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ڈگری کالج سوپور کشمیر

GOVT. DEGREE COLLEGE SOPORE

-----NAAC ACCREDITED GRADE- "A"-----

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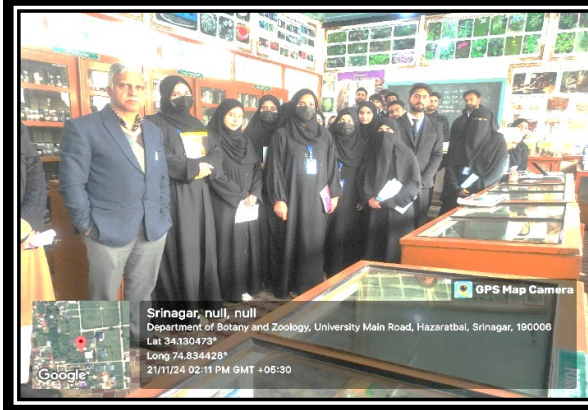


## Educational Tour Report

On 21<sup>st</sup> Nov, 2024, Department of Bioresources, Govt. Degree College Sopore organized an Education cum field trip about **Medicinal and Aromatic herbs** to Department of Botany, University of Kashmir. The tour was joined by about 28 undergraduate students of Major and Minor 5<sup>th</sup> semester. The main objective of the education tour was to aware and sensitize the students about the diversity of Medicinal and Aromatic herbs with major thrust given to native herbs of Kashmir. The tour initiated with introductory lecture delivered by Mr. Akhtar Hussain Malik, curator, centre of Biodiversity and Taxonomy, Department of Botany, KU. In his lecture he gave comprehensive knowledge regarding the importance of plant specimens in the areas of medicinal research and conservation of rare and endangered medicinal plants of Kashmir Himalayas. In addition, he demonstrated the advanced methods of preparation and preservation of plant specimens which involved use of fumigation chamber and usage of chemicals for fixing the specimens and killing their pest infestation. Numerous rare and oldest Kashmiri specimens were preserved in movable compacters belonging from various plant families which were displayed to students like *Saussurea sarca* locally known as Jogi Badshah, *Rupus pupurens*, *Nepetasalviifolia* collected by British botanists at higher altitudes.

Further the students were taken to the field survey in Botanical garden of Kashmir University where they were shown many economically important plants such as *Betula utilis* locally called Burz, *Pinus roxburghii* (chir), *Taxus wallichiana* (Postil). The students were also given field exposure of various native medicinal herbs in Herbal Garden and were demonstrated about their medicinal uses such as *Arnebia benthamii* (Kah Zaban), *Gentiana kurroo* (Nikant), *Valeriana jatamansi* (mushkbala), *Saussurea costus* (Kuth), *Artemisia annua* (Tethwan), *Dioscorea deltoidea* (Kreench), *Atropa acuminata* (mat brand). These herbs have immense use in Kashmiri folklore culture in treatment of various diseases and disorders.

In concluding session of tour, students were warmly received by Dr. Zahoor Ahmed Kaloo, Head Department of Botany, University of Kashmir to Botany museum who demonstrated students about Mushroom specimens and Traditional artefacts made from plants and motivated the students to opt for research on medicinal plants in their future endeavours. The tour ended successfully with many questions raised by students in different



**HOD Bioresources**

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