectrum hyamale</i>	Putty root/ Orchidaceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Leaves	Stomach pain, vomiting, loose motion
	2. Asur	Angara and Namkum, Ranchi district	i) <i>Clerodendr- um infortunatum</i>	Hill glory bower/ Lamiaceae/ Shrub/ Not evaluated	Barks	Tuberculosis
			ii) <i>Hardwickia binata</i>	Anjan/ Fabaceae/ Tree/ Least Concern	Seeds	Weakness, burning sensation in urinary tract
West Bengal (State)	1. Rava	Cooch Behar district	i) <i>Drymaria diandra</i>	Tropical chickweed/ Caryophyllaceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Leaves	Cough
			ii) <i>Glinus oppositifolius</i>	Jima/ Molluginaceae/ Herb/ Least Concern	Leaves	Diabetes
	2. Koch	Cooch Behar district	i) <i>Scoparia dulcis</i>	Licorice weed/ Scrophulariaceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Leaves	Stomach disorder

			ii) <i>Hygrophila schulli</i>	Marsh Barbel/ Acanthaceae/ Herb/ Least Concern	Leaves	Anemia
Odisha (State)	1. Kandha	Villages of Kalahandi district	i) <i>Arisaema tortuosum</i>	Whipcord cobra lily/ Araceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Corms	Rheumatism, piles
			ii) <i>Millettia extensa</i>	Large Leaf Pongam Creeper/ Fabaceae/ Climber/ Not evaluated	Roots	Piles, dog bite
	2. Sabara	Villages of Kalahandi district	i) <i>Tylophora fasciculata</i>	Brown-Flowered Ipepac/Asclepe- diaceae/ Undershrub or Herb/ Not evaluated	Roots	Fever, body pain, rheumatism, intestinal worms infection
			ii) <i>Capparis zeylanica</i>	Ceylon Caper/ Capparaceae/ Shrub/ Not evaluated	Roots	Scabies, wounds
Sikkim (State)	1. Lepcha	Dzongu valley, North district	i) <i>Aesandra butyracea</i>	Indian Butter Tree/ Sapotaceae/ Tree/ Not evaluated	Fruits	Juice applied on body to soften skin
			ii) <i>Evodia fraxinifolia</i>	Khanakpa/ Rutaceae/ Tree/ Not evaluated	Fruits	Giddiness, indigestion
	2. Bhutia	Villages of East Sikkim	i) <i>Pteris biaurita</i>	Thinleaf brake/ Pteridaceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Stems and leaves	Cuts, wounds
			ii) <i>Lindera neesiana</i>	Narik/ Lauraceae/ Tree/ Least Concern	Fruits	Stomachache
Assam (State)	1. Barman	Tribal villages of Cachar district	i) <i>Phlogacanthus tubiflorus</i>	Alubabui/ Acanthaceae/ Shrub/ Not evaluated	Leaves	Cough
			ii) <i>Urena lobata</i>	Caesarweed/ Malvaceae/ Shrub or subshrub/ Least Concern	Roots	Rheumatic pain
	2. Bengali	Tribal villages of Cachar district	i) <i>Globba multiflora</i>	Many-flowered swan flower/ Zingiberaceae/ Herb/ Least Concern	Rhizome	Cuts, wounds, swelling, headache
			ii) <i>Lippia geminata</i>	Bushy lippie/ Verbenaceae/ Shrub/ Not evaluated	Leaves	Cuts, wounds
Arunachal Pradesh (State)	1. Nyishi	Puchigeko & Daporijo circle of Upper Subansiri	i) <i>Thalictrum foliolosum</i>	Leafy Meadow- Rue/ Ranunculaceae/ Shrub/	Roots	Fever, eye disorder

Nagaland (State)	2. Padam	East, West and Upper Siang district	district		Not evaluated		
				ii) <i>Mastersia assamica</i>	Rem, Rading/ Fabaceae/ Climber/	Stems	Cuts, wounds
				i) <i>Dioscorea floribunda</i>	Not evaluated Mule's hoof/ Dioscoreaceae/ Climber/	Tuber	As vitalizer
				ii) <i>Piper brachystachyum</i>	Not evaluated Hill pepper/ Piperaceae/ Climber/	Whole plant	Rheumatism
	1. Chang	Noksen, Litem, Tuensang, Helipong villages, Tuensang district			Not evaluated	Leaves	Cough, bronchitis
				i) <i>Elsholtzia blanda</i>	Pleasant Himalayana Mint/ Lamiaceae/ Herb/	Leaves	Kidney and bladder disorder, diabetes, hypertension
				ii) <i>Pouzolzia viminea</i>	Not evaluated Red-Stem Pouzolzia's Bush/ Urticaceae/ Shrub/	Roots and leaves	Skin infection, wound
				i) <i>Blumea lacera</i>	Not evaluated Lettuce-Leaf Blumea/ Asteraceae/ Herb/	Whole plant	Bruises
	2. Angami	Khonoma village		ii) <i>Cyathocline purpurea</i>	Not evaluated Gangotra/ Compositae/ Herb/	Leaves and stems	Gastric problems
					Least Concern		
Manipur (State)	1. Zeme	Villages of Tamenlong district		i) <i>Lasianthus cyanocarpus</i>	Chingbanam/ Rubiaceae/ Shrub/	Leaves	Stomachic, gastritis undefined illness with body pain
				ii) <i>Pericampylus glaucus</i>	Not evaluated N'giekukak/ Menispermaceae/ Climber/	Roots	Painful delivery
	2. Liangmai	Villages of Tamenlong district		i) <i>Meriandra dianthera</i>	Not evaluated Aluk Buan/ Lamiaceae/ Shrub/	Leaves	Stomachic, cough
				ii) <i>Pouzolzia sanguinea</i>	Not evaluated Red-Stem Pouzolzia's Bush/ Urticaceae/ Shrub/	Leaves	Toothache
Mizoram (State)	1. Lushai	Various villages of the Aizawl, Mamit, Lunglei, Lawngtlai, and Saiha districts			Not evaluated		
				i) <i>Cirsium shansiense</i>	Lenhling/ Asteraceae/ Herb/	Roots	Wounds, stomach ulcer, haemorrhage

Tripura (State)	2. Hmar	Various villages of the Aizawl, Mamit, Lunglei, Lawngtlai, and Saiha districts	ii) <i>Zanonia indica</i>	Chirpot/ Cucurbitaceae/ Climbing shrub/ Not evaluated	Fruits	Stomachache, ulcer, asthma
			i) <i>Terminalia phillyreifolia</i>	Buttontree/ Combretaceae/ Tree/ Least Concern	Barks	Diarrhea, stomach ulcer
			ii) <i>Ruehssia macrophylla</i>	Ankhapui/ Apocynaceae/ Tree/ Not evaluated	Leaves, stem	Stomachache, hypertension
	1. Tripuri	Hilly dense forest areas of West district	i) <i>Sterculia villosa</i>	Hairy Sterculia/ Sterculiaceae/ Tree/ Least Concern	Petiole	Seminal weakness
			ii) <i>Neptunia prostrata</i>	Water Sensitive Plant/ Mimosaceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Young shoot	Gastritis, acidity, constipation
			i) <i>Merremia umbellata</i>	Hogvine/ Convolvulaceae/ Climbing herb/ Not evaluated	Leaves	Dysentery
Meghalaya (State)	2. Reang	Different villages of North Tripura, Dhalai, West Tripura and South Tripura district	ii) <i>Anacolosa ilicoides</i>	Musafama/ Olacaceae/ Tree/ Least Concern	Leaves	Cuts, wounds
	1. Khasi	Nongkhylllem Wildlife Sanctuary	i) <i>Combretum Acuminatum</i>	No common name/ Combretaceae/ Climber/ Not evaluated	Roots	Tapeworm infection
			ii) <i>Engelhardtia spicata</i>	Mauwa/ Juglandaceae/ Tree/ Least Concern	Barks	Used in medicine
	2. War Jaintia	Nongtalang Village, West Jaintia Hills	i) <i>Zanthoxylum khasianum</i>	Khasi Yellow-Wood/ Rutaceae/ Shrub or tree/ Not evaluated	Fruits	Cough, cold, fever
			ii) <i>Sarcochl- amys pulcherrima</i>	Dogal Tree/ Urticaceae/ Tree/ Not evaluated	Leaves	Cuts, wounds, blood clot

### III. LIST OF ETHNOMEDICINAL PLANTS USED BY THE TRIBES LIVING IN SOUTH INDIA



**Fig 4: South India Map with the names of Tribal Groups living in the respective State or Union Territory.**

**Table 3: Enlisting different ethnomedicinal plants used by the tribes living in South India.** [12-14, 43-52]

STATE/ UNION TERRIT- ORY (UT)	TRIBES	LIVING IN	SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME/ FAMILY/ HABIT/ CONSERVATION STATUS	PARTS USED	MEDICINAL USES
Karnataka (State)	1. Siddi tribe	Supa, Mundgod, Haliyal and Yellapur Taluka, Uttara Kannada district	i) <i>Acanthus ilicifolius</i>	Sea Holly/ Acanthaceae/ Sprawling herb to shrub/ Least Concern	Leaves	Skin diseases, inflammatory pustules
			ii) <i>Holigarna ferruginea</i>	Black Varnish Tree/ Anacardiaceae/ Tree/ Not evaluated	Whole plant	Cuts, wounds
	2. Jenukur- uba	Tribal villages of Mysore and Coorg district	i) <i>Blainvillea acmella</i>	Para Cress Flower/ Asteraceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Leaves Seeds	Cuts Post-natal complaints
			ii) <i>Hackeloc- hloa granularis</i>	Pitsacle Grass/ Poaceae/ Grass/ Not evaluated	Whole plant	Bruises
Kerala (State)	1. Kani	Agasthyark- oodam peak	i) <i>Naravelia zeylanica</i>	Ceylon Clematis/ Ranunculaceae/ Climbing shrub/ Not evaluated	Stems	Rhinitis
			ii) <i>Leea sambucina</i>	Bandicoot Berry/ Vitaceae/ Large shrub/ Not evaluated	Leaves	Dysentery with blood discharge
	2. Kurichiyar	Hilly areas of Wayanad district	i) <i>Bridelia scandens</i>	Climbing Bridelia/ Euphorbiaceae/ Climbing shrub/ Not evaluated	Barks	Cough, asthma
			ii) <i>Pimpinella monoica</i>	Wallich Hogweed/ Apiaceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Seeds	Stomachache
Tamil Nadu (State)	1. Irula	Rural areas in forests or on forest edges of Northeastern districts	i) <i>Rostellularia diffusa</i>	Spreading Diffusa/ Acanthaceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Whole plant	Dermatological disorders
			ii) <i>Lannea coromandelica</i>	Indian Ash Tree/ Anacardiaceae/ Tree/ Least Concern	Whole plant	Orthopedic disorders, Ophthalmolog- ical disorders

	2. Paliyar	Palni hills, South Western Ghats	i) <i>Pterolobium hexapetalum</i> ii) <i>Syzygium lineare</i>	Indian Redwing/ Fabaceae/ Shrub/ Not evaluated Spicate Eugenia/ Myrtaceae/ Tree/ Not evaluated	Leaves Fruits	As tonic to reduce delivery pain As diuretic, stomachic, tonic
Andhra Pradesh (State)	1. Yanadi	Chandragiri Reserve Forest Area	i) <i>Andrographis serpyllifolia</i> ii) <i>Pachygone ovata</i>	Roundleaf Chiretta/ Acanthaceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated Fish berry/ Menispermaceae/ Climber/ Not evaluated	Roots Leaves	Stomachache Cuts, boils
	2. Jatapu	Parvathipuram Manyam district	i) <i>Blumea bifoliata</i> ii) <i>Canthium dicoccum</i>	No common Name/ Asteraceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated Ceylon Boxwood/ Rubiaceae/ Tree/ Least Concern	Leaves Barks	Skin diseases Fever
	1. Koya	Malluru Hill Region and around villages of Mangapet Mandal of Warangal district	i) <i>Dendrophthoe falcata</i> ii) <i>Lepidagathis cristata</i>	Honey Suckle Mistletoe/ Loranthaceae/ Shrub/ Not evaluated Crested Lepidagathis/ Acanthaceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Stems Leaves	Menstrual troubles Wounds
	2. Gond	Kawal Wildlife Sanctuary	i) <i>Anisomeles indica</i> ii) <i>Capparis sepiaria</i>	Catmint/ Lamiaceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated Wild Caper Bush/ Capparaceae/ Climber/ Least Concern	Leaves Stem barks, fruits	Ephemeral fever As contraceptive, rheumatism
Puducherry (UT)	No listed tribes	-	i) <i>Cynodon dactylon</i> ii) <i>Ficus religiosa</i>	Scutch grass/ Poaceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated Sacred fig/ Moraceae/ Tree/ Least Concern	Leaves Barks	Menstrual problems Mouth ulcer, gingivitis

#### IV. LIST OF ETHNOMEDICINAL PLANTS USED BY THE TRIBES LIVING IN WEST INDIA

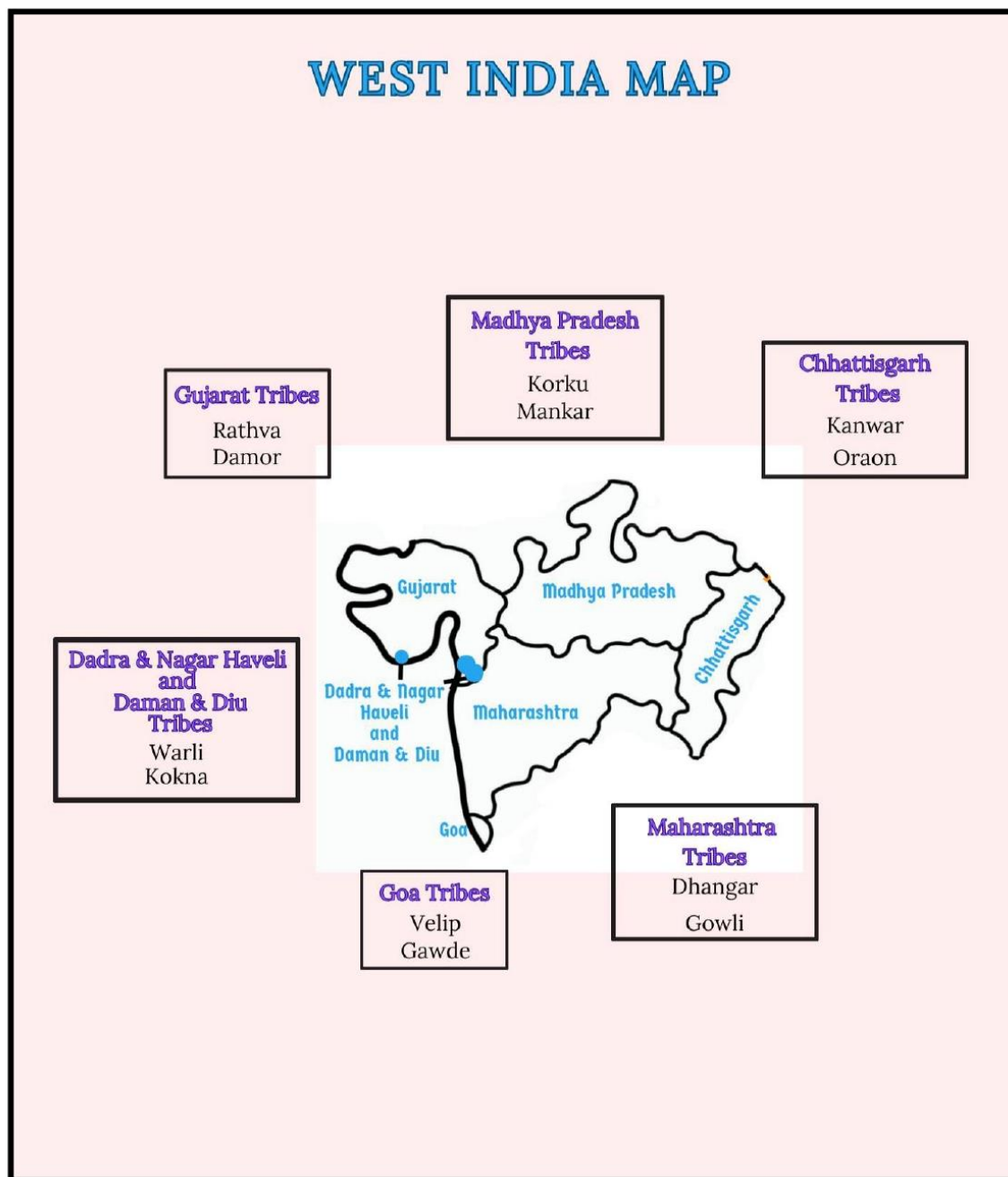


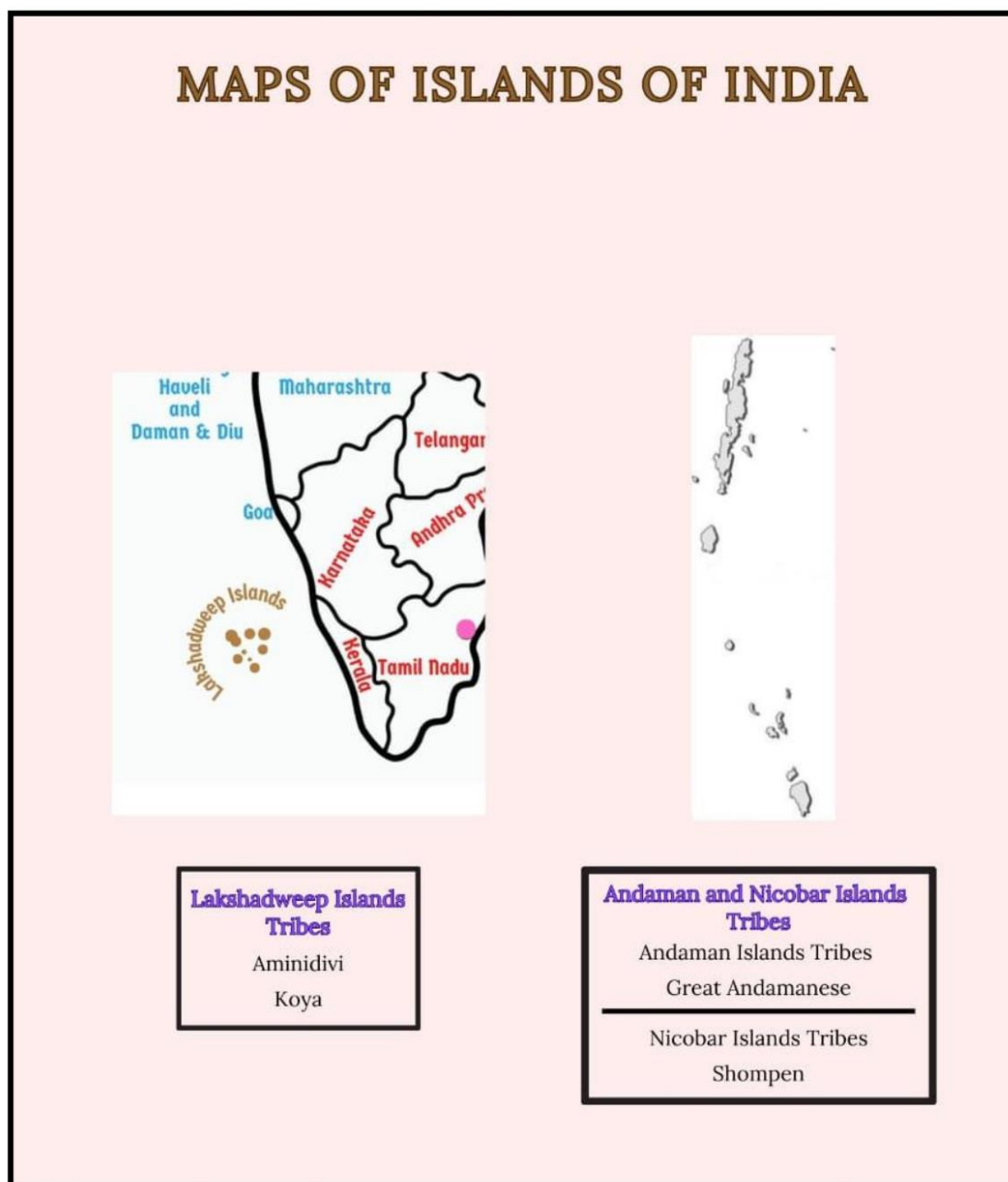
Fig 5: West India Map with the names of Tribal Groups living in the respective State.

**Table 4: Enlisting different ethnomedicinal plants used by the tribes living in West India.** [12-14, 53-60]

STATE/ UNION TERRIT- ORY (UT)	TRIBES	LIVING IN	SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME/ FAMILY/ HABIT/ CONSERVATION STATUS	PARTS USED	MEDICINAL USES
Gujarat (State)	1. Rathva	Godhra taluka, Panchmahal district	i) <i>Grangea maderaspa- tana</i>	Madras Carpet/ Asteraceae/ Herb/ Least Concern	Leaves	Boils, ulcer
			ii) <i>Anogeissus sericea</i>	Dhao/ Combretaceae/ Large shrub or small tree/ Not evaluated	Barks, leaves	Fever
	2. Damor	Godhra taluka, Panchmahal district	i) <i>Enicostema hyssopifoli-um</i>	Indian Whitehead/ Gentianaceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Leaves	Fever
			ii) <i>Maytenus emarginata</i>	Thomy Staff Tree/ Celastraceae/ Large shrub or small tree/ Not evaluated	Leaves	Jaundice
Madhya Pradesh (State)	1. Korku	East Nimar Region	i) <i>Barleria montana</i>	Mountain Barleria/ Acanthaceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Roots	Rheumatism, joints pain
			ii) <i>Canscora diffusa</i>	Spreading Canscora/ Gentianaceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Whole plant Leaves	Nervous debility Inflammation
	2. Mankar	East Nimar Region	i) <i>Echinops echinatus</i>	Indian Globe Thistle /Acanthaceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Roots	Cough, cold, easy delivery of child
			ii) <i>Grewia pilosa</i>	Nagbala Crossberry/ Tiliaceae/ Shrub or small tree/ Not evaluated	Roots	Excess discharge of semen with urine
Chhattisgarh (State)	1. Kanwar	Villages of Pharsabahal and Bagicha block, Jashpur district	i) <i>Litsea monopetala</i>	Many-Flowered Litsea/ Lauraceae/ Tree/ Least Concern	Barks	Swelling
			ii) <i>Strobilan- thes heyneanus</i>	Karun Kurinji/ Acanthaceae/ Undershrub/ Not evaluated	Seeds	Stomach pain of animals
	2. Oraon	Villages of Sarguja distret	i) <i>Kirganelia reticulata</i>	Black-Honey Shrub/ Euphorbiaceae/ Shrub/ Not evaluated	Fruits	Inflammation, diseases of blood
			ii) <i>Ficus</i>	Drooping Fig/ Fruits	Fruits	Headache,

			<i>semicordata</i>	Moraceae/ Tree/ Least Concern		constipation
Maharashtra (State)	1. Dhangar	Purandhar region	i) <i>Ceropegia oculata</i>	Peacock Ceropegia/ Apocynaceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Leaves	Conjunctivitis
			ii) <i>Frerea indica</i>	Indian Frerea/ Apocynaceae/ Succulent herb/ Not evaluated	Leaves	Promotes hair growth
	2. Gowli	Purandhar region	i) <i>Iphigenia pallida</i>	Pale Grass Lily/ Cholchicaceae/ Grass like herb/ Not evaluated	Leaves	Perforation of eardrum
			ii) <i>Sida mysorensis</i>	Mysore Fanpetals/ Malvaceae/ Shrubby herb/ Not evaluated	Leaves	Wounds
Goa (State)	1. Velip	Rural areas of Goa	i) <i>Wagatea spicata</i>	Candy Corn Plant/ Caesalpiniaceae/ Climbing shrub/ Not evaluated	Leaves	Insect bite
			ii) <i>Anethum graveolens</i>	Dill/ Apiaceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Leaves	Loss of appetite
	2. Gawde	Rural areas of Goa	i) <i>Tabernaemontana orientalis</i>	Banana Bush/ Apocynaceae/ Large shrub or small tree/ Not evaluated	Roots	Toothache
			ii) <i>Amorphophallus paeoniifolius</i>	Elephant Foot Yam/ Araceae/ Herb/ Least Concern	Rhizomes	Stomachache
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu (UT)	1. Warli	Silvassa	i) <i>Ficus exasperata</i>	Sandpaper tree/ Moraceae/ Tree/ Least Concern	Barks	Promote fertility in women
			ii) <i>Lagerstroemia parviflora</i>	Small Flowered Crape Myrtle/ Lythraceae/ Tree/ Least Concern	Barks	Skin diseases, scabies
	2. Kokna	Silvassa	i) <i>Embelia tsjeriamcottam</i>	Malabar Embelia/ Myrsinaceae/ Shrub/ Not evaluated	Roots	Headache, cough
			ii) <i>Paracalyx scariosus</i>	Indian Husk-Pea/ Fabaceae/ Climber/ Not evaluated	Roots	Jaundice, cough, bone fracture

## V. LIST OF ETHNOMEDICINAL PLANTS USED BY THE TRIBES LIVING ON THE ISLANDS OF INDIA



**Fig 6: Indian Islands Map with the names of Tribal Groups living in the respective Islands.**

**Table 5: Enlisting different ethnomedicinal plants used by the tribes living in the Islands of India.** [12-14, 61-63]

ISLANDS	TRIBES	LIVING IN	SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME/ FAMILY/ HABIT/ CONSERVATION STATUS	PARTS USED	MEDICINAL USES
Lakshadweep Islands (UT)	1. Aminidivi	Amini Islands	i) <i>Colubrina asiatica</i>	Latherleaf/ Rhamnaceae/ Shrub/ Least Concern	Leaves	Inflammation
			ii) <i>Tournefortia argentea</i>	Tree heliotrope/ Boraginaceae/ Tree/ Least Concern	Roots	Repel insects, snakes and other harmful organisms
	2. Koya	Kalpeni, Androth and Kavaratti Islands	i) <i>Cassytha filiformis</i>	Love Vine/ Lauraceae/ Vine/ Not evaluated	Whole plant	Scabies, other skin disorders
			ii) <i>Oldenlandia biflora</i>	Two Flower Slender Petal/ Rubiaceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Leaves	Eye diseases
Andaman and Nicobar Islands (UT)	1. Great Andamanese	Andaman Islands	i) <i>Strobilanthes andamanensis</i>	Andaman Coneflower/ Acanthaceae/ Herb/ Not evaluated	Leaves	Blood in urine, asthma, cough, bronchial complaints,
			ii) <i>Dichapetalum gelonioides</i>	Gelonium poison-leaf/ Dichapetalaceae/ Large shrub or small tree/ Least Concern	Leaves	Asthma, cough, fever
	2. Shompen	Nicobar Islands	i) <i>Semecarpus kurzii</i>	Pep, Jugane/ Anacardiaceae/ Tree/ Endangered	Leaves, seeds, fruits	Injury, malaria fever, allergy, blisters
			ii) <i>Orophea katschallica</i>	Tapilei-alo, Tonyoge/ Ammonaceae/ Tree/ Endemic	Leaves	Body ache

## CONCLUSION

Ethnomedicinal plants hold profound significance for the tribes residing in the forests or hilly regions or rural areas or villages of India, serving as invaluable resources for their healthcare needs. Across generations, these indigenous communities have meticulously documented and passed down traditional knowledge about the medicinal properties of plants, forming the cornerstone of their healthcare practices.

The use of ethnomedicinal plants reflects a deep connection between these tribes and their natural surroundings, as they rely on the rich biodiversity of the forests or hilly regions or rural areas or villages for their well-being. Through centuries of observation and

experimentation, they have identified a diverse array of plants with therapeutic properties, each tailored to address specific ailments and conditions. Furthermore, the utilization of ethnomedicinal plants underscores the holistic approach to health prevalent in these tribal societies. Rather than focusing solely on symptomatic relief, the traditional healing practices emphasize the interconnectedness of the body, mind, and environment, striving for balance and harmony in all aspects of life. However, as modernization and external influences encroach upon these traditional ways of life, there is a risk of losing this invaluable knowledge. Efforts must be made to preserve and respect the indigenous wisdom of these tribes, recognizing the importance of ethnomedicinal plants not only as sources of healing but also as repositories of cultural heritage and biodiversity. In conclusion, the ethnomedicinal plants used by the tribes of India represent a living testament to the profound relationship between humans and nature.

Their continued preservation and acknowledgment not only contribute to the health and well-being of these indigenous communities but also offer valuable insights into sustainable healthcare practices and biodiversity conservation for the broader society.

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