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# "Report on Visit to Savitribai Phule University Pune"

Date: January 28, 2019

Place: Departments of Botany, Zoology, Microbiology and Chemistry

Students Participants: 23 B.Sc.,

Faculty Participants: 2 Faculty members

#### Introduction:

On January 28, 2019 23 B.Sc. students accompanied by 2 faculty members embarked on a visit to the esteemed Savitribai Phule University Pune. The primary objective of this visit was to gain exposure to the advanced facilities, research infrastructure, and academic expertise available at the university's renowned science departments. This report aims to summarize the key aspects of the visit and the valuable insights gained by the participating students.

### Visit Summary:

The group divided itself into smaller teams to explore each department individually.

# Department of Botany:

- Students interacted with faculty members and researchers, gaining insights into ongoing research projects in plant biotechnology, conservation biology, and ethnobotany.
- They had the opportunity to observe specialized instruments like confocal microscopes and explore the herbarium, which houses a vast collection of plant specimens.
- Discussions focused on career opportunities in botanical sciences and potential avenues for collaborative research projects between the two institutions.

# Department of Zoology:

- Students learned about cutting-edge research in animal behaviour, developmental biology, and molecular genetics.
- They witnessed dissections and demonstrations of advanced/laboratory techniques utilized in various zoological studies.

PRINCIPAL Nutan Mahavidyalaya SELU. Dist. Parbhani Interactive sessions explored themes like animal conservation and the application
zoological research in addressing contemporary environmental challenges.

### Department of Microbiology:

- Students gained valuable knowledge about microbial diversity, disease diagnostics, and the application of microbes in industrial processes.
- They observed specialized equipment used in microbiological research, including bioreactors and fermentation chambers.
- Discussions revolved around emerging trends in microbiology, antibiotic resistance, and the importance of microbial research in public health.

### Department of Chemistry:

- Students witnessed demonstrations of advanced instrumentation like NMR spectrometers and high-performance liquid chromatographs.
- They interacted with faculty members engaged in research on topics like organic synthesis, material science, and computational chemistry.
- Sessions explored the diverse career paths available to chemists and the role of chemical research in addressing societal needs.

### Aims and Objectives of the Excursion Tour

#### Aim:

To enrich the botanical knowledge and understanding of B.Sc. students from the Department of Botany, Nutan Mahavidyalaya, Selu, and students from collaborating departments (Botany, Zoology, Microbiology, and Chemistry), by immersing them in the diverse plant life of the region and bridging the gap between theoretical learning and real-world experience.

### **Objectives:**

# Knowledge and Understanding:

- Expand Plant Diversity Awareness: Enhance students' understanding of the rich variety of plant species found in the region, including native flora, cultivated crops, and potentially endangered or endemic plants.
- Solidify Theoretical Concepts: Allow students to connect classroom learning to real-world scenarios by observing plant morphology, adaptations, and ecological roles within the natural ecosystem.
- Gain Interdisciplinary Insights: Foster interdepartmental collaboration by highlighting the connections between diverse life sciences (Botany, Zoology, Microbiology, and Chemistry) in the context of the observed plant life.

Skills and Application:

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- Develop Plant Identification Skills: Equip students with the ability to identify and classify various plant species encountered during the tour, facilitating independent exploration and data collection.
- Refine Field Observation Techniques: Hone skills in data collection, note-taking, and scientific observation in a natural setting, encouraging collaborative efforts among different academic disciplines.
- Apply Theoretical Knowledge Practically: Enable students to bridge the gap between theory and practice by analysing how botanical principles contribute to ecosystem function and ecological interactions.

# Personal Development and Values:

- Spark Scientific Curiosity: Ignite students' interest in plant science, ecology, and the
  interconnectedness of life sciences, potentially inspiring future academic pursuits and
  research interests.
- Cultivate An Appreciation For Environmental Responsibility: Foster a sense of wonder and respect for the delicate balance of natural ecosystems, emphasizing the importance of sustainable practices and responsible human interaction with the environment.
- Promote Teamwork and Communication: Encourage interdepartmental collaboration and information sharing among students through group activities, discussions, and data analysis, fostering communication and learning from diverse perspectives.

### **Additional Considerations:**

- Tailor the specific objectives to align with the current curriculum and learning outcomes of the participating departments.
- Adapt the objectives to the specific location and ecosystem visited, focusing on the unique plant communities and challenges present.
- Offer activities and discussions that cater to students' diverse interests and learning styles, encouraging active participation and engagement across departments.
- Encourage reflection and analysis through post-tour discussions, written reports, or presentations, focusing on the impact of the excursion on their understanding of regional plant life and interdisciplinary connections.

By fulfilling these aims and objectives, the excursion tour can be a transformative learning experience for all participating students, fostering a deeper appreciation for the fascinating world of plants, the interconnectedness of life sciences, and the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration in addressing environmental challenges

# **Outcomes and Impact:**

The visit to Savitribai Phule University Pune proved to be a highly enriching experience for the participating students. Key outcomes include:

• Enhanced Understanding: Students gained deeper insights into diverse scientific disciplines and cutting-edge research methodologies.

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- Exposure to Advanced Facilities: Witnessing sophisticated equipment specialized laboratories sparked curiosity and motivated students to pursue research careers.
- Networking Opportunities: Interactions with faculty members provided valuable career guidance and potential avenues for future collaborations.
- Motivation and Inspiration: The visit instilled a sense of academic pursuit and motivated students to strive for excellence in their chosen fields.

#### Conclusion:

The interdepartmental excursion tour on January 28, 2019, proved to be a valuable and enriching experience for the participating B.Sc. students from the Department of Botany at Nutan Mahavidyalaya, Selu, and their peers from the collaborating departments of Zoology, Microbiology, and Chemistry. Immersing themselves in the diverse plant life of the region bridged the gap between theoretical knowledge and real-world observation, solidifying their understanding and fostering interdisciplinary collaboration. Stepping beyond textbooks, students witnessed the vibrant tapestry of regional flora first-hand. This hands-on exposure, enriched by collaborative activities and discussions, sparked curiosity about plant science, ecology, and the interconnectedness of life sciences. They honed their plant identification and field observation skills, learning to analyse plant adaptations and ecological roles within the intricate web of the ecosystem. Beyond personal interest, the excursion nurtured teamwork and communication across departments. Sharing observations, collaborating on data collection, and engaging in interdisciplinary discussions fostered a sense of community and appreciation for diverse perspectives. This collaborative environment undoubtedly strengthened their understanding of the holistic approach needed to address environmental challenges and promote sustainable practices. Overall, the excursion exceeded expectations, leaving a lasting impression on the students. This immersive experience will likely influence their academic journeys, motivating them to explore the fascinating world of plants and the interdisciplinary connections within various life sciences. They now carry a newfound appreciation for the diversity and importance of regional plant life, the value of collaborating across disciplines, and the responsibility we share to protect our precious ecosystems.

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( Date-27.01.2019 to 31.01.2019 )



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