

GDC Khaltse, in Collaboration with Forest Office Khaltse, Celebrates Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas

On the occasion of Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas, GDC Khaltse, in collaboration with the Office of the Range Officer, Forest Department, Khaltse, organized an insightful interactive session on the theme "Significance of Juniper (Shukpa) in the Tribal Ethos of Ladakh" today on 15th November 2025.

The event commenced with detailed presentation by Mr. Irfan Ahmad from Forest Department, Khaltse. He elaborated on the deep-rooted cultural, spiritual, and ecological importance of Shukpa (Juniper) in Ladakhi tribal society. Highlighting the Forest Department's ongoing efforts, he discussed advancements in seed germination research and conservation initiatives aimed at protecting this sacred high-altitude species. Mr. Irfan also talked about critical issues, including the legal framework governing Juniper, the dangers of illegal harvesting, and measures to curb black marketing—practices that threaten both biodiversity and traditional heritage.

The presentation was followed by a lively question-and-answer session, with enthusiastic participation from students and faculty, fostering meaningful dialogue on sustainability and cultural preservation. The program concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Mr. Wangchuk Dorjay, Assistant Professor of Commerce, expressing gratitude to the Forest Department, participants, and organizers for their collective commitment to tribal pride.



