



**May 23, 2025**

***IUST Celebrates International Biodiversity Day***

Awantipora, May 22: The Mantaqi Centre for Science & Society (MCSS), Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), in collaboration with Mantaqi Memorial Higher Secondary School, celebrated International Biodiversity Day to promote environmental awareness and inspire collective responsibility for biodiversity conservation.

The program commenced with a plantation drive on the university campus, followed by an engaging session at Mantaqi Memorial Higher Secondary School, where Mr. Manzoor Javaid—popularly known as the "Herbal Man of Kashmir" conducted an engaging session on the importance of preserving biodiversity and reconnecting with nature. He also conducted a live demonstration on the medicinal properties of the local herb Ziziphus. A quiz competition aimed at enhancing awareness and interest in environmental issues was also organised as part of the program. The event was sponsored by Al-Qasim Business Group, Awantipora, and SJT Biotech Innovations Pvt. Ltd., Anantnag.

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