Department of *Environmental Sciences*

GOVERNMENT DEGREE COLLEGE PAMPORE

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Post-Event Summary Report

FIELD VISIT TO MANSBAL LAKE

02nd November, 2026

Summary

The Department of Environmental Sciences, Government Degree College Pampore, organised an educational field visit to Mansbal Lake on 02nd November 2026, followed by a visit to the Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), Hazratbal, Srinagar. The visit was organised with the objective of providing students with practical exposure to lake ecosystems, their ecological dynamics, aquatic biodiversity, water-quality assessment and the role of wastewater treatment in protecting freshwater resources.











The field visit to Mansbal Lake provided students with an opportunity to observe a natural freshwater ecosystem and understand its functioning beyond the theoretical concepts discussed in the classroom. During the visit, Dr. Jehangir Mohd. Reshi, Lecturer, Department of Environmental Sciences, and Dr. Syed Zulfiqar Ahmad Andrabi, Lecturer, Department of Environmental Sciences, deliberated on various aspects of lake dynamics. They acquainted students with the ecological characteristics of the lake and explained the significance of its physical, chemical and biological components in maintaining ecosystem balance. The discussions also helped students understand the interactions among water, sediments, aquatic vegetation and other components of the lake ecosystem.

An important component of the field exercise was the collection of water samples from the lake for subsequent laboratory analysis in the Department of Environmental Sciences. Students were introduced to the practical aspects of water sampling and the importance of collecting representative samples for assessing water quality. The samples collected during the visit were intended for further laboratory testing, enabling students to relate field observations with analytical results and develop a better understanding of the physicochemical characteristics of freshwater bodies.

Students also collected the available aquatic macrophytes from the lake. This exercise provided first-hand exposure to the aquatic vegetation present in the ecosystem and highlighted the ecological significance of macrophytes in freshwater environments. The activity offered students an opportunity to observe and collect biological material for further academic examination, thereby strengthening their practical understanding of aquatic ecology.

On the return journey, the students visited the Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), Hazratbal, Srinagar. The visit offered valuable insight into the functioning of a wastewater treatment facility and its significance in

environmental protection. Students were acquainted with the working of the treatment plant and the processes involved in treating sewage before its discharge. Particular emphasis was laid on the role of the STP in reducing the pollution load entering Dal Lake and protecting its water quality and ecological integrity. The visit helped students appreciate the importance of wastewater treatment infrastructure in managing urban pollution and conserving sensitive aquatic ecosystems.



The field visit was an enriching academic experience, combining field-based ecological observations, sample collection and practical exposure to wastewater management. It enabled students to connect classroom learning with real-world environmental situations and appreciate the importance of scientific monitoring and appropriate management interventions for the conservation of freshwater ecosystems. The visit to Mansbal Lake and STP Hazratbal collectively reinforced the significance of practical environmental education and the need to protect Kashmir's valuable aquatic resources through informed and sustainable practices.

Head