**Isolation procedure of endophytes from root stem and leaves of tomato plant**

The plant was washed under tap water as a part of pre-treatment. The roots, stem and leaves were then disinfected by soaking in 1.25% sodium hypochlorite for 2 mins and then in 99.9% ethanol for 1 min. They were rinsed three times with sterile distilled water (SDW) and air-dried on sterile filter papers. 1cm long pieces from each sampled organ were aseptically transferred on Nutrient Agar medium and incubated at 28°C for 48 h. The samples were then successively rinsed three times with sterile distilled water and, dried with sterile paper towels. For sterility check, the sterilized leaf and stem samples were placed on Nutrient agar (NA) plates as well as culturing aliquots of water from the last rinsing onto nutrient broth (NB) and kept in a BOD (Biological oxygen demand) at 28 ± 2°C for 48 hr. The absence of growth indicated absence of any contamination.

 

Fig: Isolation of endophytes from stem and root of tomato plants