3. Scope of the Present Work

In order to remove the confusion, misidentification and adulteration of medicinal plants, it is important to give the details of anatomy of different parts used, chemical composition and fixing the identity of plant source. A systematic survey of literature reveals that no such pharmacognostic studies have been performed for *Flacourtia indica* (Flacourtiaceae), *Flueggea leucopyrus* (Phyllanthaceae), *Stephania wightii* Dunn. (Menispermaceae), and *Ventilago maderaspatana* Gaertn. (Rhamnaceae). Hence the objective of the present investigation is to perform systematic pharmacognostical determinations such as: Synonym and regional names and distribution, anatomical studies of the fresh root, stem and leaf, fluorescence analyses, total ash, acid–insoluble ash, water–soluble ash and extractive values of *Flacourtia indica* (Flacourtiaceae), *Flueggea leucopyrus* (Phyllanthaceae), *Stephania wightii* Dunn. (Menispermaceae) and *Ventilago maderaspatana* Gaertn. (Rhamnaceae).