

## **Students of Government Degree College Zanskar Visit KVK Zanskar for a Brief Training on Button Mushroom Cultivation**

Zanskar, September 04, 2026: The students of Government Degree College (GDC) Zanskar visited Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Zanskar for an educational and practical training session on button mushroom cultivation, with the objective of providing students with hands-on exposure to modern agricultural practices, particularly in the field of mushroom production.

The visit was organized under the supervision of Dr. Amjad Ali Abassi, Principal, Government Degree College Zanskar, and was coordinated by Dr. Sabir Hussain, Assistant Professor, Department of Botany, GDC Zanskar. The training session was conducted by Dr. Mehdi, Chief Scientist, KVK Zanskar, who provided the students with a comprehensive introduction to the principles, techniques, and practical aspects of button mushroom cultivation.

During the training, Dr. Mehdi explained in detail the various stages involved in mushroom production, beginning with the preparation and management of compost, followed by spawning, casing, crop management, and other essential operations associated with successful mushroom cultivation. The session was designed to combine theoretical knowledge with practical demonstrations, enabling the students to gain a clear understanding of the complete mushroom production cycle.

Particular emphasis was laid on the importance of maintaining appropriate environmental and hygienic conditions for successful mushroom cultivation. The students were also acquainted with the basic requirements of mushroom production and the significance of scientific management practices in achieving better yield and quality. The hands-on component of the training allowed the students to observe the techniques closely and gain practical knowledge that can complement their academic learning in Botany and related disciplines. Dr Mehdi also encouraged the students to explore agriculture and allied activities as potential avenues for entrepreneurship, self-employment, and sustainable livelihood generation, particularly in the unique agro-climatic conditions of the Zanskar region.

As part of the visit, the students also toured the greenhouses and other production units at KVK Zanskar. They were given an opportunity to observe various vegetable production activities and learn about protected cultivation and other improved agricultural practices being undertaken at the centre.

At the conclusion of the training session, Dr. Sabir Hussain, Assistant Professor, Department of Botany, GDC Zanskar, expressed his gratitude to Dr. Mehdi, Chief Scientist, KVK Zanskar, for conducting the informative and fruitful training programme. He appreciated the efforts of Dr Mehdi and KVK Zanskar in providing students with meaningful practical exposure and emphasized the importance of strengthening academic and institutional interactions between educational institutions and agricultural research and extension centres.

He further stated that such field-based learning experiences are highly beneficial for students as they provide an opportunity to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and its practical application.

