

Department of Botany
Annual Report 2025–2026

The Department of Botany, Shri Shivaji Science College, Nagpur, has consistently upheld academic excellence through innovative teaching-learning practices, extension activities, and skill-based programs. The department actively integrates environmental awareness, research orientation, and outcome-based learning to ensure the holistic development of students. During the academic session 2025–2026, the department successfully conducted several academic, co-curricular, and extension activities aligned with NAAC quality indicators and sustainable development goals.

As a part of its extension activity and environmental awareness initiative, the department celebrated World Environment Week from 5th to 12th June 2025 by organizing an Intercollegiate E-Quiz Competition on the theme “End Plastic Pollution.” This activity served as a platform for outcome-based learning by enhancing students’ knowledge, critical thinking, and awareness regarding global environmental issues. The program encouraged interdisciplinary participation and promoted responsible environmental behaviour among students.

In continuation of its best practices in promoting eco-friendly culture, the department organized “Prakruti-Bandhan” on 5th August 2025, which included Eco-Friendly Plantable Rakhi Competition, Eco-Friendly Ganesha Competition, and “Flavours of Ran Bhaji” Exhibition under the theme “Nature’s Bond: Wild Flavours & Earthy Threads.” This activity emphasized experiential learning and sustainability by encouraging students to utilize biodegradable materials and explore traditional food resources. The event reflected the department’s commitment towards cultural values, biodiversity conservation, and green practices.

To strengthen knowledge enrichment and skill development, a guest lecture and workshop titled “Green Skill for Tomorrow: Role of Ethnobotany for Sustainable and Developed India” was organized on 18th September 2025 in collaboration with the Green Cell. The expert session provided insights into ethnobotanical knowledge systems and their relevance in sustainable development, thereby bridging the gap between traditional wisdom and modern scientific approaches.

The department also organized World Fungus Week on 27th September 2025 as an academic enrichment activity to highlight the ecological, medicinal, and industrial significance of fungi. The program included expert guidance and awareness sessions, which contributed to students’ understanding of biodiversity

and research opportunities in mycology. Such initiatives promote research-based learning and scientific temperament among students.

As part of its skill-based education initiative, the department conducted a workshop on “Plant Propagation and Nursery Practices” on 13th October 2025. The workshop focused on hands-on training in plant propagation techniques and sustainable nursery management, thereby enhancing employability skills and practical knowledge among students. The activity aligns with the institution’s vision of providing career-oriented education.

Further promoting advanced learning and research skills, a one-day workshop on “Molecular Biology Techniques” was organized on 29th November 2025 under the College Connect Program in collaboration with the Department of Molecular Biology and Genetic Engineering, RTM Nagpur University. The workshop provided practical exposure to modern laboratory techniques such as DNA isolation, PCR, SDS-PAGE, Agarose Gel Electrophoresis, and ELISA, thereby strengthening students’ technical competencies in the field of life sciences.

In continuation of its focus on research and innovation, the department organized a workshop on “Plant Biotechnology: From Students to Molecular Biologist” on 21st February 2026. This program provided hands-on training in advanced molecular techniques including DNA barcoding, GMO detection, and plant biotechnology tools. The workshop significantly contributed to developing research aptitude, analytical skills, and scientific thinking among postgraduate students.

Overall, the Department of Botany has effectively implemented innovative teaching practices, extension activities, and skill development programs during the academic year 2025–2026. These initiatives have enhanced students’ academic performance, environmental consciousness, and research capabilities, thereby fulfilling the objectives of outcome-based education and contributing to institutional quality enhancement in accordance with NAAC parameters.

