GOVERNMENT AIZAWL NORTH COLLEGE

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

Dated: 19th April, 2022

A study tour for the 6th semester students, Department of Economics was held on the 19th April, 2022. The tour bus departed from the college campus at 6:00 a.m., picking up passengers along the way via the main road. Four faculty members, viz. Prof. Lalnuntluanga, Asso. Prof. Anthony Vanlalrawna, Asst. Prof. Lianchhungi and Asst. Prof. PC Remlalhruaii accompanied twenty seven 6th semester students.

The morning weather was pleasant and the ride was smooth. The party reached Sialsuk at 9:00 a.m. and had breakfast at two separate hotels. After a filling breakfast and a few minutes’ rest, the party left Sialsuk at around 10:15 a.m.

The first destination Tuirihiau was reached at 11:00 a.m. An entry toll booth was set up at Tuirihiau where the party had to pay an entry fee of Rs. 30/- per head. The person manning the toll booth mentioned that they had an average of fifty visitors during regular season per day. After the fees were settled, the party rushed to the waters as the April sun was shining with its glorious might. A few winding downhill passages had to be traversed to reach Tuirihiau, but it was all worth it as the cool waters sooths the blazing heat. Tuirihiau had a mystical waterfall with a cave behind it. The side of the cave was covered with tree roots from the top of the waterfall.

From Tuirihiau the party walked a few minutes upstream to Vangva Lui, a river that led to Vantawngkhawhthla, one of the highest waterfalls of Mizoram. At Vangva lui there were two motor boats that ferried tourists up at the source of Vantawngkhawhthla. The ferry ride cost Rs.100/- per head and had five passengers per trip. This ferry business was run by the local YMA where members of the NGO would take turns to operate the boat. One of the boat operators mentioned that this ferry ride had been in operation for only one month and they had been able to generate a turnover of over Rs. 20000/- during this operation period. The party took turns in riding the ferry where the boat took them near the edge of Vantawngkhawhthla. The passengers then continued on foot for a few feet at the banks and then they would reach the very edge of the Vantawngkhawhthla. The dry season had been long and so the waterfall had been reduced to a small stream. One could stand at the barren spots of the waterfall and look down at the dizzying dril below. This was definitely a thrilling experience. It was also observed that the Tuirihiau and Vangva Lui tourist destinations had provided valuable livelihood to the people through the collection of tolls, operation motor boats, setting up shops abd tea stalls, etc. The party left Tuirihiau at around 1:00 p.m. and then head to the next location.

The next destination Chawngchili Puk was reached at around 1:10 p.m. as it was only a few miles away from Tuirihiau. Chawngchili Puk, a cave near the roadside was where Chawngchili, a woman from Mizo folklore, hid after being thrown out of their home as she had courted a snake serpent. Near Chawngchili Puk there was a long cylindrical hole, , the size of a basketball, that was naturally carved into the stone. It was said that this hole was where the serpent rested. The party left Chawngchili Puk at around 1:30 p.m.

At around 1:45 p.m. the party reached Dilpui, a tourist destination under AH & Vety Department of Mizoram. After paying an entry fee of Rs.50/-, the party headed into the gated area of Dilpui. A lunch was had and then each separated to their own attraction of choice. The place had a zip line across the lake for Rs. 50/- per person. There were paddle boats and kayaks that could be rented for 15/- minutes at Rs. 50/- per person. A trampoline was also available for children at Rs. 50/- per person. Horses were also kept for horseback riding at Rs. 100/- per person, a hose drawn carriage riding at Rs.100/- per person and a cowboy costume available for rent at Rs. 100/- per person. There were around ten employees under AH & Vety Department maintaining Dilpui. The party had grat fun and left at around 3:30 p.m.

The final destination of Thenzawl Handloom was reached at around 3:45 p.m. It was gathered from the handloom shops that most looms were kept in private houses in singles as weavers would then have the freedom to work on their looms at their convenience. Even big handloom enterprises that owns several looms would keep single looms at their weaver’s houses because of this reason. The study your was able to locate Hmangaihi Handloom Enterprise who kept three looms in their shed. The party was able to witness these artisans work their nimble hands. It was gathered that the weavers were able to finish a plain puan within a day and a motif one within a day and a hlf. The duration to finish a puan would depend on the intricacy of the design. On an average, a weaver could earn Rs. 500/- a day and they work mostly seven days a week. This visit to Thenzawl Handloom was very enriching to the mind and provided great entrepreneurial spirit to the study group. The party left Thenzawl at around 4:50 p.m.

On the way back, the tour bus reached Sialsuk at around 5:20 p.m . All the members of the study tour had dinner at Sialsuk hotel and left at 6:00 p.m. The return home was fun with singing and laughter in the bus. The tour bus reached the college campus safely at around 9:00 p.m. after dropping few members along the way.

The study tour was a much success. It made an everlasting impact on the students, forging strong bonds and friendship and last but mot least, instill entrepreneurial spirit and interest in the economic mechanics of the local tourist destination spots