

Under the Swachhata Hi Seva Abhiyan 2026, various awareness programmes, lectures, and cleanliness activities were organized under the NMHS-funded project with the objective of promoting awareness about waste management, cleanliness, environmental conservation, recycling, and sustainable waste management practices.

As part of these activities, 32 B.Sc. students from Government College Mandi, Karsog were sensitized to scientific approaches to waste management and environmentally sustainable practices. In addition, awareness and lecture programmes were organized for 43 students and 04 teachers from JNV Paprola, PM Shri GSSS Paprola, GSSS Averi, and KV Alhial, covering important themes such as “Reduce, Reuse and Recycle,” “Say No to Single-Use Plastic,” “Importance and Value of Waste,” and “Waste to Wealth (Kabad Se Jugaad).” The participants were sensitized to proper waste segregation, reuse and recycling practices, and the adverse environmental impacts associated with single-use plastics. Students of Crescent Public School, Banuri, Palampur, were also encouraged to actively participate in the initiative and contribute towards promoting responsible waste management practices.

Similarly, an awareness and lecture programme on Household Waste Management was organized at PM Shri Government Senior Secondary School, Bhawarna, for more than 60 students. The students were educated about source segregation of household waste, recycling, management of organic waste, and the importance of composting. Mr. Pankaj Sharma, School Teacher, and Mr. Ajay, Principal, expressed their commitment to promoting these practices through the school and students and to working collaboratively with CSIR-IHBT in this direction.

Overall, these activities under the NMHS-funded project promoted awareness on waste segregation, recycling, organic waste management, environmental conservation, and sustainable waste management, while encouraging students and the community to adopt responsible waste management practices.



Under the National Mission on Himalayan Studies (NMHS) funded project, CSIR-Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology, Palampur, has developed bacterial consortia by utilizing selected bacterial isolates available in the laboratory as well as newly isolated and developed bacterial strains obtained during the project. The selected bacteria include cold-tolerant and hydrolytic plant-growth-promoting bacteria capable of efficiently degrading different types of organic waste under Himalayan conditions. Based on their complementary hydrolytic and plant-growth-promoting properties, suitable bacterial combinations were developed and formulated into single-solution modified Compost Booster and Decomposer formulations for the efficient biodegradation of organic waste and its conversion into nutrient-rich compost.

As part of the project, Technology Transfer (ToT) of the developed modified Compost Booster single-solution formulation was carried out with BOB ORGANICS, Village Biara, Block Panchrukhi, Palampur, on 08 September 2026. The transferred technology is intended for the efficient composting of food waste, kitchen waste and human waste, providing a simple and environmentally sustainable microbial solution for decentralized organic waste management.

Further, a Materials Transfer Agreement (MTA) was signed with the Municipal Corporation, Palampur, on 05 October 2026 for the transfer and field-level utilization of the newly developed microbial decomposer formulation developed under the NMHS Project. The formulation, based on the developed bacterial consortia, is intended for the effective biodegradation of organic waste and its conversion into nutrient-rich compost, thereby facilitating resource recovery and sustainable waste management.

These initiatives demonstrate the successful translation of NMHS-funded research into field-level technologies and products, enabling the practical utilization of beneficial microbial consortia for organic waste management. The technology transfer and MTA further support the principles of Waste-to-Wealth, circular economy, resource recovery and sustainable organic waste management, particularly in the Himalayan region.

