

One-Day Educational Tour Report

Visit to National Fish Seed Farm, Manasbal (Kashmir)

A one-day educational tour was organized by department of Zoology, GDC Sumbal on 21-04-2026 for UG 8th semester to the National Fish Seed Farm Manasbal, situated near the picturesque Manasbal Lake. The visit was aimed at providing students with practical exposure to fish breeding, hatchery operations, and aquaculture management practices.

Such educational tours bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and field-based learning, enabling students to better understand real-world applications of zoology and fisheries science.

Address by the Head of Department

At the commencement of the visit, the Head of the Department of Zoology, Dr. Nikhat Nabi, addressed the students and highlighted the importance of educational tours in enhancing practical knowledge.

She encouraged students to actively observe the functioning of the National Fish Seed Farm Manasbal and to make the most of this opportunity by interacting with experts. She emphasized that such field visits play a crucial role in understanding aquaculture techniques and bridging the gap between classroom learning and real-life applications.

She also advised students to maintain discipline, ask questions freely, and develop a scientific attitude during the visit.

Objectives of the Visit

- To study fish seed production techniques
- To understand hatchery and pond management
- To observe scientific aquaculture practices
- To gain awareness about fisheries as a career option
- To interact with experts in the field

About the National Fish Seed Farm, Manasbal

The National Fish Seed Farm, Manasbal is one of the most important fisheries establishments in Kashmir. It plays a crucial role in the production and supply of fish seed, particularly Indian major carps, across the Kashmir Valley.

The farm is equipped with:

- Modern hatchery systems
- Well-maintained nursery and rearing ponds
- Fish feed production facilities
- Training and research units

It significantly contributes to enhancing fish production, supporting fish farmers, and promoting sustainable aquaculture in the region.

Briefing and Interaction at the Farm

At the farm, students were warmly received and guided by Fisheries Inspector Dr. Abrar Ahmad, who provided a detailed briefing about the functioning of the farm.

He explained:

- Brood stock management
- Artificial breeding techniques
- Hatchery operations and seed rearing
- Role of fisheries in economic development

During the visit, **Dr. Bilal Ahmad Bhat** and **Dr. Kousar Jan** also addressed the students.

They briefed the students about the learning objectives of the visit, emphasizing the importance of observing each unit of the National Fish Seed Farm Manasbal in a systematic manner. They guided students to take notes, actively participate in discussions, and relate field observations with their academic curriculum.

Principal's Interaction

A special highlight of the visit was the interaction of the Principal, Dr. Shabeena Iqbal Shawl, with the students at the farm. She actively engaged with students, encouraging them to ask questions and take keen interest in practical learning.

She emphasized:

- The importance of field exposure in higher education
- The relevance of fisheries and aquaculture in employment generation
- The need for students to explore scientific research and innovation

Her interaction was motivating and added significant value to the overall learning experience.

Activities Observed During the Visit

1. Hatchery Operations

Students observed:

- Selection and handling of brood fish
- Induced breeding techniques
- Egg fertilization and incubation
- Hatching process and larval stages

2 Fish Seed Production

The farm produces large quantities of fish seed which are:

- Supplied to fish farmers
- Used for stocking lakes and reservoirs

3 Pond Management

Different categories of ponds were visited:

- Nursery ponds for fry
- Rearing ponds for fingerlings
- Stocking ponds for mature fish

Students learned about:

- Feeding schedules
- Water quality parameters
- Disease prevention and control

4 Fish Feed Plant

The fish feed unit demonstrated:

- Preparation of nutritionally balanced feed
- Importance of feed in fish growth and productivity
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The visit proved highly beneficial as students:

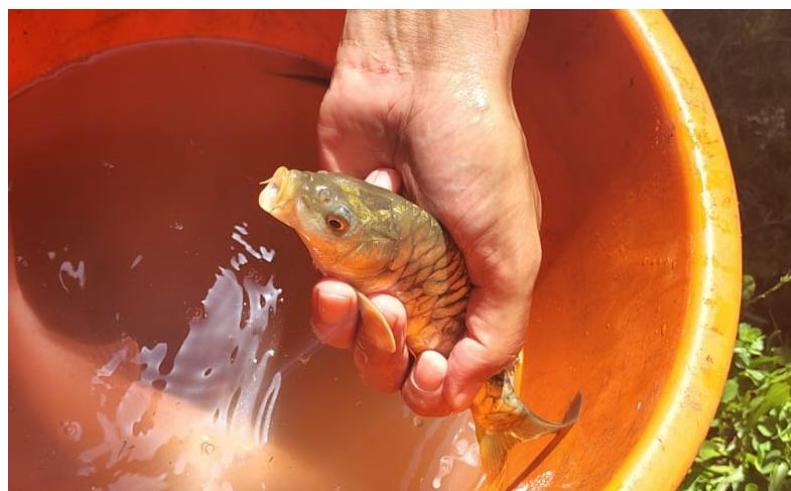
- Gained practical insight into aquaculture practices
- Understood fish breeding and hatchery management
- Learned about modern fisheries techniques
- Developed awareness about career opportunities in fisheries

The one-day educational tour to the National Fish Seed Farm, Manasbal was an enriching and informative experience. It provided valuable exposure to real-world fisheries operations and enhanced students' academic understanding. The interaction with experts and faculty made the visit both educational and inspiring.

Acknowledgement

We express our sincere gratitude to the staff of the National Fish Seed Farm, Manasbal, especially Dr. Abrar Ahmad, for their guidance and support. We are highly thankful to our esteemed Principal, Dr. Shabeena Iqbal Shawl, for her encouragement and active interaction with students during the visit.





Sd/-
Head, Zoology