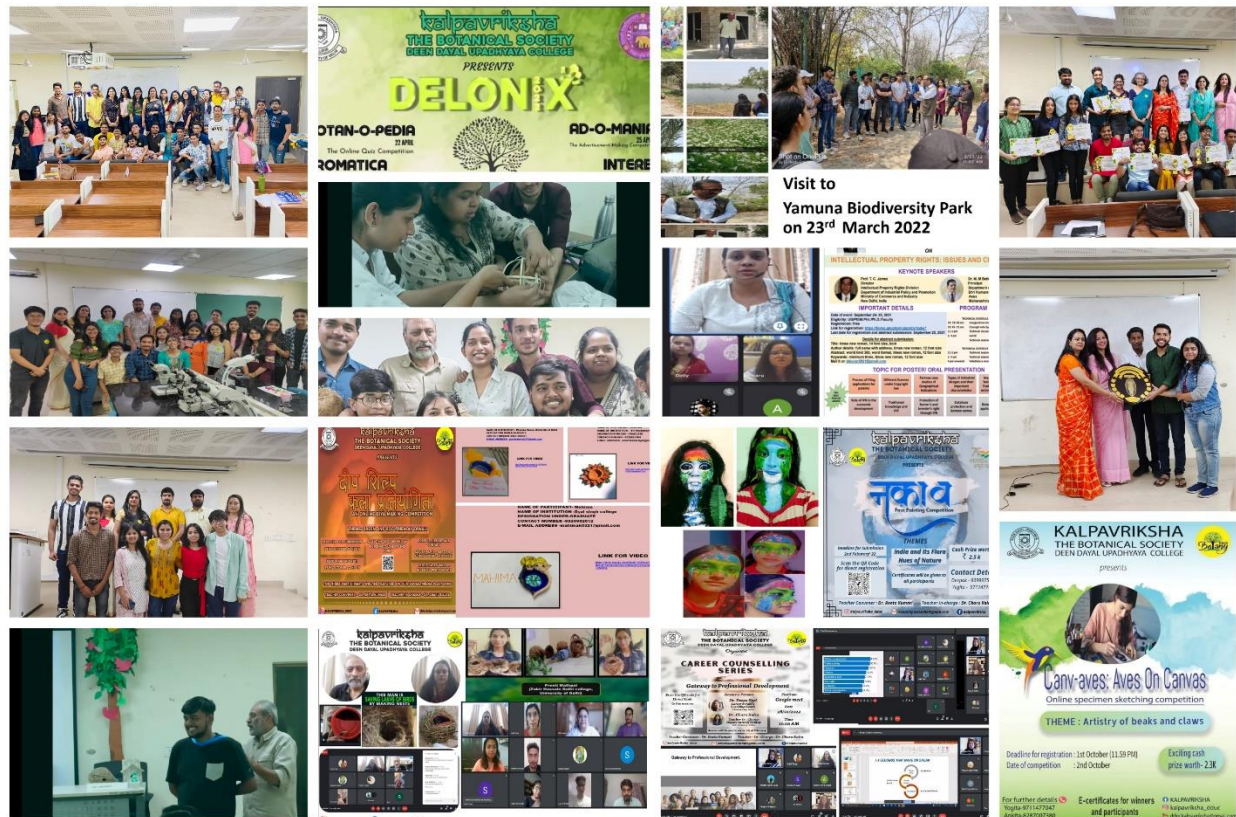


## Kalpavriksha Annual Report (2021-2022)



The Department of Botany endeavors to promote and inspire students to pursue higher studies in plant sciences, orienting them towards learning and investigation. “Kalpavriksha” is the active Botanical society that organizes events like subject lectures by eminent scientists and scholars, extracurricular activities including awareness programs for the conservation of the environment, conferences/seminars/workshops, plant identification and various competitions pertaining to the field of Botany. As each year is celebrated with a lots of exciting activities and events, this year was also filled with wonderful events in challenging conditions.

**Kalpavriksha – The Botanical Society of Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College** under the guidance of **Dr. Reeta Kumari (Convenor)** along with the other faculty of the department organised many events throughout the year. Society focuses on encouraging students to build leadership qualities, team spirit and healthy competition. In the month of October, the Student Council for the session 2021-22 was formed, with the following posts: **Deepak Prajapat**, B.Sc. (H) Botany Sem V (President), **Yogita Tomer**, B.Sc. Life Science Sem V (Vice President) along with two class representatives from each class

With ongoing pandemic, where people were forced to stay at their homes, and everything was functioning in online mode, Kalpavriksha managed to organize many interesting and exciting events to encourage our students. A Farewell to the batch 2021 was given to boost them up.

To begin the journey with enthusiasm and inspiration, Kalpavriksha organized an online inaugural session on 4th October 2021. This session was based on the topic “PROTECTION OF THE AVIAN DIVERSITY” with a '**Hand-made Nests' making Workshop** by one of the most renowned personality in the environment protection world '**Mr. Rakesh Khatri**', Founder of ECO ROOTS FOUNDATION also known as 'THE NESTMAN OF INDIA'. More than 100 participants from different parts of the country participated in this webinar on the online platform, Google meet. Our speaker at the event gave a very thought-provoking and beautiful lecture that inspired many of us to build some shelter for the birds. Many students voluntarily took the initiative to join the foundation as well. The webinar was very successful with more than 100 participants and also proved to be informative and motivational for everyone.

At the same time, we organized an online intercollege sketching competition '**Canv-aves' with the theme “Artistry of beaks and claws”**. We had 30+ registration for the competition. The contest judge was Dr. Dinesh Kumar, Department of Zoology, Hansraj College, University of Delhi. The results of the competition was announced on the same day. In addition, the council members for the session 2021-22 of Kalpavriksha were officially announced and the event concluded with a vote of thanks. Many participants prepared the nests with the waste material available at their houses simultaneously with the speaker. Best nest made was awarded to Ms. Preeti with a cash prize of Rs.500 and certificate of merit.

**A National Webinar** for 2 days was organized on **Intellectual Property Rights: Issues and Challenges**. A total of 125 participants attended the webinar where poster presentation was also a part of one the session. The faculty and students of other colleges have participated in the same.

To encourage and promote the tradition of pottery for the occasion of Diwali, Kalpavriksha organized '**दीप शिल्प कला प्रतियोगिता**' on 26th October 2021. The competition was based on the theme 'Green and Eco-friendly diwali'. A total of 15 students of various colleges participated. Their entries were submitted via google form where they were asked to prepare a video of themselves while making the diya with clay along with a final photograph of the diya prepared.

As the admission season began, we organized an **online Freshers party** for the students of first year on 28th November 2021. All the newcomers joined the party via google meet where many exciting games and activities were planned for them. The entire event continued for 4 hours and students enjoyed a lot while playing games and meeting their classmates, seniors and teachers online.

After a break for examination, Kalpavriksha started the new year with an enlightening **career counselling series- Gateway to professional development** to provide guidance that would help everyone deal with career-related issues.

Session 1 of the series was organised on 28th January 2022 with '**Dr. Deepa Goel**' as the speaker.

Dr. Deepa Goel is a life and professional skills trainer and coach who helps professionals and students get ahead in their life and career. Our speaker conducted various activities in between to indulge the students and connect with them on a level above.

Session 2 of the series was organized on 7th February 2022 with 'Dr. Charu Kalra' as the speaker on the topic- 'Career options'. Again a huge participation of 150+ was recorded and students were delighted as this lecture cleared every single doubt related to career options and entrance examination for the same. Students got to know about various career options available for them and the way to pursue it.

Career counselling series proved to be of great help to all the attendees.

The art of face painting is unique for students to try and amazing for audience to see. With an aim to give opportunity to such unique talent, Kalpavriksha organized a **national level face painting competition titled- NAQAAB**. The themes for the competition were- 'India and its flora' and 'Hues of nature'. The competition was announced on 23 January 2022 and students were asked to register by filling up the google form. Showing their interest towards this wonderful competition, a total of 36 students registered for the same. The competition was judged by Dr Seema Talwar, Assistant professor, Department of botany, University of Delhi. With 36 amazing entries and a difficult decision to choose, we congratulated the winners with final results on 10 February 2022.

After a whole year of online events, the colleges were finally reopened with overjoyed students in the campus.

Kalpavriksha in collaboration with Eco Club, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College, organized its 1st **offline event - A Nest Making Workshop and Competition**, on 22nd March, 2022, conducted by Mr. Rakesh Khatri, the Nest Man of India and founder of Eco Root Foundation. The workshop started with trivial quizzes and games which included informative facts about wildlife in general and proceeded towards a step wise interactive nest making workshop. A total of 26 students inclusively participated in the competition. The main purpose of the event was to build a sense of responsibility among the youth to care about its surrounding life and learn to contribute something to the society.

**A trip was organized by Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College to the Yamuna biodiversity park as an educational tour.** The journey started at 9:30 AM from DDUC college gate and reached Yamuna biodiversity park at 11:30AM. There the students had an interaction with professor **C.R. Babu** and **Dr Faiyaz**. Ms. Preeti Ma'am, the tour guide, introduced everyone to various plant species growing in the flood plains of Yamuna. She showed various halophytes and various grasses and shrubs that are an indicator of high underground water levels. She explained the role of a small creature dragonfly and its importance near the Bank of the lake and how mosquito bites and dragonflies correlated, explaining the contribution of



each organism in this system. We also saw footmarks of Nilgai, wild boar, etc. This trip gave a glimpse of how sustainability looks and how important it is to restore it. The damage to the Yamuna river due to the dumping of waste is a serious threat to the ecology of the flood plain of the Yamuna river. The decreasing dissolved oxygen level is an alarming situation where the government and the people coordinate at need to act in a quick and precise manner. The restoration plan of Yamuna should be worked out as soon as possible.

## **Educational Trip to Mussoorie and FRI Dehradun**

**1<sup>st</sup> April- 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022**



**The four-day educational trip was organized by the Department of Botany, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College, the University of Delhi from April 1 to 4, 2022 under the aegis of the Diksham – Student Induction Program. Students of B.Sc. Semester VI and IV of the Botany and Life-Science department went on a **botanical excursion to FRI Dehradun and Mussoorie.****

### **The objective of the visit:**

1. To explore and study various local Flora of Mussoorie.
2. To learn about the importance of forest resources.
3. To learn about different aspects of environmental degradation.

Mussoorie with its green hills, varied flora and fauna, and a view of the Himalayas, is one of **Uttarakhand's** most popular hill stations. Often called the Queen of the Hills, it is located 34 km from **Dehradun**.

**2<sup>nd</sup> April:** field visit and local Sightseeing of Mussoorie, Mall Road, Gun Hill, and Camels Back to study the local vegetation of a particular area. Many species have been observed and identified. The first two days of the trip included an exploration of the local flora of Mussoorie. Mussoorie is a major spot to observe a wide variety of angiosperms chiefly *Viola*, *Cineraria*, *Fuchsia*, *Primula*, *Bignonia*, *Ginkgo biloba*, etc. The students have seen bryophytes, pteridophytes, and angiosperms going in natural conditions. Along with it the soil and climatic conditions required for their growth were also observed by the students.

**3<sup>rd</sup> April:** visited Kempty Fall and explored the local biodiversity of the particular area. Students saw the mosses growing in natural conditions. The fusion of various geological, ecological, climatic and geographical factors has resulted in the portrayal of this geologic marvel. The geology of an area helps in understanding the ecological status of forests. Geology and soil are the controlling factors in the local distribution of vegetation. The forests under Mussoorie Forest Division have mainly four distinct plant communities namely Oak, Pine, Shisham, miscellaneous plant communities and open barren land in the area. *Quercus leucotrichophora* (Oak); *Pinus roxburghii* (Pine); *Dalbergia sissoo* (Shisham); miscellaneous forests (*Bauhinia variegata*, *Acacia catechu*, *Cassia fistula*, *Lannea coromandelica*, *Terminalia belerica*, etc.) as the dominant species. The students have studied the relationship between geology, soil and vegetation has been important for natural woodland ecosystem. Geological processes that interact with climatic elements and living organisms produce the soil in which plants grow..

**4<sup>th</sup> April:** visited FRI (Forest Research Institute), Dehradun, Uttarakhand. The **Forest Research Institute (FRI)** is a Natural Resource Service training institute of the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education and is an institution in the field of forestry research in India for Indian Forest Service cadres and all **State Forest Service** cadres. It is located at Dehradun in Uttarakhand and is among the oldest institutions of its kind. In 1991, it was declared a deemed university by the University Grants Commission. Four different museums have been visited namely the silviculture museum, plant pathology museum, Timber museum, and Non-Wood Forest Products Museum. Photography is prohibited in all three museums except the silviculture museum. Students visited the museum which has six sections- Pathology-museum, social forestry museum, Silviculture-museum, Timber- Museum, non-wood forest product museum, and Entomology Museum.

## ALUMNI MEET 'PRAHARSH'



The alumni meet was conducted on 23 April 2022, first in the morning where our audience was delighted to meet the alumnus even from 1992 batch!! They shared their experience and memories which brought a lot of positive energy at the venue!. Students also asked them to share their stories of college time, to which they were happy to discuss. Their stories and guidance gave a motivation to the audience present and also depicted how time has changed from their time to now! The teachers from the department also shared some inspiring words. After alumni meet, a **Farewell party was organized for the beloved batch of 2022**. It started in the second half of the day. Many exciting games and performances were organized including songs, dance performances, poetry and a beautiful video dedicated to the passing our batch. Games with headphones, ball in the cup, dance face-off etc were also enjoyed by everyone. At the end of the party, Titles like Mr/Ms.Farewell, Mr/Ms. All rounder, Mr/Ms. Fashionista etc were also given!



## Farewell 2022 (Botany and Life Sciences)



The event was a success where everyone enjoyed a lot and made some wonderful memories.

Finally it was time for our long awaited **annual fest - DELONIX'22**.

This year, DELONIX was organized in two days on 25-26 April 2022 with a plethora of events and competitions. The fest was inaugurated with a informative lecture organized for the students. Keeping in mind the covid guidelines and to enable far residing students participate in the fest, we organized some online competitions too.

**MONOCHROMATICA- online photography competition** was organized on 22nd April 2022. Theme for the competition was 'The monochromatic nature'. A total 11 students participated in the event. Each participant had to send photographs along with Exif data and caption within 100 words.

**BOTAN-O-PEDIA- Online quiz competition** was also organized on 22 April 2022.

Theme for the competition was 'Life in full bloom'. 25 participants registered for the competition and participated actively in competition. In each round 15 seconds were given for answering the questions. Everyone participated actively and competition was very enthusiastic on google meet platform.

**The offline fest started with the inaugural lecture by Prof. N.C. Gupta, Director of Research and Consultancy.** He is former Dean and working as Professor with the University School of Environment Management. A very thought-provoking and intellectual lecture was delivered by the speaker **Prof. N.C. Gupta** at the event. The topic for discussion was **“Energy Security and Climate Concerns: Issues and challenges for India”**. The lecture continued for about 1 hour and was very informative. All the queries from the audience were also cleared by him with wonderful answers.

Followed by the inaugural lecture, we organized, **AD-O-MANIA - advertisement making competition**. Each team was given a prop on the spot to make ad within the given time limit.

Many teams participated in the competition and made wonderful advertisements with a great message. The team with sanitary napkin as their prop made a thought-provoking ad showing its need, while another with plastic and wooden spoons prepared their as showing the urgent need to remove plastic from the environment. Each ad was unique in its own and were praised by the judges.

**MAGIC- MOLDING - the clay making competition was organized on 25th April 2022 in the second half.** 'Flora of nature' was the decided theme. Participants were provided with the clay and asked to prepare whatever they wanted within the given time limit. They prepared different different flora including flowers with a message to save earth in accordance with the theme.

The second day of the fest was started with another exciting competition.

**INTER BRAINS- the rolling shield debate competition was organized on 26th april 2022 on the topic 'Wildlife tourism can help protecting endangered species'.** Students from different colleges participated in the competition and expressed their views for the same. The competition was bilingual. After a tuff competition and wonderful debates, the team from Kamla Nehru college won the competition and were awarded with Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya rolling shield and a whooping cash prize of Rs.3000. The judges were delighted to listen to such wonderful debates and also guided students for further knowledge.

**ATTIRE CLIQUE – newspaper dressing competition** was also organized after the debate competition where participants were asked to prepare dresses with newspaper within the given time limit and then do the ramp walk in the corridor. Students prepared beautiful dresses with newspaper and wore them for the ramp walk. The awesome songs and the stylish ramp walk by the participants made the competition more fun.

**The valedictory ceremony was organized as the final event to conclude fest'22.**

**Dr. Reeta Kumari (Convenor-kalpavriksha)** presented a beautiful yet emotional presentation concluding the entire journey of Kalpavriksha for this year! Every member got emotional remembering the moment when they decided to become a part of society, then worked so hard throughout the year and ultimately got connected to each and every person making a big happy Kalpavriksha family!

All the office bearers were awarded with trophies and certificates for their appreciable efforts throughout the year. All the volunteers were also awarded with certificates of appreciation for their time and hard work!.

The teacher and student council along with all the volunteers were very emotional with tears of happiness for this successful pack up of the session.





As promised, Kalpavriksha will always be back with many exciting and amazing events each and every time with new faces and ideas!

**Dr Reeta Kumari**  
**Assistant professor**  
**Convener**  
**Kalpavriksha (2021-2022)**