

## A Brief Report on Study Tour to Guwahati

Eight days study trip was organized by Department of Biotechnology, Pachhunga University College, Mizoram from 7th to 11th March, 2025. The tour comprised 17 students of VI Semester students accompanied by one faculty, Dr. Ruth Lalfelpuii and one laboratory assistant, Amos VL Vensanga. All the students were directed to gather at AMC, Ch.Chhunga Bus terminal, at 1:00 PM.



The bus left Aizawl from the terminal at 2:30 p.m. After travelling one night (From aizawl-Guwahati) we reached our destination safely where we landed at Inter State Bus Terminus (ISBT) Khanapara at 9:30 a.m. After unloading all our luggages we headed towards the hotel (Lamka Guest House, Anil Nagar, Guwahati). We then checked in the hotel around 10:30 a.m where we lodge for 4 nights.

On the first day of our study tour i.e; on 8th March, we visited Assam State Zoo cum Botanical garden, located in the heart of Guwati within the Hengrabari Reserve Forest, the largest Zoo in the northeastern region of India. The Zoo comprises of a unique diversity of varied flora and fauna species and houses over **112 species** of animals, birds and reptiles from India and around the world.



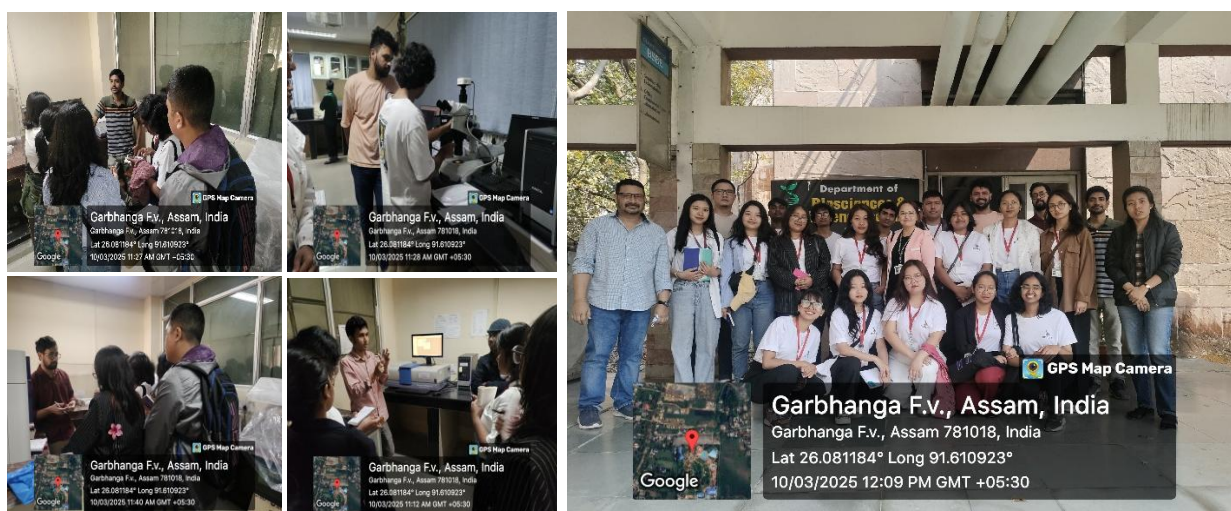


The second day of our study tour i.e; 9th March, students visited Accoland Amusement Park in Guwahati as part of a fun-filled educational outing. Accoland is one of the most popular amusement parks in the North-East region, offering various rides, entertainment, and recreational activities for visitors of all ages. The objective of the visit was to provide students with an opportunity to relax, enjoy, and engage in a recreational environment while strengthening team-building skills and enjoying a day away from the academic routine.

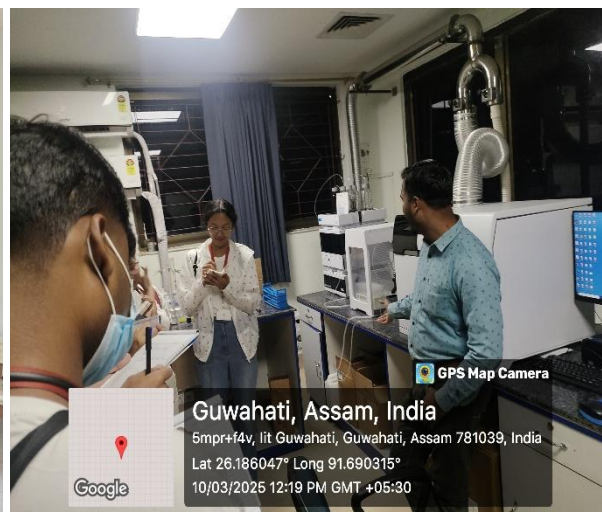


On the third day of our study tour i.e; on 10th March, we visited the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Guwahati. The purpose of this visit was to provide students with a

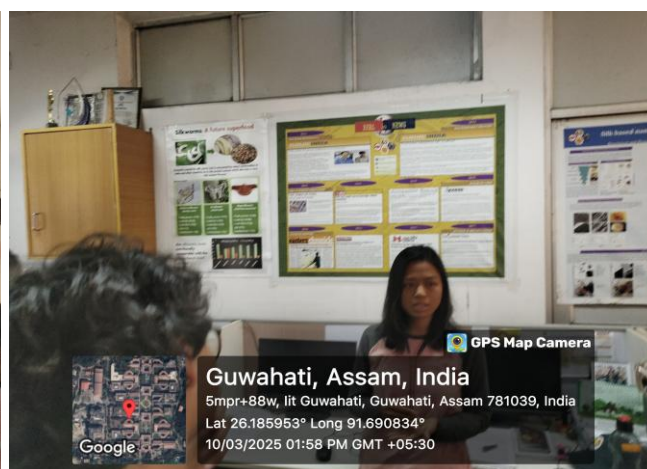
firsthand experience of one of India's premier institutes of higher education. The trip aimed to inspire students to pursue excellence in education, explore research opportunities, and gain insights into the academic and infrastructural strengths of IIT Guwahati as it was part of their academic curriculum. Firstly, we visited Department of Bioscience and Bioengineering. We reached the department at 11 a.m. where our arrival was warmly greeted by Mr, Nurul Islam, Junior technical officer. Mr. Nurul who managed the students by dividing into groups and then took the students on a guided tour of the laboratory facilities familiarizing equipments and instruments utilized in various experiments and analyses. Phd scholars delivered brief explanation on the working principles of the equipment, application, and the ongoing research to the students. The students were particularly fascinated by the various tools and equipment used in these laboratories, including Fluorescence Spectrophotometer, Dynamic Light Scattering Particle Analyzer, Flow Cytometer, Fluorescent Microscope. The students had the opportunity to interact with the research scholars, who shared their experiences in the field of bioscience and bioengineering. The researchers explained their ongoing projects and the potential of real-world applications of their work, including drug research.



As per schedule, we visited Central Instruments Facility (CIF). The students arrived at the CIF at 12 noon and were welcomed by the staff and faculty members. They were introduced to the facilities and activities of CIF . During the visit, students were exposed to sophisticated and advanced machinery such as X-Ray Diffractometer (XRD), Vibrating Sample Magnetometer (VSM), Spectacular Fluid Emission Scanning Electron Microscope, Nuclear Magnetic Resonance used for scientific and technological research in various fields, including physics, chemistry, biology, and engineering. The facility, which houses state-of-the-art instruments for analysis and research, provided students with valuable insights into how cutting-edge technology is applied in scientific investigations. The visit to the Centre for Innovation a (CIF) at IIT Guwahati was an enriching experience for all the students.



Visitation of CIF was followed by scholastic visit to the Bio-Engineering Research Laboratory (BERL), laboratory of Professor Utpal Bora, the Head of the Department of Biosciences and Bioengineering. One of the key aspects of the visit was an in-depth explanation of the process of silk fabrication, where research scholar Mr. Pulakeshwar Basumatry demonstrated how silk fibroin extracted from *Bombyx mori* silkworms is processed into materials suitable for biomedical applications. Students were explained about the research involving tissue scaffolds created using silk-based biomaterials. Miss Biju Bharali, a research scholar, gave a brief explanation of her ongoing research, which aims to isolate potential dietary proteins for human consumption from the muga silkworm which could serve as an alternative protein source and how this could provide an environmentally friendly and cost-effective solution to address food security issues. During the visit, students were fascinated by the interdisciplinary nature of the work, which integrates biology, materials science, and engineering.



On the fourth day of our study tour i.e; on 11th March, we visited the picturesque town of Dawki, located in the East Khasi Hills district of Meghalaya near the India-Bangladesh border.

Dawki is known for its breathtaking natural beauty, crystal-clear rivers, and serene landscapes. The primary objective of the visit was to experience the town's natural environment. The visit provided students with an opportunity to connect with nature and understand the importance of preserving such natural resources.



On 12th March, we departed from Guwahati at 5:30 p.m. from ISBT Khanapara and reached Aizawl safely on 13th March, 2025. The study tour was both enjoyable and rewarding, providing students with valuable insights into the role of education in socio-economic development and environmental conservation. Students returned enriched, motivated, and equipped with knowledge that will shape their academic and personal pursuits.

*Ruth Lalfelpui*

**Dr RUTH LALFELPUII**

(Faculty In charge)