

MOSAIC

e-newsletter

VOLUME-I (1)



GOVERNMENT DEGREE COLLEGE KANDAGHAT, DISTT. SOLAN

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Readers,

It gives me immense pleasure to introduce the inaugural edition of our college's e-newsletter, a significant step towards fostering communication, sharing achievements, and celebrating the vibrant academic and cultural life of Government Degree College, Kandaghat.

This e-newsletter is more than just a publication; it is a window into the dynamic environment of our institution, showcasing the dedication and hard work of our students, faculty, and staff. Through this platform, we aim to highlight the academic excellence, co-curricular engagements, and innovative initiatives that define the ethos of our college. The launch of this e-newsletter also marks a pivotal moment in our journey toward digital empowerment. It aligns with our commitment to embracing technology to enhance educational experiences and create a sustainable, eco-friendly campus.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the editorial team for their tireless efforts in bringing this vision to life. Their dedication and creativity have been instrumental in making this endeavour a reality.

As we step into the future, let this e-newsletter serve as a source of inspiration, a medium for dialogue, and a reflection of our shared aspirations. I encourage everyone to contribute actively to its growth and success.

Wishing you all a prosperous New Year 2025!

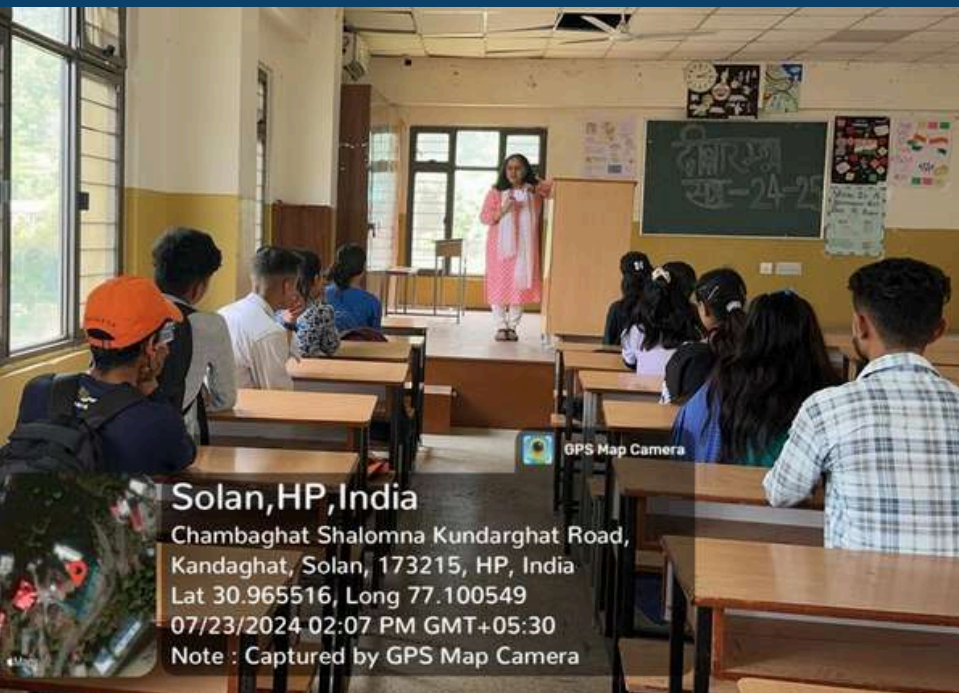
Warm regards,
Dr. Madan Lal Mankotia
Principal
Government Degree College, Kandaghat

INITIATION

Orientation helps students start college on the right foot, learn about college life and culture, and transition from school. It's also about preparing students for campus life and getting them started. Students meet the principal, staff, peers, and seniors and learn about the college's academic, infrastructural, and co-curricular life.



By this annual tradition, an Orientation Programme, "**Deeksharambh**", was organised for students admitted to various faculties for the academic session 2024-25 at GDC Kandaghat, Solan on 22/07/2024. During the programme, the teachers welcomed the students and provided information about the syllabus, internal assessment criteria and annual examination. Additionally, they informed the students about various co-curricular activities available in the college, such as sports, clubs, societies, scholarships, etc.



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A Special Library orientation programme was organised for the new entrants in all the college streams to make them aware of how to access and use the library resources and services effectively. The students were also informed about the rules and regulations of the college library. This program was a part of user education regarding library services and their dos & don'ts.

Principal address for BA, BCom, and BSc induction program. College freshman year began on August 12, 2024. The Principal greeted new students and detailed the session's activities and programs. The Principal advised pupils to collaborate with college professionals. She advised students to use college to develop their personalities and wished them a pleasant college experience.



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The newly appointed Principal of G.D.C Kandaghat, **Dr Madan Lal Mankotia**, addressed the staff and students of the college and shared his vision of taking the institute towards excellence through concerted efforts. He urged the students to work hard and showed faith in the cooperation of the teaching and non-teaching staff. He also promised to address on priority the institution's challenges and make it a college of excellence.



A CO-CURRICULAR KALEIDOSCOPE

GDC Kandaghat is committed to enhancing student involvement and developing a range of skills by motivating them to take part in intra-college, inter-college, and state-level events. Participating in these activities allows individuals to gain external exposure, discover their interests, forge new connections, and enhance their social skills. It offers them both knowledge and entertainment while also equipping them with essential skills such as adaptability, leadership, teamwork, and community building.

Two students of GDC Kandaghat, Anjali Kashyap and Sonia participated in the State Level **Dr Yashwant Singh Parmar Inter College Declamation Competition**, organised by the Art Culture and Language Academy, Himachal Pradesh In Gaiety Theatre, Shimla on 3rd August, 2024. Dr Radha Verma, Department of Hindi, accompanied the students for the event.

डॉ. यशवंत सिंह परमार राज्य स्तरीय जयंती समारोह प्रतियोगिता





A **Declamation Competition** on Reading Habits took place in commemoration of Librarians' Day, observed on the eve of Dr. S R Ranganathan's birth anniversary, who is regarded as the father of Library Science. The event occurred on August 12, 2024, including eight students who presented thought-provoking presentations on the issue. The event's judges were Dr. Geeta, Dr. Radha Verma, and Ms. Meghna. Preeti (BCom II), Rishika Attri (BA III), and Amita (BA I) secured the first, second, and third positions, respectively.

GDC Kandaghat team, comprising two students from BCom III qualified the District Level round of the **RBI quiz** and competed at the State Level round at Peterhoff Shimla on 9th October, 2024. The team bagged the 4th position among 45 participating teams.

TEAM	TEAM NAME	SCORE
A	University Institute of Legal Studies, HPU, Shimla	1080
B	Shoolini University	210
C	Indian Institute of Information Technology, Una	180
D	Government Degree College Kandaghat	180
E	NIT Hamirpur	300
F	M.L.S.M College Sundernagar	120

राज्यस्तरीय राजभाषा पखवाड़ा 2024



Three students of the college Rishika Attri, Palak and Kartik, participated in various competitions like declamation, essay writing and quiz competitions in the State level **Rajbhasha Pakhwada 2024**, organised by the Language Department, Himachal Pradesh, at Gaiety Theatre, Shimla, on 14th September 2024. Dr Radha Verma, Department of Hindi, accompanied the students to participate in the event.

Freshers' Day is an annual event conducted by the institution to welcome new students into the esteemed campus community. This Day is designated to assist incoming students in acclimating, fostering friendships, and providing a platform to exhibit their talents. The event occurred on 30th September 2024 and was arranged by senior students and faculty members.





Seven students participated in the **H.P University Youth Festival Group I event** held at Government College, Bilaspur, from 18– 20th October 2024. Students participated in the quizzes, debates, elocution, poster-making, and collage-making activities. Japji Singh, a student of BCom III, won the third prize in collage-making. Dr Radha Verma was the contingent in charge of the event.



Two college students participated in **HPU Inter college Youth Festival Group II** organized by HPU, Shimla, at GC Karsog from 23- 26th October 2024. Our college students exhibited their talent in the Ghazal and Folk Song categories. Dr Savita Sehgal accompanied the students as the Contingent in charge.





The Kabaddi team (Men) of GDC Kandaghat participated in the **HP University Inter College Kabaddi Championship** Held at GC Jwala ji from 23rd – 26th October 2024. Mr. Pankaj Thakur was the contingent in charge of the event.

The Kabaddi team (Women) of GDC Kandaghat participated in the **HP University Inter College Kabaddi Championship** Held at GC Nahan from 3rd – 5th December 2024. Dr Radha Verma and Ms Anju Thakur accompanied the team to the event.





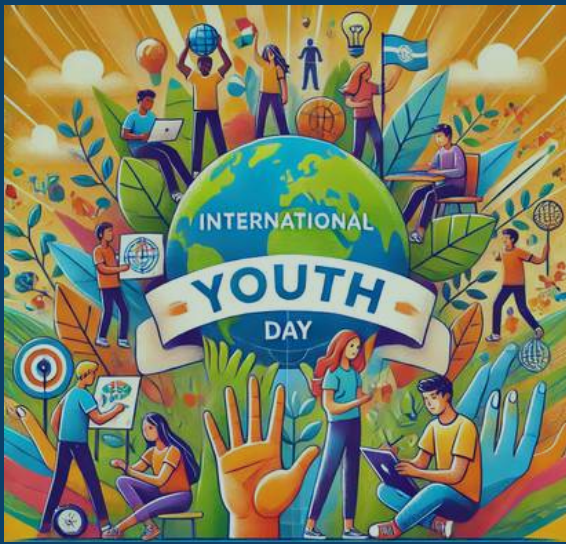
The CSCA contributed extensively to promoting the institution's academic, cultural and social life. In this direction, the **CSCA**, in collaboration with **College Road Safety Club** organised a **cultural cum educational programme** on 6th December 2024. The Principal, Dr. Madan Lal Mankotia, was the Chief Guest on the occasion—students from different streams performed declamation, singing, group dance, poetry recitation, modelling and skit. Dr Mankotia congratulated the CSCA and Road Safety Club for organising the extravaganza and encouraged them to work towards holistic personality development. The programme ended with a vote of thanks by Dr Savita Sehgal.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

Club/Society membership is great for intellectual, social, and personal growth. We may meet like-minded people, create lasting relationships, assist the community, and broaden our viewpoint. **The Red Ribbon Club, Career Counselling Club, English Literary Club, Hindi Samiti, Rover and Ranger unit, NSS, Road Safety Club, Eco Club, Anti Drug Committee, Women Cell, and SC/ST Grievance Redressal Cell** make GDC Kandaghat's club life alive.

On August 7, 2024, the **Eco Club**, in collaboration with the **Rovers & Rangers Unit**, conducted a tree plantation drive under the "Ek Paudha Mere College Ke Naam" campaign. This initiative aimed to promote the environmental and community benefits of tree planting. The event was attended by Prof. Indira Daroch, the Principal, who highlighted the college's dedication to environmental sustainability.





The **Red Ribbon Club** of the college celebrated International Youth Day on 12th August 2024 by organising a flash mob activity on the college campus. This activity included socially relevant messages on AIDS prevention through a Naati performance. The event was convened by Ms Anju Thakur, the person in charge of RRC, and 26 RRC volunteers participated.

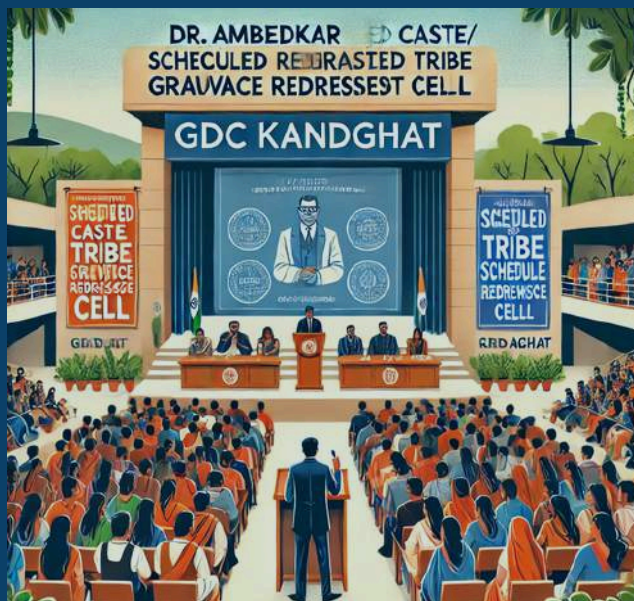
The college's **Career Counselling Club** organised a career counselling session for students of all streams- BA, BCom and BSc- on 12th August 2024. The faculty members of the college conducted it. The teachers expounded on the various career opportunities in their subjects, throwing light on the relevance of each topic in career building and formation. The faculty members also apprised the students regarding various clubs, societies, and forums operational in the college and motivated them to join them for their all-round development. The programme was presided over by the Principal and Chief Guest Prof. Indira Daroch.





The **Anti-Drug Committee** organised an array of activities commencing from 12th August, 2024, to commemorate 78 years of Independence and commendable five successful years since the launch of **NashaMukt Bharat Abhiyan**. The day commenced with a mass pledge against drugs administered by the worthy Principal, Prof. Indira Daroch. A signature campaign was conducted in the college campus to mobilise support and encourage the students to act against drug abuse.

Dr Ambedkar Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe Grievance Redressal Cell organised a lecture addressing caste discrimination within educational institutions. In this session, Ms. Anju Thakur, Department of History, delivered a talk on the importance of avoiding caste-based discrimination. The session was convened in the presence of Dr. Geeta Negi and other members of the cell.





The college organised two significant awareness sessions on 28th August 2024 to educate students on critical social issues. The **ICC Women Cell** of the college conducted an awareness session on the Sexual Harassment Protection Act of 2013. The session aimed to sensitise students about the provisions and importance of the Act in preventing sexual harassment in all walks of life. Ms. Malvika Sharma led the session and explained the provisions of the Act to ensure comprehensive understanding among the students regarding their rights and responsibilities under the Act. The Convenor of the Women Cell presided over the session attended by all its members.

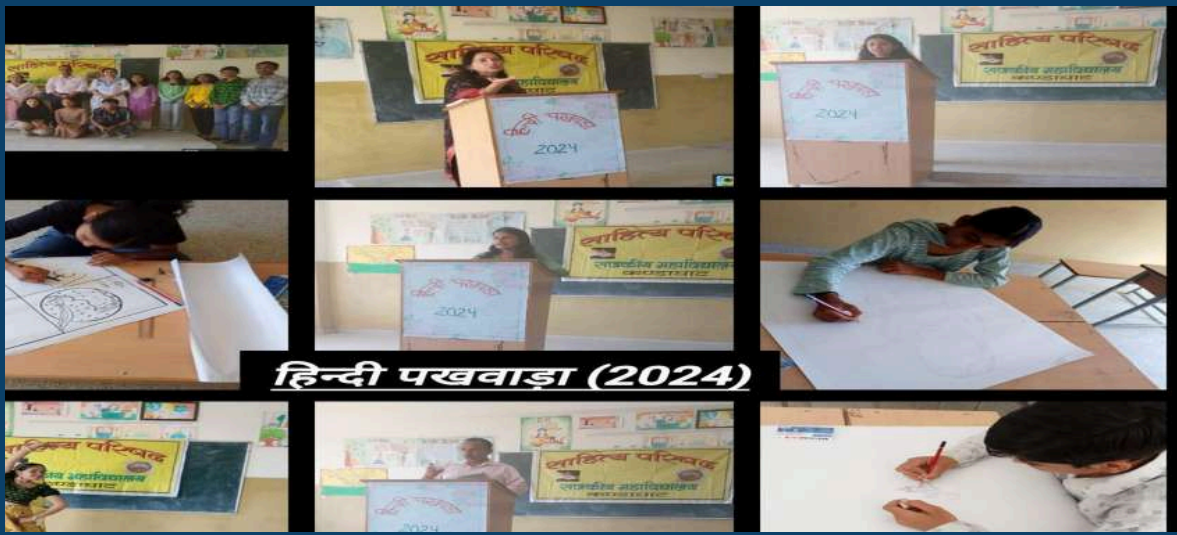


On September 4, 2024, the college **NSS** held a one-day cleanliness program on campus. The event promoted campus and local hygiene. Prof. Indira Daroch, Principal, urged students to engage in the cleaning initiative and stressed the need for a clean and healthy environment. The programme officers separated volunteers into groups to clean the front, back, and university parking spaces.



On September 6th, 2024, Ms Nidhi Verma, the Centre Manager of Money Wise Centre for Financial Services, gave a talk on Financial Literacy and briefed the students about the Reserve Bank of India's upcoming national-level quiz competition, which is part of its 90th-anniversary celebration. The **Career Counselling and Placement Cell** of the college organised the activity.





The college **Hindi Samiti** held the Hindi Pakhvada concluding ceremony on September 24, 2024. Principal Prof. Indira Daroch led it. At the ceremony, one hundred sixty kids competed in poetry, quiz, declamation, and poster-creating competitions. Rishika Attri, Anjali, and Palak placed first, second, and third in declamation. Deepali, Deepika, and Anjali placed first, second, and third in poetry recitation. Kartik, Priya Kashyap, Deepika, and Jyoti placed first, second, and third in the quiz. The principal stressed the benefits of Hindi to students. Hindi Department's Dr. Radha Verma organised the program.

On September 24, 2024, GDC Kandaghat, Solan **NSS units** commemorated the 55th NSS Foundation Day in the college hall. Prof. Indira Daroch, the esteemed Principal, was the Chief Guest of the programme. NSS volunteers threw light on NSS's history and societal importance. NSS volunteers performed Haryanvi, Punjabi, Classical, Nepali, and Poem on NSS, Kinnauri, and Naati. The Principal emphasised NSS's importance and encouraged students to volunteer often. The programme ended with the National Anthem.





The college **Red Ribbon Club** promotes service, health, and sexually transmitted disease awareness in youngsters. On September 27, 2024, the club held an HIV/AIDS lecture and interactive session—resource speaker Dr. Ajay Kumar Singh, BMO Sairy. Dr. Singh dispelled several STD beliefs and revealed HIV/AIDS origins. He described the illness outbreak in Solan. After that, students' questions were raised. Dr. Singh gave students his number and address so they could answer any questions. The Principal thanked Dr. Ajay Kumar Singh for his time with students. All of the staff members and 220 students attended the programme.

Drug usage is a significant issue for Himachal Pradesh youth. The college's **Anti-Drug Committee** teaches students about the dangers of narcotics. The committee held a poster and slogan writing competition on September 27, 2024. Principal Prof. Indira Daroch was the Chief Guest. Students' anti-drug banners and messages showed creativity. In the poster creating competition, Sarvan Kumar (BA I), Prerna Rana (BA I), and Preeti (BCom II) placed first, second, and third in the competition. Aryan (BA III), Himani (BA II), and Charu (BA I) placed first, second, and third.





The college organised a Popular Science Lecture in collaboration with **HIMCOSTE** on 7th October 2024. Prof. (Retd.) P. K. Ahluwalia, H. P. University, was the Resource Person for this lecture. Dr. Ahluwalia illuminated the various aspects of Science and its practical usage and offered exciting perspectives on Science to the staff and 80 college students.

The **NSS team** held a cleanliness campaign within and outside the college on October 1, 2024, as part of the Swachhata Hi Seva Campaign. NSS volunteers gathered plastic debris and encouraged campus plastic elimination. NSS volunteers gathered 5kg of plastic. Then, NSS volunteers joined Ms Chunauti Sagroli, Civil Judge cum Judicial Magistrate Kandaghat, in the Swachhata Hi Seva campaign. GSSS Kandaghat personnel, students, and Nagar Panchayat officials participated. The campaign began at the Mini Secretariat and finished at GDC Kandaghat. Ms Chunauti Sangroli ended the program by encouraging participants to clean internally and externally.

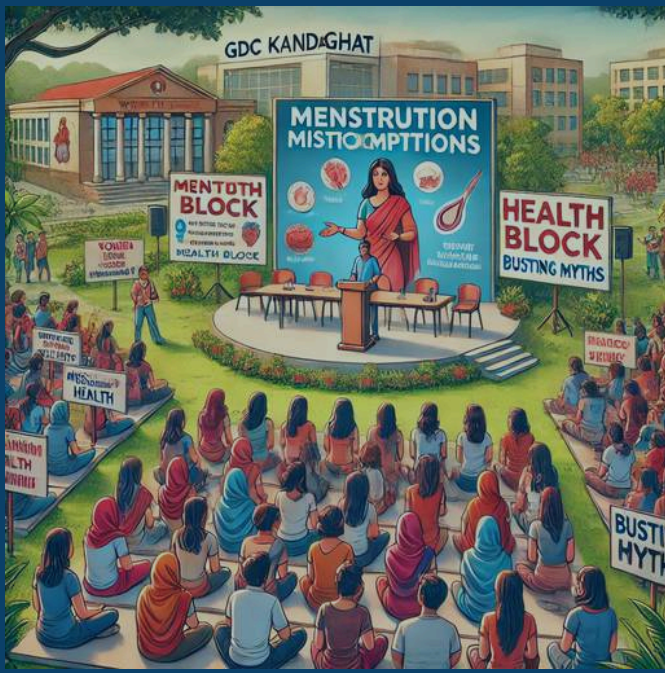




On October 24, 2024, the college's **Career Counselling Cell** and **MSME-Development and Facilitation Office**, Ministry of MSME, GOI held a one-day session on "Awareness Programme on MSME Schemes/Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme". Resources: Ashok Kumar Gautam, IEDS, Assistant Director MSME-DFO Solan, Sh. Parth Ashok, Assistant Director, SME-DFO, Sh. Akshat Sharma is the branch manager of SBI Kandaghat and Sh. OP Sharma Extension Officer, DIC Solan. Distinguished Guest Speaker Ms Shreya, a successful entrepreneur from Minchy's Foods, Shoghi, Shimla, spoke about entrepreneurship. Other prominent visitors emphasised how important stakeholders may promote micro, small, and medium-sized businesses and fight poverty. Students' questions about start-ups and small to medium enterprises were answered during the interactive workshops, encouraging them to create jobs rather than seek employment.

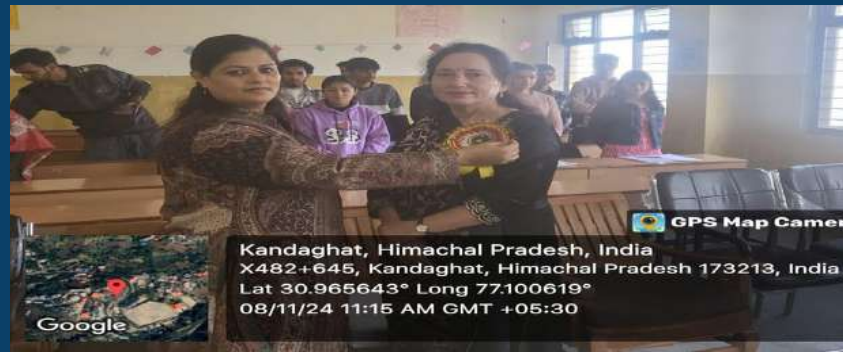


The Anti-Drug Awareness Committee organized a street play on awareness against drug abuse on 26th October 2024. The students of BA I year performed a street play which emphasized the need to inform the youth regarding the growing menace of drug abuse. The principal, Indira Daroch, and other college teachers presided over the performance. The event ended with a vote of thanks by the Convenor, Dr Priyanka Vinta.



On November 6, 2024, the college's **Women Cell and Health Block, Sayri**, held an awareness campaign. Program topic: "Menstruation Misconceptions". CSCA President Ms Amrita welcomed Block Health Officer Dr Ajay Kumar Singh and Health Supervisor Mrs Saroj Chauhan. Mrs Chauhan stressed menstrual cleanliness, while Dr Ajay emphasised the need for males to assist women and eradicate menstrual stigma. Students Rohit, Sumit, and Anjali asked the resource person about UTI, PCOD, etc. Principal Prof. Indira Daroch, Women Cell Coordinator Dr. Savita Sehgal, professors, and 150 students (boys and girls) attended the program, which closed with the National Anthem.

The **English Literary Society, Lore Rubrics**, held a book review on November 8, 2024. The college principal, Prof Indira Daroch, was the Chief Guest for "Books and Us". It included a PowerPoint presentation on book reviews, writing internal and external reviews, review objectives, newspaper reviews, and an English Literature and Language quiz. The activity was led by Dr. Anshu Kaushal and involved 16 students. The Society President, Ranjana (BA III), gave the vote of thanks.





NSS units in Jadari village held a one-day drug abuse awareness camp on November 9, 2024. NSS volunteers and Programme officers Dr Sudhir Kumar and Ms Meghna Rana visited Jadari Hamlet to educate residents about youth drug addiction. The volunteers visited 28 residences in groups and informed parents and relatives about drug-related symptoms. Mrs Sushma Thakur, Pradhan, Mahila Mandal, and Jaandari village praised NSS volunteers and vowed to help them.



On November 30, 2024, the campus **Red Ribbon Club** held a declamation and poster competition to raise awareness of AIDS. Chief Guest Dr. Harinder Lal, Associate Professor of Chemistry, presided. Amrita, Deepali, and Charu placed first, second, and third in declamation, while Dixit, Sarvan, and Mohit placed first, second, and third in poster making. The program was planned by Anju, Kamini, and Meghna of the Red Ribbon Club.





On December 3, 2024, the college **Road Safety Club** held its inaugural ceremony. Public road safety awareness was promoted through posters, slogans, essays, declamations, reels, and collage competitions. Principal Dr. Madan. L. Mankotia presided as Chief Guest. All volunteers attended the occasion and commended the club's efforts. Club convenor Dr Yashika Guleria expressed gratitude at the end of the program.



On December 6, 2024, the college's **Road Safety Club** and **CSCA** held a road safety awareness drive. Club members Deepali BA I and Preeti BCom II spoke on safe driving, road crossing, helmets, seat belts, golden hour, and Good Samaritanism. Dr. Madan Lal Mankotia, the principal, encouraged club members and students to be responsible citizens. All college students attended the program.





On December 9, 2024, the campus **Road Safety Club, NSS, and Rover & Ranger** held a rally to raise road safety awareness. Principal Dr. Madan Lal Mankotia enthusiastically inaugurated the rally. The demonstration moved from the college to Kandaghat bazaar. 113 students passionately raised awareness of road safety issues. Club convenor Dr Yashika Guleria, members Ms Kamini Negi, Mr Pankaj, and NSS Programme Coordinator Dr Sudhir Kumar joined the students in this activity.

HONORING SIGNIFICANT DAYS

The campus's NSS, Rover & Ranger, and Red Ribbon Club commemorated **International Youth Day** on August 12, 2024. Principal Prof. Indira Daroch spoke to students about HIV/AIDS and drugs. She gave students and staff the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan Drug-Free India pledge.



The college students enthusiastically engaged in the **Independence Day** celebrations on August 15, 2024, at the sub-divisional level in Padav, Solan. They executed a classical dance and a patriotic ensemble song. The SDM of Kandaghat handed the students certificates for excellence in acknowledging their exceptional efforts. The performances were conducted under the guidance of Dr. Savita Sehgal, Department of Music.



Teachers' Day was observed on September 5, 2024, at the college to celebrate the significant contributions of mentors in shaping students' personalities. Students prepared a cultural event for the instructors that included engaging games and enjoyable activities. They also organised a luncheon for educators to express their affection and gratitude for their guides and mentors.

The Department of Geography commemorated **World Ozone Day** on September 16, 2024, to promote awareness of the significance of safeguarding the ozone layer and addressing climate change. The theme for World Ozone Day was the Montreal Protocol. Professor Indira Daroch, the Principal, presided over the event and emphasised the significance of ozone layer conservation. Thirty-nine students engaged in poster creation, declamation, and poetry composition competitions.





True to its motto, "Selfless Service to Others," the college's Ranger and Rover unit routinely plans events to help its members develop leadership, teamwork, and discipline to serve humanity better. The Rovers and Rangers unit of the institution commemorated the **Founders' Day of Scouts & Guides** on 7th November 2024. The ceremony was attended by Dr Priyanka Vinta (Ranger Leader), Mr Pankaj (Rover Leader), and 19 Rovers and Rangers. The presenters outlined the unit's journey to date and elaborated on its role in supporting the community. The members recited a promise and a prayer to cultivate inspiration for dedicated service to the unit.

"Today's children will shape the India of tomorrow; how we raise them will dictate the nation's future," stated Pandit Nehru. The college commemorated **Children's Day** on November 14, 2024. Educators organised a luncheon for the students and wished them a prosperous future.





The college celebrated Constitution Day on November 26, 2024, to honour the promulgation of the **Constitution of India**. Dr. Harinder Lal, Associate Professor of Chemistry, served as the Chief Guest at the event, accompanied by other faculty members. Ms. Kamini Negi, Assistant Professor of Political Science, recited the Preamble of the Constitution. Students engaged in multiple events, including declamation, reel production, slogan composition, and poster creation. The Chief Guest underscored the exceptional vision of the Constitution's architects and stressed its contemporary significance in India. The program closed with the national anthem.

The Political Science Department observed **Human Rights Day** on December 10, 2024. The celebration promoted youth Human Rights awareness. Students created posters and slogans to communicate their opinions. Drs. Priyanka Vinta and Radha Verma judged the competitions. Dr. Madan Lal Mankotia thanked the Judges and inspired participants to take responsibility for the great cause. As **National Mathematics Day**, Srinivasa Ramanujan's birthday was honoured on December 23, 2024. Students enthusiastically entered a digital poster competition to demonstrate maths and creativity. Karma Negi placed first in the competition, Suryansh second, and Payal third.



PRACTICAL LEARNING AT GDC KANDAGHAT



History Department Field Trip

On November 26, 2024, 23 BA II and BA III History students visited Shimla as part of their study. The visit included firsthand observation and interaction with historic locations and objects to improve their understanding of history. The students visited Shimla's historical attractions, including the Himachal State Museum, Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Kennedy House, Vidhan Sabha, Mall Road, Gaiety Theatre, Town Hall, and Christ Church. History Assistant Professor Anju Thakur accompanied the students.



Three college students and Ms. Meghna Rana attended College of Excellence, Sanjauli's Two-Day **Mathematics Training and Talent Search program**. Prof. Habib and Prof. Sandeep Das, distinguished lecturers from Mohali University, engaged with the students and discussed fundamental mathematical ideas. The event brought together students from 13 colleges to discuss maths with peers and experts.

FELICITATIONS



On December 4, 2024, the **Red Ribbon Club** of the college was honoured by the Chief Medical Officer of Solan at Sai Sanjeevani Nursing Institute for its exemplary efforts in promoting AIDS awareness among students. The accolade was conferred upon Ms. Kamini Negi, a club member. Dr. Madan Lal Mankotia, the Principal, commended the club and students on their remarkable accomplishments.

MILESTONES



Kandaghat, Himachal Pradesh, India
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Prof. Indira Daroch's tenure as Principal of the institution ended on 14 November 2024. She provided her esteemed services to the college starting on 5 March 2021 and worked assiduously towards its strategic advancement as the head of the institution. Prof. Daroch showed earnest effort and steadfast commitment to managing the college. Her vision and dedication to fostering an environment conducive to student growth and learning are wholeheartedly appreciated.

On 14 November 2024, a significant event occurred in the college's history with the appointment of **Dr. M. L. Mankotia as the new Principal**. Dr. Mankotia, a committed educator, proficient administrator, and visionary leader, vowed to elevate the college to remarkable achievements throughout his term. His fervour and dedication to the college's welfare underscore his dual strategy for its development: addressing current deficiencies and amplifying its assets. Dr Mankotia's extensive experience and empathetic perspective instil confidence in the team that the college is under capable leadership.



The **Self Assessment Review** group visited the college on November 14, 2024. Dr Harinder Lal, the Convenor of the SAR internal committee, and the committee members engaged in a productive dialogue with the visiting team. The team spoke with the office bearers of the college's CSCA. The college was ranked at the 71st place in the overall ranking of the government colleges of the state.

FOSTERING UNITY THROUGH SHARING



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At GDC Kandaghat, the values of sharing and caring are integral to fostering teamwork and creating a positive work culture. Emphasizing growth through mutual understanding, the college cultivates an environment of empathy, inclusivity, and collaboration. On Children's Day, the teaching staff organized a lunch dedicated to students' growth and well-being, engaging in meaningful conversations that strengthened teacher-student bonds. The day concluded with a lively jam session, leaving lasting memories of shared joy and camaraderie.

The college also values its staff by celebrating birthdays and milestones and fostering trust and morale through thoughtful gestures. These practices underscore the institution's commitment to a supportive and harmonious environment where every member's contributions are valued, and relationships are strengthened.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING



An MOU was signed between **Government Degree College Kandaghat, Solan, and Himachal State Museum, Shimla**, on December 26, 2024, to foster mutual learning, cultural preservation, and educational enhancement for students and stakeholders. This significant agreement was executed to foster collaborative academic and research initiatives and the sharing and creation of instructional materials and tools.