## Field study of 1<sup>st</sup> Semester (SEC) to Baba Mushroom House, Dirgheswari, Kamrup on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023

As part of the Skill Enhancement Course (SEC) curriculum, the Department of Botany organized a one-day educational field visit to Baba Mushroom House, Dirgheswari, Kamrup, on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023. The field visit aimed to provide hands-on experience in mushroom cultivation, aligning with the course objectives of bridging theoretical concepts with practical applications.

The primary objective of the field visit was to understand the practical aspects of mushroom cultivation, its economic significance, and its relevance in sustainable agriculture. The visit also aimed to familiarize students with the step-by-step process of mushroom farming and explore entrepreneurial opportunities in this domain.

The visit commenced with an introductory session by the proprietors, highlighting the significance of mushroom farming in the local economy and its potential for scalability. A total number of 30 students participated in the study. Students explored the facility's key areas, including spawn preparation units and growth rooms. They observed the equipment and processes used in ensuring optimal growth conditions. The staff demonstrated the preparation of substrates using straw and other organic materials, sterilization techniques, and inoculation of mushroom spores. They also engaged in harvesting mushrooms, gaining practical experience in the process.

A Question & Answers session allowed students to interact with the experts, discussing challenges in mushroom farming, market dynamics, and potential income-generation opportunities.

The visit to Baba Mushroom House was an enriching experience for the students. It bridged the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application, inspiring many to explore mushroom farming as a career or entrepreneurial opportunity. Such field studies are essential for holistic learning and encourage sustainable agricultural practices among future generations.



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