

2023-24

Field Visit Dt. 07.11.2023

FLORA EXPOLARATION OF KAILASA GIRI FOOT HILLS, SRIKALAHASTI



Field Visit Report: Flora Exploration of Kailasa Giri Foot Hills, Srikalahasti

Date: 07.11.2023

Objective: To provide a hands-on experience to the B.Sc II year students in the field of botany, focusing on the exploration of flora in Kailasa Giri Foot Hills, Srikalahasti.

Introduction: Kailasa Giri Foot Hills, located in Srikalahasti, is a unique ecosystem characterized by diverse flora and fauna. The area is known for its rich biodiversity, with a wide range of plant species adapted to different environmental conditions. The Department of Botany organized a field visit to this location to provide students with an opportunity to observe and learn about the various plant species found in this region.

Observations: The field visit was conducted on 07.11.2023, with a group of 30 B.Sc II BZC year students. The students were divided into small groups and led by faculty members from the Department of Botany. The groups were tasked with identifying and collecting plant specimens from the area. The students were encouraged to observe the plant structures, habitats, and adaptations.

During the visit, the students observed a wide range of plant species, including trees, shrubs, herbs, and climbers. Some of the notable species observed were:

1. **Arjun (*Terminalia arjuna*):** A deciduous tree commonly found in dry areas, known for its medicinal properties.
2. **Neem (*Azadirachta indica*):** An evergreen tree widely used in traditional medicine and as an insecticide.
3. **Guduchi (*Tinospora cordifolia*):** A climber with medicinal properties used to treat various ailments.
4. **Veldt (*Euphorbia hirta*):** A succulent plant commonly found in dry areas, used in traditional medicine.

The students also observed various plant adaptations, such as:

1. **CAM (Crassulacean Acid Metabolism):** Plants like cacti and succulents have adapted to store water in their stems or leaves.
2. **Drought tolerance:** Plants like Neem and Arjun have deep roots to access water deep in the soil.
3. **Specialized leaves:** Plants like Veldt have adapted to reduce water loss by reducing their leaf size and surface area.

Out comes: The field visit to Kailasa Giri Foot Hills was a valuable learning experience for the B.Sc II year BZC students. The students gained hands-on experience in identifying and collecting plant specimens, observing plant structures, habitats, and adaptations. The visit also provided an opportunity for students to interact with faculty members and learn about the importance of botanical research in understanding the natural world. The Department of Botany aims to continue organizing such field visits to provide students with a deeper understanding of botany and its applications in real-world scenarios.