

1. INTRODUCTION :

Plants have been and are a rich source of many natural products in major part of india and in other countries,most of which have been extensively used for traditional human health care. Also different parts of plants have played a significant role in maintaining human health and improving the quality of human life for thousands of years and have served humans as well as valuable components of medicine, seasoning, beverages and dyes. Given their potential to produce significant effect, they can be useful as drug or supplement in the treatment/management of various diseases. Herbal drugs or medicinal plants, their extracts and their compounds have demonstrated spectrum of biological activities.

Curcuma angustifolia is one of over 80 species belonging to the genus *Curcuma*, in the family Zingiberaceae. This species is native to the Indian subcontinent and is more commonly known as East Indian Arrowroot or narrow-leaved turmeric in English, and is called "yaipan" in Manipuri, "tikhur" in Hindi, and "Koova" in Malayalam. In the Eastern hemisphere, the plant plays an integral role in many cultures.

Curcuma angustifolia is most commonly found growing wild in India, especially in the northeast and western coastal plains and hills. Such areas include the states of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Orissa (Odisha), Chhattisgarh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala. This species can also be found in Burma, Laos, Nepal, and Pakistan.

The present study has been undertaken, with the following objectives :

1. Extraction of starch and phytochemicals from *Curcuma angustifolia*.
2. Antimicrobial activity of phytochemicals.
3. Production of Ethanol (Conversion of starch to ethanol).