

BRIEF REPORT

On

Visit to

CSIR-NATIONAL BOTANICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

National Technology Day is celebrated in India on *11th May* each year to commemorate the scientific and technological achievements of Indian scientists. The students of B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture II year, Department of Agriculture, Integral Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology (IIAST), Integral University, Lucknow visited CSIR-National Botanical Research Institute on 11th May, 2022 to spectate the National Technology Day programme. The laboratories of the Institute were opened for the students to make them understand and acknowledge the importance of science .

The students got first-hand experience of current research being undertaken by the institute. The eminent scientists of the Institute interacted with the students and discussed the technological advancements. *Dr. K. K. Rao* and *Dr. K.N. Prabhu Senior Scientist of NBRI* delivered lecture on various aspects of plant science, including documentation, systematics, conservation, prospection and genetic improvement with particular emphasis on under-exploited, non-traditional and wild plant genetic resources of the country for sustainable development and human welfare.

There students visited Herbarium, a store house of preserved plant materials which was either in dried form mounted on a hard sheet of paper or was stored in boxes or kept in alcohol or other preservatives along with all essential associated data. This is a precarious primary resource for taxonomy, ecology and evolutionary researches. The students were benefited by observing those specimens as they are foundation for all studies of plant diversity and evolution .This is third largest herbarium in the country and contains about 2, 86, 927 specimens, of which 1, 00, 369 specimens belong to angiosperms, 500 to gymnosperms, 5,258 to pteridophytes, 15,000 to bryophytes, 2473 to algae and 1,47,827 to lichens. The herbarium also holds 240 type specimens and about 820 type photographs. The students gained an insight by seeing and understanding the huge biodiversity. The students were enriched with the knowledge of new plant varieties and the experts disseminated the information of new technologies, organic products, upgraded seeds, new farm implements etc.

The entire visit was conducted under the supervision of faculty members Dr. Sunil Kumar, Dr. Anand Kumar and Dr. Pradeep Rajput. These types of visits aim to increase positive attitude towards science and scientific process skills. This visit was successful and propelled a sense of motivation and interest in future agriculturists and scientists.

Glimpses of visit to CSIR-National Botanical Research Institute

