

The Berar General Education Society, Akola

Shri R.L.T College of Science, Akola

PG Department Microbiology & Biochemistry

Report on Educational Tour to CIIMS Research Centre & Gorewada Zoo, Nagpur

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Educational tours provide students with valuable opportunities to learn outside the classroom, offering a range of benefits that contribute to their holistic development. They understand the application of theoretical knowledge in real-world settings, which helps bridge the gap between theory and practice, making education more relevant and meaningful. Dr. V. D. Nanoty, Principal, Shri R. L. T College of Science, Akola always encourages experiential learning and understands that visiting industries and research institutions exposes students to various career paths and this experience can help them make more informed decisions about their future studies and career choices. Under his vision and guidance, the department of Microbiology & Biochemistry of Shri R.L.T College of Science, Akola organized an educational tour for the students PG Microbiology & Biochemistry on 6th March 2024. The visit was planned to CIIMS Advanced Research Center, Nagpur and Balasaheb Thackeray Gorewada International Zoological Park, Nagpur. Total 35 students along with 10 staff members participated in the tour. All the staff and students assembled in the college campus at 5 am. The students were instructed and the tour began at 5:30 am, reaching Nagpur at 10:30 am. The brunch was arranged at Haldiram's Restaurant in Nagpur. After enjoying the delicious and filling brunch, the tour headed to CIIMS Advanced Research Center. The staff at the center welcomed everyone and gave a tour of all the sections of the laboratories. Ms. Abhaya Kanoje and Ms. Aditi Pathania, who are researchers at the center, assisted the students into the center. The students were first informed about various projects and research work carried out in the center along with the programmes and courses offered to the students which included hands-on training and skill building. Then the students visited the laboratories and were explained many high-end machines. The center consists of Microbiology, Molecular Biology, Animal Cell Culture, Immunology, Proteomics and Biochemistry laboratories. Each consisting of cutting-edge technology and efficient handling staff. The remarkable equipment included Next-Generation Sequencing, PCR, MALDI-TOF, Biosafety Cabinet, CO₂ incubator, and Anaerobic chamber. The students were explained the working of these equipment and about the current research work including development of Lateral flows in immunology and molecular biology kits and study of disease-causing

microbes and non-infectious disorders. After the lab visit, the students and staff had an interaction with renowned microbiologist Dr. H.F Dagainawala and Dr. Rajpal Kashyap (Director of CIIMS). They encouraged the students to work hard and learn new techniques, which will open new research avenues for them. They emphasized on building connections within the academic and research community that can be valuable for future educational and career endeavors. They also appreciated the efforts of the staff for exposing the students to the research.

After this enriching experience, the tour went on to the Balasaheb Thackeray Gorewada International Zoological Park for the 3:15 pm safari. The park is spread across a huge area of 539 hectare and is divided into various areas. The one-hour safari included Jungle Drive, Leopard safari, Sloth Bear safari, Herbivore safari, and Tiger safari. This was a good opportunity to witness the beauty of nature and its magnificent creatures up close in a near-natural habitat. The park is home to a variety of flora and fauna, showcasing the rich biodiversity of the region. Along with animals such as Tigers, Leopards, Sloth Bears, Spotted Deer, Albino Deer, and Barking Deer, the park has a diverse bird population. Students learned about different species, their habitats, and the importance of biodiversity in maintaining a balanced ecosystem. The tour guide also gave insights about various animals, their behaviours, and the conservation challenges they face. They also informed about environmental issues, climate change, and the impact of human activities on wildlife and ecosystems. After the safari, high-tea was arranged at the Gorewada garden. The students enjoyed the tea and expressed their delight to the staff. After starting from the park at 5:30 pm, the tour reached the college campus at 10:30 pm. The tour was successfully organized and conducted by the efforts of Dr. H.S Malpani, Ms. S.N Gawande, Mr. S.S Solanke, Ms. J.A Gite, and all teaching and non-teaching staff of Microbiology and Biochemistry.



Staff And Students At CIIMS Advanced Research Centre, Nagpur



Staff At CIIMS Explaining The Students



Interaction With Dr. H.F Daginawala



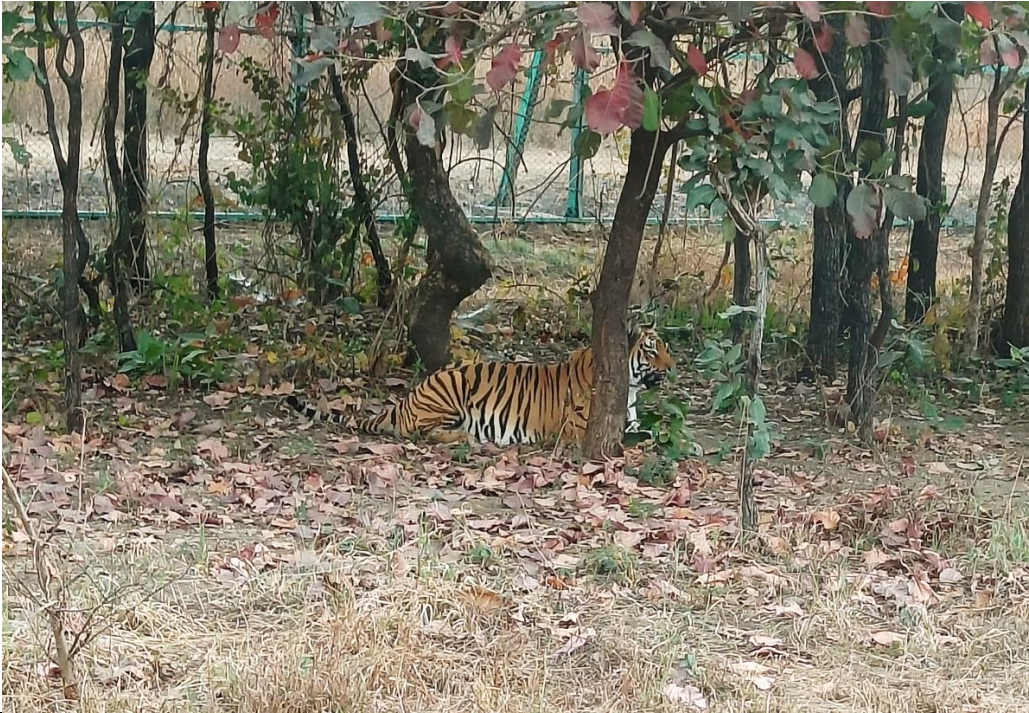
Interaction With Dr. Rajpal Kashyap (Director, CIIMS)



Staff And Students At The Interaction With Researchers At CIIMS



At The Balasaheb Thackeray Gorewada International Zoological Park





Animals at the Balasaheb Thackeray Gorewada International Zoological Park

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