



GOVERNMENT COLLEGE KARSOG

District Mandi (H.P.)

Department of Botany in Collaboration with Department of Zoology

Public Awareness Lecture on Democratic Nation Building, Environmental Conservation and Sustainable Living

EVENT REPORT

Organised by	Career Counselling Cell, in collaboration with the Department of Botany
Venue	Government College Karsog, District Mandi, Himachal Pradesh
Date	05/10/2026
Attendance	Approximately 150 students
Resource persons	Dr. Ashok Kumar Somal, former Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) and environmentalist Padma Shri Mr. Nek Ram Sharma, the “Beejom Purush” (Seed Man) of Himachal Pradesh
Guest of honour	Mr. Sandeep, Vice President, Gram Panchayat Mamel
Faculty present	Dr. Gulshan Mahajan, Officiating Principal; Dr. Kulbhushan Sharma; Mr. Pankaj Gupta (Zoology); Ms. Sonia Chaudhary (Political Science); Dr. Lomeshwar (Botany)

1. Introduction

The Career Counselling Cell, in collaboration with the Department of Botany, Government College Karsog, organised a public awareness lecture on 05/10/2026 on the themes of democratic nation building, environmental conservation, world peace and social empathy. The lecture was held on the college premises.

Two eminent speakers addressed the gathering: Dr. Ashok Kumar Somal, former Divisional Forest Officer and noted environmentalist, and Padma Shri awardee Mr. Nek Ram Sharma, widely known as the “Beejom Purush” of Himachal Pradesh. Mr. Sandeep, Vice President of Gram Panchayat Mamel, attended as a distinguished guest. Approximately 169 students took part with enthusiasm.

2. Proceedings of the Programme

The programme began with a welcome address by Dr. Kulbhushan Sharma. He greeted the guest speakers, the Officiating Principal, the faculty and the students, and stressed the value of interactive sessions in shaping responsible, environmentally conscious citizens.

Mr. Sandeep then welcomed the guests on behalf of the local community. He emphasised the role of Panchayati Raj institutions and young people in protecting the fragile ecology of the Himalayan region.

3. Lecture by Dr. Ashok Kumar Somal

Trained at the Forest Research Institute (FRI) and in the Himachal Pradesh Forest Service (HPFS); born 1958

Dr. Somal opened by describing his life journey. He chose to leave his government post as DFO voluntarily in order to devote himself to environmental conservation, democratic values and social welfare. He spoke candidly about the hardships of that path and presented his life as an example of conviction and service above self.

Climate change and natural disasters

Dr. Somal voiced deep concern over rising global temperatures and the growing frequency of natural disasters. He cited the Imla and Bimla streams of the Karsog Valley and the Bhakhali Khad of the Seraj Valley, describing the enormous volume of water they carried in the devastating floods of 2025 and the resulting loss of life, property and infrastructure.

Soil conservation and forest loss

He informed the audience that nearly 100 crore (1 billion) trees were lost in the recent floods. He stressed the urgency of soil and water conservation in the geologically sensitive hill regions of Himachal Pradesh.

Plastic waste in wildlife sanctuaries

He drew attention to the alarming plastic waste generated in the Shikari Devi Wildlife Sanctuary by unregulated tourist inflow, and appealed for responsible tourism and proper waste management.

Food quality and public health

Dr. Somal noted the decline in food quality over the years. He warned that falling nutritional value in modern diets could shorten the life expectancy of future generations by as much as one month per year, and urged a return to traditional, wholesome food.

World peace and social empathy

He linked environmental health with world peace, advocating harmony with nature, contentment in simple living and empathy in human relations.

Voters' rights and democratic nation building

He explained voters' rights and responsibilities and encouraged students to take part actively in the democratic process as informed citizens.

4. Lecture by Padma Shri Nek Ram Sharma

Environmentalist from the Nanj region

The second session was delivered by Padma Shri Nek Ram Sharma, who has single-handedly raised and nurtured a forest of nearly 400 acres at Nanj. His address concentrated on the ecological crises facing the hill regions of Himachal Pradesh and on what local communities can do about them.

Forest fires: causes and consequences

He explained the causes and destructive effects of forest fires and stressed that prevention is the collective duty of villagers, students and all stakeholders.

Unscientific development as the root cause

He identified unscientific and haphazard development as the root cause of recurring disasters in the hill tracts of the Seraj and Karsog valleys, including the dumping and disposal of waste in fragile mountain ecosystems.

The Nanj forest model

He shared his personal journey of restoring about 400 acres of forest at Nanj, showing that determined individual and community effort can reverse ecological degradation.

Appeal to students on food and health

He urged students, especially girls, to avoid junk food such as Kurkure and other fast food, and to adopt a traditional, nutritious diet of millets, sprouts, amla and other indigenous foods suited to the Himalayan climate and culture.

Drug abuse awareness

He cautioned students against the company of drug abusers, advised them to choose their companions wisely and called on them to become ambassadors of a drug-free society.

5. Conclusion

The lecture was an enriching experience for the students. It sensitised them to the connected issues of climate change, forest conservation, public health, democratic participation and social responsibility.

The programme ended with a formal vote of thanks to the guest speakers, the Officiating Principal, the faculty members and the students, whose participation made the event a success.

Some Glimpses of the Event



करियर काउंसलिंग सेल एवं वनस्पति विज्ञान विभाग के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में आयोजित हुआ कार्यक्रम



कार्यक्रम में पूर्व मंडलीय वन अधिकारी (DFO) एवं पर्यावरणविद डॉ. अशोक कुमार सोमल तथा पद्माश्री से सम्मानित हिमाचल

कार्यक्रम का शुभारंभ डॉ. कुलभूषण शर्मा के स्वागत संबोधन से हुआ। उन्होंने अतिथियों, प्राचार्य, शिक्षकों एवं विद्यार्थियों का स्वागत करते हुए कहा कि ऐसे संवादात्मक कार्यक्रम युवाओं में जिम्मेदार एवं पर्यावरण के प्रति संवेदनशील नागरिक बनने की भावना

डॉ. अशोक कुमार सोमल ने अपने जीवन अनुभव साझा करते हुए पर्यावरण संरक्षण एवं सामाजिक सेवा के प्रति अपनी प्रतिबद्धता पर प्रकाश डाला। उन्होंने जलवायु परिवर्तन और बढ़ते प्राकृतिक आपदाओं पर चिंता व्यक्त करते हुए 2025 में कस्सोग घाटी की इमला एवं बिमला धाराओं तथा सराज घाटी

डॉ. अशाक कुमार सोलम ने अपने जीवन अनुभव साझा करते हुए पारंपरिक संरक्षण एवं सामाजिक सेवा के प्रति अपने प्रतिबद्धता पर प्रकाश डाला। उन्होंने जलवायु परिवर्तन और बढ़ते प्राकृतिक आपदाओं पर चिन्ता व्यक्त करते हुए 2025 में करसोग घाटी की इमला एवं विलमा धाराओं तथा सराज घाटी की भूखाली खड्ड में आई विनाशकारी बाढ़ का उल्लेख किया। उन्होंने हिमालय जैसे संवेदनशील पर्वतीय क्षेत्रों में मृदा एवं जल संरक्षण तथा वनों की सुरक्षा को अत्यंत आवश्यक बताया। उन्होंने शिकारी कटोरे वन्यजीव अंधारारण्य में बढ़ते एन्ट्रस्टिक कड़े पर चिन्ता जताते हुए जिम्मेदार अर्थपद्धि और उचित कवरा प्रबंधन अपनाने की अपील की। उन्होंने पौष्टिक एवं पारंपरिक भोजन, विश्व शांति, सामाजिक संवेदनशीलता तथा लोकतांत्रिक प्रक्रिया में युवाओं की सक्रिय भागीदारी पर भी विस्तार से विचार रखे और विद्यार्थियों को अपने मताधिकार एवं लोकतांत्रिक जिम्मेदारियों के प्रति जागरूक किया।

श्री शर्मा ने विद्यार्थियों को जंक फूड से बचने तथा मिलेदुस, अंकुरित अनाज, आंवला जैसे स्थानीय पौष्टिक खाद्य पदार्थों को आहार में शामिल करने की सलाह दी। उन्होंने नशे से दूर रहने और नशामुक्त समाज के एम्बेसडर बनने का आह्वान किया।

कार्यक्रम के अंत में धन्यवाद ज्ञापन प्रस्तुत किया गया। व्याख्यान ने विद्यार्थियों को जलवायु परिवर्तन, वन संरक्षण, जनस्वास्थ्य, लोकतांत्रिक सहभागिता और सामाजिक जिम्मेदारी जैसे महत्वपूर्ण विषयों से जोड़ते हुए उन्हें पर्यावरण एवं समाज के प्रति अधिक संवेदनशील बनने के लिए प्रेरित किया। दोनों वक्ताओं के जीवन अनुभव एवं संदेशों विद्यार्थियों के लिए विशेष रूप से प्रेरणादायक रहे।

Arjun
Principal
Govt. College Karsog
Distt. Mandi (H.P.)

Principal

Govt. College Karsog District Mandi (HP)

Dr. Lomeshwar & Mr. Pankaj Gupta
Department of Botany & Zoology
Government College Karsog, District Mandi (H.P.)
Date: 05/10/2026

List of Students participants

	Name of Student	Class	Roll No.	Signature	S.No.	Name of student.	Class	Roll No.	Signature.
1	Apt Sharma	BSC 3rd Year	BSC/24/LSC/1301		1	Sneha Sharma	BA/25/HIND/14	4521	Sneha
2	Jatin Thakur	BSC 2nd Year	BSC/25/LSC/2001		2	Anjali	BSC III year	BSC/24/10C/2503	
3	Shravya	BSC 2nd Year	BSC/25/LSC/2001		3	Nisha	BSC/24/10C/2507		
4	Deepak	BSC 2nd Year	BSC/25/LSC/2004		4	Divya Thakur	BA/26/10C/2507	4104/Eng	Divya
5	MARTIK	BSC 3rd year	BSC/24/LSC/2002		5	Sneha	BA 1st year	BA/26/Eng/4076	Sneha
6	Mukul Thakur	BSC 3rd year	BSC/24/LSC/2003		6	Vanishika Sharma	BA IIInd year	BA/25/ENG/4011	Vanishika
7	Gyabhi	BSC 3rd Year	BSC/24/LSC/2001		7	Kriti Thakur	BA IIInd year	BA/25/ENG/4045	Kriti Thakur
8	Mehar Guloria	"	" 2003		8	Ishita Thakur	BSC IIInd year	BSC/25/LSC/2506	
9	Tyoti	"	" 2510		9	Divya Thakur	BSC IIInd year	BSC/25/LSC/2502	
10	Devyanshu Sharma	"	" 2504		10	Pavul	BSC IIInd year	BSC/25/LSC/2509	
11	Ankita Sharma	BA 2nd Year	BA/25/HIND/5073	Ankita	11	Krishna	BSC IIInd year	BSC/25/LSC/2511	Krishna
12	Minorsh	BA 2nd Year	BA/22/HIND/4041	Minorsh	12	Divya	BSC Ist year	BSC/26/LSC/2011	
13	Himani Thakur	BSC 2nd Year	BSC/25/LSC/2015	Himani	13	Jagriti Sharma	BA/2nd year	BA/25/HIND/4086	Jagriti
14	Shanu Bhatnagar Singh Thakur	BSC 2nd year	BSC/25/LSC/2002		14	Ritika	BA/2nd year	BA/25/HIND/5031	Ritika
15	Purna	BSC 2nd year	BSC/25/LSC/2007		15	Sneha Sharma	BA 1st year	BA/26/Eng/4024	Sneha Sharma
16	Aamchal	BSC 2nd year	BSC/25/LSC/2005		16	Varsha	BA 1st year	BA/26/Eng/4022	Varsha Thakur
17	Cresh Vesuma	BA Ist year	BA/26/Eng/4074		17	Vanishika Thakur	BA Ist year	BA/26/ENG/4060	
18	Mangikumar	BA Ist year	BA/26/Eng/4087		18	Kalpna Thakur	BA Ist year	BA/26/ENG/4012	Kalpna
19	Nikhil Kumar	BA Ist year	BA/26/ENG/4026		19	Sonika Kapoor	BA 2 year	BA/25/ENG/4082	Sonika Kapoor
20	Rahul	BA Ist	4056		20	Sanika Bansal	BA 2 year	BA/25/ENG/4082	
21	Punit	BA 2nd Year	BA/25/Eng/4059		21	Divya Thakur	BA Ist year	BA/26/ENG/4015	
22	Purn Kumar	BA Ist year	BA/26/Eng/4049		22	Sonal Bhargava	BA 2nd year	BA/26/Eng/4045	
23	Kunal	BA Ist year	BA/26/Eng/4049		23	Pallavi Verma	BA Ist year	BA/26/ENG/4044	
24	Thamara Singh	BA Ist year	BA/26/Eng/4046	Thamara Singh	24	Ankita	BA Ist year	BA/26/Eng/4045	
25	Rawat	BA Ist year	BA/26/Eng/4045	Rawat	25	Komal	BA Ist year	BA/26/Eng/4049	
26	Chetan Thakur	BA Ist year	BA/26/Eng/4045		26	Mansi	BA Ist year	BA/26/Eng/4108	Mansi
27	Shubesh	BSC 3rd year	BSC/24/PSC/1507		27	Shagun	BA Ist year	BA/25/ENG/4028	Shagun
28	Mohit Thakur	BA Ist year	BA/26/Eng/4006		28	Shagun	BA Ist year	BA/26/Eng/4038	Shagun
29	Vikram	BSC Ist year	BSC/26/LSC/2005		29	Neelam	BA Ist year	BA/26/Eng/4031	Neelam
30	Malik Thakur	BSC Ist year	BSC/26/LSC/2005		30	Radhika	BA Ist year	BA/26/Eng/4008	Radhika
31	Gitanshu	BSC Ist year	BSC/26/LSC/2003	Gitanshu	31	Shruti Thakur	BA Ist year	BA/26/Eng/4100	
32	Sanit	BA Ist year	BA/26/Eng/4049	Sanit	32				
	Name of Student	Class	Roll No.	Signature		Name of Student	Class	Roll No.	Signature
33	Tameesh Kumar	BSC Ist year	BSC/26/LSC-2005		33	Poojanka	BA Ist year	BA/26/Eng/4074	Poojanka
34	Nitin Thakur	BA 2nd year	BA/25/HIND/5006		34	Savika	BA Ist year	BA/25/Eng/4054	Savika
35	Harkit Thakur	BSC Ist year	BSC/26/LSC-2001		35	Tanuja Thakur	BA Ist year	BA/26/Eng/4066	Tanuja Thakur
36	Vinay Gupta	BSC Ist year	BSC/26/LSC-2010		36	Himanshi	BA Ist year	BA/26/Eng/4032	Himanshi
37	Mukesh Verma	BSC Ist year	BSC/26/LSC-2002		37	Sania	BA Ist year	BA/26/Eng/4051	Sania
38	Kanika	BA Ist year	BA/25/Eng/4051		38	Kareena Kumari	BA 2nd year	BA/25/HIND/4511	Kareena Kumari
39	Devyani	BA Ist year	BA/25/Eng/4051		39	Rahul Thakur	BA 2nd year	BA/25/HIND/4511	Rahul

	Name of Student	Class	Roll No.	Synchr of student
1.	Yamini Kapoor	Bsc 2nd year	Bsc/25/Lsc/2504	Yamini
2.	BHUMIKA THAKUR	Bsc 2nd Year	Bsc/25/Lsc/2516	Bhumika
3.	Yogita Chauhan	Bsc 2nd Year	Bsc/25/Lsc/2010	Yogita
4.	Poonam Thakur	Bsc 2nd year	Bsc/25/Lsc/2503	Poonam
5.	Kaushika Gautam	Bsc 2nd year	Bsc/25/Lsc/1303	Kaushika
6.	Tamanna	Bsc 2nd year	Bsc/25/Lsc/2514	Tamanna
7.	Anshika	Ba 2nd year	Ba/25/Hist/15009	Anshika
8.	Sonika	BA 2nd year	BA/25/Hist/15017	Sonika
9.	Surali	BA 1st year	BA/25/HIND/15023	Surali
10.	Nishu	BA/2nd Year	BA/25/HIST/15048	Nishu
11.	Bhaarti	BSC/2nd Year	BSC/25/LSC/2008	Bhaarti
12.	Pooja	BSC/3rd year	BSC/24/LSC/2012	Pooja
13.	Monisha Thakur	BA 2nd Year	BA/25/ENG/4042	Monisha
14.	Kalpna	BA 1st year	BA/26/Eng/4034	Kalpna
15.	Smriti	BA/1st year	BA/26/Eng/4028	Smriti
16.	Payal	BA/1st year	BA/26/Eng/4035	Payal
17.	Poonam Sharma	BA/1st year	BA/26/Eng/4064	Poonam
18.	Muskan Thakur	BA/1st year	BA/26/Eng/4016	Muskan
19.	Kamana Thakur	BA/1st year	BA/26/Eng/4036	Kamana
20.	Yamini Sharma	BA/1st year	BA/26/Eng/4089	Yamini
21.	Greetakshi	BA/1st year	BA/26/ENG/4068	Greetakshi
22.	Ashta	BA/2nd Year	BA/25/ENG/4029	Ashta
23.	Dhwani	BA/1st Year	BA/26/ENG/4041	Dhwani
(24)	Sheetal Verma	BA 2nd year	BA/25/ENG/4026	Sheetal
25.	Britti	BA 2nd Year	BA/25/ENG/4048	Britti
26.	KHUSHBU	Bsc 1st Year	Bsc/25/Lsc/2508	Khushbu
27.	PREETI SHARMA	BSC 1st Year	Bsc/25/Lsc/2507	Preeti
28.	Anjali	BA 2nd Year	BA/25/HIND/4588	Anjali
29.	Nancy Thakur	BA/1st Year	BA/26/4078	Nancy
30.	Damshree Thakur	BA 1st year	BA/26/ENG/4075	Damshree

31	Jiya Thakur	BA 1st year	BA/26/Eng/4014	Jiya
32	Vanshika Thakur	BA 2nd year	BA/25/ENG/4039	Vanshika
33	Pallvi	BSc 3rd Year	Bsc/24/Lsc/2021	Pallvi
34	Garima	Bsc 3rd Year	Bsc/24/Lsc/2009	Garima

Name of Student	Class	Class Roll No.	Signature	Name of Student	Class	Roll No.	Signature
Ghanskar	3rd Year	BSC/24/PSC/509	<u>Ghanskar</u>	1. Midhi Sharma	BA 2nd year	4562	Midhi Sharma
Ketan Verma	3rd Year	BSC/24/PSC/507	Ketan Verma	2. Anvita Sharma	BA 2nd year	4567	Anvita Sharma
Sakshi Thakur	3rd Year	BSC/24/PSC/508	<u>Sakshi</u>	3. Neha Sharma	BA 2nd year	4569	Neha Sharma
Rushar Kumar	3rd Year	BSC/24/PSC/1002	<u>Rushar</u>	4. Sakshi Negi	BA 2nd year	4033	<u>Sakshi</u>
Lucky	3rd Year	BSC/24/PSC/508	<u>Lucky</u>	5. Samir Thakur	BA 2nd year	4538	<u>Samir</u>
Shruti	2nd Year	BA/25/Soc/7008	<u>Shruti</u>	6. Ronima	BA 2nd year	4536	<u>Ronima</u>
Anchal	2nd Year	BA/25/Soc/7070	<u>Anchal</u>	7. Anrit Sharma	BA 2nd year	4038	<u>Anrit</u>
Shivani	2nd Year	BA/25/Soc/7006	<u>Shivani</u>	8. Priya Sharma	BA 2nd year	4532	<u>Priya</u>
Savitika	2nd Year	BA/25/HIST/5027	<u>Savitika</u>	9. Kuma Kumari	BA 2nd year	4509	<u>Kuma</u>
Varshita	2nd Year	BA/25/MUSK/8507	<u>Varshita</u>	10. Suraksha	BA 2nd year	5002	<u>Suraksha</u>
Anita Thakur	BSC 3rd Year	BSC/24/PSC/508	<u>Anita</u>	11. Shivani	BA 2nd year	7032	<u>Shivani</u>
Supriya Thakur	BSC 3rd Year	BSC/24/PSC/508	<u>Supriya</u>	12. Sapna	BA 2nd year	7020	<u>Sapna</u>
Urvashi Sharma	BA 1st Year	BSC/24/PSC/01	<u>Urvashi</u>	13. Monika	BA 2nd year	5067	<u>Monika</u>
Savika	)	BA/26/ENG/4009	<u>Savika</u>	14. Anshita	BA 2nd year	5080	<u>Anshita</u>
Khushbu	)	) 4011	<u>Khushbu</u>	15. Anshita	BA 2nd year	4581	<u>Anshita</u>
Sakshi	BA 2nd Year	BA/25/Soc/7033	<u>Sakshi</u>	16. Bharu Priya	BSC 3rd year	505	<u>Bharu</u>
Sneha Sharma	BSC-1st sem.	BSC/26/LSC/2501	<u>Sneha</u>	17. Jigyasa	BSC 1st year	2504	<u>Jigyasa</u>
Bhumiika Thakur	BSC-1st sem	BSC/26/LSC/2507	<u>Bhumiika</u>	18. Sakshi	BSC 1st year	1302	<u>Sakshi</u>
Behti	BSC-1st-sem	BSC/26/LSC/2504	<u>Behti</u>	19. Sonu	BSC 1st year	2003	<u>Sonu</u>
Samiksha	BSC-1st-sem	BSC/26/LSC/2502	<u>Samiksha</u>	20. Simran	BA 2nd year	4525	<u>Simran</u>
Sneha	2nd Year	BA/25/HIND/4556	<u>Sneha</u>	21. Samiksha	BA 1st year	4021	<u>Samiksha</u>
Vinda	3rd Year	BSC/24/PSC/03	<u>Vinda</u>	22. Yagita	BA 1st year	4033	<u>Yagita</u>
				23. Neerhi	BA 1st Year	4005	<u>Neerhi</u>
				24. Anika	BA 2nd Year	4595	<u>Anika</u>
				25. Shweta Thakur	BA 2nd Year	4537	<u>Shweta</u>