

M.V.MUTHIAH GOVT.ARTS COLLEGE FOR WOMEN, DINDIGUL.

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

TOUR REPORT

(2010-2011)

Tour indeed refreshes and rejuvenates the mind and also enables one to get idea about the nature, culture, land topography, flora and fauna of various places. But if it is a state to state tour means it is quite interesting. The department of Zoology had planned to for a tour on 14th and 15th of February ,2011.We boarded at Dindigul, enroute to Palani, Pollachi and reached to athirampally water falls from where we planned to visit cochin & Guruvayur in Kerala.

KERALA:

Kerala is probably one of the greenest places you will ever see. Kerala has got a lot of unique reasons to be called a paradise which has a pleasant climate, sand filled beaches, backwaters, hill stations, exotic wildlife, breathtaking waterfalls, Ayurvedic healthy breeze, enchanting art forms magical festivals lot more. Travelers come to see wildlife sanctuaries, historic cities, monuments, and temples.

ATHIRAMPALLY WATERFALLS:

We started our journey on **13th of February** night and we reached **Athirampally water falls** in the next morning around 8oclock. It is situated 90 kilometers away from northeast of Kochi. It is a popular picnic spot and has centre attraction for medicinal herbs crashes down through gorges overhung with trees, it's while spray of water appears almost magical from the rocky road that swerves around the mountains.

COCHIN (KOCHI), THE QUEEN OF ARABIAN SEA

After breakfast we started our trip towards **Cochin** and we reached there around 12 '0' clock. Cochin is a busy port city, which is known for the **Chinese fishing nets in its harbor**.

Kochi (Cochin) the commercial and industrial capital of Kerala has one of the finest natural harbors in the world. It is now Kerala's commercial center. It's also quite a tourist attraction and knows how to make a visitor fell at home. Ferry service is available for travel between the island and towns. We had visited the following islands by boating services.

ST. FRANCIS CHURCH:

Here is the oldest church built by a European power in India. This protestant church was built by the British, and **Vasco da Gamma** was initially buried here. The church is located at **kamalakadu** near fort Cochin beach. The **Santa Cruz basilica** nearby has some very beautiful paintings on the ceiling. **Mattancherry**, the commercial centre of Cochin also has many historic monuments. Notable among this is the **Jewish synagogue built in 1568**

AD. The synagogue contains many articles of interest including *giant scrolls of the Old Testament, copper plates, painted Chinese tiles and Belgium chandeliers.*

DUTCH PALACE:

Originally built by the Portuguese in the mid 16th century, the Dutch place is located at Mattancherry Kochi. The Palace was built and gifted by the Portuguese as a present to the Raja of Cochin around 1555. The Dutch carried out some extensions and renovations in the palace in 1663, and thereafter it was popularly called Dutch Palace. The rajas also made more improvements to it. Today, it is a portrait gallery of the Cochin Rajas and notable for some of the best *mythological murals* in India, which are in the best traditions of Hindu temple art.

CHOTTANIKKARAR TEMPLE:

Around 3 '0' clock we finished our lunch after visiting the islands in Cochin, we started to move towards near Ernakulum *enshrines Bhagawathi*, the mother goddess one of the most *popular deities in Kerala*. Devi is worshipped along with lord Vishnu.

GURUVAYUR:

We reached *Guruvayar* around 12.30 at midnight and stayed there. In the next morning on 15th around 6 '0' clock we went to Guruvayur temple and worshipped lord guruvayur. Guruvayur is an interesting place to visit in Kerala. It's a bustling pilgrim town 25KM from *Thrissur* that is well known for its temple, one of the richest and most important in the states.

WILDLIFE SANCTUARY:

We visited "*elephant house*" at Trissur where elephants are trained and decorated for various ceremonial activities.

THRISSUR MUSEUM AND ZOO- TWIN ATTRACTION:

After we had visited the elephant house we reached the *Thirssur museum and zoo*. These two are located at the centre of Thrissur district. This project area is spread over an area of 5 acres and the zoo alone started its functioning in 1885. *Python, Cobra, bull, Hippopotamus, Crocodiles, Owls and other exotic birds* are popular in the Park. Apart from the wild life species, its snake park is added attraction to it. However, the chief attraction is the museum which displays a rare and exclusive collection of historical artifacts, swords, jewelries, etc.

MALAMPUZHA DAM:

The main attraction of Malampuzha in Palakkad is the longest river Bharathapuzha running through it and the biggest dam is Malampuzha Dam as well as the beautiful garden near the dam. Apart from the dam, the main attraction and the amusing park which is located 10kms away from the palakkad town. Then we started to move towards Dindigul and reached here around 12.00 at midnight. On the whole the trip was nice and enjoyable.

