

**Report**  
**On**  
**National Trip to West Bengal State of India**  
**As part of the academic curriculum**  
**for the session 2023-2024**

**BTTM-414**  
**Semester-III**



**Department of Tourism and Travel Management**  
**Lady Keane College, Shillong**

## **Executive Summary**

This report presents a comprehensive overview of the national field trip undertaken by the Semester III students of the Bachelor of Tourism and Travel Management (BTTM), Lady Keane College, Shillong as part of their academic curriculum for 2023-2024. The destination chosen for this academic field trip was the West Bengal state of India, a region rich in cultural heritage, biodiversity, and historical significance. This National Trip aligned with the program's curriculum, which emphasizes practical learning through exposure to real-world tourism environments.

The objectives of the trip included fostering a deeper understanding of India's cultural and natural heritage, gaining insights into wildlife conservation practices, and exploring the infrastructure supporting tourism. Key destinations visited included iconic sites in Kolkata, such as the Victoria Memorial, St. James Church, Dakshineswar Kali Temple, and Jorasanko Thakur Bari, providing students with an in-depth view of India's colonial history, architectural diversity, and literary heritage. Additionally, the tour to the Sundarbans Tiger Reserve offered hands-on experience with biodiversity conservation efforts within a UNESCO World Heritage site.

The eight-day itinerary of 11 days of duration was designed to maximize learning outcomes while offering a balanced mix of educational experiences and cultural immersion. Students observed the logistics involved in managing a tourism operation, from coordinating transportation to handling accommodations. Interactions with local communities also afforded insights into the social and economic dimensions of tourism and the importance of sustainable practices in protecting both cultural and natural resources.

The expenditure for the trip totalled INR 529,050, covering transportation, accommodation, meals, and entry fees. This report also provides a detailed breakdown of expenses, reflecting the planning and financial management involved in organizing such an educational endeavour.

The field trip achieved its objectives by enriching students' knowledge of heritage, conservation, and tourism logistics. Through practical exposure, students developed documentation skills and gained a clearer understanding of the tourism sector's operational and managerial aspects, thereby fulfilling the program's educational goals.

## **Table of Contents**

Executive Summary .....	1
1. About the National Trip .....	3
1.1. Selected Destination .....	3
2. The objective of the National Trip .....	4
3. Participants .....	4
4. Duration of the National Trip .....	5
5. Tourist Destination Visited by the Students .....	5
6. Planed Tour Itinerary .....	7
7. Expenditure statements incurred during the National Trip .....	10
8. The outcome of the National Trip .....	11
9. Conclusion .....	12
10. Annexure: Photographs taken during the National Trip .....	12

## **1. About the National Trip**

As per the curriculum of the Bachelor of Tourism and Travel Management (BTTM Syllabus), the students shall have to undertake a field trip to famous place(s) of tourist importance in India at the end of their 3<sup>rd</sup> Semester. Field tours shall be taken to places/or based on certain themes:

1. Natural Resources: Places famous for natural resources, Beaches, National Parks, Hill stations and others.
2. Cultural Tourism: Places with diverse cultures, traditions, tribes, and cuisines.
3. Adventure Tourism: Tour to places famous for adventure sports.
4. Heritage Tourism: Tour to historical places; temples, monuments and others.
5. Tourism Logistics: Famous hotels resorts, resort locations, museums and others.

### **1.1. Selected Destination**

The Department of Tourism and Travel Management (BTTM), Lady Keane College, Shillong, has chosen West Bengal, Kolkata, as their national field trip tour this academic year.

The capital city of West Bengal, Kolkata, is located in the eastern part of India and is one of the most famous cities in India. Because of its strategic location, the city has witnessed several significant political and social upsurges in the past. Kolkata holds several substantial historical places in the chronical description of the entire scenario of the Indian subcontinent and the rest of the world. It is believed that Kolkata has also experienced some of the very well-known monarchical as well as bureaucratic rules in the past, that have profoundly influenced its culture. Though archaeologists believe that Kolkata has been inhabited for over two thousand years, its documented history begins only after the arrival of the British East India Company in 1690. Ancient evidence suggests that Kolkata was an established trading hub much before the arrival of the Delhi Sultanate, the Mughals, the Portuguese, the French, or the British. The city's origins date back to the Maurya and Gupta periods. The ancient epic of Mahabharata is also mentioned in the city of West Bengal, Kolkata.

It is believed that Kalikata was the ancient name of the city and was derived from the Bengali word 'Kalikshetra', which means "Ground of Goddess Kali." There is also a belief that the city derives its name from the location of its original settlement on the bank of a canal (khal). The British gave the city the name Calcutta, which is an anglicized version of the Bengali name Kalikata. In 2001, the government renamed Calcutta to Kolkata.

## 2. The objective of the National Trip

The purpose of the National trip was to practically learn about the wildlife and heritage of Kolkata. The students prepared their Field Trip Report (BTM-414) that was being evaluated at the end of their Semester IV. The **aims** and **objectives** of the National Trip to West Bengal are:

- i) To observe the rich biodiversity of the Sunderbans.
- ii) To study about the environmental conservation measures and wildlife projects undertaken by the different tourism projects in West Bengal.
- iii) To know the rich history of the state.
- iv) To learn about the different cultural attributes of Kolkata.

## 3. Participants

As per the course curriculum of the BTTM course, the Semester IV students (2023), of the Department of Tourism and Travel Management, have to undertake a national trip to famous places of tourism importance of the West Bengal State, India.

Total number of students participated: 25 (BTTM SEMESTER III)

Accompanying faculty: 5 (Department of Tourism and Travel Management, Lady Keane College, Shillong)

Total: 30

### List of Students

Sl/No.	Names of students	Semester (BTTM)
1	Benika Dkhar	III
2	Kepelhouno Sirie	III
3	Wandarisha Warjri	III
4	Emigracia Dkhar	III
5	Nabakor Warjri	III
6	Emidaka Myllemngap	III
7	Jasmine Kharbuki	III
8	Evakordor Nonglang	III
9	Daiarisa Pakma	III
10	Rukhsana Begum	III
11	Balarisuk Marshra	III
12	Paleishisha Nongneng	III
13	Bahunshisha Khongmdir	III
14	Priya Das	III
15	Daphisha Nongrum	III
16	Vilhousanou Tseikha	III

17	Shekinah Marak	III
18	Laiarisa Majaw	III
19	Dapmon Suchiang	III
20	Na-I-Shisha Pyngrope	III
21	Sofia Jarain	III
22	Yomum Kina	III
23	Lame Linggi	III
24	Monglam Wangsu	III
25	Dumir Yapak	III
<b>Accompanying Faculty</b>		<b>Age</b>
1	Dr. Londoner M Sohtun	34
2	Mr. Sushant B Surong	31
3	Mr. Wanpynsuk Makri	30
4	Mrs Montimon Diengdoh	36
5	Ms Janailin Warjri	36

#### **4. Duration of the National Trip**

The duration of the national trip is of 11 days, starting from 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024 to 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

#### **5. Tourist Destination Visited by the Students**

- Eden Garden: Kolkata's iconic international cricket stadium, established in 1864, is not only India's second-largest but also one of the oldest globally. Home to the Kolkata Knight Riders, it's managed by the Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB).
- India Radio Akash Vani: Completed in 1958, this building became the home of All India Radio Kolkata (formerly Calcutta) the same year.
- St John's Church: Founded in 1784 by Maharaja Nabo Kishan Bahadur and laid by Warren Hastings, it's a historical landmark with two marble plaques marking its significance.
- Vidhan Sabha: Situated in Kolkata's B.B.D. Bagh area, it serves as the state capital's legislative assembly.
- High Court: India's oldest high court, with jurisdiction over the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, located in Kolkata.
- Raj Bhawan: Official residence of West Bengal's governor, originally known as Government House during British rule.
- RBI Museum: Established in 1814 under Dr. Nathaniel Wallich's guidance at the Asiatic Society, it's open to the public.

- Lal Dighi Lake: Known as Dalhousie Square Tank, this lake, fed by natural springs, remains a central feature of Kolkata's town plan.
- Writer's Building: A prominent heritage site showcasing Greco-Roman architecture, with a sprawling 150m-long structure and 13 blocks, six added post-independence.
- Kumartuli: Kolkata's traditional potters' quarter, famous for sculpting clay idols for festivals and export.
- Dakshineswar Kali Temple: Among Kolkata's notable shrines, the Dakshineswar Kali Temple venerates the goddess, Kali. Positioned along the Hooghly River, it covers an expansive acreage, featuring a nine-spired main temple and a spacious courtyard with surrounding rooms.
- Jorasanko Thakur Bari: Constructed in the 18th century by Dwarkanath Tagore, Rabindranath Tagore's grandfather, this residence in Jorasanko was where the poet spent his entire childhood and lived until his passing on August 7, 1941.
- St. James Church: A symbol of elegance, St. James Church in Entally, Kolkata, erected in 1862, boasts twin spires that dominate the city's skyline, earning it the moniker "Jora Girja," meaning twin church.
- Mother Teresa Home: The Mother House, serving as Mother Teresa's final resting place, is a site where visitors offer prayers and find solace in its serene atmosphere, conducive to meditation and imbued with positive energy.
- Quest Mall: Among Kolkata's largest shopping complexes, Quest Mall, situated on Syed Amir Ali Avenue at Beck Bagan, Park Circus, was inaugurated in 2013, boasting a vast leasable area of 700,000 sq ft and parking for 1,300 vehicles.
- Gosaba Island: As one of the primary deltaic islands in the Sunderban, Gosaba, flanked by the Matla and Zilli rivers/creeks, holds historical significance, once home to Sir Daniel Mackinnon Hamilton, a prominent figure in British India.
- Rabindra Bungalow: Nestled in Gosaba, West Bengal, the Rabindra Tagore Bungalow, built in 1890 by Debendranath Tagore, Rabindranath Tagore's father, served as the summer abode where the poet engaged in writing, composing music, and tending to gardens.
- Jharkhali (Tiger Reserve): Positioned as the new gateway to the Sunderbans, the world's largest mangrove forest, Jharkhali has become a sought-after destination for tourists keen on exploring this natural wonder. Located to the west and northwest of the

Sunderbans Tiger Reserve, Jharkhali offers an ideal starting point to delve into the expansive mangrove forest.

- Dobanki Camp: Among the watchtowers in the Sunderbans Tiger Reserve, Dobanki Camp stands out with its perpetual allure, drawing visitors eager to catch a glimpse of tigers from its elevated vantage point and canopy walkway.
- Sudhanyakhalai: Situated within the Sudhanyakhalai camp of the Sunderbans Tiger Reserve, the Sudhanyakhalai Watch Tower is renowned for its popularity among tourists, often frequented due to its proximity to the Sajnekhali Watch Tower.
- Sajnekhali: Serving as a biodiversity haven, Sajnekhali Wildlife Sanctuary offers an unparalleled opportunity to experience the rich biodiversity and stunning landscapes of the Sunderbans, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Positioned in the South 24 Parganas district of West Bengal, India, this sanctuary serves as the gateway to the renowned Sunderbans.
- Nicco Park: Nestled in Jheel Meel, Sector-4 of Bidhannagar, West Bengal, Nicco Park is a vibrant amusement park designed to attract tourists with family-friendly entertainment and educational experiences. Boasting over 30 rides, 5 attractions, and 1 show, along with a water park section called "Wet-o-Wild," Nicco Park offers day packages for those looking to spend an entire day enjoying its offerings.
- The Victoria Memorial stands as a grand marble tribute to Queen Victoria, the revered Empress of India, prominently positioned facing the Queen's Way on the Maidan in central Kolkata. Constructed by the British Raj between 1906 and 1921, it remains the largest monument dedicated to a monarch anywhere across the globe.

## 6. Planed Tour Itinerary

The visited destination covered the following planed Tour Itinerary below: -

### **Day 1 – Arrival at Kolkata + Local sightseeing.**

- Arrive early at the airport/ Station and freshen up at your hotel for a long day. I'd recommend you to stay near Esplanade and Park Street because they're in the heart of the city. Besides you will have access to the best restaurants and nightlife, Metro station and bus connectivity. Hopefully you will be able to start your trip by 11 am.

Start your journey for the day by viewing the Writer's Building, the General Post Office, the Reserve Bank of India and all state headquarters of all the nationalized banks you can also have street food in BBD bag. Next Head to Dakshineswar Kaali Temple, one of the



most revered temples in India timing - 6:00 am – 12:30 pm - 3:00 pm – 8:30 pm. Photography is not allowed inside the temple premises. You will have to leave your footwear and electronics in a secure locker outside. Built in Navaratna style, Dakshineswar is an architectural treasure. Take a ferry or bus across the river to reach Belur Math on the opposite side of Ganga. It was established by the world-renowned spiritual leader Swami Vivekananda. He formed the group Ramakrishna Mission, a group of monks dedicated to the service of humanity. The temple of Belur Math is an architectural amalgamation of religions across the world, symbolizing unity in diversity. Morning: 6.30 to 11.30 a.m.; Evening: Oct to Mar : 3.30 to 8.30 p.m..

## **Day 2 – Sightseeing of Kolkata**

On Day 2 we will start early after a healthy brunch and head to north Kolkata. You may be lodged at the heart of the city, but its soul lies in the narrow, dreary alleys of North Calcutta. Visit Jorasanko Thakur Bari is the ancestral home of Rabindranath Tagore and has galleries dedicated to his life and works in India and abroad. The highlights of this house are the separate galleries funded and maintained by the government of China, Japan, US and Hungary in his honor. Depending on your interest you can spend 1-2 hours here and also come back in the evening for a light and sound show.

From here you can drive straight to New Town. While North Calcutta is the cultural precinct of Kolkata, it also comes with its own baggage of all the bad things people might have told you about the city. Old roads, narrow alleys, dilapidated buildings. New Town is a complete antithesis. The Biswa-Bangla Gate leading to Eco Park, symbolizes the aspirational side of the city's character. Kolkata has for long been romanticized for its past. People here like to lay back and reminisce their golden past without any ambition for future. First Visit Harinalaya, It is a mini zoo in Newtown area near eco park which is in a developing stage..now you can see few birds, black swan, deers and crocodile, Hippopotamus, zebra and giraffe are also there. Next travel to Eco Park which is 5min away, a theme park spread over 480 acres is the biggest urban park in India. You can hire a bike or electric vehicle, or even get a ticket to an electric toy train to explore the huge park. With a nominal entry fee of only Rs. 30 per person, this huge green oasis is segmented into a large number of thematic sections. Next walk over to Mother's Wax Museums, as we know it, are constructed to preserve some of the most iconic people and events of our time. The much-famed Madame Tussauds in London houses international celebrities, made purely out of wax, in their best moments. It is like time froze in those essential moments. Much like that,

Mother's Wax Museum in Kolkata maintains around fifty-four wax statues of our favourites, entry fee entry fee of only Rs. 250 per person.

### **Day 3 – Kolkata to Sundarban**

Sundarban Tiger Roar Resort welcomes you to the Sundarban Tiger Reserve, biggest Mangrove Forest and a World Heritage site declared by UNESCO in the year 1985 and was made a biosphere Reserve in 1989. The journey will start in the morning at 8:00 AM (Reporting time: 7:30 AM) from Esplanade (Near K.C.Das Confectionery). Refreshments will be served on the way with a brief stopover for tea. On arrival at Godkhali Jetty and transferred to the boat. Proceed to our resort through rivers Gomor, Durgadhvani to enter River Pitchkhali, on the bank of which lies Sundarban Tiger Roar Resort overlooking the Sundarban Tiger Reserve.

Hot Lunch will be served at our resort. After Lunch proceed to Bird's Island and Sunset Point and return to the Resort.

Evening Tea and snacks will be served followed by Adivasi Jhumur dance performed by the tribal people of Sundarbans.

Dinner will be served at 9.00 PM.

### **Day 4 - Sundarban**

After breakfast report at Jetty ghat at 8:30 AM in the morning for a thrilling cruise towards Sajnekhali Watchtower and Mangrove Interpretation Centre , then proceed to deep Jungle Safari through creeks and dense forest and numerous rivers. like Sarakkhali 1 , Sudhanyakhali , Bonbibhi bharani, Sunderkhali , Pirkhali , Dobanki and Panchmukhani where you may see deer ,water monitor lizards, monkeys, wild boars , crocodiles and the Royal Bengal Tiger. Lunch will be served at the Boat/ Resort .

Evening walk through the native village of Jamespur. You will encounter many wonderful sights as you learn about the lifestyle, local crafts, cuisines, and way of life of the local villagers.

In the evening join us for Tea with snacks and watch a cultural program of Baul Folk songs and dinner at 9:00 PM.

### **Day 5 – Sundarban to kolkata**

Wake up call at 7:00am. Breakfast at 8:30am, After Breakfast checkout at hotel and proceed to Gosaba , visit Hamilton Bungalow and Rabindranath Tagore Bunglow .

After Early Lunch (Packed Lunch) transfer back to Kolkata.

### **Day 6 – Day at leisure.**

Today the day is at leisure, today travel to aquatica or Nicco park at your own cost.

### Day 7 – Kolkata walking tour

Today we will take you on a tour of Kolkata on foot. Start the tour from Park street, Esplanade and Maidan area, which happens to be one of the most well-planned part of the city. This is where you will find the famous Victoria Memorial, Indian Museum , wide tree-laden walkways leading to St. Paul’s cathedral, Birla Planetarium, and Nandan (the cultural center of the city). If time permits and you are willing to walk some more, then walk towards Eden garden stadium, Eden garden, Princep ghat, Babu ghat. Ride a local bus back to esplanade walk to your hotel. (no transport will be provided)

### Day 8 – Departure

Today marks the end of your tour of Kolkata with loving memories. Next we drop you to station or airport according to your departure timing.

## 7. Expenditure statements incurred during the National Trip

Statement of expenditure incurred during the National Trip to West Bengal undertaken by the BTMM 3<sup>rd</sup> Semester students from 15<sup>th</sup> January to 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

Sl.No	Particulars	Date	Bill No	Rate	Amount
1	<b>Transportation</b>	15.01.24	013	Rs. 10,000.00/ sector	Rs. 20,000.00
	Shillong to Guwahati				
	Guwahati to Shillong	24.01.24			
	Train from Guwahati to Howrah	15.01.24	077	Rs. 36780.00	Rs. 36,780.00
	Howrah to Guwahati	23.01.24			
	Pick up and Drop from Esplanade to Nicco Park and back	21.01.24	36	Rs. 7301.00	Rs. 7301.00
	Transportation to Mawsadang	21.11.23	013	Rs. 6000.00×3	Rs. 18,000.00
2	<b>Tour and Stay</b>	06.10.23	KOL23/079	Rs. 4,38,000.00	Rs. 4,38,000.00
	Accommodation, Sightseeing, Transport, Fooding at Sunderband				
3	<b>Food and Refreshments</b>	15.01.24	4221	Rs. 480.00	Rs.480.00
	Breakfast and Lunch at Nongpoh				
	Dinner (Train) IRCTC	15.01.24	3046,3048,3049 &3049	180+150+160+160	Rs. 650.00
	Lunch	16.01.24	04	190+180+160	Rs. 720.00
	Dinner	16.01.24	2	525.00	Rs. 525.00
	Dinner	16.01.24	000116	1672.00	Rs. 1672.00
	Lunch	17.01.24	7200	1080.00	Rs. 1080.00
	Dinner	17.01.24	21412	1440.00	Rs. 1440.00
	Lunch	21.01.24	BN-14434	640.00	Rs. 640.00
	Dinner	21.01.24	32236	892.00	Rs. 892.00
	Lunch	22.01.24	2124	530.00	Rs. 530.00

Lunch	23.01.24	038	340.00	Rs.340.00
<b>Total</b>				<b>Rs. 5,29,050.00</b>
<i><b>Rupees in Words: Five lakh twenty-nine thousand fifty only.</b></i>				

## **8. The outcome of the National Trip**

The National Trip to West Bengal State of India covers several important educational and experiential aspects:

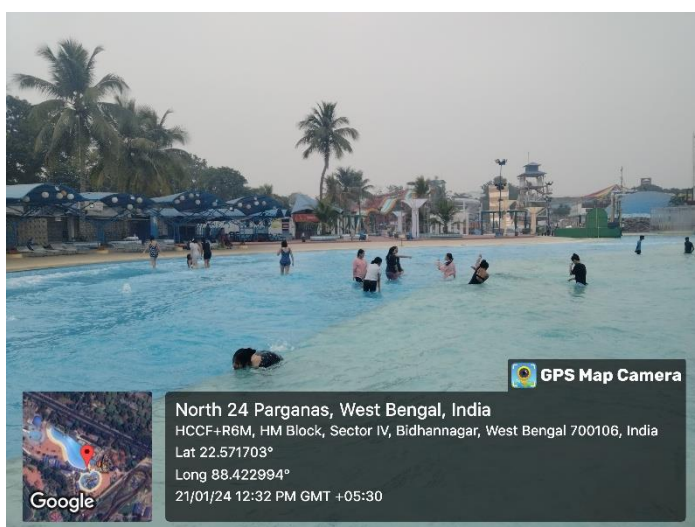
1. **Enhanced Knowledge of Heritage and Culture:** Students gained firsthand exposure to Kolkata's rich history and cultural heritage, visiting significant sites like the Victoria Memorial, Jorasanko Thakur Bari, and St. James Church, which deepened their understanding of India's colonial history, literary legacy, and architectural influences.
2. **Insight into Biodiversity and Conservation:** The Sundarban's visit, including watchtowers like Sudhanyakhal and Sajnekhali, offered students a close look at wildlife conservation efforts and ecosystem management within a UNESCO World Heritage site. Observing the Sundarbans' biodiversity in its natural setting highlighted the importance of sustainable tourism in delicate environments.
3. **Practical Exposure to Tourism Logistics:** The trip allowed students to observe and experience the logistics involved in tourism, from transportation coordination to managing group accommodations. Visits to modern attractions like Quest Mall and Eco Park complemented their understanding of how infrastructure supports tourism.
4. **Understanding Cultural Tourism Dynamics:** Exposure to Kolkata's cultural landmarks and the lifestyle of local villagers in Sundarbans villages like Jamespur provided valuable insights into the local customs, traditional practices, and the interdependence between tourism and cultural preservation.
5. **Documentation and Reporting Skills:** Through the preparation of their Field Trip Report (BTM-414), students practiced documentation and reporting skills, consolidating their learning experiences and refining their ability to communicate effectively in written documentation.

## 9. Conclusion

The National Trip to West Bengal State of India, in alignment with the BTTM curriculum, successfully broadened the students' understanding of various aspects of tourism and highlighted the importance of environmental awareness, historical preservation, and sustainable tourism development. Moreover, the National Trip served the purpose of the Semester III (BTTM-414) aims and objectives for the academic session 2023-2024.

## 10. Annexure: Photographs taken during the National Trip

Some of the photographs taken during the national trip to West Bengal State of India with geotagging are presented below:





**GPS Map Camera**

Gosaba, West Bengal, India  
5R92+54F, Gosaba, Arampur, West Bengal 743370, India  
Lat 22.1678°  
Long 88.800189°  
18/01/24 02:38 PM GMT +05:30



**GPS Map Camera**

Kolkata, West Bengal, India  
10, Rabindra Sarani, Raja Katra, Singhi Bagan, Jorasanko, Kolkata, West Bengal 700007, India  
Lat 22.585146°  
Long 88.358514°  
17/01/24 01:58 PM GMT +05:30



 **GPS Map Camera**



Google

Gosaba, West Bengal, India  
5R92+54F, Gosaba, Arampur, West Bengal 743370, India  
Lat 22.167799°  
Long 88.800162°  
19/01/24 12:54 PM GMT +05:30



 **GPS Map Camera**



Google

Lot No 126, West Bengal, India  
Jharkhali, Lot No 126, West Bengal 743312, India  
Lat 22.018952°  
Long 88.687083°  
19/01/24 12:55 PM GMT +05:30

