



**Office of The Principal  
Government Degree College Tangmarg  
Baramulla, Kashmir  
NAAC Accredited**



**REPORT ON ONE WEEK WORKSHOP**

**Organized by:** College of Temperate Sericulture, Mirgund SKUAST, Kashmir in collaboration with Government Degree College Tangmarg

**Date:** 09-12-2024 To 14-12-2024

**Venue:** Government Degree College Tangmarg

**Sponsored By:** Ministry of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises, Govt. of India

**Introduction:**

A one-week workshop was organized by the College of Temperate Sericulture, Mirgund, in collaboration with Government Degree College Tangmarg, starting on 9th December 2024. The goal of the workshop was to empower students with entrepreneurial and managerial skills, focusing on sericulture and other allied ventures. This initiative aimed at financially empowering unemployed educated youth, enabling them to establish sustainable livelihoods. The workshop included expert sessions from resource persons across various fields. In addition to sericulture, the workshop also covered sectors such as apiculture, aquaculture, mushroom farming, and vermicomposting setups, which offer viable livelihood opportunities with low monetary investment.

**Objectives of workshop.**

- 1. Educating Participants on Entrepreneurial Development:**  
To provide participants with comprehensive knowledge on entrepreneurial practices across various sectors, enabling them to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities.
- 2. Enhancing Skill Knowledge in Sericulture and Other Fields:**  
To enhance participants' understanding and practical skills in sericulture and other relevant industries, fostering employment and entrepreneurship.
- 3. Awareness of Government Schemes for New Ventures:**  
To raise awareness among students about government schemes and initiatives supporting new enterprises, particularly those in emerging sectors.
- 4. Promoting Practical Training in Silkworm Rearing and Silk Production:**  
To offer hands-on training and practical experience in the different stages of silkworm rearing and silk production, ensuring a deep understanding of the process.
- 5. Supporting Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Livelihood Options:**  
To encourage the development of entrepreneurial ventures and skill-building programs that can serve as long-term, sustainable livelihood options for participants.

## Day-Wise Summary:

### Day 1:

The workshop commenced with an inaugural ceremony, graced by several distinguished guests, including the Principal of the college, Prof. (Dr.) Irfan-ul-Majid; Dr. Farooq Ahmad Baqal, Professor and Head of the H.P.P. Department at SKUAST, Mirgund; Dr. Sabiha Ashraf, Assistant Professor in the Department of Sericulture at SKUAST, Mirgund; and all the esteemed faculty members of the college.



The proceedings of the inaugural session were smoothly conducted by Prof. Summera Shafi, who elaborated on the primary objective and vision of the one-week workshop. In her address, she emphasized the significance of skill development for students.

The Principal, Prof. (Dr.) Irfan-ul-Majid, extended a warm welcome to all the guests and underscored the critical importance of equipping students with practical skills, which are essential for their holistic growth and success.

The keynote speaker, Dr. Farooq Ahmad Baqal, elaborated on the theme of student empowerment, stressing the need for young learners to develop various skills that would make them self-reliant and self-sufficient in today's competitive world.

The inaugural session concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Sabiha Ashraf, who expressed her gratitude to all attendees and speakers for their participation and valuable insights.

The morning session was led by Dr. Shabana Arjumand once again, where she took a deeper dive into the practical aspects of fish farming and fisheries-related enterprises. She discussed key strategies to establish sustainable fish farming setups and how students could utilize available resources to create successful business models in this sector. Dr. Shabana also emphasized the importance of innovation in the fish and fisheries industry, encouraging students to think outside the box for creating new products and services that could meet market demands.

Following this, she shared a video of a local entrepreneur who had successfully established businesses in this field. The entrepreneur shared her experiences, challenges, and lessons learned along the way. She spoke about the significance of resilience, risk-taking, and adaptability, which are essential qualities for anyone starting a business.

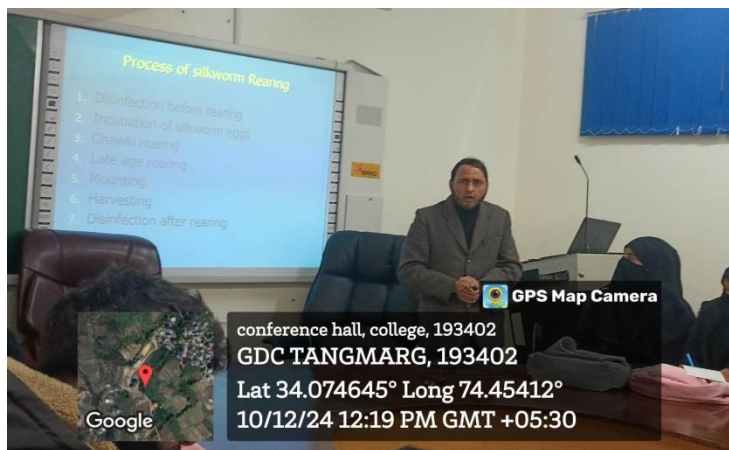
The afternoon session was conducted by Dr. Farooq Ahmad Baqal, who expanded on the concept of business enterprises. He focused on the different types of enterprises, the processes involved in setting them up, and the importance of business planning. Dr. Farooq also provided insight into the financial aspects of entrepreneurship, including sourcing funds, managing capital, and understanding market



trends. He concluded with a motivational talk on how students can begin thinking about their own ventures, no matter how small, and gradually scale them up into successful businesses.

The second day concluded with an interactive Q&A session, where students posed questions to the speakers and entrepreneurs, further clarifying their doubts and gaining insights into real-world entrepreneurial practices.

The workshop's theme of fostering entrepreneurship continued to inspire students to take actionable steps toward building their careers and businesses.



## Day 2:

The second day of the workshop began with an insightful session by Dr. Farhat Qadri on the topic of **cocoon crop production**. Dr. Qadri, an expert in sericulture, provided an in-depth discussion about the key factors involved in producing high-quality cocoon crops. He explained the complete process of silkworm rearing, including the various stages of their lifecycle, and how these are directly linked to the quality of the silk produced.

Dr. Qadri briefed the students about the essential steps in the sericulture process, starting from the cultivation of **mulberry trees** to feed the silkworms, to the rearing of the silkworms themselves. He also explained how the cocoons are harvested and then processed to extract silk. The discussion covered the biological aspects of



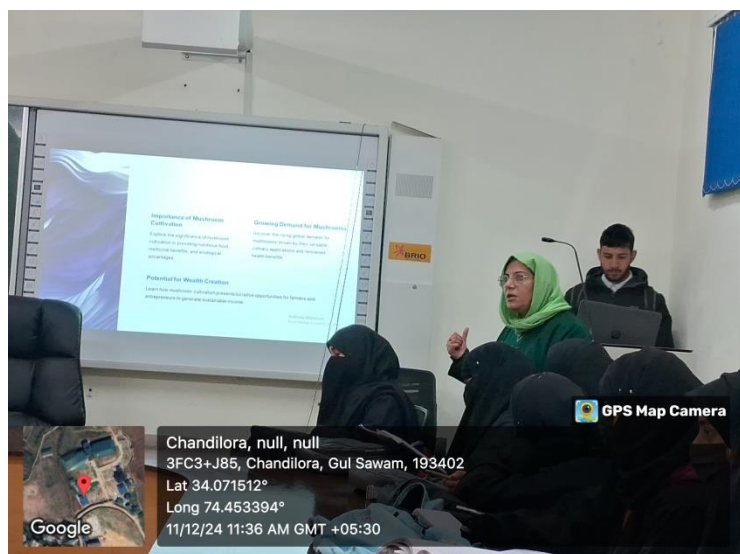


silkworm development and the role of proper environmental conditions in ensuring the health and productivity of the silkworms.

One of the key points of Dr. Qadri's session was the **economic potential of sericulture** as a sustainable and profitable venture. He highlighted how sericulture, as a business, has significant potential, especially in rural areas of Jammu and Kashmir. With the right resources and knowledge, students could explore this as a means of livelihood, given its low investment and high return potential. The session provided students with the skills and knowledge to establish and manage sericulture enterprises, from starting small-scale operations to expanding into larger businesses.

By the end of the session, participants had a better understanding of how to set up their own sericulture ventures, with insights into practical approaches, challenges, and the market potential for silk production in the region. This session was especially crucial as it underscored the opportunities in sericulture, which is an often-overlooked but promising industry in the region.

After this the second session was followed up by the session of a successful entrepreneur Mr. Gowhar Ali Lone. Mr Gowhar Ali Lone is a successful entrepreneur in Mushroom Cultivation. He shared his personal journey of turning mushroom cultivation into a thriving business. Practical advice on financing, scaling, and branding a mushroom farming business was invaluable to participants. Mr. Gowhar Ali discussed about the most common mushroom variety cultivated in Kashmir ie; White Butter Mushroom. He discussed about the whole process involved in mushroom cultivation from substrate preparation to harvesting of the fruit. As this session was delivered by a successful entrepreneur it was more effective and attractive because his story of mushroom cultivation from starting to successful business was attention drawing. His story of a successful entrepreneur was quite a good example for all the participants so as to become a job provider not to be a job seeker. This was the last session of second day of workshop and by the end of this session the participants gets insights on how to establish and run a Mushroom cultivation venture.



### Day 3:

The third day of the workshop commenced with a session led by Dr. Suzana Bashir, an expert in mushroom cultivation, who previously managed a mushroom unit at Government Degree College Sopore. Building on the knowledge shared in the last session, Dr. Bashir delved deeper into the importance of mushroom cultivation and its growing potential in the agricultural business.

She began by emphasizing the significant role mushroom farming can play in agriculture and how it is becoming an increasingly viable business



opportunity. Dr. Bashir then discussed the different types of mushrooms that can be cultivated on a commercial scale and highlighted various methods of cultivation, along with their nutritional benefits.

In addition to mushroom cultivation, Dr. Bashir also explored other entrepreneurial opportunities. She shared the process of converting waste products like leaves, cow dung, and other organic materials into valuable organic manure through the action of earthworms. This process, known as vermiculture, was explained as a sustainable business idea. Furthermore, she introduced the concept of a cottage industry and its potential for students to start a side business while pursuing their education.

By the end of the session, all participants gained a clear understanding of how they could establish their own mushroom cultivation setups. They were introduced to the requirements, processes, and the potential for earning a livelihood through this venture. The session was regarded as one of the best delivered thus far, with students feeling equipped with the knowledge to pursue mushroom farming as both an educational and entrepreneurial opportunity.



In the second session of the day, Dr. Imteyaz Ahmad presented an insightful lecture on *apiculture* and its economic potential. His presentation offered a thorough exploration of the beekeeping industry, covering the fundamentals of the practice, such as hive management, bee biology, and the process of honey production. The lecture effectively balanced theoretical concepts with practical applications, giving participants a well-rounded understanding of the subject.

Dr. Ahmad also highlighted common challenges faced by beekeepers, including pest management, disease control, seasonal considerations, and other operational difficulties. He used diagrams and slides to enhance the participants' comprehension of the topic.

An inspiring example was shared during the lecture: Mrs. Sania Zehra, a 20-year-old entrepreneur from Kashmir, who successfully manages a beekeeping business that generates a monthly income of 2 lakh rupees from the sale of organic honey. This example served as a motivational case for participants, demonstrating how beekeeping could be a lucrative livelihood option.

By the end of the session, attendees were equipped with the basic knowledge, skills, and insights required to start their own beekeeping ventures and explore the economic opportunities within the field.

#### **Day 4:**

The fourth day of the workshop began with a session led by Dr. Sumeera Shafi, focusing on the topic "Vermicomposting - An Easy Opportunity for Earning." Dr. Shafi provided an in-depth discussion on the concept of vermicomposting and outlined the various steps involved in the process. She elaborated on how to set up and manage composting systems, converting waste into valuable resources. Dr. Shafi emphasized that vermicomposting is not only environmentally friendly but also economically viable, offering farmers an opportunity to generate extra income by selling high-quality compost.

She also highlighted the significant benefits of vermicomposting, such as reducing organic waste and enhancing soil health. According to Dr. Shafi, it



plays a crucial role in organic farming and sustainable agriculture practices, contributing to a greener and more sustainable future.

Dr. Ifat Bashir, during her session on "Entrepreneurial Opportunities in Sericulture," elaborated on several business opportunities in the sericulture industry. She emphasized how sericulture, which involves the cultivation of silkworms for silk production, offers multiple avenues for entrepreneurship and economic growth. Some key business opportunities she discussed include:

1. Multiplication of improved mulberry cultivars.
2. Establishment of private seed production centers.
3. Establishment of chawki rearing centers.
4. Cocoon production.
5. Silk reeling. Etc.
6. Dr. Ifat Bashir also discussed a range of innovative strategies to enhance the sericulture industry during the second session on the fourth day of the workshop. Among the key topics was **mulberry intercropping**, a method that allows farmers to increase their income by growing additional crops alongside mulberry trees. This practice not only improves the sustainability of sericulture farming but also diversifies income streams for farmers.

Furthermore, Dr. Bashir elaborated on the concept of **transforming the "trash" of the sericulture sector into treasure**. This refers to utilizing by-products and waste materials from sericulture (such as discarded silkworms and damaged cocoons) to create valuable products, thereby reducing waste while adding value to the industry.

Dr. Bashir also highlighted various **other products of the sericulture industry** beyond silk. These included **cocoon crafts**, which are intricately crafted items made from silkworm cocoons, as well as **value-added products** such as **silk-berry beauty soap** and other beauty products derived from silk proteins and mulberry leaves. These innovative products provide opportunities for sericulture stakeholders to tap into niche markets, further boosting the economic potential of the industry.

This concluded the second session of the fourth day of the workshop, leaving participants with a deeper understanding of the multifaceted opportunities within the sericulture sector.

The Morning session of the day, led by Dr. Farooq Ahmad Baqal, focused on the topic of *Mulberry Tree Rearing*. This session was a natural follow-up to the earlier one on *Silkworm Rearing*, as mulberry trees are a crucial part of the sericulture industry, serving as the primary food source for silkworms.

Dr. Baqal began by outlining the ideal conditions for growing mulberry trees. He emphasized the importance of soil quality, climate, and proper cultivation practices for ensuring optimal tree growth. According to Dr. Baqal, mulberry trees thrive in well-drained soil, with an ideal proportion of sand, clay, and organic matter at 7:2:1. He also highlighted that mulberry trees require full sunlight to grow properly.

Beyond the agricultural aspects, Dr. Baqal also discussed the various benefits of mulberry trees and their products. He educated the participants about the medicinal value of mulberry products, such as the leaves, fruits, and even the bark, which are known for their health benefits. This added a broader perspective to the session, illustrating how mulberry trees contribute not just to the sericulture industry but also to other sectors such as medicine.

Overall, the session was informative, providing a comprehensive understanding of mulberry tree rearing, which is essential for both sericulture practitioners and anyone interested in sustainable agriculture and the multi-faceted uses of the mulberry tree.

The afternoon session was conducted by Prof. Insha Siraj, Assistant Professor, department of English, GDC Tangmarg. She talked on soft skills in entrepreneurship. Soft skills are critical to the success of any entrepreneur, as they enable effective interaction with others, problem-solving, and navigating challenges in a dynamic business environment. By mastering these soft skills, entrepreneurs can better navigate the



complex landscape of business, build meaningful relationships, and effectively manage their ventures toward success.

## Day 5

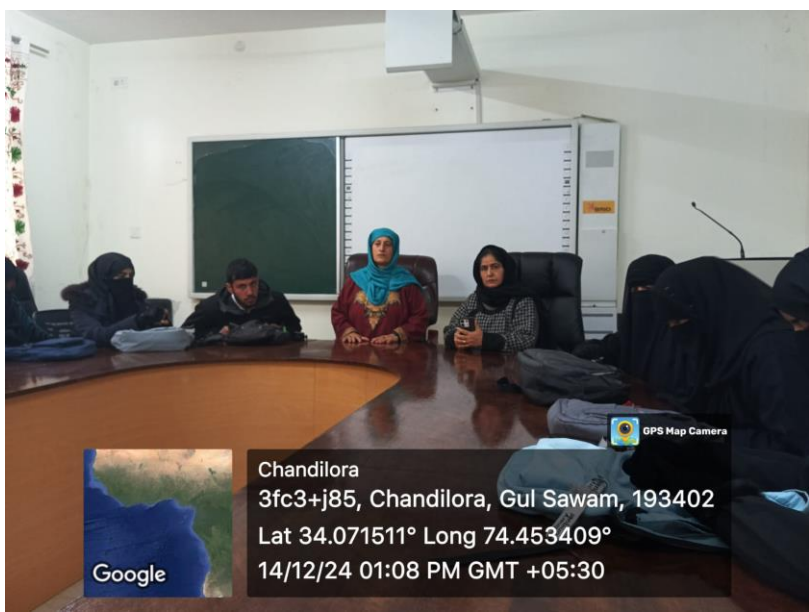
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## Day 6

The morning session was led by Dr. Khalida Hassan, Associate Professor at GCW Pulwama. During her presentation, Dr. Hassan focused on aquaculture skills, providing an in-depth overview of various techniques and practices essential to the field. She effectively introduced the students to key skills related to aquaculture, offering valuable insights that would help them understand the importance and applications of these skills in the industry.

The afternoon session was led by Dr. Hameeda, an Associate Professor of Physics at GDC Tangmarg. During her presentation, she emphasized the critical role of communication skills in the success of businesses. Dr. Hameeda highlighted how effective communication is the foundation of all business operations and growth. She also discussed the integration of technology and artificial intelligence in modernizing startups, providing insights into how these tools can enhance business efficiency and innovation. Furthermore, she stressed the importance of utilizing online platforms, social media, and YouTube as powerful tools for expanding business reach and engaging with audiences.



The valedictory session was filled with dynamic discussions, where participants shared valuable insights and feedback, reflecting the positive impact of the workshop. Overall, the event proved to be an enriching experience, equipping attendees with both the knowledge and inspiration needed to pursue entrepreneurial ventures in Jammu and Kashmir. The workshop's well-rounded approach successfully blended theoretical concepts with practical strategies, offering actionable takeaways from each session. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the organizers and resource persons for their commitment, time, and expertise in making the program both comprehensive and impactful.

Principal

Coordinator  
NSS