

Nature Trek at Karnala Bird Century at Panvel on 2nd August 2017

Our college had organized a short Nature trek on 2nd August 2017 at Karnala Bird sanctuary which is located at Panvel. We were scheduled to assemble at college premises by 6.30 am. All the students were enthusiastic and we started our journey at around 7 am. We were accompanied by the students of Self finance department and professors. The students studying in the first year second year, third year of BMS, BBI, BFM ,BSCIT and BA were supervised by our faculty members Dr. Nanda Indulkar, Prof. Neha Dave, Prof. Rajesh Yadav, Prof Karuna Shinde, Prof Mukesh Sharma, Prof Kusum Yadav, and non- teaching member Mr Sujoy . We reached Karnala at around 9.00 am and we then we began our nature trek.

We had to walk through the jungle to reach the Premises, hence we divided the students into 3 groups and each group was supervised by one Professor. During the course of our walk while reaching we saw interesting species of trees and various plantations which we are unable to see during our everyday life in the city. This created a sense of curiosity amongst the students and they wanted to know more about such flora and fauna. After a pleasant walk through the forest, we reached the premises at around 9.30 am.

The guide gave an elaborate induction explaining of the history of Karnala Bird Sanctuary. It is small in size and covers an area of 4.8 square km. The sanctuary houses as many as 150 species of resident birds and 37 types of avian migrants. There are small cages for the birds where the wounded ones can get healed and also for the people to be able to come for bird watching. It is a beautiful place with greenery all around and lies away from the noise and pollution of the city. There are two ways for trekking- the easy one and the tough one. The people who are more familiar and comfortable with trekking can go for the latter one while beginners can choose the former. The path is such that one needs to move to the left of the entrance and then follow the road taking the pump house as the origin. Arrows displayed on the trees need to be followed further. For the challenging route, one needs to move to the right from the entrance which will lead to the forest directly. There will be some streams and waterfalls on the way over. The elevation is of 375m which is not at all difficult to climb. Once the base area of the forest is reached, there are railings to climb.

After the induction the manager form a two group and with the group was accompanied by the professor. During the course of our trek, we saw a variety of flora and fauna and we also saw various new types of insects and birds indigenous to the area. Students were very inquisitive and curious to learn about all of these species. The climate was very pleasant with drizzles of rains after we witnessed the magic of nature and saw water turn into pearl drops on the leaves which left all of us mesmerized. The forest looked exquisite, drenched in the rain and there was greenery all around which we seldom see in the city. We were lucky to experience the connection between humans and nature and realized that we cannot survive without nature. Then after that we return back to the center and guide inform us to take a break of 1 hour and have refreshment.

We completed our trek, enjoyed our snacks and clicked a group photograph before departing. Our HOD thanked the managers for such a wonderful experience which helped us understand nature and its importance. At the end of the day we were exhausted but immensely glad to have such an adventurous day at Karnala as it was raining so the climate was really very pleasant and greenery . We left the premises at around 4:00pm with fun filled memories which will last forever.

