



Transformation of Sapt Sindhu Vatika Under UBA Initiative

A Success Story



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Introduction

Sapt Sindhu Vatika, located in the serene surroundings of the Kuru Tailai, Sanot Panchayat of Dehra Gopipur District Kangra of Himachal Pradesh, was once an underutilized and neglected space. Adopted under the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) by the Department of Social Work, Central University of Himachal Pradesh (CUHP), the park has been transformed into a thriving community space that reflects sustainable development and environmental stewardship.

Challenges Identified

Before the intervention, the park faced numerous challenges:

- **Neglect:** Lack of maintenance made it a dumping ground for waste.
- **Community Disconnect:** Minimal community engagement and a lack of ownership.
- **Environmental Concerns:** Poor soil quality and absence of greenery limited its potential.

Intervention by the Department of Social Work

Under the UBA framework, a structured plan was implemented:

1. Community Engagement and Participation:

- ✓ Organized *Gram Sabhas* and awareness drives to involve locals in the park's development.
- ✓ Conducted training sessions on waste segregation and environmental conservation.

2. Infrastructure Development:

- ✓ Installed benches, walking tracks, and lighting to make the park more accessible.
- ✓ Planted native trees and shrubs to improve soil quality and enhance greenery.

3. Youth Engagement:

- ✓ Organized plantation drives and educational workshops to instill environmental responsibility among youth.
- ✓ Introduced skill-development programs for making eco-friendly products from locally available resources, such as bamboo.

Conclusion:

The transformation of Kuru Talai Park under the UBA initiative exemplifies the power of community-driven development. With active involvement from the Department of Social Work and local stakeholders, the park has become a beacon of sustainability and a testament to the impact of grassroots interventions.

Pictures:

