

BOTANICAL STUDY TOUR REPORT

Of

(Gulmarg Biosphere Reserve)

Conducted for 5th semester on 04th July,

2022

Submitted to

PRINCIPAL

Prepared by

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

GOVERNMENT DEGREE COLLEGE BEERWAH



Introduction:

Botanical tour to **Gulmarg Biosphere Reserve** was carried out on **04th July, 2022**, for which students of **B.Sc. 5TH semester** were selected for the collection of plant material related to their syllabus. In this tour 30 students participated which were accompanied by 2 teaching and one non-teaching faculty members. The transportation facility provided by the College management included one college bus along with driver and conductor; and one non-college vehicle for the facilitation of students.

On the above captioned date both the buses alongwith the students and faculty members departed the college at sharp 9:00 a.m. The students were given first short break at Tangmarg for just 15 minutes. We reached our actual destination (Gulmarg Biosphere Reserve) at 11:30 a.m. and all the students were classified into different groups and clear cut instructions were disseminated for the further programme. During this entire one day trip, students were given a lunch break of just 45 minutes carried out at children's park Gulmarg. Just after the lunch break, students alongwith the faculty members moved for



the collection to upper reaches of the Gulmarg Biosphere Reserve where important plant species were collected, identified, photographed and finally brought them to the concerned laboratory for future use/reference.

After the completion of collection work in time, the entire team left the Gulmarg Biosphere Reserve at 6:00 p.m. and reached the college at 7:30 p.m. safely.

2. Objective of the Tour

The overall objective of the Botanical tour was to enhance learning capacity of the students in the field of taxonomy.

Specific objectives of the tour:

1. Study of stratification
2. To study the habit and habitat of the plants with special reference to algae, bryophytes, pteridophytes and gymnosperms.
3. Study of biodiversity.
4. To explore the field of medicinal and aromatic plants.
5. Collection of relevant plant material
6. Preparation of herbarium.

3. Results:

Various plant species like *Achillea millefolium*, *Forsythia*, *Symbocus*, *Primula*, *Digitalis*, *Alyssum*, male and female cones of *Pinus*, rare fungal species, lichens and algae were collected.

After the collection of certain plant species, demonstration was given to students by the associated teachers. All the students actively participated in the collection programme.

Some algal species were also collected from the running waters for the further use in the laboratory.

Botanical nomenclature, morphology, vegetative and reproductive structures were shown to students. Material was collected for herbarium preparation as well for which entire details were noted down by the students.

Important moss *Marchantia* was collected from the field and the moss has great importance as for its utility in the Botany lab is concerned.

Lichens found on the bark of *Pinus* were identified by Botany faculty members and our faculty members gave full demonstration to students about morphology, growth pattern, colour and distribution patterns of the lichens.

Conclusion:

It was a successful study tour conducted by the Department of Botany after **COVID 19**. All the participants cooperated at each and every corner and it proved to be a beneficial tour because some rare and important plant species were collected and preserved for future use/reference.

Acknowledgement:

The Department of Botany is highly thankful to the Worthy **Principal Dr. (Prof.) FAHMEEDA BANO** who not only sanctioned but encouraged the Department for the tour as well. The tour was conducted for students to develop love for nature and their subject and among this whole exercise all the participants were active throughout the day and students were especially highly impressed by all the facilities and instructions provided to them by the concerned officials.