



Evaluation of Antibacterial Activity of *Pongamia pinnata* L., *Curcuma longa* L. and *Mentha arvensis* L. Against *Staphylococcus aureus*

Sasmita Panigrahi¹, Sujata Mahapatra²

¹Department of Botany & Biotechnology, Khallikote University, Berhampur-760001,
Odisha, India.

² Department of Botany, R.D. Women's University, Bhubaneswar-751022,
Odisha, India.

Abstract: The climatic condition of India facilitates the growth of large variety of medicinal plants. The Millions of households in rural and urban localities consume traditional foods, make use of home remedies and follow health customs based on the principles of traditional systems of medicines. Although a large number of antimicrobial agents have been discovered, pathogenic microorganisms are constantly developing resistance to these agents. In recent years attempts have been made to investigate the indigenous drugs against infectious diseases may help to develop safer antimicrobial drugs. There is a continuous and urgent need to discover antimicrobial compounds with diverse chemical structure and noble mechanism of action because there has been an alarming increase in the incidence of new and re-emerging infectious disease. The aim of the present study is to explore the antibacterial activity of leaf extract of *Pongamia pinnata* L. *Curcuma longa* L. and *Mentha arvensis* L. against *Staphylococcus aureus* by using minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) and zone of inhibition. The MIC is compared with control where the zone of inhibition were compared with standard drug Gentamycin.

Key words: antimicrobial agents, infectious disease, minimum inhibitory concentration, zone of inhibition.