REPORT ON

BHARAT DARSHAN(Karnataka Group)

(28.04.2024 to 04.05.2024)

CONDUCTED BY:-



PRESCRIBED BY:-



Submitted by :-

Shivam Yadav (Group Leader) (OT code – B84) Ministry of Tribal Affairs

<u>Acknowledgement</u>

"I want to extend my heartfelt appreciation to ISTM and MCR HRD IT for orchestrating an exceptional educational excursion, the Bharat Darshan tour in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala. This incredibly enriching experience stands as a testament to the meticulous planning and dedicated commitment exhibited by both institutions.

A special acknowledgment goes to Dr. Kandukuri Usha Rani,Sr. Faculty-CH-CDS and our Course Director, whose steadfast support ensured a seamless and enlightening journey.

I'm immensely grateful to our course coordinator Shri. P. Vinod Goud whose unwavering dedication, meticulous planning, and flawless execution contributed to the tremendous success of this tour.

Beyond its intellectual pursuits, the Bharat Darshan/study tour fostered enduring memories and fostered camaraderie among us. It wasn't just an educational journey; it was a platform that created lasting bonds and cherished moments.

The thoughtfully curated tour and immersive experiences have significantly broadened our horizons. Exploring the historical marvels of Mysuru ,the natural beauty of Ooty , Waynad and Coord has enriched our understanding of the subjects we've been studying.

Once again, my deepest gratitude to ISTM and MCR HRD IT for granting us this invaluable opportunity to learn, explore, and forge indelible connections."

- SHIVAM YADAV B84

OVERVIEW	
28.04.2024	Departure from Hyderabad, Bandipur Tiger Reserve, Mudumalai Elephant Reserve
29.04.2024	Doddabetta peak, Tea-chocolate factory, Boat House
30.04.2024	Government botanical garden, The Nilgiris District Co. Operative Employees Co. Operative Thrift and Credit Society Ltd., TRIFED, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Paykara Lake,
01.05.2024	Edekkal Caves, Kappad Beach
02.05.2024	Abbi falls
03.05.2024	Namdroling Monestry, St. Philomena's Cathedral Church Mysore, KSR Dam, Vrindavan Garden
04.05.2024	Organisation for Development of People (NGO), Mysore Palace, Sriranapatna Temple, Return to Hyderabad

Introduction

Bharat Darshan Group-2 embarked on an extraordinary journey across South India, encompassing the enchanting destinations of Bengaluru, Ooty, Wayanad, Coorg, and Mysore. Over six immersive days, the itinerary unfolded a rich tapestry of cultural heritage, natural wonders, and memorable experiences, offering participants a comprehensive glimpse into the diverse landscapes and traditions of the region.

Report on Day 0: April 28th, 2024

The journey commenced as the group arrived at Hyderabad's Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, filled with anticipation and excitement for the adventures that awaited them. After a smooth check-in process and a brief wait, the group boarded their flight bound for Bengaluru, the bustling capital of Karnataka. As they soared through the skies, conversations buzzed with excitement, and plans for the days ahead began to take shape.



Upon arrival at Bengaluru's Kempegowda International Airport, the group was greeted by the warm embrace of Karnataka's hospitality. Stepping out into the terminal, they were immediately immersed in the vibrant energy of the city, with its bustling crowds and bustling activity. After collecting their luggage and regrouping, the travelers made their way to the designated meeting point, where their tour guide awaited them with a warm smile and a hearty welcome.



With everyone accounted for, the group embarked on the next leg of their journey: a scenic drive to Ooty, the "Queen of Hill Stations." Nestled amidst the mist-clad Nilgiri Hills, Ooty promised a tranquil retreat from the hustle and bustle of city life, offering a sanctuary of natural beauty and serenity.

The journey from Bengaluru to Ooty was punctuated by breath taking vistas of rolling hills, lush valleys, and sprawling tea plantations. Along the way, the group made a pit stop at The President, Mysore, a renowned eatery known for its delectable cuisine and warm hospitality. Here, they indulged in a hearty lunch, savouring the flavours of South Indian delicacies while exchanging stories and getting to know one another better.



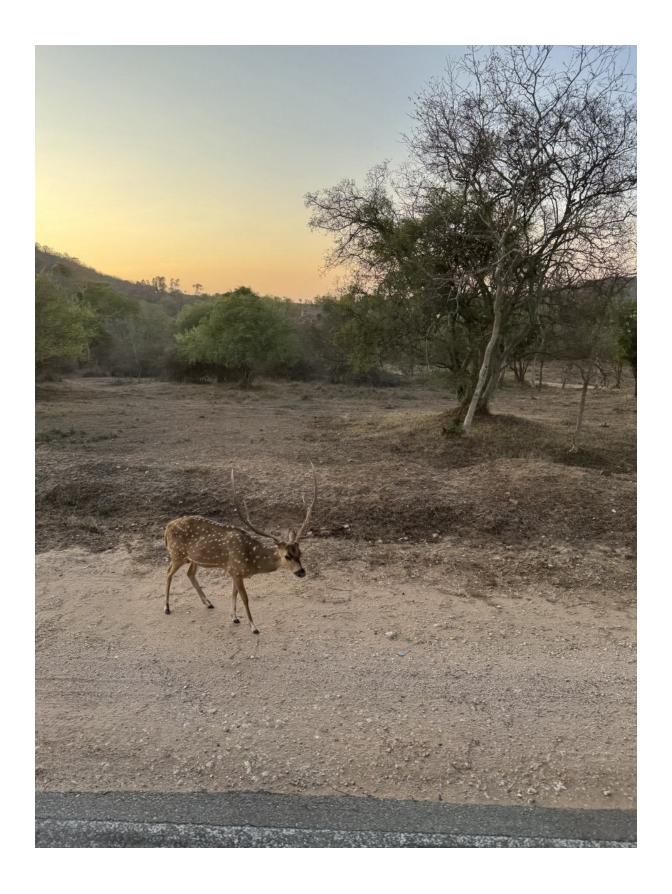
Refreshed and refuelled, the travellers resumed their journey, eager to explore the wonders that lay ahead. Their next destination was Bandipur Tiger Reserve, one of the country's premier wildlife sanctuaries and a haven for biodiversity. As they entered the reserve, the group was greeted by the sights and sounds of the jungle: the rustle of leaves, the chirping of birds, and the occasional roar of a distant tiger.





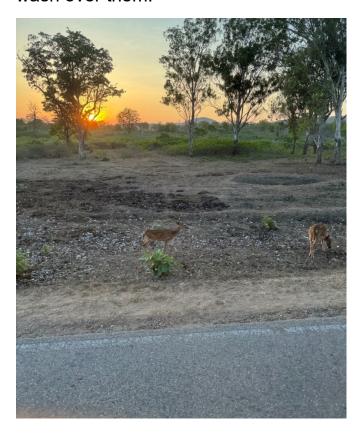


Under the guidance of experienced coordinator of our group Shri. P. Vinod Goud, Faculty, Dr. MCR HRD IT, the travellers embarked on a thrilling safari through the heart of the reserve, hoping to catch a glimpse of the majestic creatures that called it home. Along the way, they encountered a myriad of wildlife, including elephants, deer, monkeys, and exotic bird species. Each sighting filled them with a sense of wonder and awe, reaffirming the importance of conservation efforts in preserving these precious habitats for future generations.



As the sun began to set, casting a golden hue over the landscape, the group bid farewell to Bandipur and continued their journey towards Ooty. Passing through the picturesque town of Gudalur, they marvelled at the

beauty of their surroundings, feeling a sense of peace and contentment wash over them.



Finally, after several hours on the road, the group arrived in Ooty, their home for the next few days. As they checked into their hotel and settled into their rooms, anticipation for the adventures that lay ahead filled the air. With Day 0 drawing to a close, the travelers retired to bed, eager to explore the charms of Ooty in the days to come.



Report on Day 1: April 29th, 2024

The first light of dawn broke over the mist-covered hills of Ooty, signaling the start of a new day filled with promise and possibility. Eager to make the most of their time in this idyllic hill station, the group rose early and gathered for breakfast, fuelling up for the adventures that lay ahead.



Their first stop of the day was Doddabetta Peak, the highest point in the Nilgiri Mountains and a must-visit destination for nature enthusiasts and adventure seekers alike. Perched at an elevation of 2,637 meters above sea level, Doddabetta offered panoramic views of the surrounding landscape, with rolling hills, verdant valleys, and shimmering lakes stretching out as far as the eye could see.



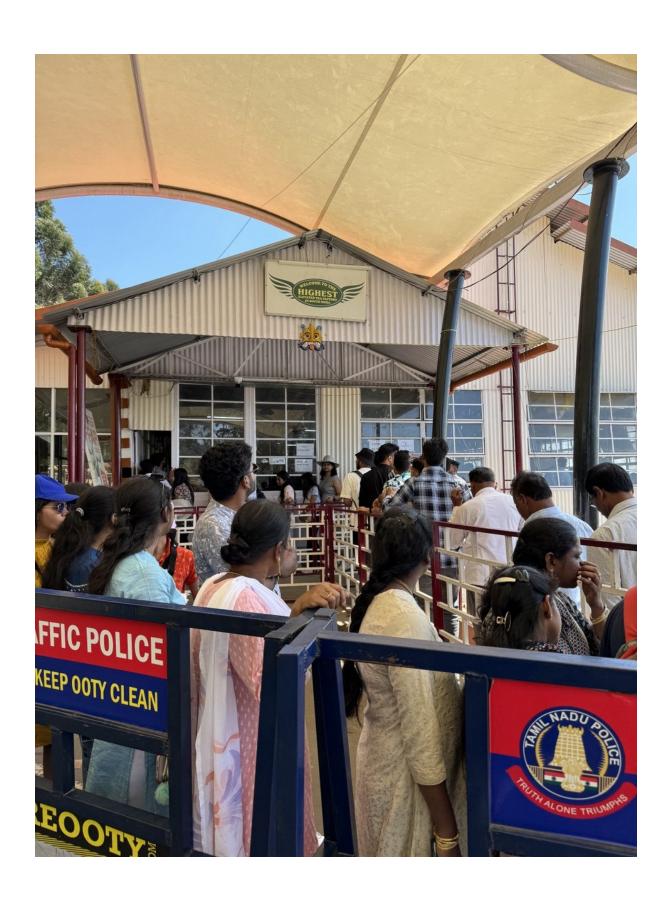
As we made our way to the summit, the travellers marvelled at the natural beauty that surrounded them, snapping photos and soaking in the breath taking vistas. At the peak, we were treated to a spectacular

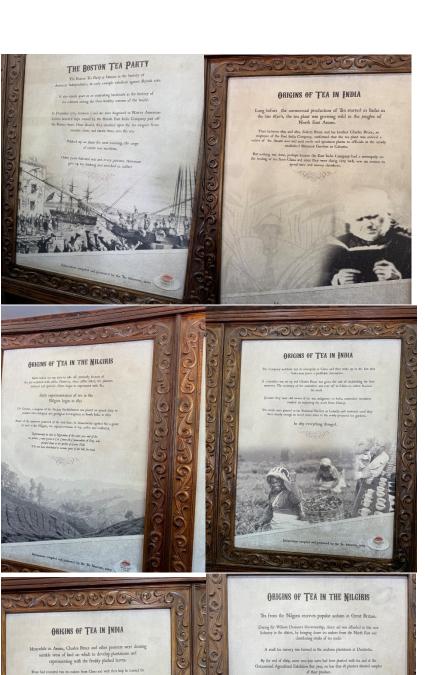
sight: the sun rising slowly over the horizon, casting a warm glow over the landscape and painting the sky in hues of pink, orange, and gold.

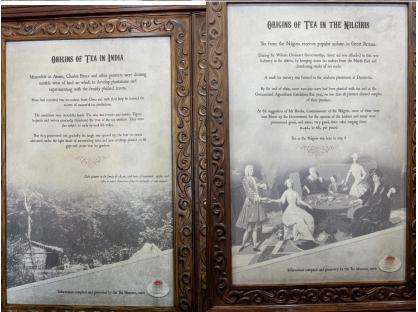




After spending some time admiring the view and exploring the area, the group descended from Doddabetta and made their way to their next destination: the Tea Factory and Chocolate Factory. Here, we were given a behind-the-scenes look at the tea-making process, from plucking the leaves to drying, rolling, and packaging the final product. We also learned about the history of tea cultivation in Ooty and its importance to the local economy.











Next, it was time to satisfy their sweet tooth with a visit to the Chocolate Factory, where they watched skilled artisans at work crafting delicious chocolates from scratch. From creamy milk chocolates to rich dark varieties, there was something for everyone to enjoy. After sampling a few treats and stocking up on souvenirs, the group bid farewell to the factories and headed to a local restaurant for lunch.



Fuelled by good food and great company, the travellers set out to explore more of Ooty's attractions, starting with a visit to the Boat House. Situated on the shores of Ooty Lake, the Boat House offered a range of recreational activities, including boating, and nature walks. Eager to experience the beauty of the lake up close, the group rented a paddleboat and set off on a leisurely cruise, gliding across the tranquil waters as the sun dipped below the horizon.



As darkness fell over Ooty, the travelers reluctantly returned to their hotel, their hearts full of memories from a day spent exploring the natural and cultural treasures of this enchanting hill station. With Day 1 coming to an end, they retired to their rooms, looking forward to the adventures that awaited them on Day 2.

Report on Day 2: April 30th, 2024

Botanical Garden Visit (9:30 AM - 12:30 PM):

The day began with a visit to the Botanical Garden at 9:30 AM. Located in a serene environment, the garden boasted an extensive collection of flora from various ecosystems. Visitors were treated to a visual feast of vibrant flowers, towering trees, and meticulously curated landscapes. The garden not only provided an opportunity for leisurely strolls but also served as an educational hub, offering insights into plant diversity and conservation efforts.







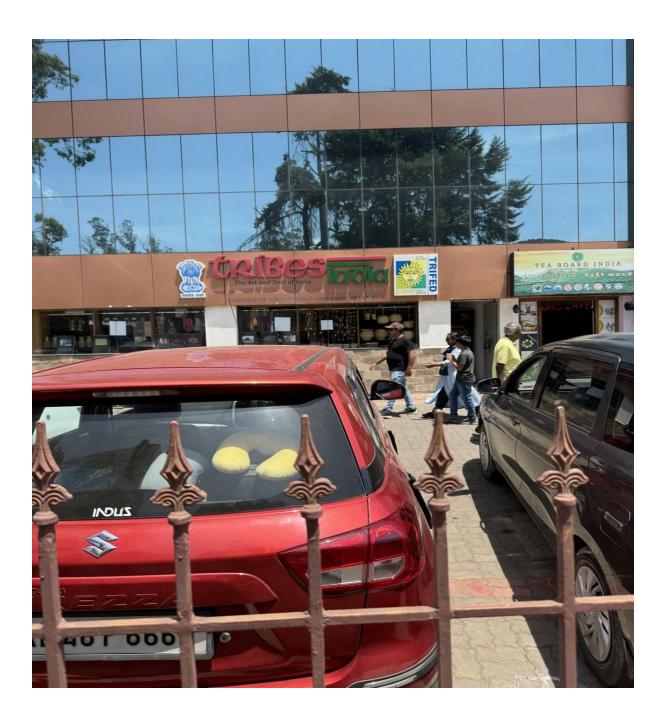
Interaction with Cooperative Society:

Following the botanical excursion, the itinerary included a visit to The Nilgiris District Co. Operative Employees Co. Operative Thrift and Credit Society Ltd set up in 1968. This segment of the day offered a glimpse into the functioning of cooperative societies, their role in economic development, and support for local communities. Discussions revolved around financial inclusion, cooperative principles, and the societal impact of such organizations.



Engagement with TRIFED, Ministry of Tribal Affairs:

As being working in the ministry of tribal affairs I have visited TRIFED, under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. This segment aimed to understand the initiatives undertaken for the welfare and empowerment of tribal communities. Discussions encompassed sustainable livelihoods, tribal arts and crafts, and initiatives promoting tribal entrepreneurship. The visit provided valuable insights into efforts aimed at preserving indigenous cultures while fostering economic growth.



Rendezvous with Nature at Paykara Waterfall (2:00 PM):

The afternoon saw a departure from institutional engagements to embrace the pristine beauty of Paykara Waterfall. Nestled amidst lush greenery, the waterfall offered a refreshing retreat for travellers. The rhythmic cascade of water against the backdrop of verdant landscapes provided a serene ambiance for relaxation and rejuvenation. Visitors indulged in nature walks, photography sessions, and leisurely picnics, savoring the tranquility of the surroundings.



Journey to Waynad:

As the afternoon waned, it was time to bid adieu to Paykara and embark on the journey to Waynad. The road trip through scenic routes offered glimpses of verdant valleys, cascading streams, and mist-shrouded hills. Travelers soaked in the panoramic vistas, capturing memories of the picturesque landscapes that unfolded along the way.

Arrival at Waynad (8:00 PM):

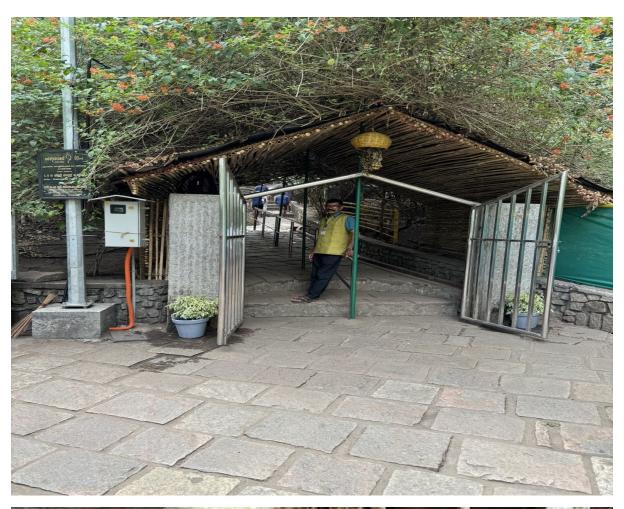
The day concluded with the arrival at Waynad around 8:00 PM. Nestled in the lap of nature, Waynad welcomed travellers with its serene ambiance and tranquil charm. As night descended, weary travellers found solace in the cozy accommodations, eagerly anticipating the adventures that awaited in the enchanting landscapes of Waynad.

Report on Day 3: May 1st, 2024

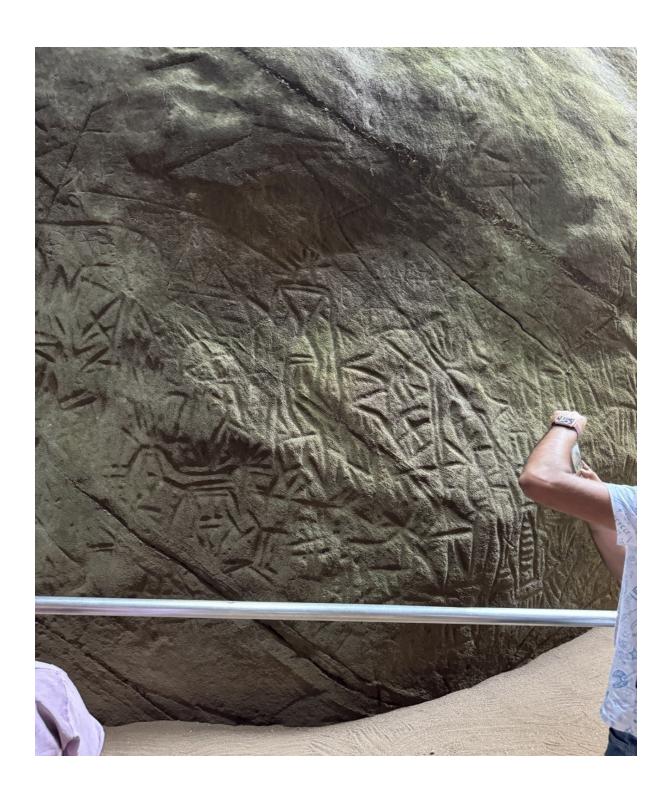
Exploration of Edekkal Caves (9:00 AM):

The day began with a journey into the past as travellers ventured to the enigmatic Edekkal Caves around 9:00 AM. Nestled amidst lush greenery, these ancient caves are renowned for their prehistoric rock art, dating back thousands of years. Visitors marvelled at the intricate carvings and paintings adorning the cave walls, offering glimpses into the lives and cultures of bygone eras. The visit to Edekkal Caves provided a fascinating insight into Kerala's rich archaeological heritage.









Historical Sojourn at Kappad Beach (4:30 PM - 6:30 PM):

In the afternoon, travellers embarked on a historical excursion to Kappad Beach, a coastal gem steeped in history. It was at this picturesque shoreline that the first Portuguese traveller, Vasco da Gama, set foot in Kerala in 1498. Visitors soaked in the serene ambiance of the beach,

adorned with golden sands and azure waters, while reflecting on the historical significance of this momentous event. The visit to Kappad Beach offered a poignant reminder of Kerala's maritime legacy and its enduring cultural connections with the wider world.





Return to Waynad:

As the sun began to set on the horizon, travelers bid farewell to the coastal charms of Kappad Beach and embarked on the journey back to Waynad. The return journey provided an opportunity to reflect on the day's adventures and bask in the memories created amidst the cultural and natural splendors of Kerala.

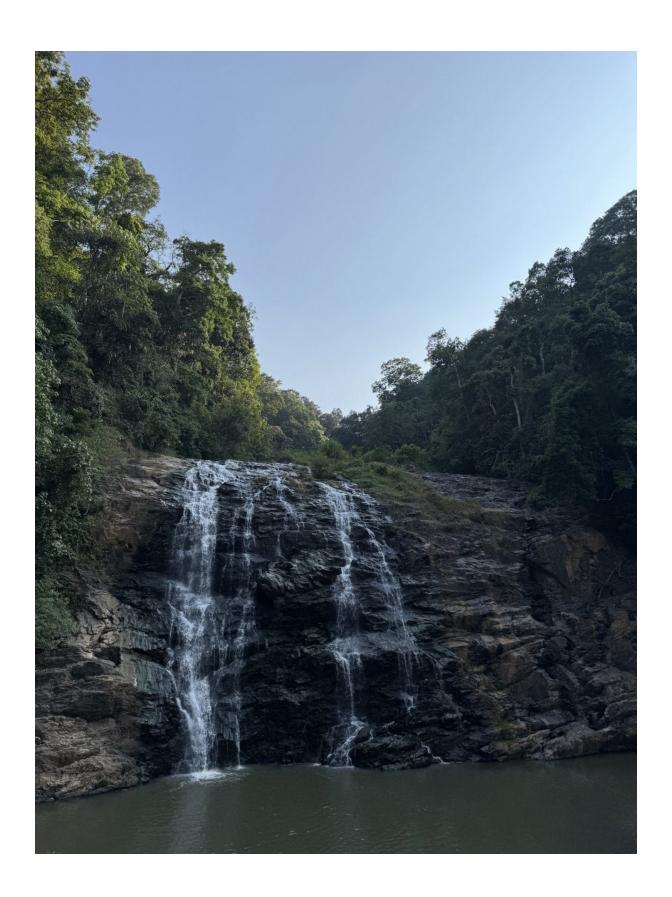
Report on Day 4: May 2nd, 2024

Departure from Waynad and Journey to Coorg:

The day commenced with travellers bidding farewell to the tranquil environs of Waynad as they checked out from their hotel. Embarking on a scenic journey, they traversed winding roads that offered panoramic views of verdant valleys and mist-clad mountains. The road trip served as an opportunity for contemplation and anticipation as travellers eagerly looked forward to the adventures awaiting them in Coorg.

Exploration of Abbi Falls (3:00 PM):

Upon reaching Coorg, the itinerary included a visit to the breath-taking Abbi Falls around 3:00 PM. Nestled amidst lush greenery, these cascading waterfalls are a sight to behold, their waters plunging into a serene pool below. Travelers were enthralled by the majestic beauty of the falls, capturing moments of awe amidst the thundering rush of water and verdant surroundings. The visit to Abbi Falls provided a serene interlude, allowing travellers to reconnect with nature's splendour and revel in the tranquillity of their surroundings.





Night Stay in Camps:

As dusk descended, travellers embraced the spirit of adventure by opting for a night stay in camps amidst Coorg's picturesque landscapes. Nestled under a canopy of stars, the camps offered a unique opportunity to immerse oneself in the rhythms of nature. Travelers gathered around crackling bonfires, sharing stories and laughter under the night sky. The tranquil ambiance of the campsite provided a serene retreat, allowing travellers to unwind and rejuvenate amidst the soothing embrace of nature.





Report on Day 5: May 3rd, 2024

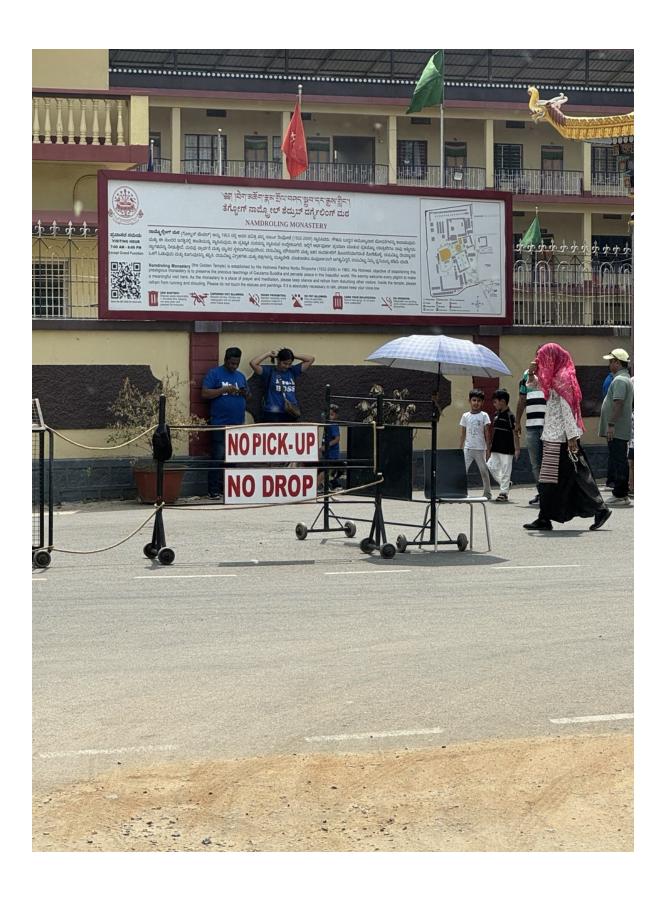
Departure for Mysore from Coorg:

The day commenced with travelers bidding farewell to the picturesque landscapes of Coorg as they embarked on a journey towards Mysore. The scenic drive offered glimpses of rolling hills and verdant forests, providing a tranquil backdrop for contemplation and anticipation of the day's adventures.

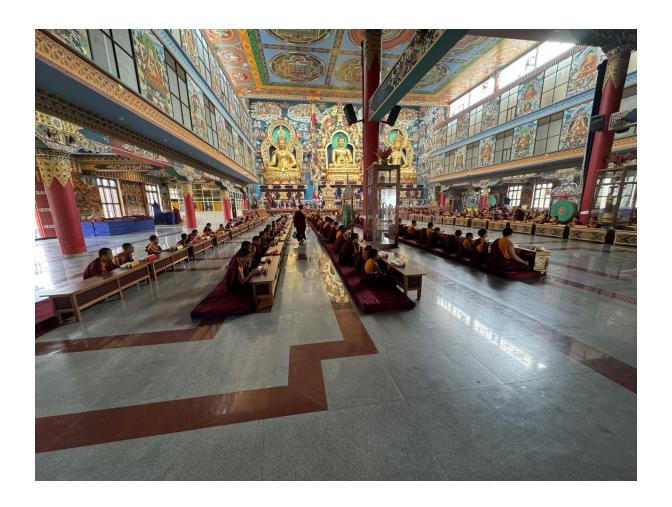
Exploration of Namdroling Monastery (11:30 AM - 1:30 PM):

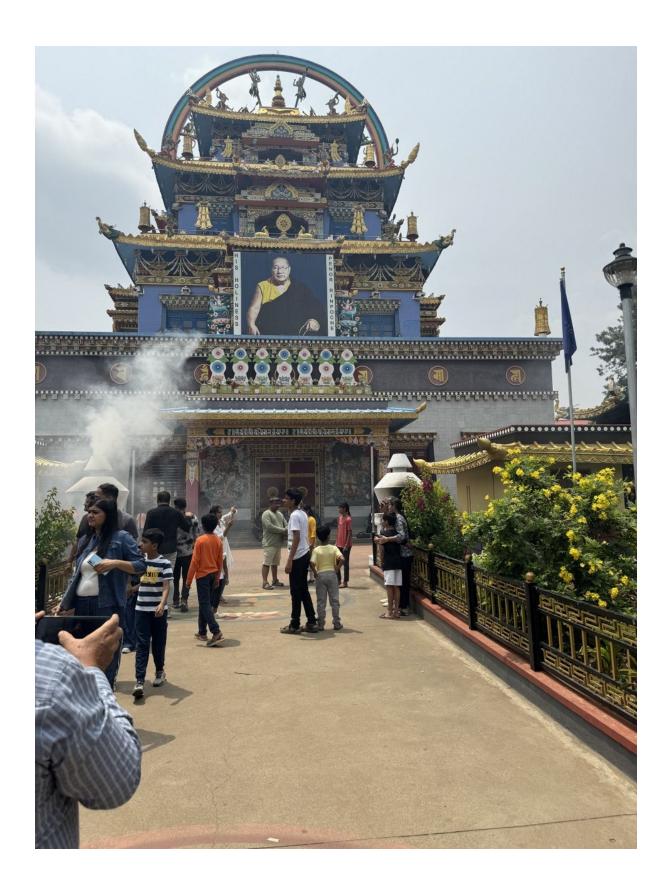
Arriving at Piriyapatna around midday, travellers visited the Namdroling Monastery, also known as the Golden Temple. Nestled amidst lush greenery, this Tibetan Buddhist monastery is renowned for its ornate architecture and vibrant cultural heritage. Visitors were captivated by the intricate artwork adorning the monastery walls and the serene ambiance of the prayer halls. The visit provided a tranquil interlude, allowing travellers to immerse themselves in the spiritual atmosphere and witness the rituals of Buddhist monks.







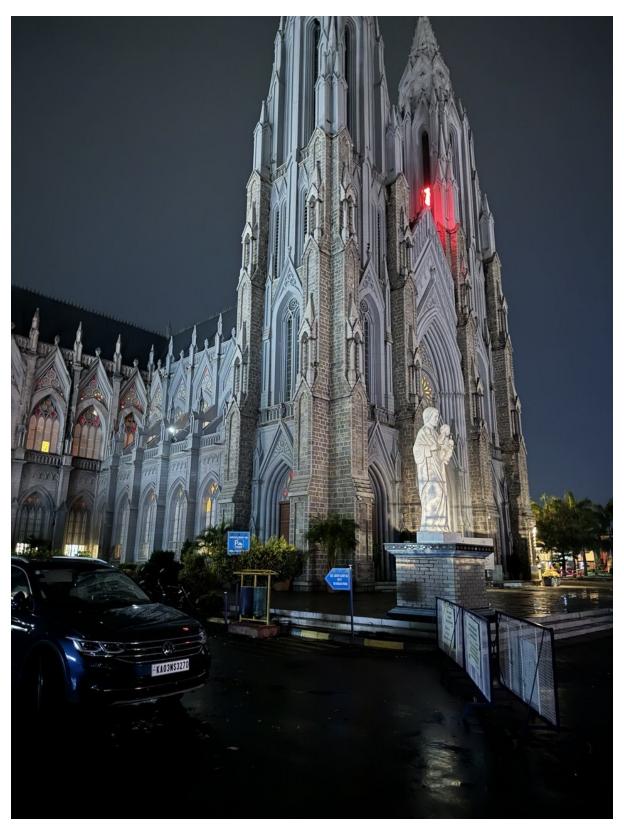




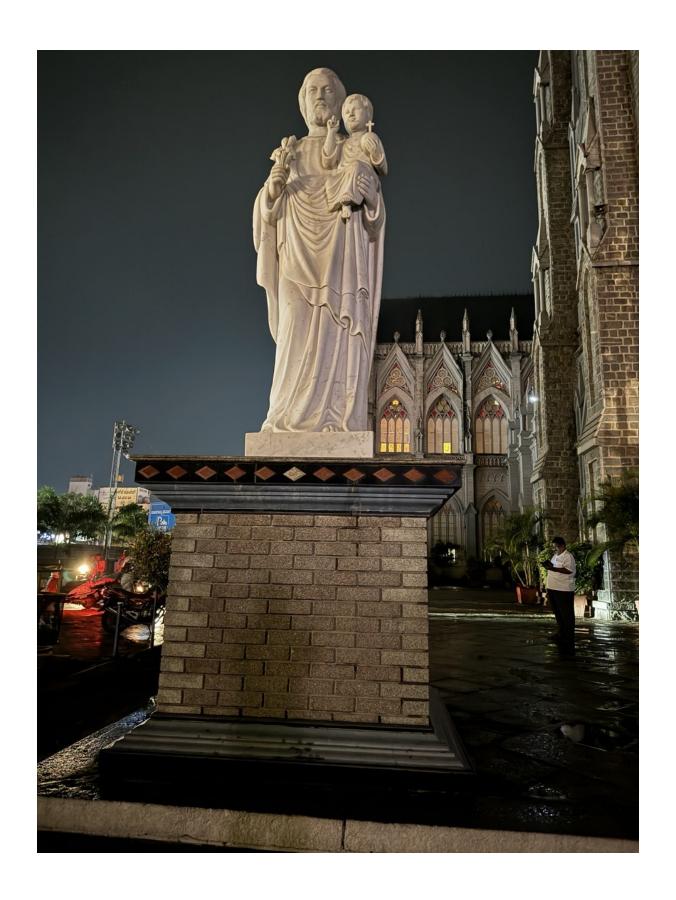
Sightseeing in Mysore:

Continuing the journey to Mysore, travelers explored the cultural and architectural wonders of the city. The itinerary included a visit to St.

Philomena's Cathedral, a majestic neo-Gothic structure that stands as a testament to Mysore's rich religious heritage. Travelers marveled at the cathedral's soaring spires and intricate stained glass windows, soaking in the ambiance of reverence and devotion.







Visit to KSR Dam (7:00 PM):

As evening approached, travelers embarked on a visit to the KSR Dam, a monumental structure that serves as a lifeline for the region's

agricultural and hydroelectric needs. Standing in awe of the dam's engineering marvel, travelers witnessed the rhythmic flow of water against the backdrop of sprawling reservoirs and lush landscapes. The visit provided insights into the region's water management systems and the symbiotic relationship between humans and nature.

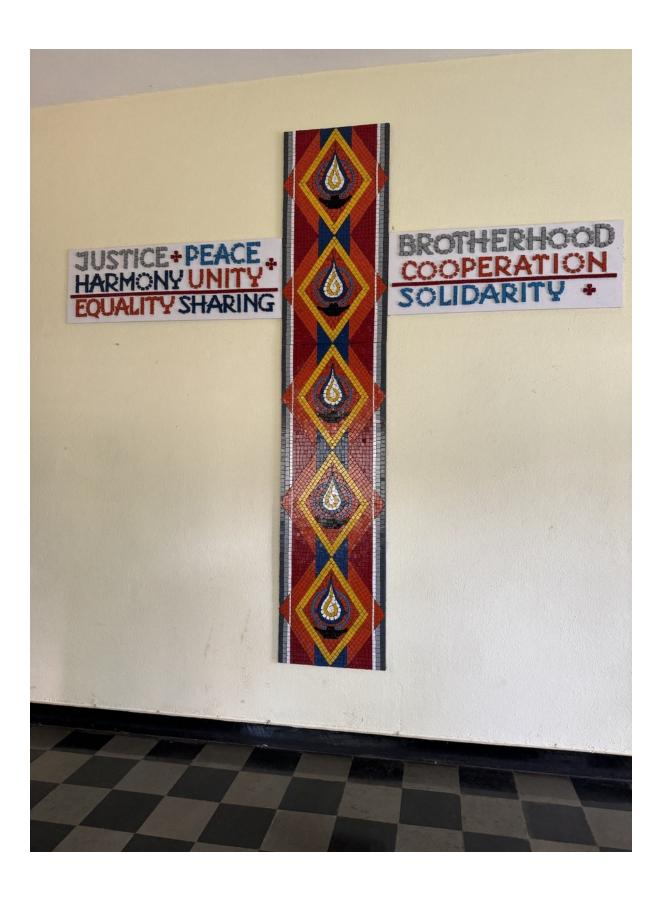
Encounter with Heavy Rain at Vrindavan Garden:

Despite plans to visit the enchanting Vrindavan Garden, travelers were met with disappointment as heavy rain forced the closure of the garden. While unable to explore its famed beauty, travelers embraced the spontaneity of the moment, finding solace in the camaraderie of shared experiences amidst the rain-soaked landscapes.

Report on Day 6: May 4th , 2024

Visit to Organisation for Development of People (ODP) - 10:00 AM:

The day commenced with a visit to the Organisation for Development of People (ODP), an esteemed NGO based in Mysore, at 10:00 AM. ODP is renowned for its efforts in community development, empowerment, and social justice initiatives. Travelers engaged in discussions with ODP representatives, gaining insights into their various projects aimed at promoting education, healthcare, and sustainable livelihoods among marginalized communities. The visit provided a profound understanding of the challenges faced by underserved populations and the impactful interventions implemented by ODP to address them.





Exploration of Mysore Palace - 12:00 Noon:

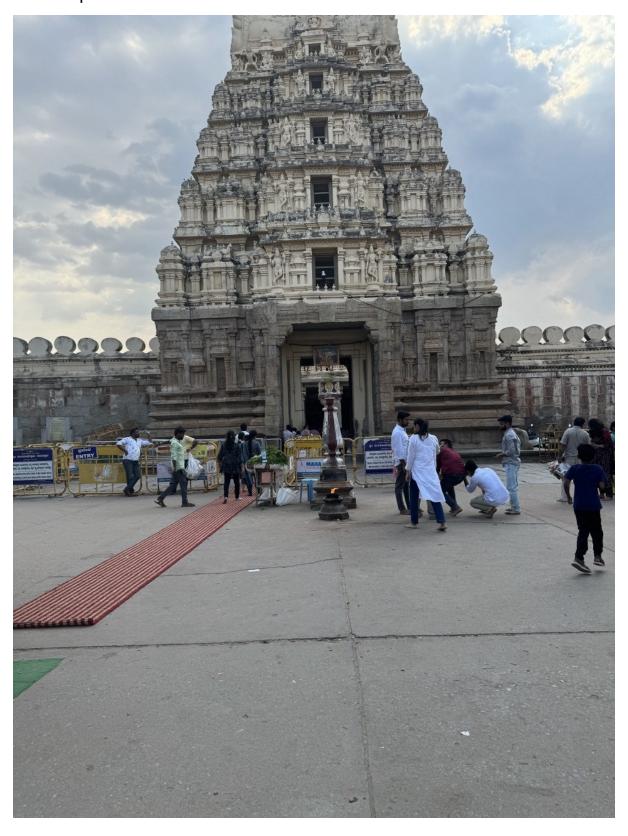
Following the enriching visit to ODP, travelers immersed themselves in the regal splendor of Mysore Palace. Built in Indo-Saracenic architectural style, the palace is a testament to Mysore's rich cultural heritage and royal legacy. Visitors marveled at the opulent interiors adorned with intricate carvings, vibrant paintings, and ornate furnishings. The visit offered a glimpse into the bygone era of Maharajas and royalty, while also serving as a cultural hub that celebrates Karnataka's rich history and architectural prowess.



Visit to Srirangapatna Temple (Lord Ranganatha Swamy) - 4:30 PM:

In the afternoon, travelers embarked on a spiritual journey to Srirangapatna Temple, dedicated to Lord Ranganatha Swamy. Located in the historic town of Srirangapatna, the temple is revered by devotees for its religious significance and architectural grandeur. Travelers participated in the sacred rituals and sought blessings amidst the serene

ambiance of the temple. The visit provided a soulful interlude, allowing travelers to connect with their spiritual beliefs and experience moments of introspection and reverence.



Travel to Bengaluru Airport - 9:00 PM:

As evening approached, travelers bid farewell to the cultural landmarks of Mysore and embarked on the journey to Bengaluru Airport. The road trip offered opportunities for reflection on the day's experiences and anticipation for the next leg of the journey.

Arrival at Dr. MCR HRD IT - 2:00 AM:

Despite the late hour, travelers reached their final destination at Dr. MCR HRD IT around 2:00 AM. Fatigued yet fulfilled from the day's adventures, they settled in for a well-deserved rest, cherishing the memories of the diverse experiences and meaningful encounters that characterized Day 6 of their journey.

Conclusion

In summary, the Bharat Darshan/Study Tour to Ooty, Waynad, Coorg, Calicut and Mysore has proven to be a comprehensive and enriching seamlessly integrating educational aspects encounter. exploration of five culturally vibrant and naturally captivating destinations. Ooty, characterized by its tranquil landscapes, tea plantations, and lively gardens, served as a distinctive setting for delving into topics related to biodiversity and environmental conservation. The Pine Forests and the Tea Factory not only provided valuable insights into nature but also facilitated hands-on experiences, fostering a deeper comprehension of sustainable practices. Conversely, Mysore unfolded as a dynamic tapestry of history and architecture. The Mysuru Palace stood as a symbol of the opulence of the Wadiyar dynasty, while the bustling markets and cultural sites of the city showcased the rich heritage of South India.