

Shaheed Rajguru College of Applied Sciences for Women
Department of Microbiology

Mushroom cultivation certificate course and FDP 2024-25

The next six months certificate course and faculty development program on mushroom cultivation was conducted from October 2024 to March 2025. 41 enthusiastic participants enrolled in this program. In addition to students and faculty, IT professionals, businessmen, young entrepreneurs, and farmers joined the program this time. This comprehensive program equipped participants with practical skills in mushroom cultivation, post-harvest management, and market access. It aimed to empower individuals by encouraging them to launch their own mushroom-based entrepreneurial ventures. Key sessions and activities of the program are as follows:

Inauguration Session

The program was inaugurated with a keynote address by **Dr. Ajay Singh Yadav**, Regional Director, Maharana Pratap Horticulture University, Karnal. Dr. Yadav emphasized the importance of sustainable agriculture and the growing economic opportunities in mushroom cultivation, particularly for women entrepreneurs.

Oyster Mushroom Cultivation

- *Talk on Oyster Mushroom Cultivation* by **Dr. Richa Sharma**, accompanied by a visit to the **IoT-enabled mushroom facility** at the college campus.
- *Practical Session:* Substrate preparation and spawning of oyster mushrooms.
- *Practical Session:* Spawn run of oyster mushrooms.
- *Alternate Method Training* in oyster mushroom cultivation by **Prof. Rekha Mehrotra**.

- **Button Mushroom Cultivation**

- *Theory and Practical Sessions* led by **Dr. Pooja Bhadoria** on the cultivation of button mushrooms.
- *Practical Sessions:*
 - Pile formation for compost preparation.
 - Multiple rounds of **pile turning** to facilitate aerobic fermentation and substrate conditioning.
 - Spawning and bagging of button mushrooms.
 - *Casing procedures* (the application of a casing layer to support fruiting), led by **Dr. Preeti Verma**.

- **King Oyster Mushroom Cultivation**

- *Theory and Practical Sessions* by **Dr. Richa Sharma**, including:
 - Cultivation techniques
 - Scraping for induction of fruiting
- Fruiting and harvesting of King Oyster mushrooms

- **Entrepreneurship & Marketing**

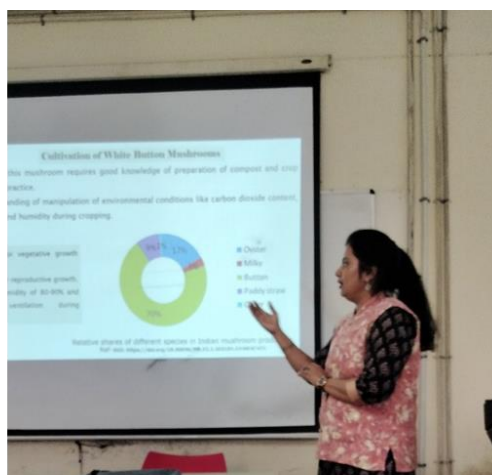
- *Talk on Mushroom-based Entrepreneurship* by **Prof. Rekha Mehrotra**.
- *Session on Financial Aspects of Mushroom Cultivation* by **Dr. Subhash Manda**.
- *Talk on the 7 P's of Marketing Mushrooms in India* by **Dr. Dimpy Handa**.

- **Expert Talk and Interactive Session**

- **Mr. Khitij Rai** (Founder of Krishi Marvel LLP) on mushroom entrepreneurship,.
- **Mr. Pranav Behl** (Founder Swadeshi Mushrooms Spawn Labs) various aspects of mushroom cultivation



Inaugural session



Theory sessions



Hands-on session on compost



Expert talk and interactive session



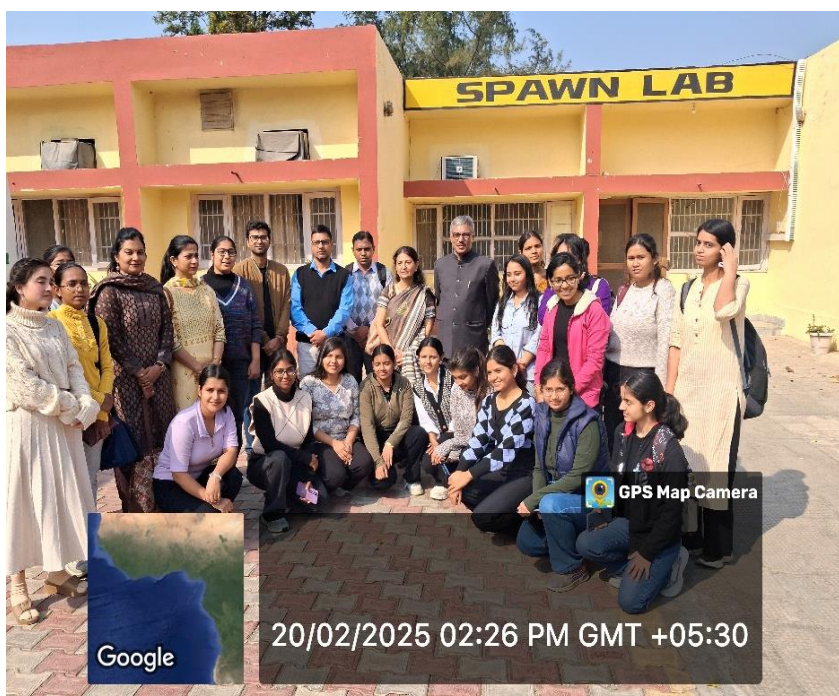












**Field visit to Mushroom facility at
HAIC, Sonipat**



Glimpses of the training sessions