VISVESVARAYA TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

BELGAUM

A Project Report on

STUDY OF ANTIMICROBIAL ACTIVITY OF AMARANTHUS AND ITS APPLICATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF DRUGS FOR SOME COMMON DISEASES

A project Report Submitted for the award of the degree of
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in
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ABSTRACT

The phytochemicals can be exploited as natural antimicrobial agents. The main advantage of natural agents is that they do not enhance the 'antibiotic resistance' a phenomenon commonly encountered with the long term use of synthetic antibiotics. The higher plants and their extracts are used to treat infections and development of drug. Contrary to the synthetic drugs, antimicrobials of plant origin are not associated with many side effects and have an enormous therapeutic potential to heal many infectious diseases.

Amaranthus spinosus commonly known as Spiny amaranth or Pig weed, is an annual or perennial herb. Though whole plant is used as laxative and traditionally boiled leaves and roots of Amaranthus spinosus are given to children as laxative. However the drug is also used traditionally as diuretic, antidiabetic, antipyretic, anti-snake venum, antileprotic, and anti-gonorrheal.

Amaranthus viridis is a cosmopolitan species commonly known as Slender Amaranth or Green Amaranth. A fresh leaf of A. viridis has been used as vermifuge, antiinflammatory of the urinary tract and in venereal diseases.

Keywords: Phytochemicals, Extracts, Zone of Inhibition, MIC (Minimum Inhibitory Concentration), Antibiotics.