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## RAJASTHAN DELEGATES EXPLORE TAMIL NADU IN YUVA SANGAM PHASE - III

Yuva Sangam is a flagship initiative organised by the Government of India under the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat campaign. This unique cultural program aims to foster understanding and unity among the youth of India by facilitating interactions between students from different states. Indian Institute of Management Tiruchirappalli hosts delegates from Rajasthan under Phase–III of the Yuva Sangam Program. From 24th November to 4th December, the Rajasthan delegation's itinerary is a curated blend of cultural, historical, and academic exploration.

Commencing their journey on 23rd November from Kota, Rajasthan, the delegates arrived in Tiruchirappalli on 24th November. Officials of IIM Tiruchirappalli warmly welcomed them, and as an introduction to the rich heritage of Tamil Nadu, an Inauguration Ceremony was held at IIM Tiruchirappalli and Ms. D. Nithya, IRS, Additional Commissioner of Income Tax, Ministry of Finance, Government of India graced the ceremony.

Rajasthan delegates participated in traditional sports like Silambattam, Kabbadi, and Uriyadi, Faculty interactions, a campus tour, and a conventional Banana Leaf Lunch at IIM Tiruchirappalli. The visit continued with a visit to the ICAR-National Research Centre for Banana and the historic Kallanai, the Grand Anicut, offering insights into agricultural innovation and historical wonders.

The expedition continued with a trip to Rameswaram; the delegates paid homage to the late President A.P.J. Abdul Kalam at his memorial. Their journey continued with the iconic Pamban Bridge, Dhanushkodi Beach, and the historic Rameswaram Temple.

Historical exploration continued with a visit to the Keezhadi Archaeological Site and the Gandhi Museum in Madurai, gaining insights into the Sangam period settlement and Mahatma Gandhi's enduring legacy. They also featured an industry visit to the High Energy Projectile Factory (HEPF) in Tiruchirappalli, where delegates delved into the production of anti-tank kinetic energy projectiles. The academic visit to the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Tiruchirappalli featured student interactions and showcased technological advancements, including the Orion Miyawaki Forest and PARAM PORUL, a state-of-the-art Supercomputer. The delegates also visited Thanjavur Big Temple with academic engagements at the National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship, and Management (NIFTEM) in Thanjavur.

On Day 7, the delegates visited the Thiruvanaikoil Pancha Bootha sthalams, renowned for worshiping lord Siva as representing the element of water. The representatives visited the famous Srirangam temple with 247 pasurams (divine hymns) against its name. Great Acharyas of all schools of thought- Advaita, Dvaita, and Vishistadvaita have recognized the immense significance of the temple.

In the upcoming days, the Yuva Sangam Phase-III program will include visits to historical sites such as Mahabalipuram and the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) in Madras. The delegates will also interact with the Honourable Governor of Tamil Nadu at Raj Bhavan in Chennai tomorrow. A valedictory for the Rajasthan delegates at the campus will follow this. These experiences, blending historical landmarks, esteemed institutions, and cultural immersion, reflect the essence of Yuva Sangam. IIM Tiruchirappalli takes pride in facilitating these enriching experiences and fostering meaningful connections between the youth of Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu.