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RECORD OF CARNIVOROUS PLANT *DROSERA BURMANNII* VAHL (CARYOPHYLLALES: DROSERACEAE)
FROM PALAMAU TIGER RESERVE, JHARKHAND, INDIA

The Palamau Tiger Reserve is one of India's first nine Tiger Reserves established under Project Tiger notified in 1973. It is located in the western part of the Chhotanagpur Plateau and spans an area of 1129.93 km². It includes three protected areas viz. Palamau Wildlife Sanctuary, Betla National Park and Mahuandandar Wolf Sanctuary, and spread over Latehar, Palamau, and Garhwa districts in Jharkhand. It is also part of the Central India Landscape and extends into the Sanjay-Dubri Tiger Reserve and Achanakmar-Kanha Tiger landscape through the Jashpur and Mahan forest of Chhattisgarh. The broad vegetation types are mainly categorized as moist dry forest, dry Sal forest, moist Sal forest, high-level plateau Sal forest and moist forest (Champion and Seth, 1968). According to the tiger conservation plan 97 species of tree, 46 species of shrubs and herbs, 25 species of climbers and 17 species of grasses has been reported (Anon., 2013).

The *Drosera burmannii* are popularly known as Sundews, a red listed medicinal plant belongs to Droseraceae family have been sighted on 21st March 2014, while the tiger monitoring survey was being carried out in Kutku range of the tiger reserve. The exact location is in Khaira Sub-beat of Kutku range in core area division, authors identified this carnivorous plant near the marshy ground of Jobla spring where the availability of moisture is always maintained by running water from this water hole. The marshy ground is situated on Khaira Pahar at 370m. The area has dominant Sal forest with low canopy cover. Earlier, this carnivorous plant was recorded by Henry Haselfoot Haines in 1922 from Chhotanagpur. The local people explained that the plant is used as medicine by some local tribes from near villages.

In India, three species of genus *Drosera* are found



Fig. 1: *Drosera burmannii* from Kutku range in Palamau Tiger Reserve.

viz., *Drosera burmannii* Vahl, *Drosera indica* L. and *Drosera peltata* J.E.Sm, and widely distributed along the Indian subcontinent and Australia (Jayaram and Prasad, 2006). *Drosera burmannii* have high medicinal value with anti-cancer potential against Dalton's Ascites Lymphoma (DAL) and contain several medicinally active compounds including quinones (plumbagin) hydro-plumbagin glucoside, flavonoids (kaempferol, myricetin, quercetin, and hyperoside), rossoliside (7-methyl-hydrojuglone-4-

glucoside) that may help the pharmaceutical industry for drugs preparation and mankind (Raju and Christina, 2013).

Although, this species having extensively wide geographical range, and listed under Least Concern categorised by IUCN. While *Droserra burmannii* have wide use, medicinal value and their predator nature to balance the ecosystem. Therefore, detailed population study should need to be carried out for the long term conservation of the species.

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