

HOLY CROSS COLLEGE, AGARTALA

Report on Plantation Drive

Organized By
Department of Botany

Date: 06th & 16th January, 2025

Department of Botany, Holy Cross College, Agartala organized a plantation drive on 6th and 16th of January, 2025. This initiative was led by 1st semester Botany (Major) students. The drive aimed to promote environmental awareness and enhance the green cover within the college premises, especially in the Botanical Garden of the college.

Objectives of the Drive:

- To enrich the College's Botanical Garden with a variety of plant species.
- To provide students with practical exposure to plant handling and ecological responsibility.
- To raise awareness about plant conservation and the role of green spaces in sustainable development.

Activities Conducted:

The plantation drive was conducted in two phases, i.e., on 6th and 16th of January, 2025.

On 06th January, 2025, the plantation drive was formally inaugurated by the faculty members of the Department. Students were introduced to the layout and purpose of the Botanical Garden and were guided through proper planting and care techniques. Saplings of various species—ranging from medicinal plants to ornamental and native trees—were planted in selected sections of the garden.

The follow-up session on 16th January, 2025 focused on the care and maintenance of the newly planted saplings. Activities included mulching, watering, labeling and general upkeep. Students were also briefed on the importance of plant documentation and routine monitoring.

Many saplings and tubers, including native and medicinal plant species, some seasonal flowering plants were planted with the Botanical Garden area of the college campus. Types of saplings planted are- *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis*, *Bryophyllum pinnatum*, *Ocimum tenuiflorum*, *Calotropis procera*, *Plumeria alba*, *Morinda citrifolia*, *Justicia gendarussa*, *Tinospora cordifolia*, *Zingiber zerumbet*, *Centella asiatica*, *Tagetes erecta*, *Andrographis paniculata*, *Terminalia bellirica* etc.



Picture: Plantation by the 1st Semester Botany (Major) Students.

Student Involvement:

First Semester Botany Major students (Total 16 students) actively took part in all stages of the drive—from preparation of the planting beds to the final placement and care of the saplings. The activity fostered a sense of teamwork, responsibility and environmental stewardship among the students.

Outcomes and Impact:

- Over 15 saplings were successfully planted, labeled and documented.
- The Botanical Garden received an enrichment of plant diversity, supporting academic and ecological purposes.
- Students gained hands-on experience in botanical garden management and plant care.

The Plantation Drive inside the Botanical Garden of Holy Cross College was a fruitful initiative that combined education with ecological action. It provided the students with valuable field experience and contributed positively to the conservation goals of the Department of Botany. The initiative not only contributed to the environment but also provided practical learning experiences. The Botany Department aims to continue such activities in the future to promote sustainable practices.

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