



Dr. Marri Channa Reddy Human Resource Development Institute of Telangana

NABET Accredited Excellent (उत्कृष्ट) Institute

STUDY TOUR REPORT (BHARAT DARSHAN)
(FROM 28.04.2024 TO 04.05.2024)

ISTM PHASE-1: Foundation Training Programme for Assistant Section
Officers (Probationer) DR, CSS of 2023 Batch

Conducted by MCR HRD Institute of Telangana

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Dr. MCR HRD Institute
Since 1976

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I take this opportunity to convey our sincere gratitude towards Dr. Marri Channa Reddy Human Resource Development Institute of Telangana for arranging the Bharat Darshan under Foundational Training Programme for ASO Probationers of 2023 Batch. The tour in my point of view is very essential for a newly joined government servant. It provides a bird's eye view of how the Government Machinery works in rural as well as urban India and how the Central/State Government sponsored schemes are implemented. This journey has not only broadened our horizons but also fostered camaraderie and understanding among us. I am immensely grateful for the opportunity to explore the diverse cultural tapestry of our nation under their guidance

I express my sincere thanks to the all the group members for showing tremendous amount of discipline and punctuality which helped in successful completion of the Study tour. At the same time, Special thanks to each member of the MCRHRD IT team and Vinod Gaud sir for their unwavering support and commitment in making this endeavor a resounding success.

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Objective of the Tour

As part of the mandatory ISTM Phase-1 Foundation Training Programme for Assistant Section Officers (ASOs) of 2023 Batch, 01-week Bharat Darshan was organized from 28.04.2024 to 04.05.2024 at Karnataka-Tamilnadu-Kerala under the guidance of Dr. Vinod Goud, Senior Faculty (FTP).

There were 61 participants from different Ministries participating in this Training Programme. This study tour was part of the Training Programme and has following objectives: -

- To expose us to research about the development work being done by the NGO;
- To familiarize us with India's rich cultural heritage and arts;
- To develop team spirit, time management, management of crisis and adaptability to various odd situations.
- To help us to understand the cultural heritage of various part of our country.

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Day 1 : Bangalore - Mysore- Ooty

I. Mudumalai-Bandipur National Park



Stepping into the realm of Mudumalai-Bandipur National Park felt like entering a sanctuary of tranquility and biodiversity. As I embarked on this expedition, I found myself engulfed in the mesmerizing beauty of one of India's most renowned wildlife reserves. Here, I share my first-person account of the unforgettable experiences and captivating encounters that unfolded during my visit

My journey through Mudumalai-Bandipur National Park was a sensory delight from the very beginning. As our vehicle navigated through winding paths flanked by dense foliage, each turn revealed new wonders of nature. Towering trees stretched towards the sky, their branches adorned with vibrant foliage that danced in the gentle breeze.

As I delved deeper into the heart of the park, I was struck by the dedication and commitment of the park authorities towards conservation. Signs of their efforts were evident everywhere, from the well-maintained trails to the stringent measures in place to protect the park's flora and fauna. Anti-poaching patrols, habitat restoration initiatives,

and community engagement programs showcased a holistic approach to preserving the park's delicate ecosystem.



My time spent in Mudumalai-Bandipur National Park was not merely a journey of exploration but also a journey of introspection. Surrounded by nature's magnificence, I found myself contemplating the intricate web of life and humanity's role in its preservation. The experience served as a poignant reminder of the importance of conservation and the need to cherish and protect our natural heritage for generations to come

However, the park faces challenges such as habitat loss, human-wildlife conflict, and poaching, highlighting the importance of continued conservation efforts and sustainable management practices to preserve this natural treasure for future generations.

In conclusion, my visit to Mudumalai-Bandipur National Park was a soul-stirring adventure that left an indelible impression on my heart and mind. From the awe-inspiring beauty of its landscapes to the profound encounters with its wildlife, every moment spent in the park was a testament to the power and resilience of nature. I am immensely grateful for the opportunity to have experienced this ecological marvel firsthand and look forward to future visits to continue my exploration of its wonders.

Day 2: Ooty

I reached ooty in night and found the hill station to be very serene. I decided to take a night time stroll through Ooty, even though it was quite cold. i wandered around the town when most people were tucked into their warm beds. The streets were lit up with twinkling lights, making the town look like something out of a fairy tale. Even though it was chilly, I felt excited to see what I would find around each corner.



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Moonlight danced through the branches, casting intricate patterns on the lush foliage, while the fragrance of night-blooming flowers hung delicately in the air. The stillness of the night enveloped me like a comforting embrace, as if nature herself was whispering secrets in my ear. Despite the cold, there was a sense of peace and contentment in simply being present in that moment.

Dodabetta Peak



My journey to Doddabetta Peak, situated in the serene Nilgiri Hills of Tamil Nadu, commenced with eager anticipation and a sense of adventure. As a nature enthusiast, I was keen to immerse myself in the breathtaking beauty that awaited atop the highest peak in the Nilgiris.

Setting out from the charming town of Ooty, I embarked on a scenic drive towards Doddabetta Peak. The route meandered through picturesque tea plantations and dense forests, each turn offering glimpses of the region's natural splendour. With a sense of excitement coursing through me, I began the ascent along the winding trail leading to the summit of Doddabetta Peak. The path, flanked by lush foliage and vibrant wildflowers, provided ample opportunities for exploration and contemplation.

The climate at Doddabetta Peak was refreshingly cool and invigorating, offering respite from the sweltering heat of the plains below. The clear skies and gentle breeze provided the perfect backdrop for my exploration, enhancing the overall sense of tranquility and

immersion in nature.



In conclusion, my visit to Doddabetta Peak was an unforgettable journey of discovery and wonder.

From the moment I set foot on its hallowed slopes to the lingering echoes of its timeless beauty, every aspect of the experience left an indelible impression on my soul. As I bid farewell to Doddabetta, I carried with me a profound sense of gratitude for the opportunity to commune with nature in all its magnificence, eager to return and relive the magic once more.

Tea and Chocolate Factory:

My excursion to the tea factory in Ooty was a fascinating journey into the heart of one of India's most renowned tea-producing regions. As a tea aficionado with a passion for exploring the nuances of tea cultivation and processing, I eagerly anticipated the opportunity to witness the intricacies of the tea-making process firsthand.



Stepping into the factory, I was greeted by the aromatic fragrance of freshly processed tea leaves, a testament to the vibrant energy pulsating within. Accompanied by a knowledgeable guide, I embarked on a comprehensive tour, eager to unravel the mysteries of tea production.

The tour commenced with a visit to the withering room, where freshly plucked tea leaves were laid out on trays to undergo the initial phase of moisture removal. Moving on to the rolling and fermentation area, I witnessed skilled artisans meticulously rolling and shaping the tea leaves to unlock their full flavor potential. In the drying and sorting section, I marveled at the precision and attention to detail exhibited by the workers as they carefully dried and graded the tea leaves. No visit to a tea factory would be complete without a tasting session, and I eagerly embraced the opportunity to sample a selection of teas crafted onsite. Guided by a seasoned tea expert, I savored the nuanced flavors and aromas of each brew, from floral Darjeeling to malty Assam,

gaining insight into the diverse world of Indian teas.

In Conclusion, my visit to the tea factory in Ooty was an enriching and memorable experience that deepened my appreciation for the art of tea production. From the lush tea gardens to the bustling factory floor, every aspect of the journey offered a glimpse into the time-honored tradition of tea cultivation in India



Ooty Lake

My excursion to Ooty Lake promised a tranquil retreat amidst the scenic beauty of the Nilgiris. As a nature enthusiast seeking respite from the hustle and bustle of city life, I eagerly anticipated the opportunity to explore this iconic destination nestled in the heart of Ooty.



Stepping onto the shores of Ooty Lake, I was immediately struck by the tranquil beauty that enveloped me. The crystal-clear waters mirrored the verdant hillsides and azure skies, creating a breathtaking tableau of natural splendor. For the more adventurous souls, options such as cycling and horse riding were available, providing an opportunity to explore the surrounding hillsides at their own pace.

From the tranquil waters to the lush greenery that enveloped its shores, every aspect of the experience left an indelible impression on my soul. As I bid farewell to Ooty Lake, I carried with me memories of its serene beauty, eager to return and immerse myself in its timeless embrace once more.

Day 3 Ooty - Wayanad

Botanical Garden:

Arriving at the Botanical Garden, I was immediately captivated by the grandeur of its entrance and the lush greenery that enveloped the surroundings. Accessing the garden was

convenient, with well-maintained pathways and ample signage guiding visitors through its sprawling expanse. The serene ambiance and refreshing breeze set the stage for a memorable exploration.



I ventured into the Fern House and Conservatory, where I was transported to lush tropical rainforests teeming with life. Towering tree ferns, delicate maidenhair ferns, and exotic orchids adorned the landscape, creating a verdant oasis of tranquility amidst the hustle and bustle of the city.

I wandered through the Japanese Garden, I was struck by the sense of serenity and harmony that permeated the space. Manicured bonsai trees, tranquil koi ponds, and intricately designed rock gardens transported me to the tranquil landscapes of Japan, inviting contemplation and introspection.

From the vibrant blooms to the tranquil landscapes, every aspect of the experience spoke to the timeless allure of nature and the boundless creativity of human ingenuity, I carried with me memories of its serene beauty, eager to return and immerse myself in its timeless

embrace once more.

Pykara Falls



My journey to Pykara Falls was an eagerly anticipated adventure, promising a mesmerizing encounter with the breathtaking beauty of nature. Nestled amidst the tranquil landscapes of the Nilgiris, this iconic waterfall beckoned with its roaring cascades and scenic charm.

As I approached the base of Pykara Falls, I was enveloped by a refreshing mist that invigorated my senses. The sheer force of the cascading waters was a humbling reminder of the Earth's raw power and beauty. Surrounded by towering cliffs and lush greenery, I felt a profound sense of connection to the natural world.

my visit to Pykara Falls was a memorable journey into the heart of nature's splendor. From the thundering waters to the serene beauty of the surrounding landscape, every moment was a testament to the Earth's enduring allure.

Day 4: Wayanad

Edakkal Caves



Embarking on my journey to Edakkal Caves, I anticipated a captivating exploration into the depths of history and nature's artistry. Situated amidst the lush landscapes of Wayanad in Kerala, these ancient caverns beckoned with promises of uncovering ancient tales and marveling at geological wonders. Arriving at the entrance of Edakkal Caves, I was immediately struck by the rugged beauty of the surroundings and the sense of intrigue that enveloped the area.

Venturing into the depths of Edakkal Caves, I found myself immersed in a world etched with stories of the past. The caverns revealed a mosaic of ancient rock engravings, each bearing witness to the lives and cultures of civilizations long gone.

Only 20% of the inscriptions have been deciphered, and it shows that people from multiple times have lived there. There are two types of engravings, straight and curved, the latter belong to a more modern period.

Famous engravings include a King, a Lady with a Trolley, dog, etc.



Taking a moment to pause amidst the enigmatic caverns of Edakkal, I pondered the significance of the ancient engravings and the stories they conveyed. Each stroke of the chisel seemed to echo with the aspirations and beliefs of our ancestors, offering a glimpse into the cultural tapestry of bygone eras. It was a humbling reminder of the resilience of the human spirit and the enduring legacy of those who came before us.

Img. Lady with a Trolley

In conclusion, my visit to Edakkal Caves was a journey of discovery and introspection, offering a window into the rich tapestry of human history and natural wonders. Departing from the caverns, I carried with me a newfound appreciation for the mysteries of the past and the timeless beauty of the natural world, eager to delve deeper into the secrets that lay hidden within the rocky embrace of Edakkal.

Kappad Beach



I eagerly anticipated a retreat into Kerala's coastal paradise, where history and natural beauty converge. This famed beach held the allure of serene shores and pristine waters, inviting me to indulge in the timeless charm of its coastal expanse.

It was at this very beach that the Portuguese explorer Vasco da Gama first set foot on

Indian soil in the year 1498. This event marked the beginning of a new era of trade and cultural exchange between India and Europe. Its effects are continued to be seen in the varied names of shops here like, Vasco Da Gama, Sunshine Store, etc.

I was greeted by the soothing symphony of waves and the salty breeze that danced through the air. Accessing the beach was effortless, with a well-worn path guiding me from the parking area to the sandy coastline. Each step toward the shore heightened my anticipation, promising a moment of tranquility amid nature's embrace.

Kappad Beach offered an array of leisure activities, from sunbathing to exploring the tide pools teeming with marine life. Watching the ebb and flow of the tide, I felt a sense of wonder at the natural rhythms of the sea, a reminder of the interconnectedness of all living things.



In conclusion, my visit to Kappad Beach was a soul-nourishing experience that left an indelible impression on my heart. From the tranquil beauty of the coastline to the echoes of history that lingered in the air, every moment spent at this coastal haven was a testament to the enduring power of nature and the timeless allure of exploration. Departing from Kappad Beach, I carried with me memories of serenity and discovery, eager to return to its shores and bask in its coastal splendor once more.

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Day 5: COORG

Namdroling Monastery

My journey to Namdroling Monastery promised a profound immersion into the rich tapestry of Tibetan Buddhist culture and spirituality. Nestled amidst the serene landscapes of Karnataka, India, this sacred sanctuary beckoned with promises of tranquility, enlightenment, and architectural splendor.



Namdroling Monastery served as a vibrant hub of Tibetan culture, offering a glimpse into the rich traditions and heritage of the Tibetan people. From traditional dances and music performances to intricate thangka paintings and handicrafts, the monastery was a celebration of the enduring legacy of Tibetan civilization. Engaging with the vibrant tapestry of Tibetan culture deepened my appreciation for its resilience and beauty, fostering a sense of connection and solidarity with the Tibetan community.

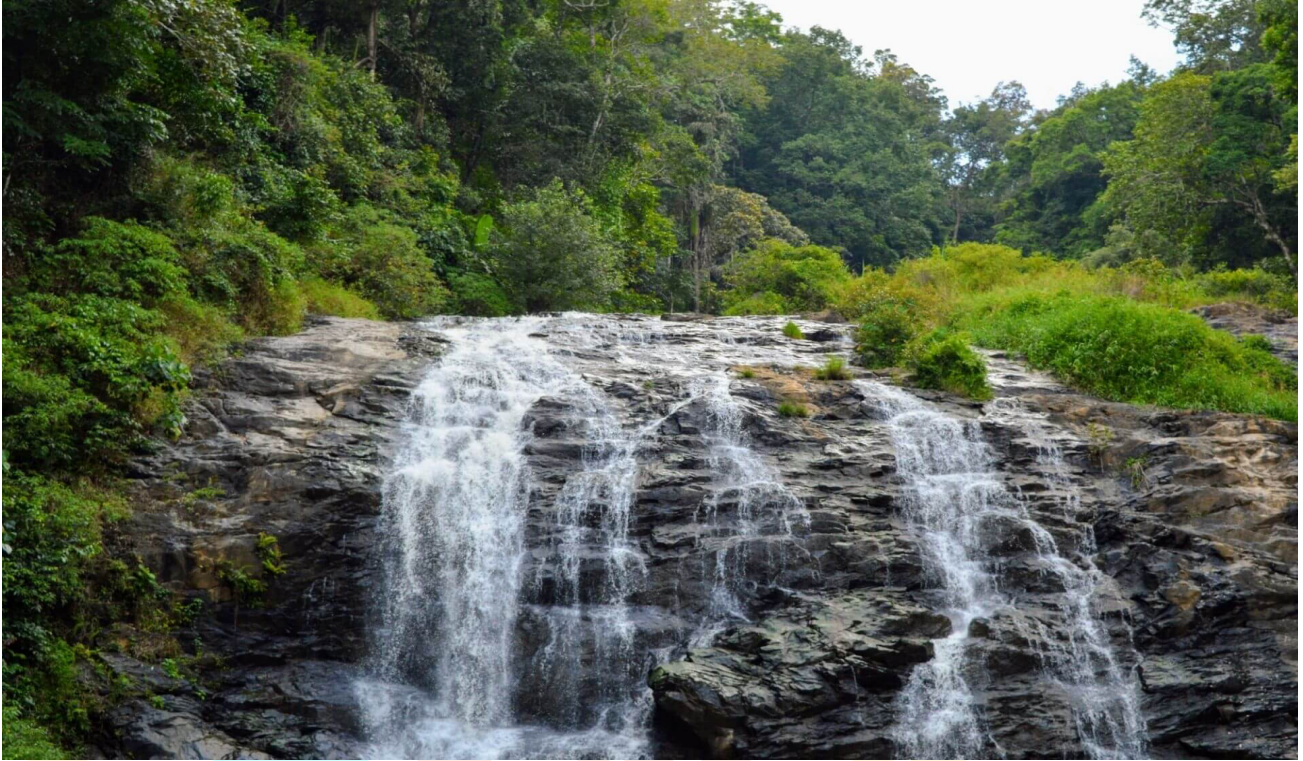
The monastery is not only a place of worship but also a hub for learning, offering courses in Buddhist philosophy, meditation, and traditional arts and crafts. It attracts pilgrims and tourists from around the world who come to seek spiritual guidance, participate in religious ceremonies, and immerse themselves in Tibetan culture.



Departing from this sacred sanctuary, I felt a profound sense of gratitude for the opportunity to embark on this transformative journey of self-discovery and spiritual growth.

Abbey Falls:

Embarking on my journey to Abbey Falls, I anticipated an immersive encounter with nature's grandeur amidst the verdant landscapes of Coorg. This renowned waterfall beckoned with promises of tranquility and awe-inspiring beauty, setting the stage for a memorable exploration.



As I approached the base of Abbey Falls, I was enveloped by a refreshing mist that revitalized my senses. The sheer power of the waterfall reverberated through the air, a reminder of the Earth's raw energy and beauty. Surrounded by towering cliffs and lush foliage, I felt a profound sense of connection to the natural world, humbled by its majesty and grandeur.

Pausing to reflect amidst the tranquility of Abbey Falls, I was overcome by a sense of gratitude for the opportunity to witness such breathtaking beauty. The experience served as a poignant reminder of the importance of preserving and cherishing our natural heritage for future generations to enjoy.

Departing from this tranquil oasis, I carried with me memories of serenity and awe, eager to return and immerse myself in its timeless embrace once more.

ELA CAMPING:

Reflecting on my recent adventure at ELA Camping fills me with excitement and gratitude. Nestled amidst the tranquil wilderness, ELA Camping offered an immersive retreat into nature's embrace, promising unforgettable experiences and cherished memories.



Gathering around the crackling campfire in the evening, I relished in the camaraderie of fellow campers, sharing stories and laughter under the canopy of stars. The warmth of the fire, coupled with the soothing melodies of acoustic music, fostered a sense of unity and connection that transcended language and culture.

One of the highlights of my experience at ELA Camping was undoubtedly the culinary delights served up by the talented chefs. From hearty breakfasts to gourmet dinners prepared using locally sourced ingredients, each meal was a culinary masterpiece that tantalized the taste buds and satisfied the soul.

In conclusion, my experience at ELA Camping was nothing short of extraordinary—a perfect blend of adventure, relaxation, and camaraderie amidst nature's grandeur.

Day 6: MYSORE

NGO Visit



ODP (Organisation for the Development of People – Mysore)

This NGO is dedicated to promoting social development and addressing various issues faced by underprivileged communities. It focuses on empowering marginalized communities through education, healthcare, skill development, and livelihood programs. The organization aims to uplift individuals and create sustainable change in their lives

Observations and Assessments:

Impact Assessment:

Evaluating effectiveness of the NGO's programs in creating a positive impact on the lives of the beneficiaries. This involved assessing the outcomes of their education initiatives, healthcare services, vocational training, and livelihood support.

Collaborations and Partnerships:

NGO's collaborations with other organizations, government agencies, and corporate entities. This included assessing the effectiveness of their partnerships in leveraging resources, expertise, and support to maximize their impact. Sustainability of these

collaborations in the long run is also evaluated.

Innovation and Adaptability:

NGO's ability to innovate and adapt to changing social needs and circumstances. This involved assessing their use of technology, research-based approaches, and the adoption of best practices in the field.

Cross Questions for the NGO:

Ques. 1: How does the NGO ensure transparency and accountability in its financial management?

Answer: The NGO ensures transparency and accountability in its financial management through various measures. Here are a few common practices:

Proper Bookkeeping: The NGO maintains accurate and up-to-date financial records, including income, expenses, and assets. This helps in tracking and documenting all financial transactions.



Annual Audits: The NGO undergoes regular audits conducted by independent auditors. These audits verify the accuracy and reliability of the financial statements, ensuring transparency and accountability.

Internal Controls: The NGO establishes internal control systems to prevent fraud, mismanagement, or misuse of funds. This

includes segregation of duties, authorization procedures, and regular internal reviews.



Financial Reporting: The NGO prepares comprehensive financial reports, including income statements, balance sheets, and cash flow statements. These reports are shared with stakeholders, donors, and regulatory authorities to provide transparency about the organization's

financial health.

Question 2: What are some common challenges NGOs face in financial management?

Answer: Financial management can indeed pose some challenges for NGOs. Here are a few common ones:

Limited Funding: NGOs often struggle with limited financial resources, making it challenging to meet their programmatic goals and cover operational expenses. They may need to rely on fundraising efforts and seek alternative sources of funding. Moreover, many times the funds are earmarked making reducing the optimum utilization of funds.

Financial Sustainability: Ensuring the long-term financial sustainability of an NGO can be a challenge. It involves developing strategies to generate income, build reserves, and establish partnerships to support ongoing operations. Further these income generating efforts are used to take care of operational and day to day expenses.

Ques. 3: Any specific incident showcasing challenges faced by NGOs?

Answer: Sh. Vinod Gaud sir graciously told us an incident he witnessed working as a Block Development Officer.

At times moneylenders and other influential people are against government and NGOs and try to undermine the work done by them. Once, an embankment was to be constructed in a village. The funding for 1st two stages was disbursed in timely manner. However, there was a delay in the 3rd installment resulting in the project being stalled. In the meantime, there was unusually heavy rain due to which the embankment was washed away. This issue was blown out of proportion and was used to stage a protest against the government.



MYSORE PALACE:

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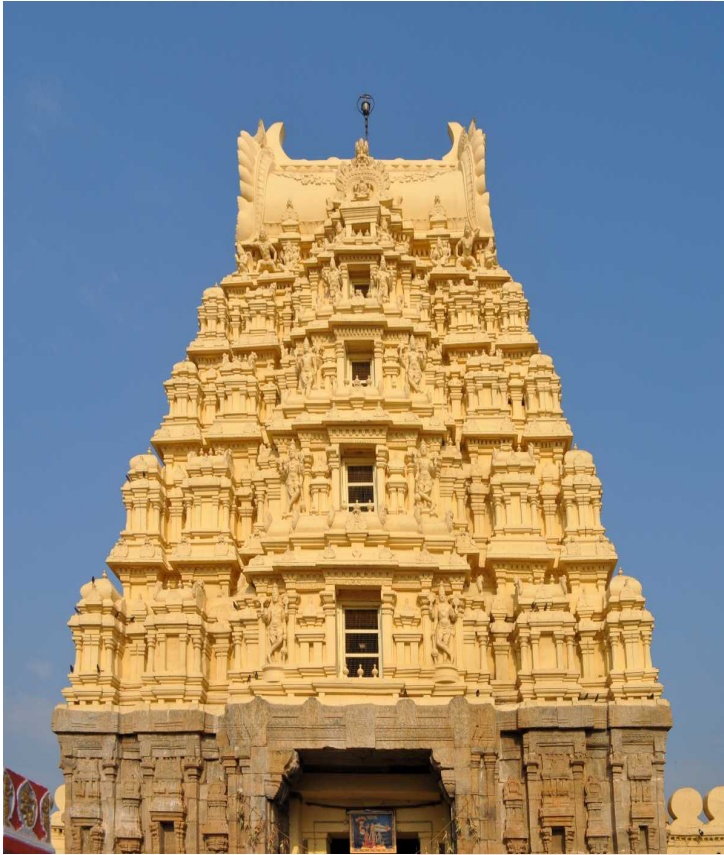


My recent visit to Mysore Palace fills me with a sense of awe and admiration. Stepping into this architectural marvel, I embarked on a journey through time, immersing myself in the rich history and cultural heritage of Karnataka's royal past. Crossing the threshold into the palace's opulent interiors, I was greeted by a breathtaking display of architectural splendor and artistic mastery. Every corner of the palace seemed to tell a story, with ornate ceilings, gilded columns, and exquisite paintings adorning the halls and chambers. As I wandered through the labyrinthine corridors, I marveled at the meticulous attention to detail and the timeless beauty that surrounded me.

As I reluctantly bid farewell to Mysore Palace, I couldn't help but feel a profound sense of gratitude for the opportunity to experience its

timeless beauty and cultural richness. The memories of my visit will forever hold a special place in my heart, serving as a reminder of the enduring legacy of Karnataka's royal heritage and the importance of preserving it for future generations to cherish.

RANGANATH SWAMY TEMPLE:



Reminiscing about my recent journey to Ranganathaswamy Temple evokes a deep sense of spiritual contentment within me. Nestled in the tranquil environs of Srirangapatna, this ancient temple provided me with a profound opportunity to immerse myself in the sacred rituals and age-old traditions of Hinduism.

Upon reaching Ranganathaswamy Temple, I was immediately struck by its majestic architecture and the serene ambiance that enveloped the premises. The towering spires and intricately carved facades spoke volumes of the temple's rich history and spiritual significance, setting the stage for a deeply meaningful experience.

However, due to huge public traffic and less time we couldn't visit into the temple. It was a great comfort to eyes and soul and the aura which we felt was astonishing.

C. Some notable observation made during the entire visit:

Embarking on a journey through Ooty, Wayanad, and Coorg offered a profound exploration of India's rich culinary and cultural tapestry. Each destination unveiled a unique blend of flavors and traditions, providing a sensory feast for the curious traveler.

Ooty: Paradise for Nature Lovers

Ooty is renowned for its breathtaking landscapes adorned with lush tea gardens, dense forests, and rolling hills. The verdant vistas offer a visual treat, especially at viewpoints like Doddabetta Peak and Ooty Lake. The hill station's temperate climate, characterized by cool summers and chilly winters, provides respite from the sweltering heat of the plains. The misty mornings and pleasant afternoons make it an ideal retreat throughout the year.

The Government Botanical Garden showcases a diverse collection of exotic plants, flowers, and trees. Visitors can marvel at the vibrant floral displays, including the mesmerizing Ooty rose garden, which boasts a myriad of rose varieties. From historic landmarks like St. Stephen's Church to the tribal Toda settlements, Ooty is replete with cultural attractions that offer glimpses into its past and traditions.

Wayanad: Way Beyond

The tagline conveys that the essence of the journey through Wayanad is every bit as beautiful as the destination itself.

Wayanad is adorned with verdant hills, dense forests, and cascading waterfalls, creating a picturesque setting that captivates the soul. Wayanad is home to an incredible array of flora and fauna, making it a haven for nature lovers and wildlife enthusiasts.

The indigenous tribes of Wayanad, including the Paniyas, Kurichiyas, and Kurumas, add to the region's cultural diversity. Visitors can engage in cultural exchanges, learning about traditional customs, art forms, and lifestyles.

Coorg: Coffee Capital of India

Coorg is renowned for its lush coffee estates, where emerald-green coffee plants carpet the rolling hills. Nestled amidst the Western Ghats, Coorg boasts mist-clad mountains and cascading waterfalls that create a serene ambiance.

Camping offers a unique opportunity to immerse oneself in the local way of life. Guests can savor authentic Coorgi cuisine, interact with hospitable hosts, and partake in activities like plantation walks and birdwatching.

Thank You