

# BHAVNA GOUDA

DATE OF BIRTH - 05<sup>th</sup> JAN - 03

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023-24 (Second Term)

ANNUAL ATTENDANCE 364 Days Out of 366 Days

## INTRODUCTION:



Hello friends, I am Bhavna! This year I turned 21, gaining more rights and responsibilities. I will be casting my first vote this April as a dutiful Indian citizen. I continue volunteering and studying at Auro-Mira Vidya Mandir - Kechla. I've established a daily routine; every morning, I practice Yogasana for thirty minutes followed by one hour of Shramdan in the school meditation hall. Breakfast is at 7:30, and sometimes I prepare my own meal.

With the changing timetable, I no longer have morning classes, so I study independently and practice problems for my entrance exams.

**Volunteering:** From 9:30 to 10:30 am, I teach English to the Progress Group. Initially, I worked with three students preparing for their board exams, feeling uncertain







feel I've improved significantly as a project teacher, always aiding in planning and teaching concepts with enthusiasm. I learn and prepare chapters for myself before teaching, gaining valuable insights from teaching the children.

From 11:30 to 12:30, I work with the Gratitude children, focusing on social studies. We've covered a significant portion of the syllabus from the ICSE 10<sup>th</sup>-grade book. As the students have exams



as I had never taught 10<sup>th</sup>-grade English. Now, I've started teaching the entire class and am learning alongside them. Though this group used to trouble me, they are now enthusiastic about studying the 10<sup>th</sup>-grade book, making teaching easier.

From 10:30 to 11:30 am, I serve as a project teacher for the Courage Group. The students in this group are highly engaged, energizing me further. Over the past six months, we've covered four topics: Food, Occupation, Transportation, and Solar System. I



approaching, I prepare tests, questions, and writing assignments. I also review their answers and share educational videos and news with them.

**Camp Management:** Every year, our school hosts camps from schools in Hyderabad, Delhi, and Raipur. I coordinate their travel from Pondi Ghat to Kechla by two boats equipped with





service, and I participated in afternoon co-curricular activities, where I learned crochet.

### **Celebrations:**

Although I haven't been performing much myself, I have been actively involved in teaching various groups. For the Mother's Birthday, I wrote a script based on incidents



life jackets for safety. Additionally, I assist in room allocation and stay overnight in the camp building to address any emergencies. I've learnt camp organization from Pranjal Bhaiya and, along with my friends, engage the students in various activities like treks, swimming, kayaking, boating, and rappelling. The children enjoy their time in Kechla during their holidays. This year, two batches of MIS came for community

from the Mother's life, which was performed by students from the Progress Group. Additionally, I participated in singing bhajans dedicated to The Mother's four powers. On November 29<sup>th</sup>, I sang several songs. During the sports day event, I performed a welcome and bamboo dance to contribute to the festivities.





**Academics:** Currently, I am diligently preparing for my exams scheduled for June as well as for B.Ed. entrances. Despite my desire to study at a different university, I am obliged to stay with my parents to take care of them, especially since all my siblings are away from home. Nevertheless, I am grateful for the opportunity to continue my education. Despite pressure from many villagers to get married soon, I am fortunate to have my parents' support in some of my decisions, particularly my reluctance to marry at such a young age. During my free time, I indulge in reading novels related to my MA course, which helps me stay engaged intellectually.

### TRIP TO NORTH-EAST:

We commenced our journey in the early hours of February 24<sup>th</sup> and concluded it late at night on March 13<sup>th</sup>. On the morning of February 24<sup>th</sup>, we departed for our destination. Our train, the Sambleshwari Express, was scheduled to depart around 7:45 am. To ensure punctuality, we arrived at the railway station via motorcycles. Subsequently, we boarded the train and arrived in Kolkata early on the morning of February 25<sup>th</sup>.

On February 25<sup>th</sup>, upon our arrival in Kolkata, we took the opportunity to freshen up at Maharashtra Bhawan.







proceeded to the iconic Victoria Memorial. Upon arrival, we were greeted by the grandeur of this magnificent building, surrounded by meticulously landscaped gardens. The memorial houses several galleries, featuring sculptures, arms and armour, as well as a notable collection of paintings from the colonial era. Additionally, we had the privilege of admiring antique sculptures and books on display, offering insight into the colonial period and its cultural significance.

Our day concluded with our departure from Howrah station aboard the Saraighat Express.

Without delay, I swiftly prepared myself for a visit to the Acharya Jagdish Chandra Bose Indian Botanic Garden, renowned for its collection of rare plants and the awe-inspiring 250-year-old great banyan tree, which spans an area of 3.5 acres.

Our next stop was the Indian Museum, established in 1814, making it the ninth oldest museum globally. This vast institution boasts numerous galleries showcasing a diverse range of subjects, including birds, industrial botany, coins, human evolution, and more. We thoroughly enjoyed exploring the various exhibits and displays.

Following this enriching experience, we







On February 26<sup>th</sup>, our journey led us to Kamakhya Station, where we arrived around 10:30 am. We promptly boarded the tourist bus, which we had arranged for our convenience, and made our way to the renowned Kamakhya Temple. Despite the bustling crowds, we patiently waited for hours to partake in the complete Darshan of the sanctum sanctorum. It was an eye-opening experience to witness the rituals, including animal sacrifices, performed at the temple. Following our spiritual visit, we enjoyed a delectable lunch of 'Khichdi' within the temple premises.

Afterwards, we proceeded to the Gandhi Mandap, a museum erected in

honour of Mahatma Gandhi on Sarania Hills. From this vantage point, we were treated to a breath-taking panoramic view of Guwahati city, stretching along the banks of the Brahmaputra River. As evening approached, we retired to 'The Blue Moon Hotel' to freshen up before continuing our exploration.

Later in the day, we visited the War Memorial, a poignant tribute to the brave soldiers of Assam, situated by the picturesque Deghalipuhuri Lake. This serene setting provided ideal moments for memorable photoshoots, adding to the significance of our visit. Our day concluded with a satisfying dinner, after which we retired for a well-deserved rest, reflecting on the day's experiences.







On February 27<sup>th</sup>, our journey continued as we embarked on two buses from Guwahati bound for Shillong. Along the scenic route, we made several stops to immerse ourselves in the natural beauty, including a memorable visit to Umiam Lake. Upon reaching Cherrapunji, we delved into the captivating surroundings by exploring Thangkharang Park, which offered a glimpse into the lush forest environment. Our adventure continued with a visit to the enchanting Mawsmi Caves, where we

marvelled at the intricate formations within.

Our exploration of Cherrapunji culminated with a visit to the majestic Noakhali Falls, where we spent ample time soaking in the splendour of the cascading waters. Despite the awe-inspiring scenery, I found the culinary offerings in Meghalaya lacking, leaving me with a sense of disappointment and reluctance to revisit.

In the evening, we arrived in Shillong and settled into the charming accommodations of the 'Traveller's Inn' hotel. While the hotel itself exuded







beauty and comfort, I was disappointed by the excessive use of oil in the food preparation, as well as the limited vegetarian options, which consisted solely of cabbage and potato sabji.

On February 28<sup>th</sup>, we were blessed with a truly enchanting day as we embarked on a visit to Dawki, home to the pristine Umngot River. This picturesque location, nestled along the border with Bangladesh, welcomed

us with crystal-clear waters that beckoned for exploration. Despite the presence of numerous Bangladeshi tourists, the allure of the serene surroundings compelled me to desire more time for leisurely boating. However, logistical constraints, including the high cost of boating for our group of



36 individuals at Rs 800 each, prevented us from indulging further. Nevertheless, the memory of nature's beauty at Dawki will remain etched in my mind forever.



Continuing our journey, we proceeded to Riwai to marvel at the remarkable sight of a single living root bridge, a



testament to the ingenuity of the indigenous communities. Nearby, we encountered a fascinating balancing rock, adding to the natural wonders of the region.

Our adventure then led us to Mawlynnong, acclaimed as the cleanest village in Asia.



Here, we immersed ourselves in the serene atmosphere, interacting with the local children and experiencing the simple joys of village life. Our visit culminated with a delightful lunch amidst the idyllic surroundings, leaving us with cherished memories of our time spent in this remarkable village.

On February 29<sup>th</sup>, we enjoyed a leisurely day beginning with a visit to Lady Hydari Park, a delightful oasis boasting a mini zoo, picturesque gardens, and a serene lake. I was particularly enamoured by the tranquil lakes and vibrant flower gardens, evoking a sense of being transported to a Western country.

Our next stop was the bustling Police Bazaar, accessed via the scenic Wards Lake Bridge. Here, we immersed ourselves in the lively atmosphere of the market, indulging in shopping activities. Despite my usual reluctance towards







shopping, circumstances compelled me to purchase new pants as mine had been stolen from the hotel while drying.

Our exploration continued with a visit to the majestic Shillong Cathedral, where we admired the architectural grandeur and soaked in the peaceful ambiance.

In the afternoon, I took the opportunity to rest and recharge at the hotel,



preparing for the evening's activities. Later, I embarked on a spiritual journey with visits to a Ganesh and Kali temple, embracing moments of introspection and reverence amidst the serene surroundings.







On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, our day began early at 5 am as we eagerly prepared for an unforgettable experience: an elephant safari through the lush jungles of Kaziranga. Sitting atop an elephant for the first time was a thrilling adventure, allowing us to immerse ourselves in the breath-taking beauty of the wilderness. Over the course of 45 minutes, we delighted in capturing the mesmerizing sights of one-horned rhinos, wild elephants, and deer up close, creating cherished memories amidst the natural splendour.

Following the exhilarating safari, we returned to Dreamland Resort for a well-

On March 1<sup>st</sup>, we commenced our day with a hearty breakfast before bidding farewell to Shillong and embarking on our journey to Kaziranga. Without any stops along the way, we made steady progress towards Assam, where we paused for a satisfying lunch at Dalibi Dhaba.

Continuing our travels, we arrived in Kaziranga late in the evening, greeted by the tranquil surroundings of the region. Our accommodations for the night awaited us at Dreamland Resort, providing a peaceful retreat after a day of travel.







deserved breakfast before continuing our journey towards Arunachal Pradesh. The students at the school welcomed us with kindness and warmth, quickly forging friendships that made our brief stay all the more memorable.

On March 3<sup>rd</sup>, our journey continued with an early start as we made our way towards Tawang. Along the route, we paused at SeLa, where we relished the chilly air and admired the snow-covered landscapes. Despite the lengthy journey to Tawang, we made the most of our time by exploring various intermediate destinations.

One such stop was Jaswantgarh, named in honour of Jaswant Singh Rawat, a courageous Indian Army soldier who valiantly fought during the Indo-China war in







1962. Here, we paid our respects to the martyrs, partook a meal at the army restaurant, and continued our onward journey.

Our next halt brought us to the picturesque Jung Falls, where we took the opportunity to immerse ourselves in the beauty of nature, capturing memorable photographs before resuming our travels.

As evening descended, we finally reached Tawang and settled in for the night at the Kemang Army Camp. Despite the cold temperatures, we embraced the chilly nights, finding comfort in the warmth of camaraderie and the hearty, wholesome meals prepared by the

dedicated army soldiers.

On March 4<sup>th</sup>, we eagerly embarked on a thrilling adventure to Bum La, situated at a staggering altitude of 15,200 feet and marking the border between India and China. Traveling in five small vehicles, we traversed through majestic mountains blanketed in snow, witnessing the awe-inspiring frozen lakes along the way. The experience was







ourselves in the rich cultural heritage of the region. In the evening, we paid homage to the heroes of the past at the War Memorial, culminating in a captivating light and sound show that left a lasting impression.

Following the show, we savoured a delicious dinner prepared by the army personnel, featuring succulent chicken dishes. We had the privilege of meeting Lt. Colonel Sir and a Lt. Colonel Ma'am from Odisha, who shared



insightful stories

about the Indian Army and their experiences in Arunachal Pradesh.

truly unforgettable, offering a glimpse into the pristine beauty of the Himalayan landscape.

Upon our return to Tawang, we took the opportunity to explore Buddhist Gumphas (monasteries), immersing



On March 5<sup>th</sup>, our journey continued as we departed early in the morning for Rupa, despite my desire to prolong our stay in Tawang. We spent the entire day traveling by bus. We stopped for breakfast at Jaswantgarh before proceeding on our journey. Along the way, we visited Dirang's Monastery, renowned as Asia's second-largest monastery, before finally reaching Rupa's Monastery by 5:00 pm. Upon arrival, I joined





nine friends and Pranjal bhaiya in attending a Buddhist festival, even as night began to fall, embarking on a memorable trek through the serene surroundings.

On March 6<sup>th</sup>, we resumed our journey by bus from Rupa to Guwahati. Upon reaching Guwahati, we once again stayed at 'The Blue Moon Hotel' where we celebrated a birthday party and indulged in an ice-cream extravaganza, marking the occasion with joyous festivities in honour of Bina didi.

March 7<sup>th</sup> saw us bidding farewell to the hotel in the morning, as we had an evening

train bound for New Jalpaiguri. Our belongings were securely stored on the bus as we embarked on a tour of Guwahati's notable attractions. Our first stop was the Assam State Zoo cum Botanical Garden, renowned as the largest of its kind in the North-East. Next, we visited the Srimanta Shankaradev Kalakshetra, a cultural institute showcasing the art and traditions of various Assam ethnic groups and other North-Eastern regions. Our final destination was the Regional Science Museum, where we engaged in interactive learning experiences, delving into topics ranging from prehistoric times to emerging technologies.

As the day drew to a close, we savoured the breath-taking sunset







journey, we enjoyed a unique experience: yak riding, which added an adventurous twist to our memorable trip.

On March 10<sup>th</sup>, our journey commenced as usual in the morning, this time bound for Namchi. Along the way, we made memorable stops at Temi tea gardens and the Four Dhams, also known as Siddheshwar Dham, a renowned tourist attraction in Sikkim. Here, we marvelled at the replicas of the 12 Jyotirlingas and the Char Dhams of India, featuring a majestic 33-meter-high Shiva Statue. In the evening, we revisited the MG Road

over the Brahmaputra River before heading to the station to board our train at 9:45 pm.

March 8<sup>th</sup> saw us traveling by car from New Jalpaiguri station to Gangtok, a journey of approximately five hours. Upon reaching Tiara Residency hotel around 2:30 pm, we took advantage of the pleasant evening weather to explore local sights, including the Sikkim Palace and MG Road market.

March 9<sup>th</sup> was dedicated to exploring places near Nathu La. We spent ample time at Nathu La, marvelling at the Indo-China border and the natural beauty of the surroundings. On our return





Market and White Hall to admire the flower exhibition, adding a touch of beauty to our day.

March 11<sup>th</sup> marked our return journey by train, with the following day, March 12<sup>th</sup>, spent in Kolkata as per our schedule. We freshened up at Maharashtra Bhawan for 30 minutes before embarking on a bus journey to Dakshineswar Kali Temple. From there, we embarked on a ferry ride to Belur Math, commemorating Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa's birth anniversary. Along the way, we stopped for a satisfying lunch at a local dhaba before continuing our exploration at Science City. The highlight of our visit was the Planetary show, which captivated our imaginations more than the Marine 3D shows.

In the afternoon, we indulged in thrilling games at NICCO Park, including the exhilarating Skydiver. Our adventure continued with rides like the roller coaster, river caving, car crash, moon raker, and many more, creating lasting memories of fun and excitement.

