

Visit to Anshupa and Saptasajya, Dhenkanal

Event: Visit to Anshupa and Saptasajya, Dhenkanal

Date and Duration: 20/12/2022, One Day

1. **Objective of the Event:** Anshupa and Saptasajya are picturesque locales nestled within the Eastern Ghats mountain range, renowned for their undulating landscapes, diverse microclimates, and rich botanical heritage. These regions boast a diverse assemblage of plant life, including endemic species adapted to the local climatic conditions, soil composition, and topographical variations. Notable vegetation includes species such as *Shorea robusta* (Sal), *Terminalia alata* (Asana), *Pterocarpus marsupium* (Vijaysar), and various medicinal herbs that have been traditionally utilized by local communities.

An integral component of the botany curriculum mandates students to undertake field expeditions to diverse ecological regions, thereby facilitating practical exposure to the vast array of flora inhabiting these environments. The paramount objective of this excursion to Anshupa and Saptasarjya, situated in the district of Dhenkanal, Odisha, was to enable students to observe and document the unique adaptations of various plant species thriving in the region's hilly terrain. This hands-on experience aimed to cultivate a deeper understanding of plant diversity, adaptation mechanisms, and the intricate relationships between flora and their mountain ecosystems.

2. **Technical Visit Session:** During the technical session, faculty members imparted their expertise by guiding students in the identification of local plant species prevalent in the Anshupa and Saptasarjya areas. The session encompassed comprehensive discussions on the botanical characteristics, ecological significance, and adaptive strategies of the observed species, fostering a holistic understanding of the region's flora and their unique mountain habitats.
3. **Participation Details:** 55 students participated from UG department of Botany.

Outcome of the tour: The visit to Anshupa and Saptasarjya proved to be an invaluable and enriching experience for the students. It provided them with ample opportunities to collect a diverse array of plant specimens, which subsequently contributed to the creation of comprehensive herbarium sheets. Furthermore, the hands-on observation and documentation of the unique adaptations and morphological traits of various plant species facilitated a deeper appreciation for the intricate relationships between plants and their mountain environments. The guided exploration, coupled with the faculty's expertise, not only imparted theoretical knowledge but also instilled a sense of adventure and curiosity, fostering a more profound connection with nature. Overall, the trip served as a transformative learning experience, reinforcing the students' understanding of the intricate relationships between plants and their environment, while also highlighting the importance of preserving these unique ecosystems.



Field Trip to Ansupa, Athgarh for the session 2022-23

