

## OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL GOVT. DEGREE COLLEGE NOWSHERA (RAJOURI J&K) NAAC Accredited B+

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## Press Release

## Students of GDC Nowshera trained in the art of Bonsai preparation

Bonsai is a general term used for all the miniature trees that are grown in pots/containers. A bonsai can be created from any perennial woody-stemmed tree or shrub species. Making a bonsai is an art that requires specific training. With an aim to train the college students in this art, Department of Botany, GDC Nowshera organized a training session for the students. The technique was demonstrated in detail by Prof. Pooja Devi, HoD Botany with the co-operation of Dr. Gowhar Ahmed Shapoo, Lecturer in Botany.

The technique of bonsai preparation was practically demonstrated using the rooted cuttings of five different plants viz., Rose, Kalanchoe, Hibiscus, Jade plant and Bougainvillea. These cuttings were earlier planted in sandy soil which showed rooting within 25-30 days. A special type of soil mix containing Gravel, Sand, Garden soil and Compost in the ratio 2:1:1:1 was filled in pots and the rooted cuttings, called the bonsai material, were planted in erect or slanting position. If a mature plant is used as bonsai material, the longer roots need to be trimmed off before potting. The bonsai pots were then kept in indirect sunlight and regular watering/manuring is done for better growth. The bonsai may be shaped in various styles like upright, slanting, windblown etc. using wires. Regular pruning should be done so that the bonsai attains the characteristic bushy appearance. Repotting (shifting the plants to new pots) should be done after 2-3 years.

This training session shall prove fruitful for the students as bonsai making is considered a profitable business now-a-days. Dr. K.K. Sharma, Principal of the college appreciated the faculty of Botany for organizing this informative session for the college students. He motivated the students to practise this art so as that they can earn while learning.

