

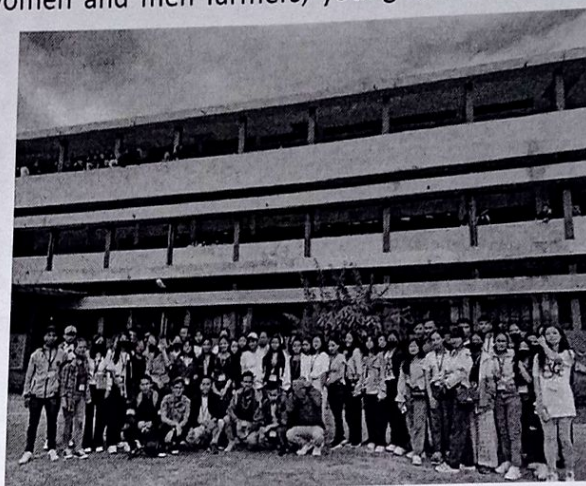


REPORT ON STUDY TRIP TO RRTC UMRAN, MEGHALAYA BY STUDENTS OF BSC 3rd SEMESTER BOTANY DEPARTMENT, OF KIANG NANGBAH GOVERNMENT COLLEGE, JOWAI ON THE 20TH SEPTEMBER 2022.

The Rural Resource and Training Centre (RRTC), Umran, registered as St. Joseph's Agricultural Training Centre (SJATC), evolved into existence after several years of study and experimentation, as an answer to the critical problems that challenge the vast majority of the rural population of the Northeastern region specially Meghalaya. The most successful organic farming project in RRTC is "Sustainable Practice through Organic Agriculture in Ri-Bhoi District of Meghalaya"

RRTC has a rich experience in working with rural poor, especially by providing skills and training in the organic farming, livestock management, agriculture low-cost and appropriate technology and entrepreneurship in the field of Agriculture. The centre imparts training and exposure to groups comprising of youth, women and men farmers, young entrepreneurs, school and college students and Government officers from all eight states of North east India, numbering up to 5000 annually.

Our main objective of the visit was to get an exposure to an integrated rural development approach leading towards uplifting and empowerment of agricultural community in a sustainable manner in context of the Northeast India.



The B.Sc 3rd semester students of Botany Department. Kiang Nangbah Govt College, Jowai, took a one-day study tour programme to St Joseph Agricultural Training Centre, Rural Resource and Training Centre (RRTC), situated at Umran in the State of Meghalaya about 3- and a half hour drive from the College Campus. On the 20th August 2022 the College Bus boarded by about 70 pupil including Students and Faculty members departed from the college at 7.A.M sharp in the morning. We reached RRTC at 10.30 am where we were welcome by the programme coordinator Mr. Malcolm Nongpluh.

The students were then greeted by the Director of SJATC, RRTC, Umran, he addresses the participants and explain to them about the centre and the challenges they have face especially in terms of finance and marketing. Then the programme coordinator introduces all the participants to the instructors of the food and winery processing units where a lady instructor gave a short lecture on the techniques of how pickles, jams and many other items are

produced. Then we were guided to the Vermicomposting department where a gentleman



shares his knowledge and wisdom over his experienced over the years with vermicomposting about how Organic manure which is the source of organic matter and supply life to the soil as it contains micro and macro nutrients, growth promoters, vitamins, amino acids, etc. It includes animal manure, farm yard manure (FYM), Compost, Vermicompost etc. Also, there was an introductory speech about Nursery & Integrated Framing, then we headed on to the

sections where Dairy and Poultry are being taken care off, even here an instructor highlighted about how to carry on with poultry farming to generate income over wide range of productions. And finally, the instructor gave a good hands-off training on Bees keeping or Apiculture. All the instructor of different units spoke about their respective units, the cost of the production, processing, the market opportunities and challenges involved with



respect to each unit. The participants were able to interact with the instructors and were familiarise with the units and the industry of starting such ventures in the state. The programme ended at 4.00 pm and all the participants finally came back and reached the college at 8.00 pm. Overall, the exposure programme help the student's identity with the course curriculum and the agricultural and rural market which will empower them to come up with developing strategies in the field. The students gained a wide range of information and knowledge about the variety of programmes and projects and to have a firsthand experience of organic homestead farming, horticulture, floriculture, fishery, herbal and flower garden, dairy, poultry, piggery and food processing.



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For HOD Botany

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