

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

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

TOUR REPORT

(2016 – 2017)

An educational trip enriches and enlightens the minds of students with versatile experiences and information. As the educational tour is mandatory in the curriculum for B.Sc. Zoology students a study trip was organized for the entire zoology Dept. students on **2nd and 3rd of March 2017**. We started our journey from Dindigul at 18th night around 10.30 Pm. We enjoyed a cool and calm weather in the late night hours and reached **Chinnathumbur** near Vellankkanni.

A well established integrated aquaculture division (aquafarm) is situated at Chinnathumbur where different varieties of fishes such as Sea bass, Mullet, Cat fish, Channa, etc. are cultured. Dr. Karithikayen delivered a brief and interesting lecture on aquaculture; culture and maintenance of varieties of fishes, fingerlings and stock in the aquaculture pond. Then we rushed to **Parangipettai** to visit the Centre of Advanced Study (CAS) in marine biology. In India this is a pioneering marine academic research institute where a unique collection of marine animals are preserved in the museum. We were much interested on seeing the well displayed huge aquatic animals such as **molluscan shells, echinoderms, marine fishes, sea cows, sea mouse, sea snakes, sponges, coral reefs**, etc. and various skeletons of **Whales, Tortoise, Shark**, etc.

On the way towards Chidambaram **mangrove forest** are seen in **Pichavaram**, which constitutes unique ecosystem for aquatic fauna. The pichavaram forest not only offers water scope and backwater cruises but plants like **Avicennia and Rhizophora** are rooted there. In the night we visited the **Nadaraja temple** at Chidambaram. Nadaraja temple is one of the temples where **Siva and Vishnu** are enshrined under one roof. We halted there at Chidambaram and had a good sleep and rest.

By early morning we moved to Cuddalore, **Silver beach**. This is a beautiful **golden sandy beach** with a variety of entertainment like **boating, fishing, horse and camel riding**. The fishermen sorted out the collection of **fishes, crabs, starfishes, molluscan shells**, etc in early hours. This is a good sandy shore ecosystem which is rightly called as **“Silver beach”**

After having breakfast at Cuddalore silver beach we rushed our journey to **Pondicherry**. In Pondicherry we have visited medical biology museum where embryological and physiological specimen are maintained. In the afternoon we visited ‘Dr. Abdul Kalam Science Centre and **Planetarium**. In the Science Centre different models are installed along with their working principles based on the fundamental laws of physics. In the Planetarium we wondered on watching the model of **“Astounding universe”** through which the genesis of Sun, Moon, Stars and Planets and their composition, interaction, and the method of installing the satellites in the space, receiving signals from the space everything was

explained in a simple and lucid way. When we came out of the Planetarium we felt that as if we went into the space and observed everything in very close proximity.

Next we went to '**Sri Aurobindo Ashram**' is a famous worshipping place in Pondicherry. It was founded by **Sri Aurobindo** on the 24th of November 1926. In the ashram itself different kinds of ornamental flowers have been maintained in an admirable way and the colors, striking beauty of flower garden caught the eyes of all visitors. The beach in the Pondicherry is very calm but this area is always busy because the secretariat is situated on the beach road.

After worshipping we started to move from pondicherry enrouted to Vizhupuram and Trichy finally we arrived Dindigul at midnight hours. On the whole the trip was nice and enjoyable.