

Report on Study Tour to IIT, Kharagpur

Department of Chemistry

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A study tour to Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur (West Bengal) was organized on 21st March 2023 by the teachers of the Department of Chemistry. Seven students and four teachers joined the trip. It was an extremely exciting event for all the participants as it was indeed an opportunity to visit an institute campus which is not only the oldest IIT but also one of the most prestigious institutes in India.

The department of Chemistry of IIT Kharagpur gave the permission to visit their undergraduate and research laboratories. Students were taken to Organic, Inorganic and Physical (UG level) laboratories assisted by few scholars of IIT. It is needless to mention that the laboratories were best-in-class and equipped with high-quality instruments and all other facilities that are necessary for conducting experiments at undergraduate level. They described and also demonstrated the utilities of various instruments and methodologies followed in the experiments. Our students also got the chance to acquire hands-on skill in certain areas of organic chemistry e.g. Column chromatography and Thin layer chromatography techniques from the faculties of Chemistry Department of IIT.

Our students also visited the Nehru Museum of Science and Technology housed within the IIT KGP Heritage Building, now named as Hijli Shaheed Bhavan within the Campus. This building is of utmost historical importance as it was once used by British rulers to detain Indian freedom fighters during 1930s. Our students got to learn a lot about the history of the institute and its foundation through a short-film and photo exhibits. They also visited the other interesting part of the museum that comprises of technical models based mainly on various laws of physics and mathematics. Our students were indeed excited at the sight of a hunter plane and a steam engine showcased outside the museum in the open-air.

Overall, it was a day-long event with short breaks for breakfast and lunch. The trip was indeed very enjoyable and impactful for our students. We thank our Principal, Dr. Uma Bhaumik whose cooperation has made this event extremely successful.