

# Phytochemicals of *Jatropha gossypifolia* (Linn.): A Review

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**Abstract:-** *Jatropha gossypifolia* (Linn.) is one of the poisonous ornamentals, as well as a medicinal plant. The shrub is native to Gujarat State (India), Central and South America. This review study includes the complete Botanical description, Phytochemical constituents and Pharmacological activity and ethnomedicinal properties of *Jatropha gossypifolia* (Linn.) plant parts. *Jatropha gossypifolia* (Linn.) is a member of the family Euphorbiaceae, which is the largest family belonging to the Angiosperms. This plant has been used since ages for its well-known medicinal properties. It has been well established that the phytochemicals are responsible for the pharmacological properties. This review has included extensive information regarding the various aspects of the plant.

**Keywords:-** *Jatropha gossypifolia* (Linn.), Pharmacological properties, Phytochemistry, Traditional uses.

## I. INTRODUCTION

*Jatropha gossypifolia* (Linn.) is small shrub, common ornamental garden plant and medicinal plant belonging to family Euphorbiaceae. The family contains 172 identified species. Euphorbiaceae is the largest family among the Angiosperms (J. Felix-Silva *et al.*, 2014). It is placed in the order, “Geraniales”. Euphorbiaceae family is rich in secondary metabolites such as alkaloids, cyanogenic glycosides, diterpenes, glucosinolates, tannins and triterpenes. *Jatropha* is a Greek word in which “*jatros*” means doctor and “*trophe*” means food (Kumar A and Sharma S, 2008; Sabandar C.W. *et al.*, 2013). This present review of *Jatropha gossypifolia* (Linn.) is focused on its morphology, distribution, phytochemistry, medicinal properties, ethnomedicinal uses and its future prospectives.

➤ *Taxonomy of Jatropha gossypifolia* (Linn.)

- **Kingdom:** Plantae (Plant)
- **Subkingdom:** Tracheobionta (Vascular plant)
- **Super-division:** Spermatophyta (Seed plant)
- **Division:** Magnoliophyta (Flowering plants)
- **Class:** Magnoliophyta (Dicotyledons)
- **Order** – Geraniales
- **Family**- Euphorbiaceae
- **Genus** - *Jatropha*
- **Species** – *gossypifolia* (L.)

***Jatropha gossypifolia* plant:** *Jatropha gossypifolia* (Linn.) is a member of the family Euphorbiaceae. The plant is monoecious, erect, soft wooded and deciduous. (Hammad Saleem *et al.*, 2015). The plant attains an average height of 1.8-2.5m. (Md. Mahmudul Islam *et al.*, 2017; Hammad Saleem *et al.*, 2015). Stems are non woody and hairy with Height 8.5cm to 10.5 cm and width 10cm to 12 cm. Surface of the stem is reddish brown to greenish in colour. (V. S. Parvathi, *et al.*, 2012). The branches are rich in laticiferous ducts. The leaves are dark green in colour. Serrated margin, acuminate apex with alternate and palmate variation is seen. The petiole is long and the plant leaf margins are covered with multi headed glandular hairs. (Md. Mahmudul Islam, *et al.*, 2017). The stipules are thick and 3-5 lobed. Anamocytic type of stomata is mostly present on the lower surface of the leaves. (V. S. Parvathi *et al.*, 2012). The Reddish-purple colour flowers are unisexual. The shape of the fruit is like capsule. The capsule consists of a seed with a single locule. (V. S. Parvathi *et al.*, 2012). The seeds are spherical in shape and are greyish-brown in colour. These contain copious starchy endosperm. (Hammad Saleem *et al.*, 2015). The seed pods are like cherries. These are very poisonous in nature. (Félix-Silva *et al.*, 2014). They are dark red in colour. The male flower consists of a petaloid tube. The *Jatropha gossypifolia* (Linn.) forms a unique five root system in which the tap root is present in the centre and other four roots are on the periphery. (M. B. G. Viswanathan *et al.*, 2018).

➤ *Vernacular names of Jatropha gossypifolia* (L.)

- India: Athalai, Lal-bherenda, Ratan-jiyoti
- French: Medicinier sauvage
- Spanish: Purga de huane
- Marma: Karachuni
- Garo: Kander
- Africa: Babatidjin
- Nigeria: Pignut, Fignut, Lapalapa, Botuge pupa, Botuje red, Binidasugu.
- Venezuela: Frailecillo, Sibidigua, Tuatua. (J. F. Silva *et al.*, 2014).

**Distribution:** *Jatropha gossypifolia* (Linn.) is native to the Gujarat State (India), Central and South America. (Sabandar C.W. *et al.*, 2013). It is mostly found in the tropical regions of the world. The plant is widely distributed in the subtropical and semiarid regions of African and the American regions of the world. (S. R.

Mariz *et al.*, 2010). In India generally, the plant is seen in the wild.

**Flowering season of *Jatropha gossypifolia* (L.):**  
April-August (Shahidul *et al.* 2019)

## II. PHYTOCHEMISTRY OF THE PLANT

The whole plant of *Jatropha gossypifolia* (Linn.) is rich in many bio-active compounds. The plant parts contain different phytochemical constituents. These chemical constituents have been extracted by using various solvent systems. (C. Lans 2007; R. Seth and R. Sarin., 2010). Phytochemicals like alkaloids, flavonoids, diterpenoids, tannins, steroids, saponins, phenolic compounds have been found to be present in this species. (Nwokocha *et al.*, 2011; Rufino *et al.*, 2010; Gupta *et al.*, 2011). The species is also rich in anthocyanins, carotenoids, carbohydrates, proteins, phytosterols and amino acids. (Rufino *et al.*, 2010).

The leaves of the plant are rich in tannins, phenols and flavonoids. The bark has the highest amount of the alkaloid named as Jatrophine. (Oduola *et al.*, 2005). Jatrodin (a lignin) isolated from stem part of *Jatropha gossypifolia* (Linn.). (Oduola *et al.*, 2005). The primary phytochemical screening showed that the stem of *Jatropha gossypifolia* (Linn.) plant are rich in lignin and also possess Jatrophan, Gadain, Prasanthaline, Arylnaphthalene, Gossypifan, Jatrodien, Gossypiline, Gossypidien, Isogadain. (Sabandar C.W. *et al.*, 2013). The stems are

also contended with tannins, steroid, phenolic substances (tetradecyl-(E)-ferulate, ferulic acid and fraxetin), ascorbic acid, alkaloids (4'-O-Demethyl retrochinensin) flavonoids. (N. Nwokocha *et al.*, 2011), lignoids and terpenoids (Vitexin, Isovitexin, Apigenin). (Sabandar C.W. *et al.*, 2013; Singh *et al.*, 2014; Zhang X.P. *et al.*, 2009; Das B. *et al.*, 2018). In *Jatropha gossypifolia* (Linn.) root the content of the phenolic compounds is very high. This is one of the main compounds responsible for the anti-inflammatory and anti-oxidant properties. (Maisuthisakul *et al.*, 2007). Sesquiterpenes such as 1,4-Epoxy-p-methan-2-ol and 4-Patchoulen-15-oic acid are found mostly in the rhizomes. The roots contain 9 $\beta$ -13 $\alpha$ -Hydroxyisabellion and jatrophene as the chief compounds. (Pertino *et al.*, 2007).

The whole plant is rich in phenolic acids such as galic, vanilic, syringic, 2,5-dihydroxy benzoic, p-coumaric, caffeic, and rosmarinic. (Povichit *et al.*, 2010; Nwokocha *et al.*, 2011). In addition, Seeds of this species show the presence of polyunsaturated diterpenes diester. (Haas *et al.*, 2002; Jing *et al.*, 2005). K. M. Hosamani and K. S. Katagi, 2008 have isolated various types of fatty acids from the seeds in the petroleum ether extract. Zhang X.P. *et al.*, 2009 discovered a new compound Cyclogossine A in the Latex part of *Jatropha gossypifolia* (Linn.). The essential oils from the stem and leaves contain bioactive compounds such as limonene, menthol, linalool and caryphyllene which are used as flavouring agents in food products in European Commission. (H. Morten *et al.*, 2012).

Classification	No.	Chemical component	Part of plant	Reference	
Protein	1.	Cyclogossine A	Latex	Zhang X.P. <i>et al.</i> , 2009	
	2.	Cyclogossine B	Latex	Fatokun <i>et al.</i> , 2016	
Alkaloid	3.	Ricinine	Leaves	Bullangpoti V. <i>et al.</i> , 2016	
	4.	Piperidine	Whole plant	Fatokun <i>et al.</i> , 2016	
	5.	4'-O-Demethyl retrochinensin	Stem	R. Das <i>et al.</i> , 2004	
	6.	Cleomiscosin A	Stem	B.Das <i>et al.</i> , 2003	
	7.	2 $\alpha$ -Hydroxyjatrophone	Roots	F.X. Silva <i>et al.</i> , 2014	
	8.	2 $\beta$ -Hydroxy-5,6-isojatrophone	Roots	F.X. Silva <i>et al.</i> , 2014	
	9.	2 $\beta$ -Hydroxyjatrophon	Roots	F.X. Silva <i>et al.</i> , 2014	
	10.	Piperidine	Whole plant	Fatokun <i>et al.</i> , 2016	
	11.	9-acetoxynerylidol	Seeds	Falodun A <i>et al.</i> , 2012	
	Phenols	12.	Gallic Acid	Whole plant	Povichit <i>et al.</i> , 2010
		13.	Vanilic Syringic	Whole plant	Povichit <i>et al.</i> , 2010
14.		2,5-dihydroxy benzoic	Whole plant	Povichit <i>et al.</i> , 2010	
15.		Caffeic	Whole plant	Povichit <i>et al.</i> , 2010	
16.		Rosmarinic acid	Whole plant	Povichit <i>et al.</i> , 2010	
Flavonoid	17.	Ferulic acid	Stem	C.W. Sabandar <i>et al.</i> , 2013	
	18.	Fraxetin	stem	C.W. Sabandar <i>et al.</i> , 2013	
Coumarin-lignoid	19.	p-coumaric	Aerial parts	Fatokun <i>et al.</i> , 2016	
	20.	Gossypiline	Aerial parts	Shahwar D. <i>et al.</i> , 2010	
	21.	Gossypifan	Stem	Povichit <i>et al.</i> , 2010	
	22.	Vitexin	Leaves	C.W. Sabandar <i>et al.</i> , 2013	
	23.	Apigenin	Leaves	C.W. Sabandar <i>et al.</i> , 2013	
	24.	Isovitexin	Leaves	C.W. Sabandar <i>et al.</i> , 2013	

Coumarin-lignoid	25.	Prasanthaline	Stem	Fatokun <i>et al.</i> , 2016
	26.	Isogadain	Stem	Biswanath D <i>et al.</i> , 2003
	27.	Cleomiscosin A	Stem	Biswanath D <i>et al.</i> , 2003
	28.	Gossypidien	Stem	Biswanath D <i>et al.</i> , 2003
	29.	Jatrodien	Stem	Fatokun <i>et al.</i> , 2016
	30.	Jatrophane	Roots	Fatokun <i>et al.</i> , 2016
	31.	Jatrophan	Seeds	Fatokun <i>et al.</i> , 2016
	32.	Arylnaphthalenes	seeds	Fatokun <i>et al.</i> , 2016
Diterpene	33.	Propacin	Whole plant	Das and Venkataiah., 2001
	34.	Jatropholone A	Roots	Fatokun <i>et al.</i> , 2016
	35.	Jatrophone B	Roots	Fatokun <i>et al.</i> , 2016
	36.	Jatrophone	Roots	Fatokun <i>et al.</i> , 2016
	37.	Jatrophene	Whole plant	Ravindranath N <i>et al.</i> , 2003
	38.	Falodone	Roots	A. Falodun <i>et al.</i> , 2012
	39.	12-Deoxy-16-hydroxyphorbol	Seed oil	C.W. Sabandar <i>et al.</i> , 2013
	40.	9b-13a-Hydroxyisabellione	Rhizome	Pertino <i>et al.</i> , 2007
41.	Citlaltirion	Whole stem	Das <i>et al.</i> 2009	
Cardiac-glycosides	42.	Apogenin	Leaves	F.X. Silva <i>et al.</i> , 2014
	43.	Isovitexin	Leaves	F.X. Silva <i>et al.</i> , 2014
	44.	Orientin/Isoorientin	Leaves	A. C. Pilon <i>et al.</i> , 2014
	45.	Schaftoside	Leaves	A. C. Pilon <i>et al.</i> , 2014
Esters	46.	12-Deoxy-16-hydroxyphorbol	Seeds	Fatokun <i>et al.</i> , 2016
Fatty acids	47.	Oleic acids	Seeds	K. M. Hosamani and K. S. Katagi,2008
	48.	Palmitic acid	Seeds	K. M. Hosamani and K. S. Katagi,2008
	49.	Palmitoleic acid	Seeds	K. M. Hosamani and K. S. Katagi,2008
	50.	Ricinoleic acid	Seeds	K. M. Hosamani and K. S. Katagi,2008
	51.	Stearic acid	Seeds	K. M. Hosamani and K. S. Katagi,2008
	52.	Vernolic acid	Seeds	K. M. Hosamani and K. S. Katagi,2008
	53.	Myristic acid	Seeds	K. M. Hosamani and K. S. Katagi,2008
	54.	Linoleic acid	Seeds	K. M. Hosamani and K. S. Katagi,2008
	55.	Capillic acid	Seeds	K. M. Hosamani and K. S. Katagi,2008
	56.	Arachidic acid	Seeds	K. M. Hosamani and K. S. Katagi,2008
Triterpenes	57.	2,24,25-Trihydroxylanosta-1,7dien-3-one	Leaves	Fatokun <i>et al.</i> , 2016
	58.	2,24,25-Trihydroxylanost-7-en-3on 3-O-acetylaleuritolate acid	Leaves	Fatokun <i>et al.</i> , 2016
	59.		Rhizome	C.W. Sabandar <i>et al.</i> , 2013
Monoterpene	60.	1,4-Epoxy-p-methan-2-ol	Rhizome	Pertino <i>et al.</i> , 2007
Sesquiterpene	61.	4-Patchoulen-15-oic acid	Rhizome	Pertino <i>et al.</i> , 2007

Table 1

### III. PHARMACOLOGICAL ACTIVITIES

*Jatropha gossypifolia* (Linn.) plant plays a key role in the treatment of various infectious as well as non-infectious ailments. Various relevant scientific studies have confirmed its pharmacological potential. So far numerous researchers have reported, *Jatropha gossypifolia* (Linn.) as a plant with wide range of pharmacological potential. Antimicrobial, antidiabetic, hepatoprotective, antioxidant, anti-inflammatory (Yerramsetty N. *et al.*, 2013), cytotoxic, antihypertensive, antithrombotic, antipyretic (Murugalakshmi, M. *et al.*, 2014), anti-coagulating (Murugalakshmi M. *et al.*, 2012), anti-cholinestrate (Pratap B. *et al.*, 2013), analgesic (Panda *et al.*, 2009), anti-schistosomical (Sherifat A. *et al.*, 2015), anti-malarial (Koudouvo K. *et al.*, 2011), antifertility (Sachin J. *et al.*, 2012), anticancer (Apurba *et al.*, 2013), anti-diarrhoeal (Apurba *et al.*, 2013), pesticidal activity (Tripathi Y.C. *et al.*, 2015) are some of the pharmacological properties this plant possesses.

#### ➤ Anti-bacterial Activity of the plant:

Several studies have revealed the antibiotic potential of the plant using different extracts. (Seth and Sarin, 2010; Purohit and Purohit, 2011). Aqueous and Benzene extract of the leaves demonstrated antimicrobial activities against *Bacillus subtilis* and *Escherichia coli*. As a result, the aqueous extract showed minimum effect (zone of inhibition  $2.04 \pm 0.02\text{mm}$ ) and the benzene extract displayed the maximum antimicrobial potential (zone of inhibition  $13.05 \pm 0.02\text{mm}$ ) in opposition of the organism (Seth and Sarin 2010). Okho *et al.*, 2016 investigated the antibacterial potential of the essential oil extracted from the stem and the leaves, against *E. coli*, *E. faecium*, and *S. aureus*. The extract derived from the stem exhibited the maximum potential (MIC=0.025–0.05mg/ mL) and the extract derived from the leaf showed minimum efficacy (MIC = 0.05–0.1mg/mL) against the test microorganisms.

*Jatropha gossypifolia* (Linn.) methanolic extract has shown potential against various pathogens such as *A. fumigatus*, *A. flavus*, *S. pyogene* and *S.typhi*. (Singh, 2018). The different concentrations of the ethanolic and the aqueous leaf extracts have shown inhibitory effects against *E. coli*, *S. aureus*, *N. gonorrhoea* and *C. albicans* bacteria. (Ajayi, O.A. *et al.*, 2018). *Jatropha gossypifolia* (Linn.) ether, alcohol, chloroform leaf extracts showed antimicrobial activity against *Escherichia spp.*, *Pseudomonas spp.*, *Staphylococcus spp.*, and *Bacillus spp.* The best result was obtained in the alcoholic extract. (D. A. Dhale and A. R. Birari., 2010). The leaf extract of dichloromethane/methanol (DCI/MeOH) possesses antibacterial activity & antiprotozoal activity against *Staphylococcus aureus*, and *Plasmodium falciparum*. (Jansen *et al.*, 2010).

#### ➤ Anti-diabetic Activity of the plant:

Diabetes mellitus is a chronic disease caused by the deficiency of insulin. Saleem *et al.*, 2016 demonstrated that the extracts from *Jatropha gossypifolia* (Linn.) plants showed significant  $\alpha$ -glucosidase activity. The  $\alpha$ -

glucosidase comprises of a family of enzyme hydrolase, which is located in the brush-border surface membrane of small intestinal cells. Neha R. *et al.*, 2013 has revealed that the stem possesses antidiabetic activity and hypolipidemic activity in a fraction comprising of 95% ethanolic extract with chloroform. The fraction restored the blood glucose profile, serum lipid level, renal and hepatic functions to nearly normal level.

#### ➤ Anti-inflammatory Activity of the plant:

The methanolic extracts of the aerial parts of the plant were effective in reducing pain and inflammation in carrageenan-induced paw oedema in rats. (Panda B. B. *et al.*, 2009). The ethanolic extracts of the leaves are similarly effective in reducing pain and inflammation (Bhagat *et al.*, 2011). The leaf extract of the plant was treated with aqueous (4.2%) and ethanol (5.8%) and was dried. At 200 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$  concentration both the extracts showed essential immobilization of membrane of Human red blood cell (HRBC) (Nagaharika *et al.*, 2013). Some researchers have explained that some secondary metabolites such as alkaloids and steroids present in the extracts have the ability to reduce the release of histamine, kinins and serotonin, which are the main reasons for inflammation. (Bhagat *et al.*, 2011; Nagaharika *et al.*, 2013).

Ahmed S. A. *et al.*, 2015 also described the anti-inflammatory and anti-arthritis activity of the plant due to the rich flavonoid content of the latex of *Jatropha gossypifolia* (Linn.). The latex showed the anti-inflammatory potential in carrageenan induced acute model (edema) and anti-arthritis potential in CFA induced (sub-chronic model) in rats. Xavier-Santos *et al.*, 2018 revealed that the leaf extract of the plant was rich in C-glycosyl flavonoids and was the main curing agent of the cutaneous inflammatory disease.

#### ➤ Anti-oxidant Activity of the plant:

The leaf extracts possess antioxidant properties (Kharat *et al.*, 2011; J. Sachin *et al.*, 2015; F. Silva *et al.*, 2014). The presence of the phytochemicals such as tannins, phenols and flavonoids are responsible for the antioxidant activity. (Okoh *et al.*, 2016; Shahwar *et al.*, 2010). The leaf and the stem bark have shown the activity with the IC50 value of  $31.32 \pm 1.72\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$  and  $10.79 \pm 1.56\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ . (Rofida, 2015). Okoh *et al.*, 2016 studied the antioxidant activity from the essential oils of the stems and leaves. The drugs produced from the oils create a probability for curing Alzheimer's disease and arteriosclerosis (Qinghua Wu *et al.*, 2019).

#### ➤ Anti-cancer Activity of the plant:

Investigation of the cytotoxic potential of the plant has provided positive results. (G.M. Cragg and D. J. Newman., 2005). The methanolic and the ethanolic extracts of the stem has shown positive result against HeLa cell lines (Nazeema and Girija 2013). A diterpenoid Falodone has been isolated from the roots of the plant. This diterpenoid exhibited potent proliferation inhibition activity against the A-549 human cancer cell line (Falodun *et al.*, 2012). Jatrophone a phytochemical isolated from the stem bark



was effective against human cancer cell line Hep G2. (ASEP *et al.*, 2017). Like the various parts of the plant the latex has also exhibited anticancer properties. (F. O. A. Ajose, 2007). Phytochemicals like Jatrophone, Jatrophene, and Spruceanol are the main constituents for the effective results against various cancer cell lines. (Devappa *et al.*, 2011).

➤ *Anti-neoplastic Activity of the plant:*

A phytochemical named Jatrophone present in the plant *Jatropha gossypifolia* (Linn.) exhibited an effective result against the hepatocellular cancer cell line Hep G2 1886. (Asep *et al.*, 2017). The leaves and branches of this plant contain a phytochemical named atrogossone which have been reported to be effective against RKO colon carcinoma cell line. (Zhang *et al.*, 2018).

➤ *Anti-purgative Activity of the plant:*

In castor- oil induced diarrhoea, the methanolic extract of the leaves, at the oral doses of 200 and 400 mg/kg showed significant antidiarrheal activity in mice. The results were highly satisfactory with the decreasing of the mean number of stool and total weight of the faecal output when compared with the control group. (Apu A.S. *et al.*, 2013; Apurba S.A. *et al.*, 2012).

➤ *Anti-cholinesterase Activity of the plant:*

Dichloromethanolic extracts of leaves and roots and methanolic extracts of roots exhibited inhibition of acetylcholinesterase activity at the rate of 57.71–65.43% (Saleem *et al.*, 2016). The leaf extracts of the plant demonstrated the inhibition of acetylcholinesterase at the rate of IC<sub>50</sub> = 0.05 mg/mL. (Feitosa *et al.*, 2011). Content of the alkaloids is considered responsible for the maximum level of acetylcholinesterase inhibition. (Saleem *et al.*, 2016).

➤ *Anti-plasmodial Activity of the plant:*

The ethanolic leaf extract of the plant has shown effective results against *P. berghei*. This proves the presence of anti-plasmodial property in the plant specifically in the leaves. (Onyegbule F. A. *et al.*, 2019).

➤ *Neuropharmacological, Sedative and Anxiolytic Properties of the plant:*

Using the hole cross test model researcher Apu *et al.*, 2013 explored the neuropharmacological potential of *Jatropha gossypifolia* (Linn.) in the methanolic extracts of the fruits and leaves in oral doses of 200 and 400 mg/kg in mice. The result was positive for both the extracts. The maze test model represented the sedative and anxiolytic properties of the plant with the dose of 200 mg/kg. (Falodun A *et al.*, 2012).

➤ *Lipoxygenase Inhibitory Properties of the plant:*

Saleem *et al.*, 2016 have explored the lipoxygenase inhibitory potential from the various extracts of the plant. The Hexane extract demonstrated the minimum inhibition rate (36.1%) and the dichloromethane extract showed the maximum inhibition rate (92%).

**Ethnomedicinal uses:** This species of *Jatropha* is used as an effective ethnomedicinal plant. (M.R. Khan *et al.*, 2006).

- In Africa, Latin America and Asia, the plant extracts are used in curing various ailments. (Ayelaagbe, 2007; Sabandar C.W. *et al.*, 2013).
- The young and fresh stems are used as toothbrush and for cleansing the tongue. (Sherifat A. *et al.*, 2015).
- The plant is used for managing diabetes, curing cancer and skin diseases. (S. O. Okoh *et al.*, 2016).
- In certain regions of India, the plant is used for treating diarrhoea, dysentery, itching and eczema. (R. Seth and R. Sarin., 2010).
- In Nigeria, the crushed leaves of the plant are used for treating haemorrhoids, bleeding nose, malaria, eczema, stomach-ache and typhoid. (Opeyemi O. F. *et al.*, 2017).
- The leaf decoction is used for cleaning wounds, the stem sap is applied on skin for providing relief from itching cuts, scratching and bleeding. (B. B. Panda *et al.*, 2009).
- The bark decoction is used for emmenagogue. The roots are used as an antivenom for snakebite. The leaves are used for providing relief from stomach ache and are effective as blood purifiers. (B. B. Panda *et al.*, 2009).
- The various parts are used for curing tooth related problems, ringworm and for reducing inflammation. (Vijayakumar *et al.*, 2016).
- In China the plant is used for reducing pain and fever. It is also used in dysentery. (Geronikaki A *et al.*, 2003).
- Extracts of the stem bark, leaf and root help in the inhibitory effects of  $\alpha$ -glucosidase and  $\alpha$ -chymotrypsin. The plant is a potential natural healer for ulcers and diabetes. (Saleem and Gill, 2016).
- In Latin America and Caribbean region, the leaves are used in curing rashes, sprains and sores. The latex of the plant is effective against microbes. (Uddin *et al.*, 2006).
- In Togo region the leafy stems are used for treating anaemia (Koudouvo *et al.*, 2011).
- In Ghana the leaf decoction is effective in treating malaria with the combination of *Ocimum canum* and *Combretum ghaselensis* plant parts.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

From the review of the available works it was concluded that *Jatropha gossypifolia* (Linn.) is a valuable plant. The plant is used by the traditional healers and is considered as one of the most important ethnomedicinal plant. Almost every part possesses some or the other pharmacological activity. The review has extensively included the list of the phytochemicals present in the specific parts of the plant. Although some of the phytochemicals have been isolated till date, many more are still left to be explored. The review will be helpful for the future explorations of the plant.

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