



St. Vincent College
(Affiliated to Savtribai Phule Pune University)
Pune -411037

Title of the Event	Agro Tourism workshop		
Date of the Event	14th of October 2024	Place of the event	Meher Retreat, Yavat, Daund
Objectives of the Event	To introduce the students to Agro Tourism		
Name/s of the Resource Persons	Dr. Gilbi John, Dr. Franklin Salvi		

A short narration of the program

On 14th of October 2024, St. Vincent College organized an exciting one-day trip to Meher Retreat, a renowned agro-tourism resort located near Pune. The trip was designed to provide students with a refreshing break from academic routines and offer them an opportunity to experience rural life, sustainable farming practices, and eco-friendly tourism.

The trip was organized for students across various streams, with the objective of fostering bonding, relaxation, and experiential learning in an engaging environment. Both students and faculty members participated enthusiastically, making the event a memorable and enriching experience.

Objectives of the Trip

The primary objectives of the trip were:

- To introduce students to agro-tourism and sustainable living.
- To provide an informal learning experience through exposure to rural life and eco-tourism.
- To promote interaction and camaraderie among students and faculty members.
- To offer recreational activities in a natural environment, fostering mental well-being.

Overview of Activities at Meher Retreat

1. Guided Tour of the Agro-Tourism Facility

The students were given a guided tour of the resort, which showcased various aspects of agro-tourism and eco-friendly practices. They explored:

- Organic farms cultivating seasonal fruits and vegetables.
- Vermicomposting units, where students learned about waste management through composting.
- Dairy farming and poultry units, where they observed animal care practices.
- Rainwater harvesting and solar energy systems, promoting sustainability.

The students were fascinated by the integration of traditional farming techniques with modern eco-friendly practices.

2. Recreational Activities



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After the tour, students engaged in various recreational activities provided by the resort:

- Bullock cart rides through the lush fields, offering a glimpse of rural transportation.
- Boating in the resort's water reservoir.
- Outdoor games like cricket, badminton, and volleyball.
- Swimming and rain dance sessions, where students enjoyed themselves in a lively and joyful atmosphere.

The recreational activities provided a perfect balance between relaxation and fun, helping students unwind and bond with one another.

3. Traditional Maharashtrian Lunch

A highlight of the day was the traditional Maharashtrian lunch served at the resort's dining area. Students enjoyed a variety of local delicacies, including:

- Bhakri (millet bread)
- Pithla (chickpea curry)
- Zunka (spiced gram flour dish)
- Matka dahi (curd served in clay pots)

The meal provided students with a taste of authentic rural cuisine and helped them appreciate the simplicity of traditional food.

4. Workshop on Agro-Tourism and Sustainability

In the afternoon, the students attended a workshop on agro-tourism and sustainable living, conducted by the resort staff. The session covered:

- The importance of agro-tourism in promoting sustainable tourism and rural livelihoods.
- Opportunities for entrepreneurship in agro-tourism.
- Environmental conservation practices followed at the resort.

The interactive session allowed students to ask questions and discuss career opportunities related to sustainable tourism and agriculture. Several students shared their positive feedback, expressing how the trip enhanced their understanding of sustainability and agro-tourism. They appreciated the combination of learning and leisure and requested more such experiences in the future.

The trip concluded with fond memories that will stay with the participants for a long time, and it reinforced the college's commitment to holistic education through meaningful off-campus experiences.

Name of the Collaborating Agency	Students council of St. Vincent
Learning Outcomes of the Event for the Participants	The students learned about Agro Tourism and various practices associated with it.



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Learning Outcomes for the Organizing team	To introduce the students to Agro Tourism
No. of Participants	80 Students
Faculty in Charge	Dr. Gilbi John, Dr. Franklin Salvi
Documents Attached	1. Photographs



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