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HOLY CROSS COLLEGE

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Report on visit of students of First Semester (Botany, B.Sc General, , Human Physiology and Zoology) on 14/12/2022 to the College of Fisheries, CAU (I), Lembucherra, Tripura on the occasion of International Conference on "Responsible Aquaculture and Sustainable Fisheries Interact (RASHI).

On 14th December, 2022 an educational trip was arranged for students of the First Semester of Botany, B.Sc General, Human Physiology and Zoology to the campus of the College of Fisheries, CAU (I), Lembucherra, Tripura.

The trip started at 10.23 am in the morning from the campus of Holy Cross College, Agartala. The college bus carrying 54 students, 3 faculty members and 2 Laboratory Assistants reached the aforesaid venue on 10.30 am.

It was the second day of the RASHI Festival. This festival was inaugurated on 13/12/2022 by current Minister of Fisheries of the State, Mr. Prem Kumar Reang; as a part of the Silver Jubilee Year celebration of the College of Fisheries. On this occasion, the College has issued Invitations to all major Colleges and Schools of Agartala to visit the Campus.

The students were very enthusiastic about the display of ornamental fish species in the large fresh water aquariums, which welcomed them inside the building. Along with these there was elaborate display of endemic fish varieties of the north- east India, like *Bangana devdevi, Mystus prabini, Garra arupi, Channa aristonei* etc. All the state fishes of North east India were also shown like *Ompok bimaculatus* (State fish of Tripura), *Neolisochilus hexagonolepis* (State fish of Nagaland, Mizoram and Sikkim), *Osteobrama belangiri* (State fish of Manipur), *Semiplotus modestus* (State fish of Mizoram) etc.

Many stalls were set up which displayed the various by products of the fish industry like processed fish products like fish kurkure, prawn pickles, fish pickles, fish wafers etc. Various ornaments and home interior decorating items were also displayed which were majorly made of Molluscan shells.

Students then proceeded towards the Museum. There Prof. M.K. Dutta gave an elaborate description about the rich collection of the Museum. This museum is registered as the one with the most number of preserved fish specimens in the country.

After that, the students paid a visit to the laboratory which houses the heavy machineries required for fish preservation, drying of fish, making of 'ready to eat fish products' etc. The commercial aspect of all these products were elaborated by Dr. Joydwip Saha. Some of the products were made available to the students for tasting also. Students were elaborated about the various bio-secured conditions by which these aforesaid commercial products are packaged.

Many representations about the various culturing techniques were also exhibited on the venue.

Along with different Fish culture technologies, there were many displays regarding animal husbandry and organic vegetable production across the state.

The visit finished by 12.30 a.m. The students along with the faculty members and accompanying laboratory assistants were really encouraged by the sincere and scientific knowledge acquired during the trip.

This report is prepared by Dr. Subhalaxmi Bhattacharjee, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Zoology and Bidushi Datta, student of 1st Semester B.Sc Zoology (Major), Holy Cross College, Agartala.

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