SHMM, GDC, ANANTNAG, J AND K, INDIA

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY • FIELD STUDY RECORD

Field-Cum-Ecological Sensitisation Tour

Pahalgam, Jammu & Kashmir • Students Accompanied by Faculty and Staff

1. Institutional Context & Tour Overview

The Department of Zoology at **SHMM, GDC, Anantnag, J and K, India** organised an academic field-cum-ecological sensitisation tour to Pahalgam, Jammu & Kashmir, for students accompanied by faculty mentors and staff members. Designed as an experiential extension of classroom zoology and environmental studies, the excursion focused on high-altitude biodiversity, alpine plant communities, montane terrain ecology, and riparian river systems.

2. Field Record Plate I — Orientation, Habitat Survey & Alpine Study

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Full Delegation: Students and accompanying staff members gathered during the ecological orientation session at Pahalgam.



Habitat Survey: Field observation session with faculty mentor against the mountain terrain.



Alpine Ecosystem Study: Tour participants observing montane forest biodiversity along the transit route.

> **Ecological Tour Highlight:** A practical field and ecological sensitisation tour designed to acquaint students with high-altitude biodiversity, alpine flora and fauna habitats, and real-time environmental conservation challenges in the Pahalgam region.

Plate I (Field Study Record — Sheet 1): Top: *Full Delegation* of students and accompanying staff gathered during the ecological orientation session at Pahalgam. Bottom Left: *Habitat Survey* field observation session with faculty mentor against the mountain terrain. Bottom Right: *Alpine Ecosystem Study* observing montane forest biodiversity along the transit route.

3. Structured Record of Field Sessions

Field Session	Ecological Focus & Student Engagement
Full Delegation Orientation	Assembly of students and accompanying staff at Pahalgam for briefing on field methodology, biodiversity documentation, and environmental ethics.
Habitat Survey	Faculty-guided survey of open montane terrain to examine slope microhabitats, ground cover, and high-altitude ecological conditions.
Alpine Ecosystem Study	Observation of coniferous and montane forest biodiversity along the transit corridor, highlighting altitudinal vegetation patterns.
Flora Identification	On-site examination of native mountain shrubs and hillside foliage, discussing morphological adaptations to rugged alpine slopes.
Rugged Terrain Transect	Guided walk along rocky trails and sparse pine slopes toward snow-dusted ridges to observe habitat transitions across elevation.
Interactive Discussion	Group academic briefing in a grassy clearing where faculty mentors reviewed field observations and ecological notes with students.
Riverside Observation	Assessment of the fast-flowing, boulder-strewn mountain river corridor and pine-lined riparian banks to study aquatic and stream-edge habitats.

4. Field Record Plate II — Flora, Terrain Transect & Riparian Observation

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Full Delegation: Students and accompanying staff members gathered during the ecological orientation session at Pahalgam.



Flora Identification: Students and faculty gathered around a small mountain shrub on a rugged, dry hillside, with someone pointing out features of the foliage. In the background, forested slopes under an overrsagt.



Rugged Terrain: A candid group shot of several students and mentors walking along a dirt trail with rocky outcrops and sparse pine trees, carrying notebooks and bags. In the background, majestic, partially snowslndss.



Interactive Discussion: A candid group discussion on a grassy clearing, with students in traditional and casual attire, some wearing headscarves, and male faculty members holding papers, gesturing while explaining something.



Riverside Observation: Tour participants standing near a rocky, rushing mountain river (Lidder River style) with pine-covered hills in the background, observing the aquatic and riparian environment. Some are taking photos, while others are listening to a mentor.

> **Ecological Insights:** Documenting the diverse flora and fauna of high-altitude habitats to understand environmental conservation and natural resource management in the region.

Department of Zoology — Tour Album & Field Report

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Plate II (Field Study Record — Sheet 2): Middle Left: *Flora Identification* around a mountain shrub on a rugged hillside. Middle Right: *Rugged Terrain* transect along a dirt trail with rocky outcrops and snow-covered peaks. Bottom Left: *Interactive Discussion* on a grassy clearing with faculty mentors. Bottom Right: *Riverside Observation* near the rocky mountain river and riparian pine forest.

> **Ecological Tour Highlight & Insights:** A practical field and ecological sensitisation tour by the Department of Zoology, SHMM, GDC, Anantnag, J and K, India, acquainting students with high-altitude biodiversity, alpine flora and fauna habitats, and real-time environmental conservation and natural resource management challenges in the Pahalgam region.