



### RESEARCH ARTICLE

#### DIVERSITY OF ETHNOMEDICINAL PLANTS USED BY MISING TRIBE OF DHEMAJI DISTRICT, ASSAM.

**Dulu Rani Chetia and Ajit Kr. Das.**

Laboratory of Ethnobotany & Medicinal Plant Conservation, Department of Ecology & Environmental Science, Assam University, Silchar-788 011.

#### Manuscript Info

##### Manuscript History

Received: 13 January 2018

Final Accepted: 15 February 2018

Published: March 2018

#### Abstract

An attempt has been made to study of Ethnomedicinal plants used by Mising tribe of Dhemaji district, Assam for the treatment of 48 different diseases like Jaundice, Diabetes, Asthma, Dysentery, Muscular pain, Tonsillitis, Uvulitis, Ringworm, Kidney problem, Small pox, Lactation problem etc. Main aim of the study is to document the indigenous knowledge of the Mising tribe. In this study a total of 142 plant species belonging to 63 families were collected. The prominent family was Euphorbiaceae with 7 species and leaf is used majority of cases with 67 species for the treatment of different diseases. Other different used parts are rhizome, flower, fruit, bark, root, whole plant, seed etc.

*Copy Right, IJAR, 2018,. All rights reserved.*

#### Introduction:-

Since ancient time, plants have been an integral part in the existence of human being. Our ancestors dependent upon plants for food, clothing, shelter and many other materials. They derived most of their medicine from plants. It is estimated that a total of 80% of the population in developing countries and 60% of the world population depend on traditional medicines mostly plant drugs for their primary health care needs (Baker *et al.*, 1995; Shrestha and Dhillon, 2003). Pei (2001), estimated that traditional healers use around 2500 plant species in the preparation of traditional medicine in India.

According to world health organization, almost 80% of the rural people rely most exclusively on traditional medicine for their primary health care. Also it is assumed that about 80% of the 5200 million people of the world live in less developed country. According to Kattamani, *et al.*, (2000), more than 75% of the world population depends on local health practitioners and traditional medicines for their primary needs.

The studies of the tribal indigenous knowledge of plants constitute an important and preliminary aspect of ethno botanical research (Namsa, *et al.*, 2009). According to Borthakur, 1976, Assam, a state of North-East India is very much rich in flora and fauna and also a homeland of different ethnic groups and cultural entities. Assam comprises 12.8% of the total tribal population of India with 14 hill tribes (Sajem and Gosai 2006). Dhemaji district is situated in the remote corner of North East India on the north bank of river Brahmaputra. The boundaries of the district are the hilly ranges of Arunachal Pradesh to the North and the East, Lakhimpur district in the West and the river Brahmaputra at in the South. It lies between the 94° 12' 18" E and 95° 41' 32" E longitudes and 27° 05' 27" N and 27° 57' 16" N latitudes. The total geographical area of Dhemaji is 3237 sq kms. The Dhemaji district was originally inhabited by various indigenous tribes includes Mising, Sonowal Kachari, Bodo Kachari, Deori and Laloong.

**Corresponding Author:-Dulu Rani Chetia.**

Address:-Laboratory of Ethnobotany & Medicinal Plant Conservation, Department of Ecology & Environmental Science, Assam University, Silchar-788 011.

Mising is the major dominated tribe found in Dhemaji district. According to 2011 census there are 325560 (47.45%) population of schedule tribe followed by 44225 (6.45%) population of schedule caste found in Dhemaji district.

**Mising tribe:-**

The *Mishing* (Miris) belong to the family of the aboriginal tribes of the north eastern region of India and settle in the plains of Assam. They chiefly inhabiting the districts of Lakhimpur, Dhemaji, Dibrugarh, Tinsukia, Sibsagar, Jorhat, Golaghat and Sonitpur. Next to Bodos, the Mising are the largest tribal group in North East India. Generally Mising live in Chang ghar which is situated on the bank of river. They mainly depends on agriculture.

Important festivals of the Mising tribe are Ali-ai-ligang and Porag. Both are associated with cultivation cycle. Ali-ai-ligang is celebrated during the month of February and it is the beginning of their agriculture cycle. Porag was celebrated earlier in the months of August or September and it is the post-harvest festival. The dances of Mising tribe is called Maksong or Soman and it bear great similarity with the Bihu dance of Assam. Local instruments used by Mishing tribe are Drum, Clapping Metal bells and Bansuri.

According to Census of India conducted in 2001, the population of Mishing in Assam is counted to 5,87,310; of which 2,99,790 Male and 2,87,520 female.

**Methodology:-**

A survey was conducted during September 2016 - December 2017 to collect information on the medicinal plants used by Mising tribe of Dhemaji district of Assam. Different villages of the district were visited to collect information as well as plant species with their reproductive parts. The informations were collected from the Headman, both women and man healers and common people. Herbarium of the collected specimens were prepared based on methodology laid down by Jain and Rao, 1977. For further reference, the herbarium specimens have been deposited in the Department of Ecology and Environmental Science. The identification of the plants was done with the help of the floristic literature like, Flora of India (Sharma *et al.*, 1993), Flora of Assam (Kanjilal *et al.*, 1934-1940; Bor, 1940), Medicinal plants of Southern Assam (Das, *et al.*, 2010) etc.



*Costus speciosus* (J.Koenig) Sm.



*Croton caudatus* Geiseler

*Dillenia indica* L.*Drymaria cordata* Willd. ex Schult.*Houttuynia cordata* Thunb.*Murraya koenigii* (L.) Spreng.**Table 1:-** Ethnomedicinal plant species used by Mising tribe.

Scientific name	Common name	Family	Parts used	Medicinal uses
<i>Abelmoschus manihot</i> (L.) Medic.	<i>Usipak</i>	Malvaceae	Leaves	Leaves are mainly used for Carbuncle disease.
<i>Abrus precatorius</i> L.	<i>Latumoni</i>	Leguminaceae	Seed	Seed extract is used to cure pneumonia.
<i>Acacia nilotica</i> L.	<i>Tarua kadam</i>	Fabaceae	Bark	Extract of bark is used to cure tonsillitis.
<i>Achyranthes aspera</i> L.	<i>Bioni hakuta</i>	Amaranthaceae	Leaves	Leaf decoction is used in the treatment of cough.
<i>Acmella paniculata</i> (DC.) R.K.Jansen	<i>Huhoni ban</i>	Asteraceae	Flower and Leaves	Flower is used to cure the pain of tooth and mouth ulcer. Leaves are eaten as vegetable.
<i>Acorus calamus</i> L.	<i>Bosh</i>	Araceae	Rhizome	Rhizome is mainly used for dyspepsia. It is also used to cure abdominal pain during menstruation period of woman.
<i>Adhatoda vasica</i> Nees	<i>Bahak tita</i>	Acanthaceae	Leaves	Leaf extract is used to cure jaundice.
<i>Aegle marmelos</i> (L.)	<i>Bel</i>	Rutaceae	Fruit	Fruit is used in diarrhea and

Correa				dysentery. Ripe fruit is edible.
<i>Ageratum conyzoides</i> L.	<i>Gendhela ban</i>	Asteraceae	Leaves	Leaf juice is applied in fresh cuts and wounds to stop bleeding.
<i>Allium sativum</i> L.	<i>Naharu</i>	Liliaceae	Seeds	Seeds are used to cure high blood pressure. Seed is eaten at the time of indigestion.
<i>Aloe barbadensis</i> Mill.	<i>Salkuori</i>	Liliaceae	Leaves	Paste of leaves are used to cure skin burn and also used externally for hair growth. Leaf juice is used to cure stomach ache.
<i>Alpinia nigra</i> (Gaertn.) B.L.Burt	<i>Tora</i>	Zingiberaceae	Rhizome	Rhizome is used to cure bronchitis and rheumatism.
<i>Alstonia scholaris</i> (L.) R.Br.	<i>Chationa</i>	Apocynaceae	Bark	Bark is used during childbirth to increase lactation of milk and malaria.
<i>Alternanthera sessilis</i> (L.) DC.	<i>Matikanduri</i>	Amaranthaceae	Leaves	The shoot part is eaten as vegetables and also used against dysentery.
<i>Amaranthus spinosus</i> L.	<i>Hati-khutura</i>	Amaranthaceae	Root and Leaves	Root juice is used to cure jaundice. Leaves are eaten as vegetables.
<i>Amorphophallus paeoniifolius</i> (Dennst.) Nicolson	<i>Ol-kachu</i>	Araceae	Root	Dried root is used to cure piles. Tender shoot is eaten as vegetables.
<i>Amaranthus viridis</i> L.	<i>Khutura</i>	Amaranthaceae	Whole plant	Whole plant is used to cure high fever and also eaten as vegetables.
<i>Andrographis paniculata</i> Nees	<i>Sirata</i>	Acanthaceae	Leaves	Leaves are eaten against fever, and gastric. Leaf paste applied against boil.
<i>Ananas comosus</i> (L.) Merr.	<i>Mati-kothal</i>	Bromeliaceae	Leaves and Fruit	The tender leaves mainly used for urine problem. Ripe fruit is edible.
<i>Artocarpus heterophyllus</i> Lam.	<i>Kothal</i>	Moraceae	Seed and Fruit	Young fruit and seeds are used as vegetable. Ripe fruits are edible.
<i>Averrhoa carambola</i> L.	<i>Kordoi</i>	Oxalidaceae	Fruit and Leaves	Fruit juice is used to cure jaundice. Fruit is edible. Leaf juice is used to cure ringworm.
<i>Azadirachta indica</i> A. Juss	<i>Mahaneem</i>	Meliaceae	Leaves	Leaf paste is applied to cure skin disease and small pox. Leaves are used against pneumonia.
<i>Baccaurea sapida</i> Bedd.	<i>Leteku</i>	Euphorbiaceae	Fruit	Ripe fruit is edible and also used against diabetes.
<i>Bacopa monnieri</i> (L.) Pennell	<i>Brahmi</i>	Scrophulariaceae	Whole plant	Whole plant is very effective in memory and also reduce high blood pressure.
<i>Bambusa balcooa</i> Roxb.	<i>Valuka bah</i>	Poaceae	Tender shoot	Tender shoot is used to cure high blood pressure and asthma.
<i>Bryophyllum calycinum</i> Salisb.	<i>Dupartenga</i>	Crassulaceae	Leaves	Fresh leaf juice is used for stomach pain and urine problem.
<i>Caesalpinia bonduc</i> (L.) Roxb.	<i>Letaguti</i>	Caesalpiniaceae	Leaves and Seed	Leaves are used to cure illness. Seeds are used in pneumonia.
<i>Calamus rotang</i> L.	<i>Bet</i>	Arecaceae	Shoot and Seed	Tender shoot is eaten as vegetables. Fruit is edible.
<i>Calotropis gigantea</i> (L) W. T. Aiton	<i>Akon</i>	Asclepiadaceae	Leaves	Leaf paste is applied against body pain and leaf juice is used to cure piles.

<i>Canarium strictum</i> Roxb.	<i>Dhuna</i>	Burseraceae	Resin	Resins are used in snake bite.
<i>Cannabis sativa</i> L.	<i>Bhang</i>	Cannabaceae	Leaves	Leaves are used for cough.
<i>Capsicum annuum</i> L.	<i>Jolokia</i>	Solanaceae	Root and Leaves	Root paste is used against dysentery. Leaf paste are applied to cure insect bite.
<i>Capsicum frutescens</i> L.	<i>Kon-jolokia</i>	Solanaceae	Fruit	Ripe fruit paste is used to cure tonsillitis.
<i>Carica papaya</i> L.	<i>Amita</i>	Caricaceae	Leaves and Fruit	Leaf paste is used to cure fever and ringworm. Fruit is used during childbirth to increase lactation of milk.
<i>Cascabela thevetia</i> (L.) Lippold	<i>Karabiful</i>	Apocynaceae	Stem and Bark	Bark is used to cure Malaria and latex of stem is used against boils.
<i>Cassia alata</i> L.	<i>Khorgos</i>	Caesalpiniaceae	Leaves	Leaves are crushed and applied locally for ringworm disease.
<i>Cassia occidentalis</i> L.	<i>Medelua</i>	Caesalpiniaceae	Leaves	Leaf paste is applied against ringworm.
<i>Catharanthus roseus</i> (L.)	<i>Nayantara</i>	Apocynaceae	Flower and Leaves	Flower is used for treatment of Cancer. Leaves are used to cure diabetes.
<i>Centella asiatica</i> Urb.	<i>Bor-manimuni</i>	Apiaceae	Leaves	Paste of green leaves are used for stomach ache and small pox. It is also used for pneumonia and skin disease.
<i>Chenopodium album</i> L.	<i>Jilmilsak</i>	Chenopodiaceae	Leaves and Tender shoot	It is mainly used for stomach pain, leaves are also used as vegetable by Mising tribe.
<i>Chromolina odorata</i> (L.) R.M.King & H.Rob.	<i>Bagh-dhoka/ bembonamkil</i>	Asteraceae	Leaves	Leaf paste is used to cure cut and wounds.
<i>Cinnamomum tamala</i> T.Nees & Eberm.	<i>Tejpat</i>	Lauraceae	Leaves	It is mainly used for sleepness.
<i>Cissampelos sympodialis</i> Eichl.	<i>Thupuki-lota</i>	Menispermaceae	Leaves	Leaves decoction is used to cure fever.
<i>Cissus quadrangularis</i> L.	<i>Harjuralota</i>	Vitaceae	Stem	The paste of stem is used to cure bone fracture.
<i>Cinnamomum verum</i> J.Presl	<i>Dalcheni</i>	Lauraceae	Bark	Bark is mixed with honey to cure cough.
<i>Citrus aurantifolia</i> Linn	<i>Kaji-Nemu</i>	Rutaceae	Fruit	Fruit is used to cure stomach ache and dysentery.
<i>Citrus medica</i> L.	<i>Golnemu</i>	Rutaceae	Fruit and Leaves	Fruit juice is used to cure diarrhea and leaves are used to cure pneumonia.
<i>Clerodendrum serratum</i> Spreng.	<i>Nangalbhangha</i>	Verbenaceae	Leaves and Root	Root decoction is given against dysentery. Crushed leaves are applied to cuts and wounds.
<i>Clerodendrum colebrookianum</i> Walp.	<i>Nephaphu</i>	Verbenaceae	Leaves	Leaves are used to cure high blood pressure and also used as vegetable.
<i>Coccinia grandis</i> (L.) Voigt	<i>Kunduli</i>	Cucurbitaceae	Fruit	Fruits are eaten as vegetables to cure diabetes.
<i>Coix lacryma-jobi</i> L.	<i>Kawari-moni</i>	Poaceae	Root and	Root juice is used to cure

			Fruit	menstruation trouble. Fruit is used in the treatment of diarrhea.
<i>Colocasia esculenta</i> (L.) Schott.	Kochu	Araceae	Tender leaves and Stem	It is eaten as vegetables. Stem paste is applied against cut and wounds.
<i>Corchorus capsularis</i> L.	Morapat	Malvaceae	Leaves	Tender leaves are used against dysentery and also eaten as vegetables.
<i>Costus speciosus</i> (J.Koenig) Sm.	Jamlakhuti	Costaceae	Whole plant	Leaves are used to cure gastric, the plant is used for fever and urinal disorder. Roots are used to cure jaundice.
<i>Crataeva magna</i> (Lour.) DC.	Barun	Capparidaceae	Bark	Bark is used for liver problem and urination trouble.
<i>Croton caudatus</i> Geiseler	Hati mahudi	Euphorbiaceae	Root and Latex	Root is used to cure pneumonia. Latex is used to cure enlargement of Uvula.
<i>Croton tiglium</i> L.	Konibih	Euphorbiaceae	Tender shoot	Leaf paste applied to cure skin itching and shoot are used to cure diarrhea.
<i>Curcuma caesia</i> Roxb.	Kola haladhi	Zingiberaceae	Rhizome	It is used to cure kidney stone and cough.
<i>Curcuma longa</i> L.	Haldhi	Zingiberaceae	Rhizome	The juice of rhizome mixed with honey to cure cough and bronchitis. Rhizome paste is applied against abdominal pain.
<i>Cuscuta reflexa</i> Roxb.	Akashi lota	Convolvulaceae	Leaves	Leaf juice is used to cure fever. Leaves are used to get relief from dysentery and also used to cure high blood pressure.
<i>Cynodon dactylon</i> (L.) Pers.	Dubori bon	Poaceae	Whole plant	Paste of the plant is applied to cuts and wounds to stop bleeding. Leaf juice is taken orally against diarrhea.
<i>Cyperus rotundus</i> L.	Keya ban	Cyperaceae	Whole plant	Crushed plant with honey is used in stomach problem.
<i>Dactyloctenium aegyptium</i> (L.) Willd.	Bobosa bon	Poaceae	Culm	Culm decoction is used against asthma.
<i>Datura stramonium</i> L.	Dhatura	Solanaceae	Leaves	Leaves are used externally to relief from muscular pain.
<i>Dillenia indica</i> L.	Outenga	Dilleniaceae	Bracts and Fruit	The juice of bracts is used to cure in fevers, diarrhea, dysentery. Fruit used as vegetable.
<i>Drymaria cordata</i> Willd. ex Schult.	Laijabori	Caryophyllaceae	Leaves	Leaf paste is used in the treatment of Jaundice. Crushed leaves used as medicine for sinus problem. Leaves are used to cure pain at the time of menstruation.
<i>Duchesnea indica</i> (Andrews) Focke.	Goru khis	Rosaceae	Fruit	Fruit paste is used to cure boil. Leaf decoction is used against skin itching.
<i>Embllica officinalis</i> Gaertn.	Amlokhi	Euphorbiaceae	Fruit	Fruit juice is used to cure jaundice and dysentery.
<i>Eryngium foetidum</i> L.	Man dhania	Apiaceae	Leaves	Leaf juice is used for stomach

				ache and also eaten as vegetable.
<i>Erythrina stricta</i> Roxb.	Rangamadar/ Tagat	Fabaceae	Bark	It is used to cure piles disease.
<i>Euphorbia hirta</i> L.	Gakhirati bon	Euphorbiaceae	Whole plant	Plant is used to cure lactation problem and also cure asthma problem.
<i>Garcinia lanceifolia</i> Roxb.	Rupohitheker	Clusiaceae	Fruit	Fruit is used to cure diarrhea. Fruit is edible.
<i>Garcinia cowa</i> Roxb.	Kujitheker	Clusiaceae	Fruit	The pieces of dried fruit is mixed with water and given to cure dysentery and diarrhea.
<i>Garcinia pedunculata</i> Roxb.	Bortheker	Clusiaceae	Fruit	It is used to cure dysentery and diarrhea.
<i>Hedyotis corymbosa</i> (L.) Lam.	Bonjaluk	Rubiaceae	Whole plant	Leaves are used to cure small pox. Whole plant is used for treatment of cough and pneumonia. Leaves are used to cure pain at the time of menstruation.
<i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i> L.	Joba	Malvaceae	Flower	Flowers paste is applied on wounds and also used against dandruff.
<i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> L.	Tengamara	Malvaceae	Tender shoot	Juice of tender shoot is used to cure dysentery. Also used as vegetables.
<i>Houttuynia cordata</i> Thunb.	Mochundori	Saururaceae	Leaves	Leaves are used to cure Dysentery and urine problem. It is also eaten as vegetable.
<i>Hydrocotyle sibthorpioides</i> Lam.	Harumanimuni	Apiaceae	Leaves	Juice of the leaves is used to cure dysentery.
<i>Jatropha curcas</i> L.	Bangali era	Euphorbiaceae	Leaves and Bark	Leaves are used to cure headache, bark is used for vomiting and body pain.
<i>Justicia gendarussa</i> Burm.f.	-----	Acanthaceae	Leaves	It is useful for rheumatism and headache.
<i>Kaempferia galanga</i> L.	Gathion	Zingiberaceae	Rhizome	The juice of rhizome is used to cure cough and cold.
<i>Lagenaria siceraria</i> Standl.	Jatilao	Cucurbitaceae	Tender shoot	The juice of tender shoot is used to cure burn injury.
<i>Lawsonia inermis</i> L.	Jetuka	Lythraceae	Leaves	Leaf paste is applied to cure skin problem and dandruff.
<i>Leucas aspera</i> Link	Durun	Lamiaceae	Leaves	Leaves juice is applied in sinus, cold and cough. Leaves are also used to cure small pox.
<i>Mangifera indica</i> L.	Aam	Anacardiaceae	Fruit	Both ripe and unripe fruit are eaten. Fresh fruit is used to cure piles.
<i>Melia azedarach</i> L.	Ghuraneem	Meliaceae	Leaves	Leaf paste is applied externally for skin diseases.
<i>Mentha arvensis</i> L.	Podina	Lamiaceae	Leaves	Green leaves are used to cure urine disease and digestive disorder. Also used as vegetable.
<i>Mikania micrantha</i> Kunth	Riphujilata	Asteraceae	Leaves	Leaves are used to cure dysentery and paste of leaves used against high blood pressure.

<i>Mimosa pudica</i> L.	<i>Nilajiban</i>	Mimosaceae	Whole plant	Decoction of the whole plant is taken in kidney trouble. Root paste is used to cure fever.
<i>Mimusops elengi</i> L.	<i>Bokul</i>	Sapotaceae	Stem and Bark	Stem, bark is useful in tooth ache. Bark decoction is used to cure fever.
<i>Mirabilis jalapa</i> L.	<i>Gadhuligupal</i>	Nyctaginaceae	Root	Extract of root is used to cure piles.
<i>Momordica charantia</i> L.	<i>Karela</i>	Cucubitaceae	Fruit	Fruit juice is used to cure Diabetes and also used as vegetable.
<i>Moringa oleifera</i> Lam.	<i>Sojina</i>	Moringaceae	Seed	Seed paste is used externally on the effected part of the body for rheumatic pain and also used as vegetable.
<i>Morus australis</i> Poir.	<i>Nunigos</i>	Moraceae	Fruit	Fruit paste is eaten for Constipation.
<i>Murraya koenigii</i> (L.) Spreng	<i>Narasingha</i>	Rutaceae	Leaves	The juice of the leave is used for the treatment of dysentery and pneumonia. Leaf paste is used against dandruff.
<i>Musa sapientum</i> L.	<i>Bhimkol</i>	Musaceae	Inflorescence and Fruit	Inflorescence is used to cure low blood pressure. Ripe fruit is edible.
<i>Musa paradisiaca</i> L.	<i>Jahajikol</i>	Musaceae	Bark and Fruit	Bark is used to cure diabetes. Ripe fruit is edible.
<i>Mussaenda roxburghii</i> Hook.f.	<i>Sraswati pat</i>	Rubiaceae	Leaves	Leaf paste is used against snake bite.
<i>Nyctanthes arbor-tristis</i> L.	<i>Sewali</i>	Oleaceae	Leaves	Leaf juice is used for cough and vomiting.
<i>Ocimum basilicum</i> L.	<i>Bor-tulshi</i>	Lamiaceae	Leaves	Leaf juice is used to cure fever, cough and Malaria.
<i>Ocimum sanctum</i> L.	<i>Tulshi</i>	Lamiaceae	Leaves	Leaf juice is used for cough and asthma.
<i>Oxalis corniculata</i> L.	<i>Tengeshi tenga</i>	Oxalidaceae	Leaves	Leaves are used to apply over the infected eczema portion. It is also eaten as vegetable. Leaf juice is used to cure fever and dysentery.
<i>Paederia scandens</i> (Lour.) Merr.	<i>Bhedailata</i>	Rubiaceae	Leaves	Paste of leaves juice is used for gastric and also anti dysenteric. Also eaten as vegetable.
<i>Phlogacanthus thyrsoiflorus</i> Nees.	<i>Titaful</i>	Acanthaceae	Leaves	Leaf juice is used for fever. Leaves are used to cure cough.
<i>Physalis minima</i> L.	<i>Futkola</i>	Solanaceae	Whole plant	Whole plant is used to cure headache.
<i>Piper betle</i> L.	<i>Pan</i>	Piperaceae	Leaves	Leaves extract is mixed with honey and given to cure cough.
<i>Piper longum</i> L.	<i>Pipoli</i>	Piperaceae	Leaves	Leaves are used to cure cough.
<i>Piper nigrum</i> Wall.	<i>Jaluk</i>	Piperaceae	Seed	Seeds mixed with misri to get relief from cough. It is used to cure tonsillitis.
<i>Pogostemon benghalensis</i> Kuntze	<i>Hukloti</i>	Lamiaceae	Leaves	Leaves are used to cure stomach pain.
<i>Polygonum chinense</i> L.	<i>Madhu-huleng</i>	Polygonaceae	leaves	It is used to cure diarrhea.
<i>Pouzolzia zeylanica</i>	<i>Borali-bokua</i>	Urticaceae	Whole plant	Whole plant paste is used for cut

(L.) Benn.				and wounds. Juice of plant is applied to cure boils.
<i>Psidium guajava</i> L.	<i>Modhuri</i>	Myrtaceae	Leaves and Fruit	The extract of leaves is used to cure dysentery. Ripe fruit is edible.
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> (L.) Kuhn	<i>Bihlongoni</i>	Polypodiaceae	Leaves	Leaves are used to cure urine problem.
<i>Raphanus sativus</i> L.	<i>Mula</i>	Brassicaceae	Whole plant	It is used as vegetables to cure kidney stone
<i>Rhynchostylis retusa</i> Blume	<i>Kopou-phul</i>	Orchidaceae	Root and Leaf	Aerial root paste is used to ear ache. Leaf paste is used against rheumatism.
<i>Ricinus communis</i> L.	<i>Era gos</i>	Euphorbiaceae	Leaves	Paste of leaves is used in muscular pain and joint pain.
<i>Rubus alceifolius</i> Poir.	<i>Jejelipoka</i>	Rosaceae	Leaves and Fruits	Leaves are used to cure gastric ulcer. Fruits are used against mouth ulcer.
<i>Saccharum officinarum</i> L.	<i>Kuhlar</i>	Poaceae	Stem	Stem juice is used to cure jaundice. It is used to cure urine problem.
<i>Sapindus mukorossi</i> Gaertn.	<i>Manisaal</i>	Sapindaceae	Seed	Seed is used to cure tonsillitis also used as detergent.
<i>Saraca asoca</i> (Roxb.)	<i>Ashok phul</i>	Fabaceae	Bark	Bark is used to cure menstruation problem.
<i>Scoparia dulcis</i> L.	<i>Seni- bon</i>	Scrophulariaceae	Leaves	Leaves decoction are used to cure cough and diabetes.
<i>Sesamum orientale</i> L.	<i>Til</i>	Pedaliaceae	Seed	The paste of seeds are used in hair for dandruff. Seeds are edible.
<i>Sesbania grandiflora</i> (L.) Pers.	<i>Augastia</i>	Fabaceae	Root	Root part is used as medicine for Jaundice.
<i>Smilax perfoliata</i> Lour.	<i>Tikonibarua</i>	Smilacaceae	Root and Shoot	Root is used to cure Mental disorder. Young shoot is also used as vegetable.
<i>Solanum anguivi</i> Lamk.	<i>Titabhekuri</i>	Solanaceae	Fruit	It is used for purifying blood. It is used to cure cough and stomach ache.
<i>Solanum nigrum</i> L.	<i>Latkochi</i>	Solanaceae	Leaves	It is used as vegetable. It is used to cure dysentery.
<i>Spondias pinnata</i> (L.f.) Kurz	<i>Amora</i>	Anacardiaceae	Fruit and Leaves	Fruit is used in dysentery. Leaf paste is applied against small pox.
<i>Syzygium jambos</i> (L.) Alston.	<i>Bogajamu</i>	Myrtaceae	Bark and Fruit	Bark is used to cure dysentery. Ripe fruit is edible.
<i>Syzygium cumini</i> (L.) Skeels	<i>Kulajamu</i>	Myrtaceae	Fruit	Used for cure diabetes.
<i>Tabernaemontana divaricata</i> G.Don	<i>Kutoni</i>	Apocynaceae	Flower and Root	Flower paste is used to cure eye diseases. Root paste is used to cure Malaria.
<i>Tagetes patula</i> L.	<i>Narjiful</i>	Asteraceae	Leaves	Leaf paste is used in wounds for stop bleeding.
<i>Tamarindus indica</i> L.	<i>Teteli</i>	Caesalpiniaceae	Fruit	Fruit is eaten to cure high blood pressure and dried fruit is used against dysentery.
<i>Terminalia arjuna</i> (Roxb. Ex DC.) Wight & Arn.	<i>Arjun</i>	Combretaceae	Bark	Juice is used as tonic and ailment of Cancer disease.
<i>Terminalia bellirica</i>	<i>Bhomora</i>	Combretaceae	Seed	Seed is used to cure urine disease

(Gaertn.) Roxb.				and jaundice.
<i>Terminalia chebula</i> Retz.	<i>Hilikha</i>	Combretaceae	Fruit	Fruit is useful in medicine for diarrhea and dysentery.
<i>Vitex negundo</i> L.	<i>Posotia</i>	Verbenaceae	Leaves	It is used for dysentery and leaf paste is used externally to cure body pain.
<i>Xanthium indicum</i> J.Koenig ex Roxb.	<i>Agerua</i>	Asteraceae	Fruit	Fruits are used for preventing pain from tooth.
<i>Zanthoxylum nitidum</i> Bunge	<i>Tejmuri</i>	Rutaceae	Leaves, Root and Bark	Leaves are used medicinally for fever, cough and diarrhea. Bark is used against tooth pain. Root is used to cure asthma.
<i>Zingiber officinale</i> Roscoe	<i>Ada</i>	Zingiberaceae	Rhizome	Fresh rhizome is used to cure cough and headache.
<i>Ziziphus jujuba</i> Lam.	<i>Bogori</i>	Rhamnaceae	Fruit and Root	Ripe fruit is used for gastric disorder and it is edible. Root juice is used to cure diarrhea.

### Results And Discussion:-

In the present study a total of 142 plants belonging to 63 families were reported which were commonly used by Mising traditional healers for the treatment of 48 types of ailments (Table 1). The prominent family was Euphorbiaceae with 7 species, followed by Solanaceae and Asteraceae with 6 species, Lamiaceae, Poaceae, Rutaceae and Zingiberaceae with 5 species, Acanthaceae, Araceae, Amaranthaceae, Apocynaceae, Caesalpiniaceae, Fabaceae and Malvaceae with 4 species respectively (Fig 3).

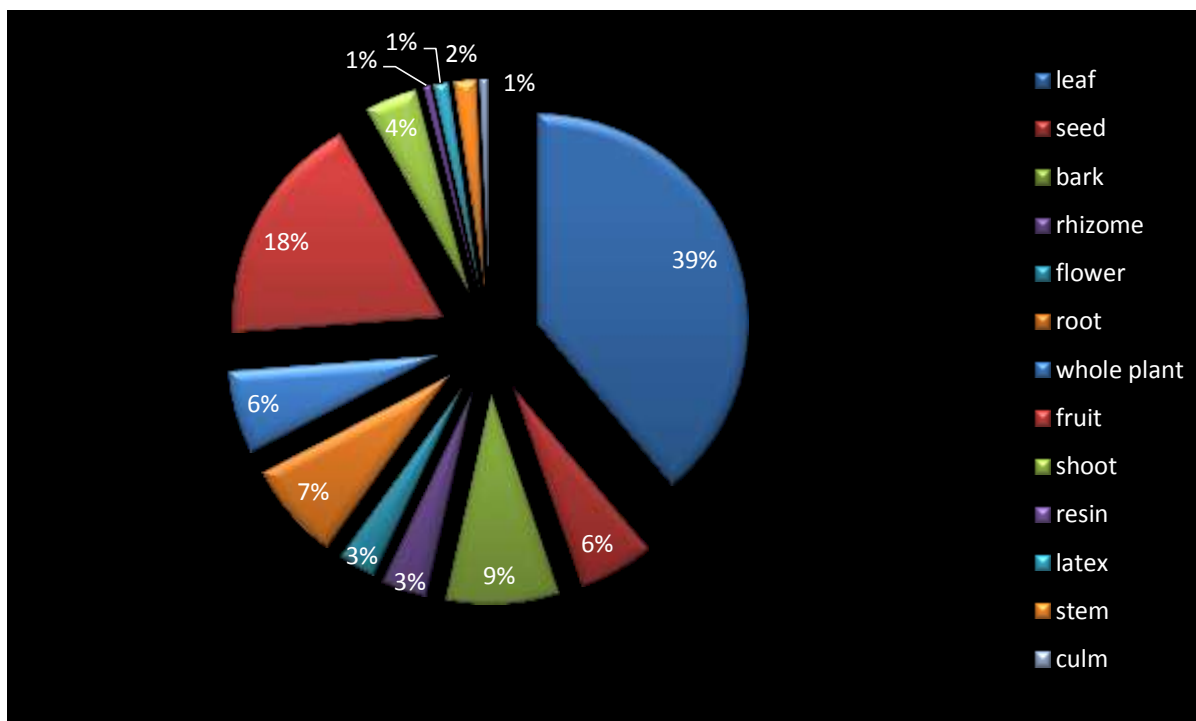
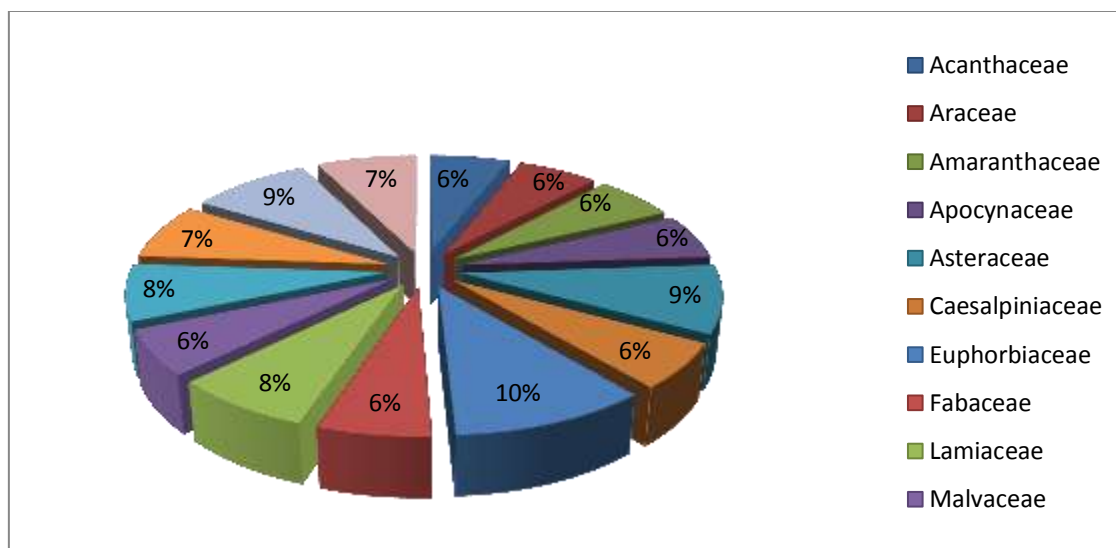


Fig 2:- Diversity of Plants Parts Used.



**Fig 3:-** percentage of dominant families documented from the study area.

Of the total 142 plant parts used as medicine, leaf is used majority of cases with 67 (39%) species. It was followed by fruit 31 (18%), bark 15 (9%), root 13(7%), whole plant 11 (6%), seed 10 (6%), shoot 7 (4%), rhizome and flower 6 and 5 respectively (3%), stem 3 (2%), latex 2 (1%) and resin and culm 1 (1%) each species. Leaves were used mostly because leaves are available and collected very easily than underground parts, flowers and fruits etc. (Fig 2). Majority of the plants are used in Dysentery with 25 species, Cough with 19 species, Diarrhea with 13 species, Urine problem with 10 species, Jaundice with 9 species, Pneumonia and Cut and Wounds with 8 species each etc. Remaining plants are used in the treatment of Tonsillitis, Tooth pain, Malaria, Lactation problem, Uvulitis, Piles, Small pox, Ringworm, Cancer etc. (Table 1). Present investigation indicates the high diversity of plants used for medicinal purpose to cure their day to day ailments.

### Acknowledgement:-

The author is thankful to the local herbal practitioners and villagers for co-operating with the survey by sharing their valuable ethnomedicinal knowledge.

### References:-

1. Bor, N.L. (1940). *Flora of Assam*. Vol. 5 (Graminaceae). Govt. of Assam, Shilong.
2. Borthakur, S.K. (1976). Less known medicinal plants among the tribes of Karbi-Anglong (Mikir hills), Assam. *Bulletin Botanical Survey India*. Vol.: 18(1-4). Pp. 166-171.
3. Das, A.K., Dutt, B.K., Sharma, G.D. and Hajra, P.K. (2010). Medicinal plants of Southern Assam, *Deep publication*.
4. Jain, S.K. & Rao, R.R. (1977). *Handbook of Field and Herbarium Methods*. New Delhi.
5. Kanjilal, U.N. Kanjilal, P.C. Das, A. and Purkayastha, C. (1934-1940). *Flora of Assam*, vol. 1-4. Govt. of Assam, Shillong.
6. Kattamani, K.N. Munikrishnappa, B.M., Hussain, S.A. and Reddy, P.N. (2000). Uses of plants as medicine under semi arid of tropical climate of Raipur district of North Karnataka. *Journal of Medicinal Arom. Plant science* 22.23: 406-410.
7. Namsa, N.D., Tag, H., Mandal, M. and Das, A.K. (2009). An ethnobotanical study of traditional anti-inflammatory plants used by the Lohit community of Arunachal Pradesh, India, *Journal of Ethnopharmacology*. Vol.: 125(2). Pp. 234-245.
8. Pei, S.I. (2001). Ethnobotanical approaches of traditional medicine studies: some experiences from Asia. *Pharm. Biol.* 39. Pp. 74-79.
9. Sajem, A.L. and Gosai, K. (2006). Traditional use of medicinal plants by the Jayantia tribes in North Cachar Hills district of Assam, northeast India, *Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine*. 1746-4269.
10. Sharma, B.D., Balakrishnanah, N.P., Rao, R.R. and Hajra, P.K. (Eds.) 1993. *Flora of India*, vol. 1 (Ranunculaceae – Barclayaceae). B.S.I., Calcutta.
11. Shrestha, P.M. (2003). Medicinal plant diversity and use in the highlands of Dolakha district, Nepal, *Journal of Ethnopharmacology*. Vol.: 86 (1). Pp. 81-96.
12. URL <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dhemaji>, html.