



## University access to local farmers and food producers

The Women University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (WUAJ&K), Bagh, is committed to supporting local farmers and food producers by providing access to its academic expertise, laboratory resources, and research facilities aimed at promoting sustainable agriculture and community-based farming development.

The university's departments — Botany, Biotechnology, Environmental Science, and Zoology — play a central role in delivering technical assistance and research-based guidance to the local farming community. Their collaborative initiatives are designed to enhance agricultural productivity, environmental sustainability, and local livelihoods.

### Key initiatives include

**Capacity Building and Training:** Organizing training workshops and awareness sessions for farmers and producers on scientific mushroom cultivation, covering topics such as spawn production, substrate preparation, environmental control, harvesting, and storage.

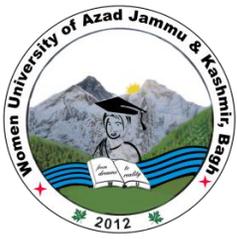
**Practical Demonstrations:** Providing hands-on demonstrations of low-cost and eco-friendly mushroom cultivation techniques suited to the climatic conditions of Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

**Laboratory Support:** Offering laboratory facilities for spawn quality testing, substrate analysis, and related research assistance to ensure optimal yield and quality.

**Entrepreneurial and Nutritional Support:** Advising farmers on establishing small-scale mushroom cultivation units to enhance household income and nutritional well-being.

These sustained efforts enable local farmers to apply scientific knowledge to practical agriculture, resulting in improved crop productivity, environmental protection, and food quality. The details of the facilities provided by the Department of Botany are attached in [Annex I](#), while evidence of recent activities is included in [Annex II](#).





# WOMEN UNIVERSITY

OF AZAD JAMMU & KASHMIR, BAGH. Website: [www.wuajk.edu.pk](http://www.wuajk.edu.pk)  
Department of Botany

Ref. No.: Bot/171\_\_/2025

Date: 20-10-2025

To  
The Director  
Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC)  
Women University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Bagh

Subject: **Departmental Support and Training Initiatives in Mushroom Cultivation for Local Communities**

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Department of Botany at Women University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Bagh, is pleased to announce its plan to collaborate with ORIC to provide specialized training programs in mushroom cultivation techniques for local farmers, food producers, and community members.

In accordance with the university's vision to foster community development, promote sustainable agriculture, and enhance food security, the Department offers the following facilities and expertise:

- Conducting training workshops and awareness sessions for residents and farmers on scientific mushroom cultivation, including spawn production, substrate preparation, environmental control, harvesting, and storage.
- Providing practical demonstrations of low-cost and environmentally friendly mushroom cultivation methods tailored to the climatic conditions of Azad Jammu and Kashmir.
- Providing laboratory support for spawn quality testing, substrate analysis.
- Providing advisory aid on establishing small-scale mushroom cultivation units for household income augmentation and nutritional improvement.
- Facilitating collaborative outreach programs with ORIC and other departments such as Environmental Sciences, Biotechnology, and Zoology to broaden training networks, conduct field demonstrations, and promote hands-on skill development activities.

Through these initiatives, the Department of Botany aims to empower local communities with the technical knowledge and practical skills needed to grow mushrooms as a sustainable livelihood. These efforts are likely to significantly aid in poverty reduction, food diversification, and boosting rural economic resilience in the region.

Yours sincerely,

Chairperson, Department of Botany  
Women University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Bagh

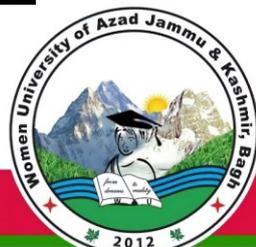
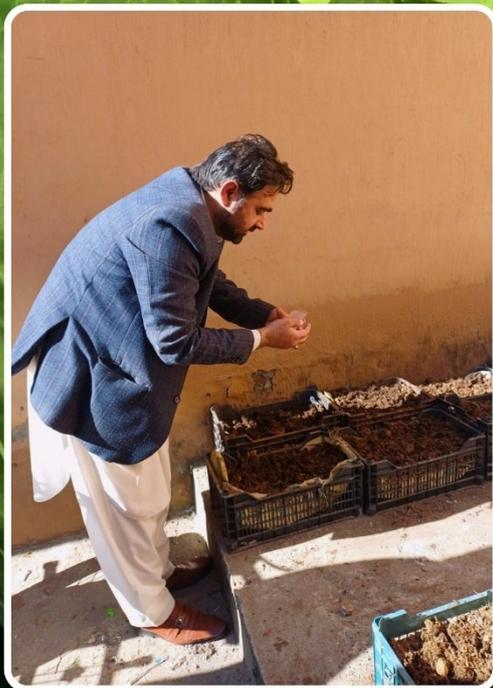


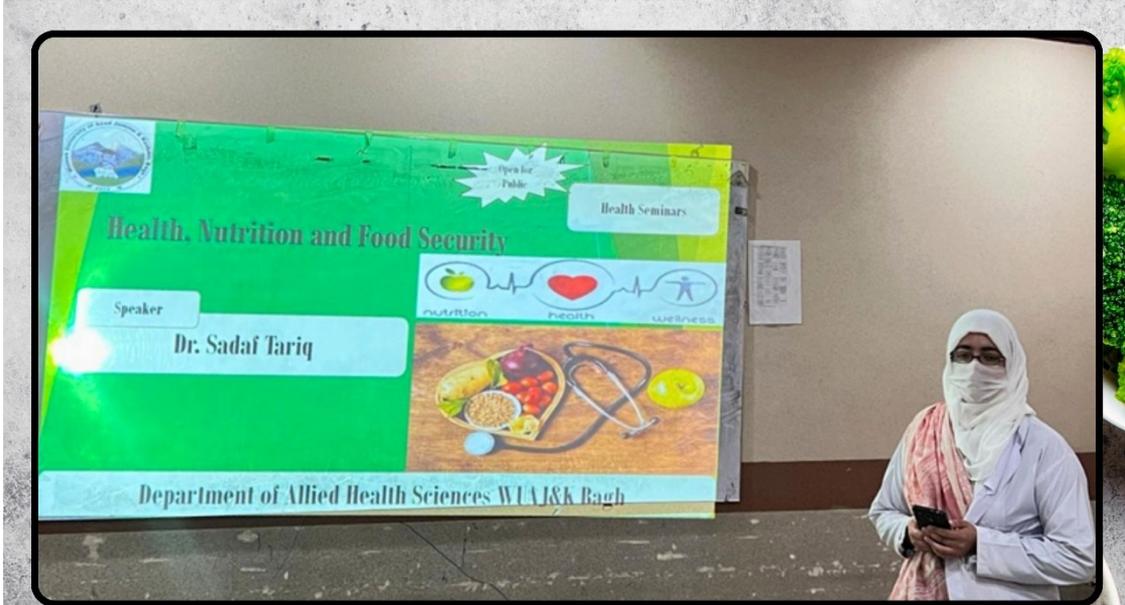
Annex II



**Seminar and Demonstration on Vegetable Cultivation**

**05 November, 2024**





**Seminar on Health, Nutrition, and Food Security**

**18 March, 2024**

