(iii) **Kigelia africana** (Lam.) Benth.

(iv) Species of **Passiflora**.

Encyclopaedic profiles of a number of other species are in different stages of preparation.

c. **Booklets**

The following booklets written in Kannada by P. Sathyanarayana Bhat and C. Kameswara Rao were published by the Directorate of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homeopathy, Government of Karnataka.

c) Unani Vaidya, 1993.
g) Maragala Upakara (in Press) Karnataka State Adult Literacy Council, Mysore).

IV. **AYURVEDA**

'**Ayurveda**' consists of two words **Ayu** and **Veda**, meaning in Sanskrit, the science of life. **Ayurveda** deals with the prevention and cure of diseases, promotion of health and longevity.
Ayurveda has eight branches:

a) Kaya chikitsa (general medicine)
b) Shalya (surgery)
c) Shalakya (treatment of diseases of the head, neck including eye, nose and throat)
d) Graha chikitsa (psychotherapy)
e) Damstra chikitsa (toxicology)
f) Balaroga chikitsa (paediatrics)
g) Jara chikitsa (rejuvenation)
h) Vrishya chikitsa (aphrodisiacs)

The universe is considered to be composed of pancha mahabhootas, or five basic elements: prithvi (earth), ap (water), tejo (fire), vayu (air) and akasha (ether).

There are three reference works in Sanskrit used as sources in Ayurveda. They are Charaka Samhita by Charaka, Sushrutha Samhita by Sushrutha and Bhavaprakasha by Bhavamisra. The works of Charaka and Sushrutha are believed to have been written about 300 B.C. and that of Bhavamisra about 1600 A.D.

Bhavamisra has covered Charaka and Sushrutha in addition to his own original observations. The works of both Charaka and Sushrutha were subdivided into sections, subsections and chapters which in turn contain the slokas.

Charaka Samhita contains eight subsections (Sutra Sthana, Nidana Sthana, Sarira Sthana, Vimana, Indriya...
Sthana, Cikitsa Sthana, Siddhi Sthana and Kalpa Sthana) divided into 138 chapters.

Sushrutha Samhita has five sub-sections (Sutra Sthana, Nidana Sthana, Sarira Sthana, Cikitsa Sthana and Uttara Tantra) divided into 152 chapters.

Bhavaprakasha is divided into eight sections (Haritakyadi Varga, Karpuradi Varga, Guducyadi Varga, Pushpa Varga, Vatadi Varga, Amradiphala Varga, Dhanyadiphala Varga and Saka Varga).

All the three works are easily available now. Charaka Samhita with commentary by Chakrapani and edited by Yadavji Trikamji Acharya was issued in Sanskrit from Bombay in 1940. Sushrutha Samhita with commentary by Dalharna and edited by Nrpendranatha Sen Gupta was issued in Sanskrit from Calcutta in 1959. Bhavaprakasha edited by Brahma Shankara Mishra and Rupalal Vaishya was issued in Sanskrit from Varanasi in 1969.

V. HOLISTIC CONCEPT OF INDIAN MEDICINE

The Indian medicine is holistic in concept from three points of view:

a) The action of a drug is uniform throughout the body and not specific to the part of the body which is in disorder. If a woman is suffering from constipation and