REPORT AND PROGRAMME OUTCOME OF WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY OBSERVATION ORGANIZED BY DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY, BARASAT GOVERNMENT COLLEGE IN COLLABORATION WITH PUBASHA ECO HELPLINE SOCIETY, SUNDARBAN.

Department of Geography, Barasat Government College in collaboration with Purbasha Eco Helpline Society observed World Environment Day 2024 on 13th June, 2024. 48 students, 3 faculty members, and 1 support staff of the Department of Geography, Barasat Government College and members of Purbasha Eco Helpline Society, Sundarban participated in this programme. The team visited at Kumirmari island, Sundarban, West Bengal for this venture.

The programme involved two primary activities. In the first part, the students planted mangrove saplings along the coastline. This activity aimed to restore and preserve the mangrove ecosystem. During this time students talk to local people and personally experienced and observed how mangroves serve as natural barrier and protect adjacent populated regions by checking soil erosion and absorbing storm surges. Additionally, students observed the intricate root system of mangroves.

In the later part, students conducted socio-economic surveys in the adjacent village. They collected data on demography, economy, health, education, and the community's reliance on the mangrove ecosystem.

The members of Purbasha Eco Helpline Society provided vital support to the team for the entire activities like guiding the mangrove planting and facilitating interactions with local communities during the survey work.

The planting of mangrove trees aided coastal conservation. It raised awareness of students about the ecological importance of mangroves in protecting shorelines, supporting marine biodiversity, and mitigating climate change. The socio-economic survey provided valuable data on socio-economic lively hood of the local communities. Students gained practical knowledge about conservation of environment and socio-economic study. It also enhanced the understanding of the relationship between human and environment. The programme fostered community spirit and responsibility.

It was a successful and impactful programme. By combining environmental actions with socio-economic study, students helped to conserve mangroves and gained valuable insights.

