

medicine of particular area in which patient resides, then it will prove more beneficial in treating the disease.

The correct knowledge of medicinal plants, minerals and metals available in specific region is very essential to treat disease by Ayurveda in scientific way. Medico-botanical survey plays an important role on the distribution and availability of medicinal plants in a given area. Apart from this, collected specimen/herbarium also works as reference materials for description and characterization of raw drugs and their botanical source. It also helps researchers in correct identification /authentication of plant specimens or raw drug materials. Thus, the Medico-botanical Survey of this region will help in collection, documentation and preservation of knowledge pertaining to medicinal plants.

It is hard to find out the origin of Ayurvedic Practices in these islands. Hence, It is not only necessary to collect information on uses of medicinal plants but also to collect information on etiological factors (hetu), signs and symptoms (Lakshan) and treatment procedure as per Ayurveda. This information on treatment procedures and therapeutic preparations is to be evaluated on the background of Ayurveda.

BACKGROUND TO THE RESEARCH QUESTION RAISED:

These Islands are paradigm of various scientific research activities. The review of previous research shows that few numbers of researchers has explored the ethno medicinal practices of different tribes. They conducted survey programmes as per their disciplines and none of it is purely based on the classical literature of Ayurveda. Hence, it leads the genuine need of medico-botanical survey based on Ayurvedic basic principles.

The survey will include collection of medicinal plant specimens along with documentation of plant uses at different measures (medicine/ supplementary). The gathered information will be scrutinized and as per Ayurvedic prospective; its role in health system will be analyzed. It will provide a baseline data for safety of life.

Ayurvedic therapeutic preparations must be used in the specific dose, at specific duration, with specific dietary factors and with particular vehicle. The effect of drug always varies with these factors. Moreover, effect is also depends upon the method of therapeutic preparation and other various conditions like time of preparation, specific combinations of medicine, storage conditions and containers etc.

Therefore, it is necessary to collect the correct, specific, minute information on above aspect from traditional folk healers/ tribal people so that role of drug and other