OBJECTIVE OF PRESENT WORK

- Rheumatoid arthritis is systemic chronic inflammation disease affecting multiple tissues but principally attacking the joints to produce a non supportive proliferative synovitis that frequently progress to destroy articular cartilage and underlying bone with resulting disabling arthritis \(^{(22)}\). Amongst the wealth of indigenous plants in India, survey of literature reveals that leaves of *Vitex negundo* Linn. and *Jatropha curcas* Linn. are used traditionally for rheumatoid arthritis. \(^{(23, 24)}\) Scientifically it is proved that leaves of *Vitex negundo* Linn. shows anti-inflammatory activity. However leaves of *Vitex negundo* Linn. and *Jatropha curcas* Linn. has not been scientifically investigated for anti-arthritic activity.

- Leaves of *Vitex negundo* Linn. shows Antiseptic, Stimulant, Tonic, Anthelmintic, Astringent, inflammation activity and also used in asthma and acute rheumatism and headache.\(^{(25)}\)

- Leaves of *Jatropha curcas* Linn. Shows Purgative, antiseptic, rubefacient, insecticidal and are used in foul ulcers and tumors. It is successful local remedy for scabies ringworm, rheumatism and headache.\(^{(26)}\)

- Main objective of this study is to prepare a monograph of leaves of *Vitex negundo* and *Jatropha curcas* Linn. that includes following parameters
  - To explore the possibility of using the traditional medicines with proper chemical and pharmacological profiles.
  - To conduct the systematic phytochemical investigation of leaves of *Vitex negundo* and *Jatropha curcas* Linn.
  - To characterize the isolated phytoconstituents qualitatively and quantitatively
  - To perform detailed study of anti-arthritic activity of leaves of *Vitex negundo* and *Jatropha curcas* Linn. using different parameters.