

Government Degree College Baramulla, Jammu and Kashmir

NAAC Accredited Grade “A” and College with Potential for Excellence (CPE)

GDC Baramulla Observes World AIDS Day 2021

The Red Ribbon Club (RRC) in collaboration with National Service Scheme (NSS) of Government Degree College (GDC), Baramulla observed a World AIDS Day on December 01, 2021. Individuals, organizations, and institutions

observe this day every year on December 01 across the globe to bring attention to the Human Immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection, endeavour to increase HIV awareness and knowledge, speak out against HIV stigma, and call for an increased response toward ending HIV epidemic.



In this backdrop, a **Group Debate/Discussion** was held in GDC Baramulla on “End Inequalities. End AIDS” – a theme chosen by World Health organization (WHO) for the year 2021. Prof. (Dr.) Mushtaq Ahmad Lone was the chief-guest on the occasion who formally welcomed the student participants and other dignitaries on the occasion. Prof. Lone, in his opening remarks enlightened the participants about the HIV infection and threw light on importance of creating awareness and information about HIV infection and the practical implications of observing World AIDS Day at different platforms. He also stressed on the need to involve the youth in creating awareness and removing inequalities vis-à-vis the AIDS epidemic. “The great feats in science and technology not only facilitate and increment our understanding vis-a-vis the HIV epidemic but also help in changing attitude towards the affected”, said, Prof. Lone.

The count of attendees was roughly, 100, which included students, NSS volunteers, Convenor, RRC, NSS Program Officers, and other faculty members of the college. Dr. Navshad Ahmad Wani, HoD, Psychology along with Prof. Nuzhat Rehman, HoD, Chemistry, and Prof. Arshad Ahmad Yatoo, HoD, Computer Applications were the lead moderators during



the session. The student participants actively took part in the discussions, shared their understandings and insights about the AIDS, and associated issues thereof.

Earlier, Prof. Nuzhat presented a detailed account of origin, evolution, and current understanding of HIV infection with special reference to Jammu and Kashmir. She also talked about and threadbare discussed the route(s) of HIV infection and how people would construe this deadly disease in the times when it was first discovered. Dr. Navshad Ahmad Wani and Prof. Arshad Ahmad Yatoo enlightened the participants about the developments in scientific world vis-à-vis the HIV infection and how these developments have been positively changing our understanding, approach, and attitude toward HIV epidemic.

Dr. Kaiser Ahmad Dar, Program Officer, NSS (Unit-II) introduced the theme and modalities of the session and conducted the proceedings thereof. Dr. Syed Masarat Geelani, Program Officers NSS (Unit-III) proposed a vote of thanks and ended the session.