

G. Narayanamma Institute of Technology and Science (for women)

EK BHARAT SHRESHTHA BHARAT – Student Exchange Program

09-01-2020 to 18-01-2020

Telangana & Haryana

No other country in the world is as uniquely mysterious as India since it is multi-cultural multi-lingual and multi-religious nation. Nowhere in the world, people belonging to different traditions and cultures, religions and languages live together so peacefully. Only in India, the feeling of ‘**Indianness**’ is as divine as we live in ‘**Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam**’. The programme, **Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat** based on Sardhar Vallabai Patel’s dream of ‘**One India**’, was announced by honorable Prime Minister, Narendra Modi on 31st of October 2015 on the occasion of Patel’s birth anniversary to reinforce the concept of “**Unity in Diversity**” and national integration. The programme blessed all of us with incredible opportunity to celebrate a sense of nationhood and more importantly, the feeling of oneness by giving us firsthand information and hands on experience of our rich heritage and culture through this cultural and social exchange initiative across the states. The main objective of EBSB programme or the campaign to exchange culture among different states, we feel has been successfully accomplished.

The Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) which is the nodal agency for this initiative paired our college, **G. Naryanamma Institute of Technology and Science (GNITS), Hyderabad, Telangana** with **Guru Gobind Singh College of Pharmacy(GGSCOP), Yamuna Nagar, Haryana**.

We the 8 teachers along with 20 confident and ‘**creative students**’ of GNITS of various engineering departments, set out on an adventurous journey to Yamuna nagar on **9th January, 2020** from Secunderabad station. Though it was not a Himalayan expedition, though it was not rock climbing, and river crossing, standing in the face of bitterly biting freezing cold has given an adventurous experience for all of us. 38 hours long and tedious journey came to an end and we reached our destination on **11th at 1.30am**. By the time we reached our destination - Yamuna Nagar, two men by name Mr. Abhishek and Mr. Rohith received us with warm welcome in bitter cold.

Our first days programme started with informal interaction. After a quick exchange of pleasantries, we along with faculty members of **Guru Gobind Singh College of Pharmacy**, visited the busy bustling local market, **Meena Bazar** where we explored the market without leaving any stone unturned and made the most of the street food like – **Alu ka tikki, gol gappe, momos both fried and steamed, ice cream in freezing cold weather, mouthwatering and lip-smacking crispy zilabies, carrot juice** and many more.



The second day, we were taken to the nearby village called Mandebri, where we spent some time going around the village wishing the elders with the greetings- '**Ram Ram Thai and Ram Ram Thou**' as sign of respect and visited **RPSF - Railway Protection Service Force**. We tried some training activities that they undergo on a regular basis as part of their training program. Soon after we returned from RPSF, we had different varieties of delicious traditional delicacies offered by the family members of **Ms. Geetha who is an integral part of Guru Gobind Singh College of Pharmacy**.





Third day, we spent time in the campus of Guru Gobind Singh College of Pharmacy visiting their labs, trying to understand the intricacies involved in the preparation of medicine we consume and interacting with students. It was with great pleasure we took part in Lohri festivities and celebrated the bonfire event with exuberant energy. With lots of excitement and cheerfulness we danced along with them.





Forth day, we were taken on a field trip to **Kurukshethra** which included visiting both historical and tourist places. The places include **Kurukshethra University**, **Bramha Sarovar** which is known for its beauty and serenity and the actual battlefield between **Kauravas and Pandavas** where **Bhagwad Geeta** was delivered to Arjuna by Lord **Krishna**. The picturization of the Mahabharat battle field artificially created in The Srikrishna Sangrhalay and Kurukshetra Panorama and Science Centre, left an indelible impression on our minds and hearts. The most fascinating thing about our trip was, attending **Haryanvi wedding ceremony** of the nephew of the Principal, Guru Gobind Singh College of Pharmacy. We tasted more delicacies than we could count and the hospitality we received from the Principal and Staff of the college at the wedding was extremely warm.



The day that we were eagerly waiting to visit the **Golden Temple** materialized with so much of **to be or not to be**. We hardly slept the day before we left for **Amritsar** as we had to be in Amritsar at the earliest opportunity. And to be able to spend some quality time in the temple and leave for **Wagah border** which is famous for '**Beating Retreat Ceremony**'. We could witness grand retreat ceremony of lowering of the flags before sunset which is a usual everyday military practice between India and Pakistan.



The cultural fest was organized on the final day. We learnt **Haryanvi dances** and performed immaculately, enthralling all of the students and staff of GGSCOP. We also represented the culture of **Telangana** through another dance performance. The day was spent with full of activity which began with quizzing our basic knowledge of **Haryana Culture** and ended on a high with lot of singing and dancing.



The hospitality that we received throughout the programme (**EBSB**) was extremely commendable. All of us could feel the unconditional love of the entire college including the cooks who served us amazing food during our entire stay. This programme has given us some of our most cherished memories and many insights into the aspects of Haryana including Food, Language, Culture, History, Sports, Tourism, Industries, Agriculture, Festivals and Education. We think it is worth mentioning that any amount of study about these aspects of Haryana would not have given us as much understanding as the Ek Bharat Shreshta Bharat programme has provided. Our heartfelt thanks to all the people in visualizing and making this initiative materialize at such a grand scale with the noble idea of a **UNIFIED INDIA**. JAI HIND.