

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY
GOVERNMENT DEGREE COLLEGE TRAL-192 123

Date: 06-03-2025

Report on
Two Day Herbal Plantation Drive Organized by Department of Botany, GDC Tral w.e.f. 05-06 March, 2025

Herbal gardens function as repositories for vital herbs, facilitating their conservation, besides promoting health and medical tourism. The creation of herbal gardens raises awareness about the local medicinal plants that address common health issues and motivate small and marginal farmers to grow these plants, thereby enhancing their income opportunities. The demand for herbal medicines has significantly increased in both developed and developing nations over the years, primarily due to their lack of side effects and affordability. Consequently, it is imperative to focus on the conservation, cultivation, maintenance, and sustainable utilization of medicinal plants.

Recognizing the significance of medicinal and aromatic plants, The Department of Botany, Govt. Degree College Tral conducted a **Two-Day Herbal Plantation Drive** on March 5-6, 2025, to highlight the importance of medicinal and aromatic plants. This event featured the introduction of various rare and valuable herbal and aromatic species into the college's herbal garden. The primary objective was to enhance the garden's collection, creating a gene bank and providing specimens for educational purposes. The initiative witnessed active participation from both students and faculty members of the college.

During the drive, approximately 300 polybag/open saplings of different herbal/aromatic plant species viz., *Rosemary*, *Lavender*, *Bergenia*, *Picrorhiza*, *Inula*, *Iris*, *Achillea*, *Mentha*, *Santolina*, *Polygonum*, *Ginkgo biloba*, *Beberis* etc. procured from JLN Memorial Botanical Garden, Chashma Shahi Srinagar were planted at different locations in the Herbal Garden. The event was officially launched by the esteemed Principal of the college, **Prof. (Dr.) Mushtaq Ahmad Malik**, who personally planted saplings of Lavender and Rosemary in the College Herbal Garden. The Principal, in his speech, underscored that the main aim of this initiative/drive was to draw attention to the importance of medicinal plants for mankind. He expressed his concerns regarding widespread deforestation and encouraged the students to engage actively in tree-planting efforts especially herbal plants and to raise awareness about this critical issue in their communities.

Earlier, *Dr. Mohd. Rafiq Wani*, Head, Department of Botany, enlightened the students about the importance of herbal plants, the medicinal products derived from them, and the urgent necessity for their conservation and protection. Other faculty members who contributed to the event by planting saplings included Dr. Rafiq Ahmad Khan (HOD Physics), Dr. Shabir Hussain Mirza (HOD English), Prof. Gazi Imtiyaz (HOD Computer Application), Dr. Ferooze Ahmad Rafiqui (HOD Chemistry), Dr. Mohd. Owais Wani (HOD Physical Education Department), Dr.

Samiullah Rather (HOD Kashmiri), Dr. Mehrajud Din Sheikh (HOD Education), Dr. Saduf Nissar (Academic Arrangement, Botany), Dr. Ruquia Gulzar (Academic Arrangement, Botany), Mrs. Yasmeen Jan (Lab. Assistant Botany), Mr. Zahoor Ahmad Naikoo (Lab. Assistant, Zoology) etc. Additionally, numerous students from 4th and 6th semesters (Majoring/minoring in Botany) participated in the initiative, contributing to the planting of saplings in the college Herbal Garden, and demonstrating great enthusiasm and energy. By creating dedicated Herbal Garden, the college is actively contributing towards the conservation and promotion of medicinal plants, which is especially important in today's world where natural remedies are gaining recognition. Such efforts surely inspire awareness about the local medicinal flora and offer a practical avenue for promoting eco-consciousness among the youth. The drive concluded with a vote of thanks presented by *Prof. Waseem Shahri*, Assistant Professor (Botany), who expressed gratitude to all the students and staff for their enthusiastic involvement in the drive, contributing to its success.











Compiled by:

Mohd. Rafiq Wani

Dr. Mohd. Rafiq Wani
Associate Professor/ HOD (Botany)
Govt. Degree College, Tral

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