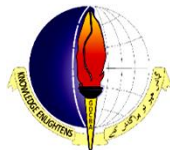


Date: 10TH June, 2023**GOVT. DEGREE COLLEGE ANANTNAG****ONE DAY OUTREACH PROGRAMME OF ECO CLUB****DATE: 10TH JUNE, 2023****VENUE: SHATTABAL****PATRON: Prof. Muzafar Ahmad Bhat, Principal, GDC Anantnag.****PROGRAMME COORDINATORS:**

- Mr. Bahar Ahmad Mir (Convener, Eco Club)
- DR. UMMER RASHID ZARGAR (Co-convener, Eco Club)
- Mr. Altaf Hussain Mir (Co-convener, Eco Club)

Expert Panel of Eco Club:

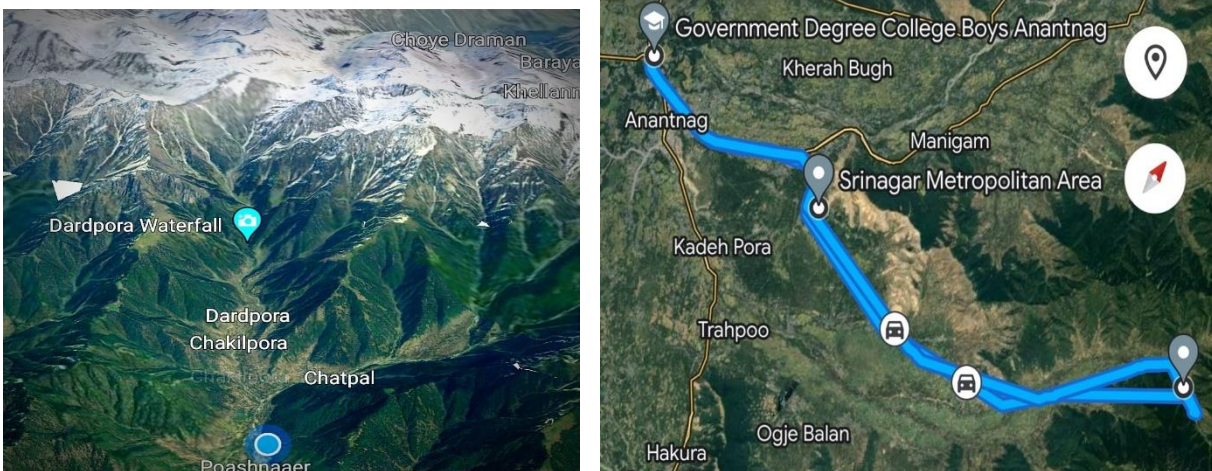
- Dr. Shabeer Ahmad Wani (Zoology)
- Ms. Naik Yasira (EVS)
- Dr. Aadil Hameed (EVS)
- Dr. Naveen Hakhoo (Geology)
- Mr. Mir Khusrua (Botany)
- Dr. Zahoor Ahmad Wani (Botany)
- Dr. Bilal Ahmad Wani (Seed Technology)

ORGANIZED BY:**ECO CLUB, GOVT. DEGREE COLLEGE ANANTNAG****REPORT**

About Adopted Forest Area: The forest area of Chattabal in the Chitergul-Shangus region is only 32 kilometres from the district of Anantnag and 20 kilometres from the well-known Mughal Garden of Achabal, which is nestled in the Pir Panjal mountain range. Chattabal is a picturesque out-of-the-way location where the Chattabal river meanders through an open valley and snow-capped peaks rise at the valley's conclusion. Fern, willow, and chestnut give the hillside near the riverbank a light green tint, while pines in the upper reaches impart a darker hue. Carry a picnic and consume it next to the murmuring river.

Reason for selection for this forest area: Previously, Chattabal was regarded as a pristine natural area with minimal human interference; however, it has recently been reported that this location has become a tourist and local hotspot, putting a tremendous strain on the surrounding environment. Eco Club, Govt. Degree College has initiated an environmental rehabilitation programme for this area in an effort to protect this picturesque tourist destination from anthropogenic pressures.

Map of Area:



(Map Courtesy: Google Map; Retrieved by: Dr. Naveen Hakhoo, HOD Deptt. of Geology)

Detailed Report:

The ‘Anti-Plastic Drive’ and ‘Biodiversity Awareness Campaign’ at Shattabal (adopted forest reserve) kickstarted from the Principal park at 9:00 a.m. on **10th June, 2023**. The primary objective of this programme was to conduct a "Anti-Plastic Drive" in the forest reserve and to educate students, locals, and tourists about the significance of this initiative. Additionally, flora and fauna will be collected and displayed on the college campus the following day to demonstrate the significance of biodiversity conservation. The participating team comprised of experts from various departments of Science Stream, Environmental Sciences, Geography, Botany, Geology and Seed Technology. Each expert was given his/her role as per his/her field of experience in order to make this environmental awareness-cum-outreach programme more effective and holistic. In addition, biodiversity,

geographical, botanical, zoological and geological surveys were also conducted and same were demonstrated to the students.

Anti-Plastic Campaign at Shatabal Tourism Park

The main highlight of this environmental outreach programme was to conduct campaign against plastic wastage. After making general among the eco club members, Shatabal Tourism Park and nearby car parking area was selected. The selection was made on basis of fact that students of various schools as well as local tourists will be sensitised with the grave concern of plastic pollution. To make it more collaborative and mass campaign, students from various schools were asked to participate in the campaign after taking permission from their heads. The convener Eco-Club, Prof. Bahar Mir kickstarted this campaign and took leading role during the course of this activity. This campaign continued for an hour, and all plastic wastage was dumped as per official protocol. At the end of the anti-plastic drive, an interactive session was conducted in which eco-club members (faculty) highlighted the importance of campaign against plastic. Prof. Naik Yasira gave the brief idea about current concern about plastic pollution, and different ways by which plastic menace can be avoided from accumulating inside our important ecosystems. Dr. Ummer Rashid highlighted the need for collaboration and cooperation to eradicate the menace of plastic pollution and sought for positive thinking in order to make 'Anti Plastic Drive' more effective and successful. At the conclusion of this campaign, 04 young campaigners are felicitated with cash prizes (Rs 200 each) as mark of appreciation and to motivate other younger generation to start this campaign at their backyard.

Biodiversity Awareness Campaign

In addition to anti-plastic drive, biodiversity awareness campaign was also conducted. Dr. Shabeer Ahmad Wani interacted with students to highlight the importance of insect biodiversity and the effect of plastic pollution on the life cycle of insects. Furthermore, he showed them the methodology for the collection of insects in the field. Prof. Mir Kusrau, Prof. Bahar Mir, Dr. Zahoor Wani and Dr. Bilal

Ahmad Wani interacted with students regarding importance of plant biodiversity in the current environmental deterioration. In addition, they highlighted the importance of taxonomical tools for the elucidation of taxonomic status of rare plants. Furthermore, they demonstrated the identification method for medicinal plants.

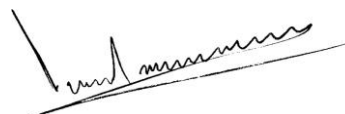
Interactive Geographical and Geological Session:

A separate Geographical and Geological Session was conducted by Prof. Altaf Hussain Mir (HOD Geography) and Dr. Naveen Hakhoo (HOD Geology) to acquaint students different geological and geographical aspects of Shatabal forest conservation reserve. The experts demonstrated different methods of identification of fossil impressions on rocks and ancient monuments that are importance for unravelling the ancient geological and geographical past of our earth. Furthermore, students were given made aware about the importance of geography and geology in current environmental crisis and use of these field for the conservation and rehabilitation of our precious environment.

The One Day Outreach programme of Eco Club concluded with the pledge that all efforts and resources will be used to safeguard and conserve our precious forest/tourist areas.

Key Take Aways from this programme:-

- Sensitization of general public about the impact of plastic pollution on forest and wild life
- General awareness about various conservation strategies currently adopted for the conservation of wild flora and fauna
- Role of community and individual approach for the safeguarding of forest cover
- Role of integrative approach at instructional level for successful implementation of conservation strategy
- Educating youth about methods for protecting our protective areas



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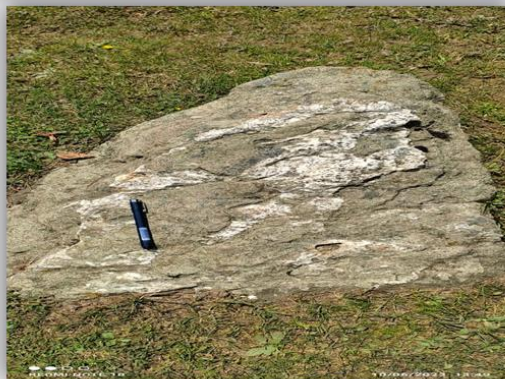
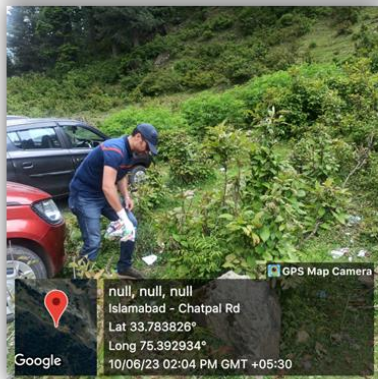


Students' members of Eco Club busy in Anti-Plastic Drive



Snapshots of Anti Plastic Drive in the Shatabal Forest Reserve

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Snapshots of Geological and Geographical Analysis of Rocks in the Shatabal area

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