

Report of Department of Botany (2022-23)



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“Tree Plantation cum Plant Distribution Drive” on 15.8.2022 under the “Bharat Ka Amrit Mahotsav”

Conserving nature for our future generations is dire need of the hour. Committed to the cause of “**Greener and Sustainable Earth**” the Department of Botany & Add on course in Floriculture and Landscaping in association with the UBA cell (Village Buterla Unit), Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Sector 36-A, Chandigarh undertook dual celebration of the annual tree plantation festival of Van Mahotsav and 75th year of India’s independence on 15.8.2022 under the “Bharat Ka Amrit Mahotsav”. A tree Plantation cum Plant Distribution Drive was organized to mark the occasion. The drive commenced with the plantation of saplings by the area councilor Sardar Hardeep Singh Buterla along with the locals and faculty of the college, Dr.Gunjan Sud and Ms.Kajal Loria. Following this, saplings of plants having medicinal and ornamental importance were distributed among the locals. The 200 saplings of Kaner, Chandani(single and double), *Tecoma*, *Cupressus*, *Jatropha*, Palms, Tulsi, Safed Musli, Khus and Mint provided by the Department of Forests and Wildlife, Chandigarh Administration, were planted and distributed on the occasion.



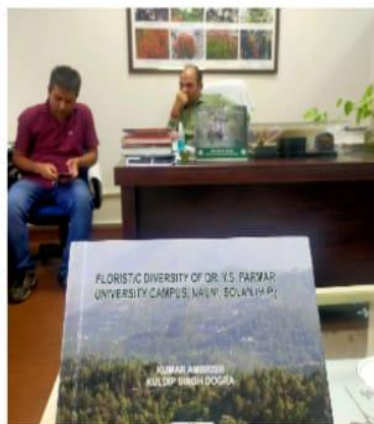
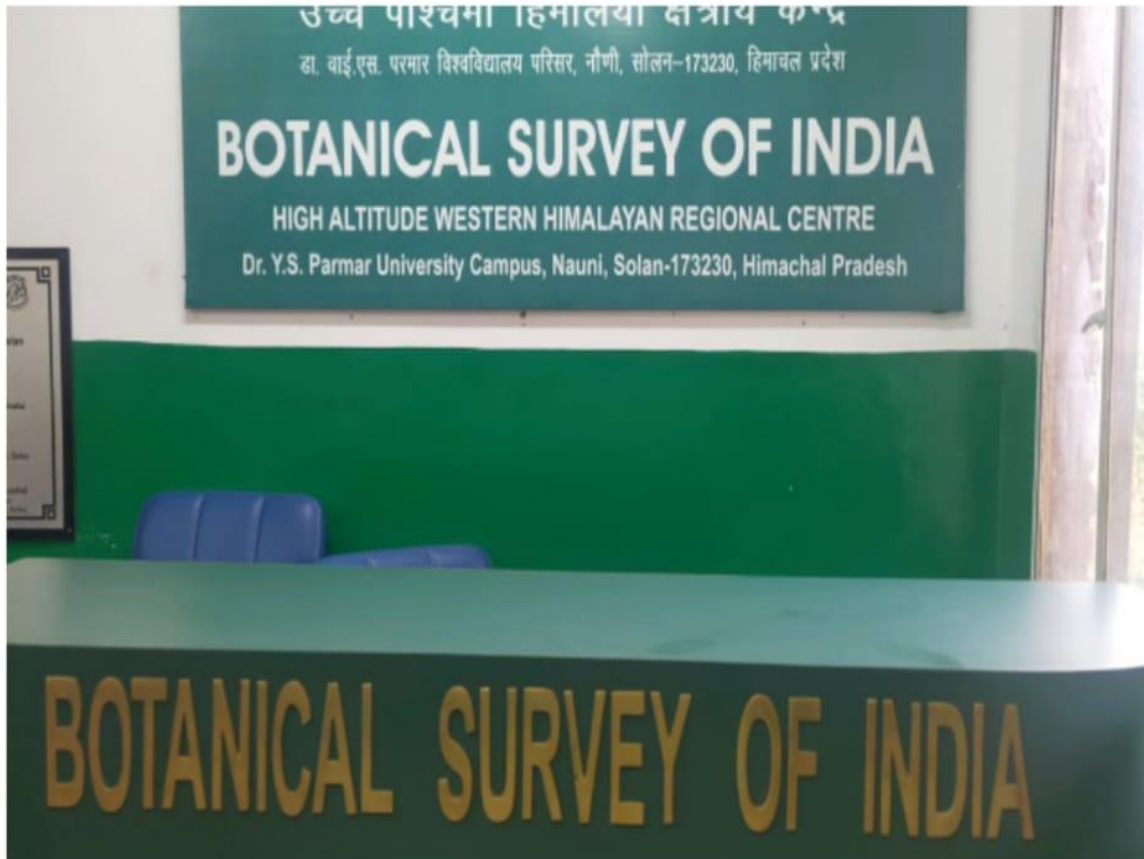


One-day DST sponsored Educational Trip to the “Dr. Yashwant Singh Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry”

A one-day educational trip was organized on 23/09/2022 to the Dr. Yashwant Singh Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry by the Department of Botany and Add on Course in Floriculture and Landscaping, Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Sector 36-A, Chandigarh. The field trip was sponsored by DST and was attended by 34 students of Botany and Add on course in Floriculture and Landscaping along with two faculty members, Dr. Gunjan Sud and Ms. Parool Kaushik. The trip provided an opportunity to the students to learn about wide variety of plants for their research, conservation, display, education and entrepreneurship. We were guided by professors and eminent scientists of the university starting from fields to herbarium of BSI. We began with the farms of Department of Floriculture and Landscaping guided by Dr. RESHMA NEGI. She introduced varieties of outdoor and indoor plants like Snake plant (*Sansevieria trifasciata*), Peace Lily

(*Spathiphyllum*), bamboo plant (*Dracaena braunii*), Ferns (Pteridophytes), Areca palm and varieties of roses, Begonia, Canna, Devil's ivy, snake plant, Hydrangea, Agave, Carnation flower, Chrysanthemum and a lot more and made an amazing lecture about its benefits and it's uses. She explained about different propagating structures, propagating methods and how they grow plants using different propagating methods in these propagating structures (greenhouses). University is having rich varieties of medicinal and herbal plants. They are playing a vital role in everyone's life. These medicinal plants have been a part of our lives since our existence and used for various medicinal purposes since ancient times. Advanced medicines and pills have become such an important part of people lives that Ayurveda seems to have vanished from the picture completely. But Ayurveda contains some medicinal plants and herbs which can effectively treat and cure multiple health problems and can be great for our health. Dr. Sunil Marpha explained the medicinal properties of different plant species and how they made herbal tea using different plants extract. He briefed about the role of forestry in agriculture and also apprised students about medicinal wealth of Himalayan region. After this we got the chance to visit the plantation of fruits and mushroom research laboratory.







One-day Nursery visit by the students of B.Sc. Medical and Add on course in Floriculture and Landscaping on 24th January, 2023

A one-day field trip to the two nurseries, Dr. Green nursery and Dashmesh Nursery, Chandigarh was organized by the Department of Botany and Add on Course in Floriculture and Landscaping, Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Sector 36-A, Chandigarh on 24th January, 2023. The field trip was attended by 19 students of B.Sc. Medical and Add on course in Floriculture and Landscaping along with two faculty members, Dr. Gunjan Sud and Dr. Ruby Singh. The students were enlightened on the various aspects of Nursery establishment starting from the infrastructure and manpower required, to the selection of ornamentals for indoor and outdoor purposes, different methods used for plant propagation on a large scale for commercial purposes, their protection and final plantation in bags and pots for sale by Dr. Satish Narula of Dr. Green Nursery.





**Report on “A Nature’s Walk” organized on 31.01.2023 by the Department
Of Botany to mark the celebration of National Wildlife Week**

On 31st January 2023, Department of Botany and Add on course in Floriculture and Landscaping of Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women Sector 36A, Chandigarh organized “A Nature’s walk” to the Nepli Forest reserve which is a protected area located in the outskirts of Chandigarh. 25 students were accompanied by the two faculty members, Dr Gunjan Sud and Ms. Parool Kaushik along with one lab attendant Mr. Shubham Gulati and one gardener. Under the guidance of Dr. Gunjan Sud the students were introduced with the rich flora. The nature walk was conducted with an objective of introducing them to the concept of protected areas along with familiarizing them with the different plant groups growing in their natural habitats. Along with this, geotagged images of some plant species were also captured by students. The entire event was conducted following proper norms under the guidance of faculties of the department.





One-day Plant Excursion cum Educational Trip to the Kasauli Hills was organized by the Department of Botany and Add-on Course in Floriculture and Landscaping, Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Sector 36-A, Chandigarh

A one-day Plant Excursion cum educational trip was organized on 01/03/2023 to the Kasauli Hills by the Department of Botany and Add on Course in Floriculture and Landscaping, Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Sector 36-A, Chandigarh, under the aegis of Vigyan Manch. The field trip was attended by 51 students of Botany alongwith two faculty members, Dr. Gunjan Sud and Dr. Jasleen Kaur and one Lab Assistant, Mr. Shubham Gulati. The trip provided an opportunity to the students to learn about the different flora pertaining to the Plant Kingdom. The students came to know about the different plant groups like Lichens, Mosses, Ferns, Gymnosperms, and angiosperms. As the hills have abundant biodiversity, the students were able to see the plants in their natural habitat. The trip provided an opportunity to the students to learn about different groups of plants and their role in the ecosystem. The main objective was to make the students aware of the fact as to how the biodiversity of the hills is important for the proper maintenance of equilibrium and balance of the Himalayan ecosystem. The students gained first-hand experience about the hill flora and also gained knowledge about the numerous varieties of plant species suitable to the hills.



THE DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY AND ADD ON COURSE IN FLORICULTURE AND LANDSCAPING UNDER THE AEGIS OF MCM ECO CLUB 'PARIVESH' SHOWCASED A SHORT FILM ON FORESTS ENTITLED "OUR PLANET BY NETFLIX" ON THE OCCASION OF WORLD FORESTRY DAY

Activity Report: Humanity today faces numerous global challenges. These include the COVID-19 pandemic and related economic hardships, international conflicts, food insecurity, poverty, climate change, land degradation, water pollution, and biodiversity loss. The world is now looking for solutions that are cost-effective, equitable, and can be easily implemented. Forests contribute significantly to addressing many of the challenges mentioned above. Forests have the ability to combat climate change and provide a range of ecosystem services that could support livelihoods for communities. Committed to the theme of 'Forests and Health' the Department of Botany, and Add-on course in Floriculture and Landscaping under aegis of MCM Eco Club 'Parivesh' of Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Sector 36-A, Chandigarh celebrated the World Forestry Day on 21st March, 2023. The theme of this year is "Forests and Health' and a short film was showcased to students of B.Sc Med entitled "Our Planet" by Netflix to celebrate this occasion. The main aim of this year's theme is to make people realize that healthy forests will bring healthy people.







Capacity Building Programme

Date: 28.3.2023

Co-ordinators: Dr. Gunjan Sud and Dr. Ruby Singh

Number of Participants: 105

Department of Botany, Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Chandigarh has organized “**Capacity building programme**” in Environment Education Program under Mission LiFE- Lifestyle for Environment with Punjab State Council for Science & Technology as the State Nodal Agency and Ministry of Environment & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) as the catalysing and supporting agency, under the aegis of MCM Eco Club “Parivesh”. The theme of the event was “**Forests: Blueprint of a Healthy and sustainable future**”. In the first session the lecture was delivered by the resource person Dr. Rohit Sharma, Scientist, Department of Forest Products, Dr. Y. S. Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Nauni, Solan on the topic “Role of Natural Products in Drug Discovery”. He apprised us on how the processing of plant based drugs take place from the beginning which starts with the basic research to trials including pre-clinical testing phase I,II,III, clinical trials FDA approvals and then final launch of the products in the market. The second lecture of the session was delivered by Dr. Pancy, Scientist, Department of Forest Products, Dr. Y. S. Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Nauni, Solan on Non Timber Forest Products (NTFP). She talked about the different categories of NTFP’s of plant origin and their role in providing livelihood to millions of people and elevating the economic prosperity and sustainability of the country. Among them their potential use in the field of medicines, nutraceuticals, phyto-chemicals, aroma therapy, herbal teas, fixed oils edible products, tannins, gums, dyes, raisins etc. is notable.



Online Interactive session on 'Air purifying plants' by MCM Eco-Club 'Parivesh'

Date: 21st May 2023

Number of Participants: 25 students and 04 teachers

The Eco Club 'Parivesh', in collaboration with the Department of Botany and under the aegis of Swachhta Committee (Sciences), organized an online awareness session on air purifying plants. During the session, the resource person Dr. Purnima Bhandari, Assistant Professor, Department of Botany at the college, apprised the audience about the concept of air purifying plants and the benefits that they render in combating air pollution. She urged them to plant air purifying plants such as Areca palm, Money plant, *Aloe vera*, *Sansevieria* etc. in their homes for sustainable living.

