



FIELD WORK / EDUCATIONAL TOURS

NAME OF THE DEPARTMENT: BOTANY

Year: 2019-2020

FIELD REPORT ON

: ""A field trip to Ghatsila - West Bengal ""

THE PURPOSE OF A FIELD STUDY:

- ❖ The major objective of field work/study tour in Botany is to familiarize the students with the local, native or exotic flora and ecology of a selected place/region.
- ❖ It also help to acquaint the students with the importance of wetlands and the threats of ecosystems due to natural and anthropogenic activities
- ❖ It helps the students to reinforce experiential and contextual learning. Study tour is a way of enhancing classroom learning by making real world connections.
- ❖ It exposes the students to different lifestyles, places and eras. Going on a field work enhances their critical thinking skills and gives students a chance to think about a topic or theme from a different perspective.
- ❖ Therefore, a field work/study tour gives the students a chance to experience and explore biodiversity of flora of new areas, places or region/country.
- ❖ The excursions conducted are mainly due to fulfilment the academic requirements of the students. The field studies are conducted to give idea about the various plant groups and vegetation patterns (Angiospermic, Gymnospermic, Pteridophtic, Bryophytic distribution) distributed around us.

VENUE/LOCATION:

- ❖ **Field survey to Ghatsila- West Bengal**

DATE and TIME:

- ❖ **23/09/2019 – 26/09/2019**

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE WORK DONE:

Ghatshila is located at 22.60°N 86.48°E.^[5] It has an average elevation of 103 m (338 ft). It is 45 km from Jamshedpur. The town is located on the bank of the Subarnarekha River, and it is situated in a forested area. It contains a railway station on the main line of the South Eastern Railway. Ghatsila was formerly the headquarters of the kingdom of Dhalbhum. Ghatsila has its diversity with dams, falls, rivers, forest, mountains and valley. The scenes are breathtaking especially at sunset. It has a township as well as a village touch. There are areas where people still do farming for a living; these areas are untouched and unexplored. There is a community development block named Ghatshila block, which has its headquarters at Ghatshila. This block was established on 4 May 1960

- This place is rich in vegetation and offers a panoramic view of mount Kanchenjunga and its allied peaks. The silence of the forest, seeing unknown birds and the pleasant hilly breeze make this place as a romantic tourist spot. So, it is attracted the tourist as well as the students and researcher of the Plant science.
- It is surrounded by wild forest, some of the forests are completely virgin.
- They also collected some cryptogamic and phanerogamic plant specimens for submission during Calcutta University practical examination and also needed for running departmental practical classes.
- During the excursion students were directed to pick up the wild weed plants mainly. While collecting those plants it was strictly followed that the collection was minimal and would not harm the balance of the ecosystem. Students were then made aware how to put them under press and make them ready for herbarium sheets.
- Students were also made aware of various morphological architectures of various plant species particularly about there – inflorescence types; floral whorls; leaves ; stems etc.
- Students were also introduced with the fact of vegetation pattern difference due change in Phytogeographic locations.

OUTCOMES :

- The specimens which were collected during field trip (session: 2022-23) were submitted during practical examination of Calcutta University and excess few specimens were stored in the departmental museum.

- The students were able to connect the theoretical knowledge with the real world – particularly about
 - the microhabitats of plant species,
 - their relationship with the surrounding species,
 - Vegetational Pattern difference due change in location.
 - Effect of climate on morphology of plants.
- The students also adapted to a new culture and tradition, which effectively broaden their outlook about the society

SOME PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE EXCURSION:



A GROUP PHOTO DURING COLLECTION



A GROUP PHOTO AT GHATSILA STATION



A FUNGAL SPECIMEN



At front of dimni lake