



GOVT. AIZAWL WEST COLLEGE

STUDY TOUR REPORT

ON

A TRIP TO A PLACE OF EDUCATION AND HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE

IN

SHILLONG, MEGHALAYA, 2022

Submitted to :

**The Principal
Prof. C.Lalthlengliana
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Submitted by :

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INTRODUCTION –

In Study tour as per the curriculum was an exposure trip to a place of educational or historical importance. A Report of tour has to be prepared by the students. The tour was planned for 6 days. It was a journey from Mizoram to Shillong, Cherrapunji, Dawki and other important places in between.

OBJECTIVES –

The expected outcomes includes providing situations for the students to learn and get acquainted with the process of organizing/conducting a study tour/field work and understanding the environment around.

Report of GAWC Study Tour, 2022 –

Overview:

1. 19th September: Departure from the college and the journey to Shillong, Meghalaya
2. 20th September: The first day of the tour
 - 2.1 NEHU Campus
 - 2.2 Don Bosco Museum
 - 2.3 Lady Hyderi Park
 - 2.4 Cathedral of Mary Helps of Christians
 - 2.5 Tripura Castle
3. 21st September: The second day of the tour
 - 3.1 Mawsiarwait cave and waterfall
 - 3.2 Mawlynnong village
 - 3.3 The crystal clear Dawki river
4. 22nd September: The third day of the tour
 - 4.1 Arwah Cave
 - 4.2 Lyngksiar Falls
5. 23rd September: The fourth day of the tour
 - 5.1 Ward's Lake
 - 5.2 Shopping

6. 24th September: Departure from Shillong, and the way home to Mizoram

With the permission from The Principal, the GAWC Study Tour was scheduled to be held between 19th September, 2022 to 24th September (5 days), in the city of Shillong, Meghalaya, as well as several other tourist spots outside of Shillong. With 28 students and 2 professors, the GAWC Study Tour, 2022, was an enjoyable and educational experience for all those who joined this tour.

1. 19th September: Departure from the college and the journey to Shillong –

We were scheduled to leave the college at 5:30am. However, due to personal problems faced by the bus drivers, there was a slight delay in our schedule. Dr. Rosangliani, Associate Professor, Department of Education bid us farewell with a prayer, and left the college at 6:10am. We stopped by in P.L Hotel at Bualpui, Kolasib for breakfast at 8:50am, and left at 10:00am to continue our journey. At 12:15pm, we reported ourselves at the BSF checkgate, and crossed the Mizoram-Assam border around 12:30pm. We arrived in Silchar at 1:20pm, and were delayed for over an hour due to heavy traffic. Then, we arrived at the state of Meghalaya around 3:30pm. We had supper at 'Mini Hotel', Sonapyrdi, at 5:30pm, and stopped at Latrymbai to have dinner in 'Jassan Mizo Hotel' around 8:15pm. Then, we left the hotel around 9:30pm. We finally entered the city of Shillong at 11:30pm, and safely reached the Shillong Mizoram House at 11:30pm.



2. 20th September: The first day of our tour –

Day 1:

On the first day of the tour, we had breakfast at 7:00am at Shillong Mizoram House. We spent the day visiting various important places and other tourist spots inside the city of Shillong. Ronald Lalnunpuia, a Mizo staying in Shillong, was kind enough to be our tour guide.

We left Mizoram House at 8:20pm to make our way to NEHU. We faced a slight delay due to heavy traffic, but safely arrived at the campus at 9:30am.

2.1 NEHU –

The North Eastern Hill University is a Central University established on 19th July, 1973. It was established as a regional university for several North-East states, including Mizoram. It also gave birth to the Mizoram University in 2001.

Upon our arrival inside the NEHU campus, we made our way to the central library, where we saw and read various interesting collections of books. At present, the library has a collection of over 230,000 books, where readers can have access to large collection of books for supplementary reading, as well as thesis works compiled by PhD recipients over the years. Highly qualified library staffs are present in each library cell to assist the students and keep the books organised. Their large collection books peaked our interest and we feel that the students as well as the professors all benefitted from this visit.



2.2 Don Bosco Museum –

The Don Bosco Centre for Indigenous Culture, with 7 floors and 14 wonderful galleries to visit, is the largest cultural museum in Asia. The museum showcases a large number of artifacts that portray the beauty and uniqueness of the North-East states of India. In this museum, we caught a glimpse of the rich and multi-cultural lifestyle of the indigenous people of North-East India. It was obvious that we were all in awe looking at the displays of our agricultural technologies, weapons, traditional attire, geological foundations, religions, etc. Through this visit, we saw and learnt the commonality of our cultures, and in the process, finding the small details that make all of us unique and different from each other.

At the very top of the museum is a wonderful sky view where we could get a 360-degree view of the city of Shillong. We greatly enjoyed our visit to the Don Bosco Museum. The 21 different statues portraying the different cultures and people of the North-East states, placed at the entrance of the museum, was a truly wondrous sight as they said their 'hellos' and 'goodbyes' when we entered and exited the museum. Then, we left the Don Bosco Museum at 1:20pm, and made our way to

Mizoram House to have lunch and freshen up. As we finished our meals, we left Mizoram House around 3:20 PM, and made our way to visit other tourist spots inside the city on foot.



2.3 Lady Hydari Park –

Lady Hydari Park is mostly made of beautiful gardens filled with flowers and lush green lawns. The park also has a mini zoo where we saw various animals such as the Himalayan black bear, the common fox, hornbills and red-faced macaques. Another interesting spot in this park is the small wildlife museum which displays photographs of rare species of wildlife and exhibits such as elephant skulls, dried skins of pythons, black bears, and leopards, as well as various stalactites and stalagmites. We found this museum very interesting as we got to see the state's rich biodiversity.



2.4 Cathedral of Mary Helps of Christians –

The Cathedral of Mary Helps of Christians was built in 1913 by the first Catholic missionaries to the Khasi Hills, and was the first Catholic Cathedral Church in what was then the Apostle prefecture of Assam. In this visit to the Cathedral, we got to admire the breathtaking architectural beauty of the Cathedral and the pristine sculptures. Near the doors of the Cathedral was a place where we could make a wish by tossing coins inside a small well.



2.5 Tripura Castle –

The Tripura Castle was established as a summer retreat for the royal family in the 1920s by the then Maharaja of Tripura, and still remains standing to this day. We reached the place at night, where we had a relaxing time enjoying the beautifully lit garden of the restaurant. We were also granted permission to explore one of the dining rooms, which displays precious photographs and letters that tell important stories of the past. The interior and exterior architecture of this 9-acre land, which

has barely changed since the second World War, brings history back to life.



3. 21st September: The Second Day of the Tour –

The second day of the tour was spent with visits to Mawsiarwait Cave, Mawlynnong Village and the crystal Dawki river. We all gathered inside the bus and left for our destination at 6:35 am. At 9:20am, as the road to Ramdak was currently in repair, we had to walk a short distance to reach the steps connecting to the double decker root bridges and Rainbow Falls. However, as the walk there would take over 3 hours, and since one of the students was not feeling well, we had to cancel our plans. While waiting for our breakfast to be prepared, one of the locals took us to Mawsiarwait Cave.

3.1 Mawsairwait Cave –

The Mawsiarwait Cave is quite small and took about 15 minutes to complete. The interior of the cave is filled with precious fossils, gold and silver-coloured sediments on the walls and some stalactites hanging on top. A beautiful view of the hills was also there to enjoy for those who did not enter the cave. The waterfall and water storage tank located near the cave supplies water for the village of Mawsiarwait. After exploring the cave we head back to Ramdait

Village to have our breakfast and left for Mawlynnong Village around 12:00 pm.



3.2 Mawlynnong Village –

Mawlynnong is a village in the East Khasi Hills district of Meghalaya. It is notable for its cleanliness and also was chosen by Discover India Magazine as Asia's cleanest village in 2003. We had lunch at Mawlynnong around 2:30pm and had a relaxing time exploring the village. Then, we left for Dawki around 3:45 pm.



3.3 Crystal Clear River –

Wah Umngot, also known as the Dawki river, is arguably one of India's cleanest rivers, and sits on the Indo-Bangladesh border. The river is known for its crystal-clear water, however, due to the

technical issues of our bus, we were delayed and arrived at night around 6:00 pm, and unfortunately were unable to experience the beautiful view. We still had a good time picking up beautiful rocks by the river, and exploring the lake on the boats with the help of the boatmen. On the ride to Dawki, we could also catch a glimpse of Bangladesh.



4. 22nd September: The third day of the tour –

The third day of the tour was spent in Cherrapunjee, where we visited the Arwah Cave and Lyngksiar Falls, and caught glimpses of several beautiful waterfalls on the way to our destinations. We left Shillong Mizoram House at 6:00 am and had a quick breakfast on our way to Cherrapunji around 9:00 am. We took our time admiring the beautiful landscapes and even had a chance to have the full view of the Seven Sisters Waterfall on this day.

4.1 Arwah Cave –

Due to several stops on the trip we reached Anwar Cave around 12:30 pm. The Arwah Cave is a huge cave located at Khliehshnong area of Cherrapunji in Meghalaya, and is popularly known for its limestone formations and the fossils which are believed to be millions of years old. It took us about 20 minutes to reach the entrance of the cave from the parking lot, which was a pleasant walk

as we enjoyed the picturesque beauty of the forest surrounding the cave. We took roughly 30 minutes exploring the cave, admiring its unique and mesmerising interior. After exploring the cave and took our time enjoying the spot we left for Lyngsiar Fall at 2:00 pm.



4.2 Lyngksiar Falls –

On our way to the Lyngsiar Falls we took a quick stop at the Zip lines at Mawkdok but were unable to experience the zip lining due to thick fogs so, we proceed our journey to Lyngsiar Falls at 3:00 pm and reach the place around 4:00 pm. The Lyngksiar Falls is home to two breath-taking, multi-level waterfalls. We had a wonderful time here in this place, dipping in the cool waters flowing from the waterfall. After experiencing the waters falls and refreshing ourselves with a quick swim, we head back to Shillong Mizoram House at 5:30 pm.



5. 23rd September: The fourth day of the tour –

The fourth day of the tour was spent with a visit to Ward's Lake inside the city of Shillong, and a tiring yet fun time shopping around in the Police Bazaar. Since its the last day of the tour we took our time preparing for the day, we had breakfast at Mizoram around 8:30 am and left for Wards Lake at 10:00 am

5.1 Ward's Lake –

Ward's lake, locally known as Pollock Lake, is an artificial lake located in the centre of Shillong, and is one of the most visited tourist destinations in the city. The lake is surrounded by a beautiful botanical garden with cobble-stone footpaths and a fountain. The lake also has a boating facility where we could explore the vast lake on our boats, as well as a small booth near the boat house where we could dress ourselves up in traditional Khasi attire.



5.2 Shopping –

Around 1pm, we left Ward's Lake, and made our way to the Police Bazar where we separated into small groups and began shopping. All the students and professors arrived at 7:30pm at Mizoram, and ended the last day of the tour with a devotion and a sharing session.



***Notes –**

During this Study Tour, every evening, we used to spend our time having a devotion which was conducted by Dr. Zodinanga with Bible reading and prayer and then we proceed to have a group sharing among ourselves about the new things we had experienced during each trip and on the last day of our tour we even donated the owner of the Shillong Mizoram House with a 3litres Cooker which was a token of our appreciation for their great hospitality.



6. 24th September: Departure from Shillong and the way home to Mizoram –

After we finish packing our luggages on the bus, we left Shillong Mizoram House at 6:00 and continued our journey home to Mizoram. We had breakfast at Jassan Mizo Hotel, Latrymbai at 8:30 am and after a short break we continued our Journey home around 9:30 am. Around 12:30 pm Meghalaya and Assam we were stuck on the road for about an hour due to a supply truck accident. We reached Silchar at 5:00 pm and since the heavy traffic at Silchar delayed us for about an hour, at 6:30 pm we reached Silchar Mizoram house for a light meal and about half an hour rest, we continued our journey and left the house at 7:30 pm and had a quick stop at the markets in Silchar, then, we reached Mizoram at 9:00 pm and had a short stop at Vairengte checkgate and then reached Bualpui at 11:00 pm where we had dinner at P.L Hotel. After an hour long break we continued our journey home from Bualpui

at 12:30 am, we reached Govt. Aizawl West College at 3:00 am where we depart.



We would like to express our gratitude to The Principal for giving us this wonderful opportunity, to Dr. Zodingsanga, Assistant Professor, Department of Education, and Ms.Lalnunpuii, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, for their unconditional love and guidance throughout this study tour.

Student's Reviews –

- The Study Tour was a thrilling and eye opening experience. Visiting library and museum, trekking and exploring caves, boating and swimming, and all the other places we visit, what a great tour it was...
- Vanlalramhmangaiha
- Shillong is a small, but an extremely beautiful city. Apart from the natural beauty, Shillong also acts as the gateway to Meghalaya, the state famous for heavy rainfall, caves, tallest waterfalls, beautiful landscapes and amazing people and their culture. It is also fast emerging as an education hub for the entire north eastern region.
- Lalnunpari
- For me, it was my first time visiting such a place outside of Mizoram, the beautiful landscapes, roads and their foods were all a great experience.

- Lalhmunmawia

- What can I say, it was my first trip outside of Mizoram, Shillong was greater than I expected, since its all new to me I love everything about our Tour and it won't be my last time visiting this place.

- Lalnunsanga

STUDY TOUR :

BUDGET ESTIMATE : Rs.230000

Students :28

Professors : 2

Drivers : 2

BUS HIRING	Rs.80000
FOODING	Rs. 70000
LODGING	Rs. 15000
LOCAL CONVEYENCE	Rs. 50000
MISCELLANEOUS	Rs. 15000
TOTAL	Rs. 230000

