

Intensified IEC Campaign and International Youth Day Celebration at Government Degree College, Dehar, Mandi

On August 14, 2025, the National Service Scheme (NSS) Unit, Red Ribbon Club (RRC) and Road Safety Club of Government Degree College (GDC), Dehar, Mandi, organised a walkathon as part of the Intensified Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) Campaign and International Youth Day 2025 celebrations. This initiative was conducted in compliance with the directive issued by the Directorate of Higher Education, Himachal Pradesh (No. EDN-HE(3)F(4)44/2025, dated August 11, 2025). Under the esteemed guidance of Principal Dr. J.P. Singh, the event was aligned with the 2025 International Youth Day theme, “Local Youth Actions for the SDGs and Beyond,” emphasising the pivotal role of youth in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The walkathon, which saw the participation of approximately 65 students, commenced at the GDC Dehar campus and proceeded through Dehar Market, culminating at the Dehar Police Chowki. A key highlight of the event was the enthusiastic participation of students, who raised awareness through impactful slogans such as “Say No to Drugs, Yes to Life” and “Break the Chain, Stop Drug Pain.” These messages underscored the perils of substance abuse while advocating for a healthier, drug-free lifestyle.

At the Dehar Police Chowki, Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) Yogender Singh delivered an insightful awareness session, focusing on the adverse effects of drug abuse on youth health, mental well-being, and community welfare. He also addressed broader challenges faced by young individuals in contemporary society. The session was supported by Head Constable Surender Kumar, Aditya Gautam, Lalit Kumar and Vijay Kumar who engaged with the students, reinforcing the importance of collective action against substance abuse.

The event was meticulously coordinated by NSS Programme Officer Dr. Jai Kiran, RRC Nodal Officer Ms. Meera Sharma, and Assistant Professor Ms. Reena Devi, under the supervision of Principal Dr. J.P. Singh. Faculty members, including Dr. Sunil Kumar, Dr. Sanya Kumari, Dr. Shivani Chaudhary, Dr. Nishu Sharma, and Assistant Librarian Mr. Nanak Chand, were also in attendance, lending their support to the initiative.

The walkathon effectively highlighted the critical role of youth in combating drug abuse and fostering community development, aligning with the objectives of the IEC Campaign and International Youth Day 2025. Photographs documenting the event have been compiled and will be submitted to the Himachal Pradesh State AIDS Control Society via email (id-sacshp@gmail.com), as per the directive.

This initiative successfully engaged young individuals in raising awareness about pressing social issues, reinforcing their commitment to the SDGs and promoting a healthier, more inclusive society.





