

Azad Hind Fouz Smriti Mahavidyalaya
Domjur, Howrah

DEPARTMENTS OF PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE, SANSKRIT

STUDY TOUR PROPOSAL

(SEMESTERS – II, IV and VI)

- Date: 23rd July 2025 (Wednesday)
- Sites:
 - a. Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Indian Botanic Garden (Howrah)
 - b. Rail Museum (Howrah)
- Mode of transport: Bus (From College to College)
- Number of seats: 40
- Distance from College:
 - a. College to AJC Bose Botanic Garden – 15 kms. (1 hour)
 - b. AJC Bose Botanic Garden to Rail Museum – 7 kms.(20 mins)
- Timings:
 - a. Departure from College: 9 am
 - b. Return to College: 5 pm
- Contribution from participants: Rs. 400/ per head
 - a. Breakfast
 - b. Lunch
 - c. Evening Snacks
 - d. Entry Tickets
 - e. Reserved Bus fare

- **AJC Bose Botanic Garden**

The Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Indian Botanic Garden is a botanical garden in Shibpur, Howrah. It is under Botanical Survey of India (BSI) of Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India.

The gardens were founded in 1787 by Colonel Robert Kyd, an army officer of the East India Company, for identifying new plants of commercial value, such as teak, and growing spices for trade. The East India Company's Court of Directors supported Kyd's proposal to plant cinnamon, tobacco, dates, Chinese tea, and coffee in the garden for their commercial value. Tea was indispensable to the European economy. A major change in policy, however, was introduced by the botanist William Roxburgh after he became Superintendent of the garden in 1793. Roxburgh brought plants from all over India and developed an extensive herbarium. This collection of dried plant specimens eventually became the Central National Herbarium of the Botanical Survey of India, which comprises 2,500,000 items.



The best-known landmark of the garden is the Great Banyan (*Ficus benghalensis*) that is considered to be the largest tree in the world, at more than 330 metres in circumference. It partially inspired the novel *Hothouse* by Brian Aldiss. The gardens are also famous for their enormous collections of orchids, palms and plants of the pine genus (*Pandanus*).

CHARAK UDYAN

The Medicinal Plant Section or *Charak Udyan* is a very important section of the garden that has a collection of more than 200 medicinally important plants that are mentioned in the Sanskrit text on Ayurveda, *Charak Samhita* by Maharshi Charak.



CACTUS HOUSE

A separate pentagonal glass house for cacti and succulents was built on the occasion of the bicentenary celebration of the garden in 1987. Cacti occur in a wide range of shapes and sizes.



BAMBUSETUM

Bambusetum has a large number of bamboo species collected from different parts of the country. More than 28 species of bamboo are available in the Bambusetum



AROMATIC PLANT GARDEN

This section of the garden exclusively meant for the aromatic plants of India. Developed on a 3000 sq. ft. area has more than 30 aromatic plant species including the All Spice Plant, Lemon grass, Mint, Camphor, Sandal Wood.



- **Rail Museum**

The Rail Museum was established in 2006 to display the history and heritage of railways in eastern India with special focus on Howrah Railway Station, one of the busiest railway stations in the country.

Railways were introduced by the British in India in the 18th century by Lord Dalhousie, the British Governor-General, primarily for British economic and political interests, rather than for the benefit of Indian people. While railways did contribute to modernization, they were mainly used to exploit India's resources, facilitate British trade and maintain political control over the colony. The railway network connected inland regions to ports helping the British to export raw materials from India (like cotton) to Britain for manufacturing cloth and then sell the finished goods back to India. Railways also allowed for the rapid movement of British across the vast Indian subcontinent, enabling the suppression of uprisings and maintaining political dominance.



The Howrah Railway Station was originally built in 1854 by the East-India Company. The first railway line in Bengal, and the second in India, was inaugurated on 15th August, 1854, connecting Howrah to Hooghly as part of the East Indian Railway Company's network.

Old and rare drawings, documents, a fascinating collection of philately, 150-year-old steam locomotives, carriages, salon cars and trains are also some of the attractions here. A few old coaches have also been turned into restaurants and snack counters. The collection includes the first broad gauge electric locomotive built in India, a WCM-5; steam locomotive HPS-32 captured during the Indo-Pakistani War of 1971; and the *Indraprastha*, claimed to be the oldest remaining Indian Railways shunting locomotive.



Housed inside Howrah's Rail Museum, *Imperial Kitchen* is a unique restaurant reminiscent of the journeys on the Maharaja Express or The Orient Express.



- **Howrah Bridge**

On our return journey, we will cross the Hooghly River using the Howrah Bridge (Rabindra Setu), the iconic landmark connecting Howrah and Kolkata. It is considered to be one of the longest cantilever bridges in the world and carries 100,000 vehicles and countless pedestrians every day.



Study Tour Rules:

A Study Tour is an opportunity to explore new places, ideas and cultures. For the safety of the participants, it is important to follow some basic rules and regulations:

1. IDENTITY CARD:

All participants must wear college identity cards.

2. PUNCTUALITY:

All must be on time for scheduled activities and departures.

3. BUS BEHAVIOUR:

The bus must be kept clean. Noise should be kept to a minimum so that the bus driver is not distracted.

4. TOUR SITES:

All must be respectful of property and people at the sites and on the way. Damage to property or rowdy behaviour will not be permitted during the tour.

5. LOST OR STOLEN ITEMS:

Each participant will be solely responsible for his/her belongings.

6. SAFETY:

- a. No tour participant may leave the group to explore alone for any reason whatsoever, without permission. Be aware of the surroundings and exercise good judgment at all times.
- b. Any student indulging in risky behaviour, disobeying authority or possessing illegal substances will not be allowed to continue the tour.

NOTE:

These are basic guidelines for the tour. There may be additional directives depending on the situation for the safety of all.

Breach of rules will result in a call to the student's guardian.

Under extreme circumstances, the student may be sent home at own expenses.

- **Objectives of the Study Tour:**

1. The study tour will give the students some glimpses of the world of nature and make them conscious of environmental ethics which considers our moral responsibilities towards the natural world.
2. They will realize the importance of conservation, sustainability and the impact of human activity on ecosystems.
3. Visiting the railway museum will provide a unique opportunity to explore the rich history of the Indian railways. Furthermore, the collection of locomotives and other artifacts will help the students to understand the role played by railways in connecting India's diverse regions to foster national unity.
4. The study tour will also foster interest in an inter-disciplinary approach to teaching-learning.
5. Finally, the students will get a much needed break from the conventional classroom study.

- **Study Tour Outcome Activity:**

The Study Tour will be followed by curricular / co-curricular activity to assess the students' involvement and interest in the tour. The activities will be conducted by the Departments separately. E-Certificates will be given to all participants and three prizes will be given to the first, second and third place-holders.

Date: 11.7.2025

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Sri. Sukanta Kanrar
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Smt. Sudeshna Mallick
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