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## Significance of pharmacognostical & phyto-chemical study in the identification of an important Astavarga plant Kakoli – *Roscoea purpurea* Smith

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Ayurveda the 'ancient science of life' is one of the ancient systems of medicine of the world. The vast knowledge of medicinal plants is still not very much significant due to improper written documents. There is a group of 8 plant mentioned in classical text as Astavarga which is considered as the group of some rare plants from the Himalaya, however there is a good deal of uncertainty of the botanical identity of these plant. One of the important plant of this group is Kakoli (*Roscoea purpurea* Smith) of Family Zingiberaceae which is mentioned as an important drug of Astavarga however its botanical identity is controversial and there are several drugs which are sold/ used in the name of Kakoli. This leads to a problematic situation as the drug mentioned in the classics is not used by the manufacturers due to less availability. Therefore an attempt has been made to evaluate the authenticity of the Kakoli (*Roscoea purpurea* Smith) through pharmacognostical, physico-chemical and HPTLC studies. The plant material was collected from the western Himalayan region and the results of the pharmacognostic study revealed the specific organoleptic properties of the plant, presence of some specific cellular/histological characters viz. multiseriate medullary rays, ovoid to ellipsoidal starch grains etc. The phyto-constituents present in the plant were also evaluated by HPTLC.

### Biography

Chinmay Rath has completed his PhD from Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, Dr Rath Attended more than 30 Seminars/Symposium/Work-Shops (National / International), Participated and Organized exhibits in 6 Arogya Melas and published more than 10 articles in reputed journals of both national and international level. Contributed as a contributor/ member of editorial board in several books / monographs of CCRAS. He was also the Member of Core Committee in the successful organization of "First International Day of Yoga" Celebrated on 21 June 2015 at Rajpath.

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