

### گورنمنٹ ڈ گری کالج بیروه کشمیر



#### OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT DEGREE COLLEGE BEERWAH, KASHMIR

NAAC ACCREDITED GRADE - "B"

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Official site: www.gdcbeerwah.edu.in

NO.GDCB/25/

DATE: / /2025

Department of Environmental Science, GDC Beerwah & Range Office Beerwah, J&K Forest Department Organise Day Long Workshop on Forest Fire Mitigation and Management

Date: 19-02-2025

Venue: Government Degree College (GDC) Beerwah

Day long workshop on Forest Fire Mitigation and Management was successfully conducted at GDC Beerwah in collaboration with the Range Office Beerwah, J&K Forest Department today on 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2025. The NSS, NCC and National Green Corps units of GDC Beerwah collaborated in the conduct of the workshop. The event aimed to raise awareness about the increasing threat of forest fires, their ecological and socio-economic impacts, and effective strategies for prevention and control. The workshop brought together experts, faculty members, students, and forest department officials. Guests of honour on the occasion were Deputy Director Forest Protection Force Tangmarg Mr. Shabir Ahmad Sheikh and Assistant Director Fire and Emergency Beerwah Mr. Tawseef Hussain Dar.

The workshop commenced with a welcome address by the Principal GDC Beerwah, Prof. Tabasum Lone who emphasized the urgent need for community participation and scientific approaches in tackling forest fires. Dr. Qazi Ashiq Hussain, Head Department of Environmental Science GDC Beerwah, introduced to the audience the concept of forest fires and its ecological and environmental implications. The Key note address was given by Mr. Sofi Farhan Mearaj, Range Officer Beerwah, who highlighted the challenges faced by the J&K region due to increasing forest



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fires and stressed the role of the Forest Department in addressing this issue. He explained the different facets of forest fires and their mitigation and management.

Experts discussed the natural and anthropogenic causes of forest fires and their impact on biodiversity, air quality, and climate change. A session was dedicated to modern satellite-based monitoring, fire detection sensors, and community-based fire-fighting approaches. Emphasis was placed on capacity building, awareness campaigns, and traditional fire management practices.

A live hands on demonstration on fire prevention and control measures was conducted by the Fire Service Department officials in the afternoon session. Participants were shown the use of fire beaters, controlled burning techniques, and first-response actions in case of a forest fire emergency. This was followed by a practical session on first aid and medical emergency response demonstration by the professionals from medical department.

The workshop concluded with a panel discussion where experts and participants deliberated on actionable recommendations, including:

- Strengthening early warning and rapid response systems.
- Promoting eco-friendly practices to prevent human-induced fires.
- Enhancing collaboration between local communities, educational institutions, and forest authorities.
- Organizing regular training programs and awareness drives at grassroots levels.



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Vote of thanks was presented by Prof. Bashir Ahmad, Head Department of Water Management GDC Beerwah. He thanked the students, faculty, forest department officials, professionals from Fire Service Department and medical department and the local people for participation in the workshop and for making it a fruitful and successful event.

Dr. Qazi Ashiq Hussain

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HoD

Department of Environmental Science

Principal prof. Tabasum Lone