

Government Degree College Drass Team Wins National Recognition at ZSI Hackathon 2026



Drass, June 30, 2026: Government Degree College Drass has brought laurels to Ladakh by securing Second Position at the National Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) Hackathon 2026, held in Kolkata on June 29.

The team from the Department of Zoology, led by Dr. Javed M Iqbal, along with Dr. Talib Hussain and student Mudassir Hussain, impressed the jury with their innovative project, "Traditional Knowledge for

Biodiversity Conservation." The team also received the Second Best Presenter Award and received a cash prize of INR 75000.

Their project demonstrated how citizen science, digital technology and traditional knowledge can be integrated to empower local communities in biodiversity conservation.

The award ceremony was graced by Hon'ble Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, Shri Bhupender Yadav, as the Chief Guest. He felicitated the winners and appreciated the innovative efforts.

The competition witnessed participation from across India, with 360 teams applying, 190 teams qualifying for the regional rounds, 16 teams reaching the national semi-finals and only five teams competing in the Grand Finale.

Final Results:

1st Position: Marine Biology Research Centre, Tamil Nadu

2nd Position: Government Degree College Drass, Ladakh

3rd Position: Western Ghat Regional Centre, Kozhikode, Kerala

The team expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Administrative Secretary Higher Education, Principal, faculty members, staff and students of Government Degree College Drass for their constant guidance, encouragement and support.