Rayat Shikshan Sanstha's

Annasaheb Awate Arts, Commerce & Hutatma Babu Genu Science College

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Department of Mathematics

Study tour report 2024-25

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Introduction

The Department of Mathematics at Annasaheb Awate College organized a study tour and industrial visit from 21st **February, 2025** to 23rd **February, 2025** for a group of **07** students from the Department of Mathematics and 1 faculty member. The purpose of this tour was to provide students with an opportunity to observe industrial operations, gain academic insights, and explore the cultural and historical heritage of the Kolhapur region. The tour was designed to bridge the gap between classroom learning and practical exposure by visiting significant academic and industrial hubs, including Mapro, Shivaji University, Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth Dapoli, and Kolhapur.

The tour not only allowed the students to observe the workings of an industrial setup and university but also offered a deep dive into the agricultural innovations at Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth and a cultural exploration of Kolhapur.

Objectives of the Study Tour

1. To explore real-world applications of mathematical concepts
2. To promote academic learning through exposure to renowned educational institutions like Shivaji University and Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth.
3. To observe the role of mathematics in innovation and technology
4. To strengthen the bond between students and faculty members through a collective experience outside the classroom.

Day 1: Visit to Mapro, Pachgani

The study tour began with a visit to **Mapro**, located in the scenic town of Pachgani, known for its strawberry farming and fruit processing industry. Mapro is a leading brand in the fruit processing industry, specializing in jams, juices, syrups, and other fruit-based products. Upon arrival, the students were welcomed by a company representative who guided them through the entire process of fruit processing.

The students were shown how fresh strawberries and other fruits are processed into jams, syrups, and juices. They observed the entire operation, from fruit sorting and washing to pasteurization, packaging, and labeling. The tour provided valuable insights into the food production process, and the students learned about the quality control measures employed in ensuring the consistency and safety of the products.

Additionally, students were informed about the sustainable practices followed by Mapro, such as using environmentally friendly packaging and reducing food waste. This visit was particularly beneficial for students pursuing careers in business, economics, and agriculture, offering them a firsthand experience of how industry practices align with environmental sustainability.

The day concluded with a visit to the Mapro Garden, where students had the opportunity to relax and enjoy the picturesque surroundings while sampling various Mapro products. This was an excellent opportunity for students to appreciate the importance of marketing and product promotion in the success of a company.

Day 2: Visit to Shivaji University, Kolhapur

On the second day, the group visited **Shivaji University** in Kolhapur, one of the prominent educational institutions in Maharashtra. The students were given a tour of the university campus, including its academic departments, libraries, and research facilities. The visit was organized to expose the students to the infrastructure of higher education and provide an understanding of the academic environment.

The faculty members and the students interacted with professors and researchers who shared insights into the research initiatives taking place at the university. The students were especially interested in learning about the various academic programs offered by Shivaji University, particularly those in the fields of literature and social sciences. The interaction helped students grasp the importance of research and academic collaboration in their chosen fields of study.

A special seminar was conducted on the role of universities in fostering innovation and knowledge sharing. The seminar covered various topics, such as curriculum development, the impact of technology in education, and the importance of interdisciplinary learning. Students were encouraged to think critically about their educational journey and how they can apply their learning in real-world contexts.

Day 3: Visit to Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli

The third day of the tour was dedicated to visiting the **Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth** in Dapoli, which is renowned for its contributions to agricultural research and innovation in the Konkan region. Students were provided with an in-depth tour of the agricultural research farms and laboratories. The visit was organized to highlight the agricultural advancements in crop production, pest management, and sustainable farming techniques.

Students learned about the different agricultural research projects being undertaken at the university, including the cultivation of regional crops, organic farming practices, and soil health management. The students were particularly fascinated by the work done in the field of agricultural biotechnology, which focused on developing high-yielding and pest-resistant crop varieties.

Faculty members from the university also gave detailed lectures on the challenges faced by farmers in the region, including climate change, water scarcity, and the need for improved

agricultural practices. The visit emphasized the importance of combining scientific research with practical agricultural knowledge to improve crop production and ensure food security.

The visit to Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth was a valuable learning experience, particularly for students interested in agriculture, environmental science, and rural development.

Kolhapur Darshan

The final day of the study tour was dedicated to exploring the rich cultural and historical heritage of **Kolhapur**, a city known for its contribution to Maratha history and culture. The students embarked on a tour of the **Mahalakshmi Temple**, one of the most famous pilgrimage sites in India, dedicated to Goddess Mahalaxmi. The temple, with its intricately carved architecture and spiritual significance, left the students awe-struck.

The group also visited the **New Palace**, a historical landmark that was once the residence of the Kolhapur royals. The palace's architecture and the history behind it provided students with a glimpse into the royal past of the region. The **Kolhapur Chappal** factories were also a point of interest, where students were introduced to the traditional process of making the famous Kolhapuri chappals, which are known for their durability and craftsmanship.

In the evening, the students explored **Rankala Lake**, a serene spot that provides a beautiful view of the surrounding landscape. The visit allowed students to appreciate the local culture, traditions, and the art forms that are unique to the region. The cultural aspect of the trip was important for broadening students' perspectives and deepening their understanding of regional diversity.

Conclusion

The study tour to Mapro, Shivaji University, Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, and Kolhapur was an enriching experience for the students of the Department of Mathematics, Annasaheb Awate College. The visit allowed them to explore industrial operations, academic research, and cultural heritage, thereby integrating their classroom learning with real-world experiences. The students not only gained practical insights into the industries of food processing and agriculture but also developed a deeper appreciation for the historical and cultural significance of Kolhapur.

This tour was a valuable opportunity for the students to develop professionally and personally, and it fostered a sense of unity among the students and faculty members. The knowledge and experiences gained during the tour will undoubtedly serve them well in their future academic and professional endeavors.

The department looks forward to organizing similar study tours and industrial visits in the future to provide students with more opportunities for hands-on learning and personal growth.

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