

PHYTOCHEMICAL AND QUALITATIVE CHARACTERIZATION OF LEAVES OF SOME NOTEWORTHY MEDICINAL PLANTS OF CHHATTISGARH, INDIA

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ABSTRACT

The diverse pharmacological properties of medicinal plants are due to the presence of certain biologically active chemical compounds known as Phytochemicals. The present analysis was carried out to characterize the phytochemicals present in the leaves of five selected noteworthy medicinal plants. Leaf extracts of *Clitoria ternatea*, *Calotropis gigantea*, *Mentha Arvensis*, *Aegle marmelos* and *Catharanthus roseus* were made by using three solvents methanol, ethanol and chloroform and these extracts have been evaluated using Ultra Violet Visible (UV-VIS) and Fourier-Transform Infrared (FTIR) spectrophotometer. The results of FTIR and UV-VIS spectral values and the qualitative phytochemical screening done by standard methods confirm the presence of certain phytochemicals such as terpenoids, flavonoids, glycosides, carbohydrates, quinones, tannins, saponins, alkaloids, steroids, and phenols in the selected plant leaves. Methanol extracts of the plant leaves were found to consist of a good source of phytochemicals as compared to the chloroform and ethanol extract. The present study validates that selected plant leaves are an excellent source of significant phytochemicals and can be used in the production of herbal formulation, useful drugs and alternative medicines.

Keywords: Alkaloids, Bioactive Compound, FTIR and UV-VIS, Medicinal Plant, Phytochemicals

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INTRODUCTION

Medicinal plants are used from the beginning of human history, to promote a healthy life for humans and animals. The bio-resource of various components used in conventional medicines, food supplements, pharmaceutical products, and natural products are widely provided by medicinal plants. As per WHO estimation, 80 % of the world's population consumes herbs for various aspects in health, disease control and healing measures.¹

The medicinal properties of the plant can be attributed to the formation of certain phytochemicals or biologically active components in the plant which are responsible for various physiological effects on the human body.² The biologically active chemical compounds found naturally in plants are known as phytochemicals which protect the plant from environmental hazards and attack of pathogens. These chemicals are often referred to as 'secondary metabolites' and give health benefits to human beings.³ The nutrients are consumed more effectively for the various metabolisms in the body due to these secondary metabolites and hence they are considered synergistic agents. The phytochemicals such as flavonoids, steroids, alkaloids, phenolic compounds, tannins, and lignin's play a vital role against various diseases and do not have any side effects on human beings and known as 'human-friendly medicines'.⁴ Due to the diverse pharmacological properties of phytochemicals like antimicrobial, antioxidant, anticancer, modulation of hormone metabolism and antineoplastic properties, it has received considerable attention in recent year.⁵ These phytochemicals can be used as potential medicinal agents due to their negligible toxicity, low cost and easy availability.⁶ The medicinal plant which contains these phytochemicals in one or more of its organs can be used for the therapeutic purpose or that are precursors for the synthesis of

useful drugs.⁷ Literature reviews report that medicinal plants bioactive chemical constituents greatly vary with the genetic factor, climatic changes, soil and other factors.⁸

In the present study, it has been tried to characterize the various functional groups of phytochemical compounds in the extracts made from leaves of the selected five Indian medicinal plants. *Clitoria ternatea* belonging to the *Fabaceae* family is a traditional herb with maximum therapeutic properties. It is a common plant found in India and is commonly known as “butterfly pea”. It is a perennial plant, with elliptic, obtuse leaves. It grows as a vine or creeper, well in moist and neutral soil.⁹ For centuries it has been applied as a constituent of medicine in Ayurveda, generally used as an anticonvulsant, memory enhancer, antidepressant, anxiolytic, antistress, nootropic, tranquillizing and sedative agent for treating various ailments.¹⁰ *Calotropis gigantea* belonging to family *Asclepiadaceae* is known as “Sweta Arka”¹¹ or milkweed is scientifically reported for antidiarrheal activity, anti-Candida activity, antibacterial activity and antioxidant activity.¹² *Mentha arvensis* Linn, a species of mint belonging to the family *Lamiaceae* is a commonly found aromatic edible herb throughout India. It has wide applications in industries such as cosmetic, pharmaceutical and flavouring.¹³ *Mentha* shows antioxidant properties as it consists of bioactive compounds like menthone, menthol, flavonoids, rosmarinic acid and carvone.¹⁴ *Aegle marmelos* (*Rutaceae* family) are commonly known as Bael. The parts of this plant are used for medicinal purposes. The leaves are used as a mild laxative, in cure of wound, leucorrhoea, deafness and as an anti-inflammatory agent.¹⁵ *Catharanthus roseus* is native to Madagascar (Family *Apocynaceae*) is commonly called Madagascar periwinkle. It is a perennial evergreen herb that has many types of terpenoids, alkaloids used in the cure of lymphocytic cancer, Wilkins’s cancer, neuroblastoma and reticulum cell tumour and Hodgkin’s disease.¹⁶

For the establishment of new drugs, it is important to evaluate the medicinal composition and properties of these bioactive compounds in plants. Spectroscopic methods such as FTIR and UV-VIS are very rapid and cost-effective. UV-VIS spectroscopy reveals the photons activity in the UV-VIS region. The colour of the molecule affects the absorption spectra. Molecules that undergo electronic transitions and spectra can be used to compute polynuclear compounds, functional group present and extent of conjugation by comparing with the standard.¹⁷ Fourier Transform Infrared spectroscopy (FTIR) is an analytical technique that has high resolution and provides structural and functional properties of Phyto-compounds. The chemical bonds present in a molecule can be identified by elucidating the infrared spectrum. Each chemical bond has a characteristic wavelength that can be seen in the spectrum.¹⁸ It is based on absorption frequencies which are formed by the vibration of bonds in the functional groups and give a spectrum that can be considered as a ‘fingerprint’ to differentiate and define the functional groups in respective bioactive compounds. In the present study phytochemical characterization of the five selected medicinal plants was done by standard methods, UV-VIS and FTIR to identify these secondary metabolites or the bioactive compounds present which can be used as a natural blueprint for the generation of the new drug.

EXPERIMENTAL

Collection of Samples

Fresh leaves of five selected plants from the Bhilai region (Chhattisgarh, India) were collected in the month of May-June. The leaves were cleaned with tap water and distilled water. The leaves were dried first in shade and then in an air oven. The dried leaves were then crushed and ground into a powder with a mechanical grinder, sieved and particle size of 100 µm was stored in an airtight container and used for further investigation.

Chemicals

Analytical grade reagents were utilized in this work. Hydrochloric acid and sulphuric acid were obtained from Loba Chemie Pvt. Ltd. India. Solvents such as methanol, ethanol and chloroform from Merck, India were used.

Preparation of Plant Extract

The extracts of selected sample powder were prepared by soaking 10g of dried powder in 100 ml methanol, ethanol and chloroform solvent separately and rotated in a rotary shaker at 100 rpm for 72 h at

room temperature. The extracts were filtered by using filter paper (Whatman No.41) separately and kept in the refrigerator at 4°- 7°C. The filtered extracts of the selected plant leaf samples were used for further analysis of phytochemicals.

Phytochemicals Screening of Samples

The methanol, ethanol and chloroform extracts of the selected plants were subjected to phytochemical screening and bioactive compounds were determined by using the standard methods.^{2, 4, 19, and 20}

Detection of Alkaloids: Mayer's Test

Dilute Hydrochloric acid is used to dissolve plant extracts prepared separately and then filtered. To 2 ml of Potassium Mercuric Iodide (Mayer's reagent) add a few ml of filtrate. The presence of alkaloids is indicated by a yellow precipitate observed.

Detection of Carbohydrates: Molisch's Test

The leaf extracts were dissolved separately in 5 ml distilled water and then filtered. In a test tube, to the above filtrates added alcoholic α -naphthol (1-2 drop). The violet ring formed at the junction confirms the Carbohydrates present.

Detection of Glycosides: Modified Borntrager's Test

Plant leaf extracts were treated first with dilute hydrochloric acid and are used to test for glycosides. The above extracts were mixed with FeCl_3 solution and kept over boiling water for 5-7 minutes. It is allowed to cool and then an equal volume of benzene is added. The layer of benzene separates out and then it is combined with a solution of ammonia. The presence of glycosides is confirmed by the pink colour formed in the layer of ammonia.

Detection of Saponins: Foam Test:

1gm. of extract and 4 ml of water is shaken properly. The foam produced and lasted for ten to fifteen minutes thus it infers saponins.

Detection of Phenols: Ferric Chloride Test

Extracts of leaves were mixed with 4-5 drops of a solution of FeCl_3 . The bluish-black colour formed indicates the presence of phenol.

Detection of Tannins: Gelatin Test

Gelatin solution (1%) containing sodium chloride is added to each leaf extract. The white precipitate formed infers that tannins are present.

Detection of Flavonoids: Lead acetate Test

4-5 drops of lead acetate solution are added to the plant extract. The presence of flavonoids is revealed by the yellow precipitate formed.

Detection of Quinones

Add concentrated hydrochloric acid to a few ml of extract. The yellow-coloured precipitate produced reveals the quinones present in the extract.

Detection of Terpenoids: Liebermann-Burchard Test

To 1ml of plant extract added a few ml of chloroform, acetic anhydride and 2-3 drops of H_2SO_4 and if dark green colour is formed then it confirms terpenoids.

Detection of Steroids

To the plant, extract add 3 ml of chloroform and sulphuric acid and mix them properly. The presence of steroids is indicated by the red colour produced after few minutes in the lower layer of chloroform.

Spectroscopic Analysis by UV-VIS Spectra

The selected plant leaf extracts were scanned under visible and Ultraviolet light by using a UV -VIS spectrophotometer (117- Systronics, Baden, Switzerland) matched with a 1 cm quartz cell at room temperature. The wavelength range selected for scanning was 200-700 nm. The peaks observed were differentiated and recorded the wavelength values of the peaks.

Spectroscopic Analysis by FTIR

For FTIR analysis, 10 mg of the dried leaf extract powder was encapsulated in 100 mg of KBr pellet, to prepare translucent sample discs. The powdered sample of each plant specimen was loaded in FTIR spectroscope (Shimadzu), with a Scan range from 400 to 4000 cm^{-1} with a resolution of 4 cm^{-1} .

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In the present investigation, spectroscopic characterization was done for the leaf extracts of five plants, *Clitoria ternatea*, *Calotropis gigantea*, *Mentha arvensis*, *Aegle marmelos* and *Catharanthus roseus* in three solvents methanol, ethanol and chloroform. The preliminary qualitative investigation of the leaves extract reveals the existence of ten phytochemicals such as carbohydrates, flavonoids, alkaloids, glycosides, saponin, steroids, terpenoids, quinone, tannins and phenols. The spectroscopic interpretation supports the presence of these phytochemicals by the characteristic peak values observed in the Visible and Ultraviolet region. The FTIR spectrum reveals the presence of functional groups such as alcohol, carboxylic acids, aromatic compounds, aldehydes and phenols. Proper investigation of medicinal plants chemical composition and their activity is very important to promote the development of therapeutic compounds.

Phytochemical Screening

Medicinal plants are important resources of functional therapeutic components for the development of new pharmaceutical products. This current study tends to analyse the phytochemical content in methanol, ethanol and chloroform extract of all the five selected plants. The experimental phytochemical analysis revealed the occurrence of ten phytochemical compounds in these plants such as flavonoids, carbohydrates, glycoside, steroids, alkaloids, saponins, tannin, terpenoids, quinones and phenols. These bioactive agents may contribute to the medicinal efficacy of the plant. The results of phytochemical screening of leaf extracts of selected five plants are depicted in (Table-1).

Table- 1: Result of Qualitative Phytochemical Screening of Leaf Extracts of Five Selected Plants

S. No.	Phytochemicals	<i>Clitoria ternatea</i>			<i>Calotropis gigantea</i>			<i>Mentha arvensis</i>			<i>Aegle marmelos</i>			<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>		
		M	E	C	M	E	C	M	E	C	M	E	C	M	E	C
1	Alkaloid	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
2	Flavonoid	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
3	Tannins	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
4	Carbohydrates	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-
5	Terpenoids	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+
6	Steroids	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-
7	Quinones	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+
8	Saponins	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
9	Glycosides	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
10	Phenols	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

*M=methanol, E=ethanol, C=chloroform, (+) indicates the presence and (-) indicates the absence of the phytochemical.

In recent times, phytochemicals have attained attention due to their ethnomedicinal properties and hence applied in the prevention and cure of various ailments. Alkaloids possess antifungal, antimicrobial, and anti-inflammatory properties and also act as anti-hypertensive agents.²¹ Pharmacological properties such as antiviral, anti-inflammatory, expectorant, vein tonic, hypoglycaemic, wound healing, spasmolytic and antimicrobial are shown by saponins extracted from plants.²² Terpenoids show various essential pharmacological properties such as antimalarial, anti-inflammatory, antiviral, anticancer, cholesterol synthesis inhibition and antibacterial properties.²⁴ Flavonoids possess antimicrobial, anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, vascular properties.²³ and other medicinal properties like anti-allergic, antispasmodic, antiviral, and diuretic effect.²⁵ Phenolic compounds act as antioxidants and are responsible for a varying range of medicinal values such as anticancer, diabetes anti-inflammatory,^{26,27} antiviral and cytotoxic activity.²⁸ Tannins possess antibacterial, antiviral, and anti-tumour properties.²⁹ It is reported that to reduce stress, cholesterol levels steroids are found to be beneficial. It is also used for activating the immune system, enhancing learning and memory and treating tumour cells.³⁰⁻³² Glycosides are found beneficial in lowering blood pressure as per earlier reports given.³³ Carbohydrate is enormously used in haematological and cardiovascular treatments, in inflammatory and anti-thrombotic remedies to heal wounds.³⁴ It has been seen that quinone-containing compounds are approved clinically in recent years, used in drugs for cancer clinical trials. Quinones have antioxidant potentials and hence are generally used as vitamins for preventing and curing various ailments and in improving health conditions. It is also used in osteoporosis and cardiovascular diseases. It has been reported that quinones have toxicological effects as photoproducts from air pollutants.³⁵

The Ultraviolet-Visible Spectroscopy

In recent years for the quantitative and qualitative analysis of biological and pharmaceutical materials, the Spectroscopic technique has been extensively used as a powerful and analytical tool. The plant extracts obtained as above were scanned using a UV-VIS spectrophotometer in the wavelength range of 200-700nm and the characteristic peaks were detected and recorded as illustrated in (Table-2).

Table-2: UV-VIS Data for Leaf Extracts of Selected Five Plants

Solvent	<i>Clitoria ternatea</i>		<i>Calotropis gigantea</i>		<i>Mentha arvensis</i>		<i>Aegle marmelos</i>		<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>	
	λ max(nm)	Abs	λ max(nm)	Abs	λ max(nm)	Abs	λ max(nm)	Abs	λ max(nm)	Abs
Methanol	666	2.37	672	3.0	664	2.29	664	1.84	670	3.0
	608	0.83	610	1.51	608	0.54	616	0.47	660	2.97
	536	1.03	536	1.18	536	0.60	416	2.69	614	1.43
	506	1.15			506	0.66			538	0.70
Ethanol	664	2.69	656	3.0	664	2.38	664	1.84	662	0.56
	606	0.64	614	1.87	606	0.54	618	0.46	614	0.52
	534	0.79	538	1.01	422	3.00	434	2.65	536	1.16
	436	3.00	380	3.0	506	0.74	416	2.65		
	504	0.92	336	2.77	534	0.66				
Chloroform	668	2.83	364	2.50	668	2.71	668	1.14	664	2.99
	610	0.82	392	1.21	610	0.77	610	0.22	610	1.05
	538	1.29	608	0.04	538	1.04	538	0.33	538	1.27
					506	1.15	414	3.00		
						378	2.17			

The UV-VIS profile of methanol extract of *Clitoria ternatea* peaks was observed at 666, 608, 536 and 506 nm with the absorption value of 2.37, 0.83, 1.03 and 1.15 respectively. The ethanol extract of *Clitoria ternatea* leaves showed peaks at 664, 606, 534, 436 and 504 nm with the absorption of 2.69, 0.64, 0.79, 3.00 and 0.92 respectively. Chloroform extract of *Clitoria ternatea* leaves indicated the peaks at 668, 610 and 538 nm showing the absorption values of 2.83, 0.82 and 1.29 respectively.

The UV-Visible spectra results obtained in the methanolic extract of *Calotropis gigantea* leaves showed the absorption 3.0, 1.51 and 1.18 at 672, 610 and 536 nm. The peaks observed in spectroscopic analysis in the UV-Visible region supports the presence of phytochemicals like flavonoids and alkaloids. The ethanolic extract of leaves showed peaks at 656, 614, 538, 380 and 336 nm with the absorption of 3.0, 1.87, 1.01, 3.01 and 2.77 respectively. UV-Vis spectrum with absorption bands at 400-550 nm and 600-700 nm indicate the occurrence of flavonoids and their derivatives, terpenoids and chlorophyll in the crude extracts. In the current analysis the peak values observed for chloroform extract of *Calotropis gigantea* leaves are shown at 364, 392 and 608 nm with the absorption values of 2.50, 1.21 and 0.04 respectively.

The methanol extract of *Mentha arvensis* showed the peaks UV-VIS peaks at 664, 608, 536 and 506 nm having absorption values of 2.29, 0.54, 0.60 and 0.66. The ethanolic extract of *Mentha arvensis* leaves showed peaks at 664, 606, 422, 506 and 534 nm with the absorption of 2.38, 0.54, 3.00, 0.742 and 0.66 respectively. For the Chloroform extract of leaves the peaks observed at 668, 610, 538 and 506 nm and 2.71, 0.77, 1.04 and 1.15 absorption values respectively.

The UV-Visible spectrum obtained in the extract made in methanol of *Aegle marmelos* leaves showed the absorption of 1.84, 0.47 and 2.69 at 664, 616 and 416 nm. The ethanolic extract of leaves indicated the wavelength at 664, 618, 434 and 416 nm having an absorption of 1.84, 0.46, 2.65 and 2.60. In chloroform solvent, the extract of *Aegle marmelos* showed the absorbance of 1.14, 0.22, 0.33, 3.00 and 2.17 at 668, 610, 538, 414 and 378 nm wavelengths respectively.

UV-Vis spectrum with absorption bands at 670, 660, 614 and 538 nm was observed with the absorption of 3.00, 2.97, 1.43 and 0.70 respectively in the methanol extract of *Catharanthus roseus*. The ethanol extract shows the absorption of 3.00, 1.29 and 0.68 with a wavelength of 662, 614 and 536 nm respectively. The qualitative UV-Vis spectrum profile in chloroform extract was selected from 200 to 700 nm. The peaks were obtained at 664, 610 and 538 nm which shows the absorption of 2.99, 1.05 and 1.27 respectively.

Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy

FTIR spectroscopic technique was applied for the identification of functional group present in the phytochemicals of leaves which is determined based on the peak values observed in the infrared region radiation. The FTIR spectrum reveals the existence of characteristic phytochemical components in the extracts of selected plant leaves. The functional groups were differentiated based on their peak ratio in the spectrum.

In the present study, the FTIR spectrum obtained for the leaf extract of *Clitoria ternatea* shows the existence of an extensive range of functional groups of biologically active components. The FTIR spectral values and functional groups determined were illustrated in (Fig.-1 and Table-3).

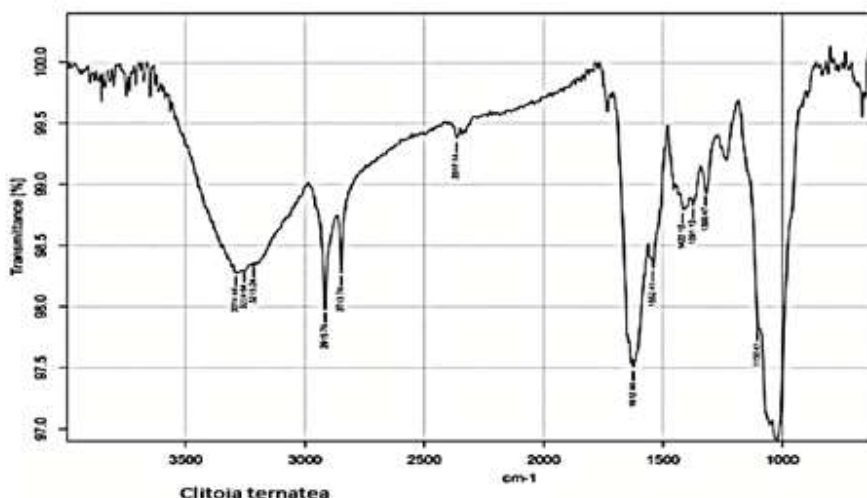


Fig.-1: FTIR Spectrum of *Clitoria ternatea*

FTIR spectra analyses confirm the existence of alcohols and phenols having a value of peak at 3314.44 cm^{-1} which corresponds to O-H stretch. The peak at 3224.64 cm^{-1} represents the O-H stretching which shows that carboxylic acids are present. The value of peak at 3215.24 cm^{-1} attributing to the N-H stretch reveals the occurrence of amides. The peak value at 2915.74 cm^{-1} denoted to the C-H stretch reveals the appearance of aliphatic components. The value of the peak at 2713.74 cm^{-1} indicates aldehydes. The wavelength at 1612.44 , 1552.41 cm^{-1} and 1422.10 cm^{-1} allocated to the C-H stretch and C-C=C Symmetric Stretch show that some aromatic ring compounds are present. The peaks observed at 1319.13 cm^{-1} correspond to the C-H stretch represents carboxylic acids, esters, ethers. The value of the peak at 1300.4 cm^{-1} confirms the aromatic amine.

Table-3: FTIR Data for Extract of *Clitoria ternatea* Leaves

Peak Value Wavenumber(cm^{-1})	Functional Groups and Class	Assignment and Remarks
3314.44	Phenols and Alcohols	O-H Stretch
3224.64	Carboxylic acids	O-H stretch
3215.24	Amides	N-H stretch
2915.74	CH ₂ in aliphatic compounds	C-H stretch
2713.74	Aldehydes	H-C=O stretch
1612.44	Aromatics	C-C stretch (in-ring)
1552.41	Aromatic Rings	C-C=C Symmetric Stretch
1422.10	Aromatic	C=C stretch
1319.13	Carboxylic acids, esters, ethers	C-O stretch
1300.4	Aromatic amines	C-N stretch

In the present study, the biochemical content of *Calotropis gigantea* was determined using an FTIR spectrophotometer and monitored different functional groups. (Fig.-2) indicates the respective FT-IR spectra. The FT-IR peak values observed, and functional groups determined were given in (Table-4). The FT-IR gave a peak at 3214.24 and 1615 cm^{-1} which indicated the presence of N-H stretch due to amines. The observed peak at 2955.10 cm^{-1} infers the C-H stretch present due to alkanes. The value of peak at 1513.52 cm^{-1} indicates N-O Stretch which shows the presence of nitro compounds. The existence of C=O stretching due to alkanes and aldehydes is confirmed by the peak obtained at 2850.58 cm^{-1} . The peak of 1101.52 cm^{-1} is specified to C-N stretching of aliphatic amines and the wavelength value of 1050.25 cm^{-1} shows C-O stretch due to alcohols.

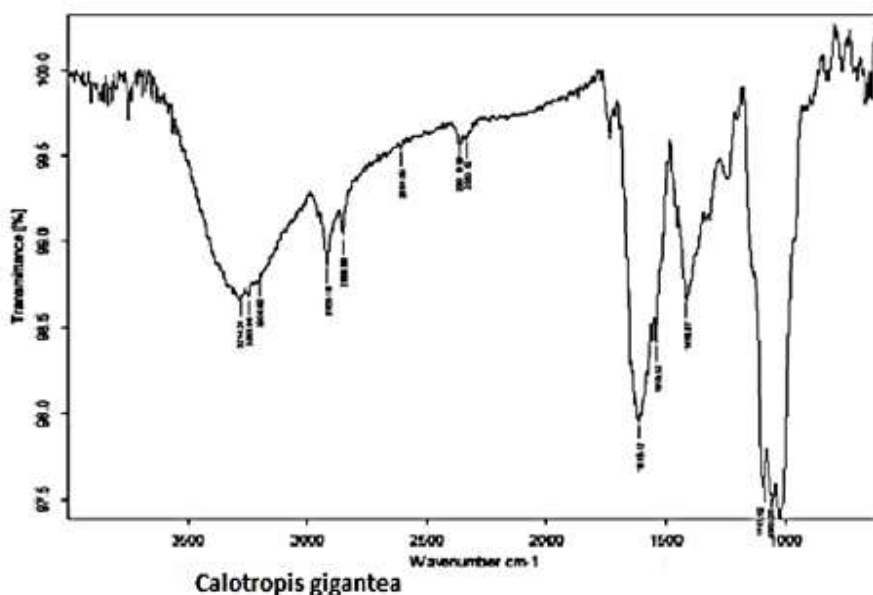
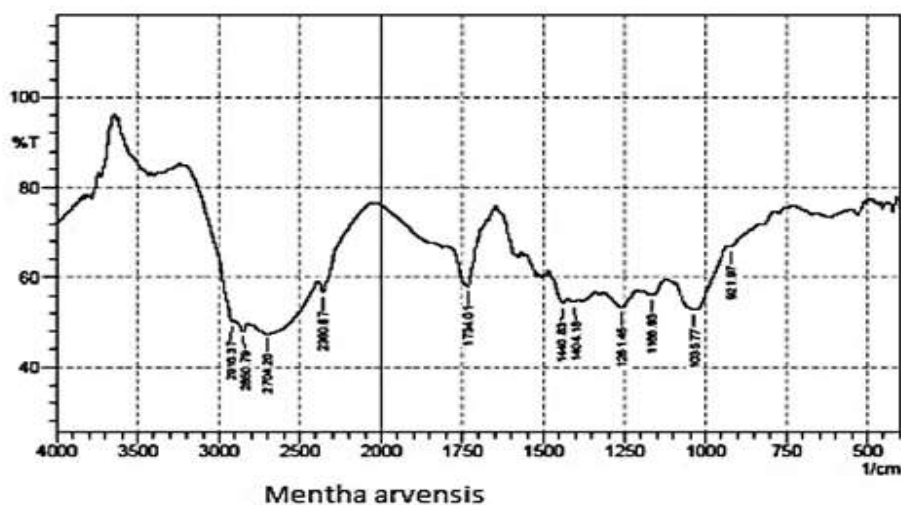
Fig.-2: FTIR Spectrum of *Calotropis gigantea*

Table- 4: FTIR Data for Different Extracts of *Calotropis gigantea* Leaves

Peak Value Wavenumber (cm ⁻¹)	Functional Groups and Class	Assignment and Remarks
3214.24	Amines	N-H stretch
2955.10	Alkanes	C-H stretch
2850.58	Alkanes, Aldehydes	sp ³ C-H stretch, C=O
1615.12	1° amines	N-H bend
1513.52	Nitro Compounds	N-O asymmetric stretch
1101.52	Aliphatic Amines	C-N stretch
1050.25	Alcohols	C-O stretch

The spectrum of FTIR of leaf extract of *Mentha arvensis* determines the functional group of the active constituents existing and is determined based on the peak value in the infrared radiation region. The FTIR spectrum of the *Mentha arvensis* plant extract in the form of a KBr pallet is shown in (Fig.-3 and Table-5). The absorption at 2916.37 cm⁻¹ is because of the C-H stretch corresponding to the absorption of methylene in aliphatic compounds that are present in the extract. The band at 2850.79 cm⁻¹ and 2704.2 cm⁻¹ is due to the symmetric stretching of saturated C-H (sp³) carbon in aldehyde. The wavelength at 2360.87 cm⁻¹ represents phosphine. The band at 1734.01 cm⁻¹ is due to C=O stretching associated with the saturated aliphatic compound and aldehydes. The absorption band at 1440.18 cm⁻¹ was assigned to P-C-H Bend represents the Organo-phosphorus compound and the band at 1404.18 shows aromatics. The band at 1261.45 cm⁻¹ can be assigned to the C-O stretch represents ethers, carboxylic acids, alcohols, esters. The band observed at 1166.93 cm⁻¹ represent the aliphatic amines. Due to the C-O stretch that exists in the extract, the absorption is observed at 1035.77 cm⁻¹ and reveals primary alcohols. The band at 921.97 cm⁻¹ represents carboxylic acid.

Fig.-3: FTIR Spectrum of *Mentha arvensis*Table- 5: FTIR Data for Plant Extract of *Mentha arvensis* Leaves

Peak Value Wavenumber (cm ⁻¹)	Functional Groups and Class	Assignment and Remarks
2916.37	CH ₂ in aliphatic compounds	C-H stretch
2850.79	C-H in aldehyde	SP ³ C-H stretch
2704.2	Aldehyde	H-C=O: C-H stretch
2360.87	Misc. Phosphine	C-H stretch
1734.01	Aldehydes, Saturated Aliphatic	C=O stretch
1440.83	Organophosphorus	P-C-H Bend

	Compound	
1404.18	Aromatics	C-C stretch
1261.45	Presence of Alcohols, Carboxylic acids, Esters, Ethers	C-O stretch
1166.93	Aliphatic amines	C-N stretch
1035.77	C=C-CH ₂ -OH in Primary Alcohol	C-O stretch
921.97	Carboxylic acids	O-H bend

Structural details of various chemical components of the leaf extract of *Aegle marmelos* are revealed by the results of FTIR investigation which is differentiated by their peaks. Interpretation of absorption spectrum obtained from FTIR spectra with their wavenumbers and absorption bands are given in (Fig.-4 and Table-6).

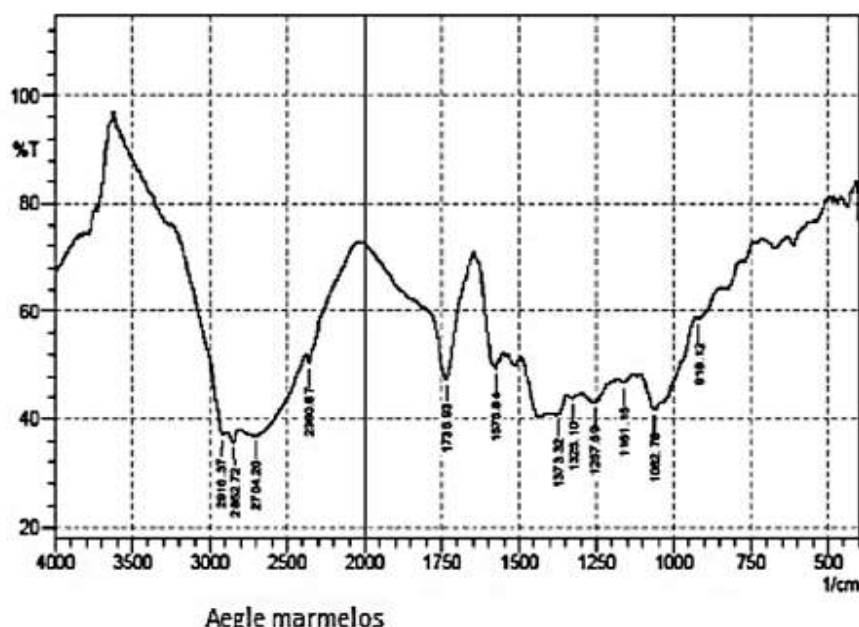


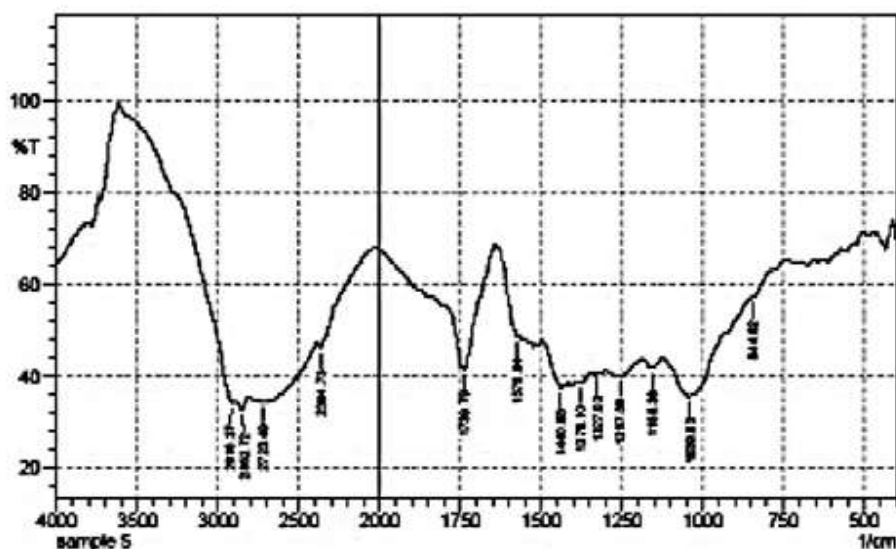
Fig.-4: FTIR Spectrum of *Aegle marmelos*

Table- 6: FTIR Data for Extract of *Aegle marmelos* Leaves

Peak Value Wavenumber (cm ⁻¹)	Functional Groups and Class	Assignment and Remarks
2916.37	CH ₂ in aliphatic compounds	C-H stretch
2852.72	C-H in aldehyde	SP ³ C-H stretch
2704.2	Aldehydes	H-C=O: C-H stretch
2360.87	Misc. Phosphine	
1735.95	Esters	R-C(O)-O-R, C=O stretch
1575.84	Primary amine	N-H Bend
1373.32	Alkanes, Alkyls	CH ₃ C-H bend
1325.1	Aromatic amine	C-N stretch
1257.59	Aromatic compound	O=C-O-C stretch
1161.15	Aliphatic amines	C-N stretch
1062.78	Alcohols, ethers	C-O stretch
918.12	Carboxylic acids	O-H bend

The peaks observed at 2916.37, 2704.2 cm^{-1} and 2852.72 cm^{-1} correspond to the C-H stretch represents the absorption of methylene in aliphatic compounds and aldehydes. The peak intensities at 2360.87, 1735.95, and 1575.84 cm^{-1} spectra show the presence of phosphine, esters and primary amines respectively. The peak at 1373.32 cm^{-1} reveals the presence of alkane and alkyls. The bands at 1325.1 cm^{-1} correspond to C-N stretch represents aromatic amine. The peak at 1257.59 cm^{-1} is mainly generated by aromatic compounds. Absorption bands observed at 1161.15 cm^{-1} indicate primary amine. Alcohols, Cyclic ethers and carboxylic acids were detected at 1062.78 and 918.12 cm^{-1} respectively.

The FT-IR analysis of *Catharanthus roseus* plant leaves is depicted in (Fig.-5). The phytochemical involvement of various functional groups in the plant extract is monitored and the resultant functional groups are listed in (Table-7).



Cantharanthus roseus

Fig.-5: FTIR Spectrum of *Catharanthus roseus*

Table-7: FTIR Data for Extract of *Catharanthus roseus* Leaves

Peak Value Wavenumber (cm^{-1})	Functional Groups and Class	Assignment and Remarks
2916.37	CH ₂ in Aliphatic compounds	C-H stretch
2852.72	C-H in Aldehyde	SP ³ C-H stretch
2723.49	Aldehyde	H-C=O: C-H stretch
2364.73	Misc. Phosphine	
1739.79	Esters	C=O Stretch
1575.84	Primary amine	N-H Bend
1440.83	Organophosphorus compound	P-C-H Bend
1379.1	Alkanes, Alkyls	CH ₃ C-H bend
1327.03	Aromatic Amines	C-N stretch
1257.59	Esters, Ethers	C-O stretch
1155.36	Alcohols	C-O stretch
1039.63	Primary Alcohols	C-O stretch
844.82	Alkyl halides	C-Cl stretch
2976	Alkanes	C-H stretch
1045	Aliphatic amines	C-N stretch
882	Aromatics	C-H stretch

The peak at 2916.37, 2852.72 cm^{-1} and 2723.49 cm^{-1} represent the C-H stretching indicates the absorption of methylene in aliphatic compounds and aldehydes respectively. The peak at 2364.73 cm^{-1} shows Misc. Phosphine and the value of peak at 1440.83 cm^{-1} were attributed to the P-C-H bend of the Organophosphorus compound. The predominant peak at 1739.79 cm^{-1} and 1257.59 cm^{-1} was attributed to the C=O Stretch of esters and ethers. The peak at 1155.36 cm^{-1} and 1039.63 cm^{-1} are attributed to the C-O stretching due to the alcohol group. The peak of 1045.0 cm^{-1} is specified to C-N stretching of aliphatic amines and the peak of 1327.03 cm^{-1} is specified to aromatic amines. The peak at 882.0 is specified to the C-H stretch of aromatics. The peak value at 2976.0 cm^{-1} and 1379.1 cm^{-1} are specified to C-H stretch vibration of Alkanes and Alkyls and the peak at 1575.84 is due to a primary amine. The value of the peak at 1376.43 cm^{-1} reveals alkyl halides. The analysis by FTIR confirmed the occurrence of phytochemicals belongs to the functional groups such as alkyl halides, aliphatic and aromatic amines, alcohols, esters, ethers, alkanes, nitro group, aromatic hydrocarbons, Carbonyl group, and phenols in *Catharanthus roseus*.

CONCLUSION

The present study reveals the therapeutic potency of leaves of five selected noteworthy plants. From the results of qualitative analysis of Phytochemical compounds, it is concluded that all the five selected plant leaves consist of phytochemicals such as phenols, saponins, glycosides, flavonoids, alkaloids, carbohydrates, tannins, and terpenoids in the most prominent amount while steroids and quinone are in less amount. Based on previous investigation reports, the phytochemicals found to be present in the selected plant leaves indicates their pharmacological potential as a natural antioxidant, anticancer, anti-inflammatory, antimicrobial, anti-diarrhoeic and anti-haemorrhagic agents. Results showed that the methanol extracts of the leaves of the plant consist of a good source of phytochemicals as compared to the chloroform and ethanol extract. Characterization of leaf extracts by UV-VIS and FTIR spectroscopy confirms the presence of various functional groups such as alcohol, carboxylic acids, aromatic compounds, aldehydes, amines, ethers, esters and phenols present which will be helpful to elucidate the structure and composition of phytochemicals. From the present study, it can be concluded that selected five plant leaves are the excellent authentic source of ten significant phytochemicals which could be used to produce novel useful drugs, herbal formulation, and alternative medicines for various ailments.

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