

1. Tripura, Mizoram and Bihar

An Inter State Youth Exchange Programme was organized by Nehru Yuva Kendra, Patna at Youth Hostel, Fraser Road, Patna w.e.f. 2nd March, 2019 to 16th March, 2019. It was participated by the youths of Tripura, Mizoram and Bihar.

Various activities were undertaken during this period including Panel Discussion on “Role of Youth in Strengthening National Unity” in which participants put forth their ideas and opinions, Cultural programme in which participants of paired states presented their cultural items specific to their States, Padyatra by the participants to create Voter Awareness, Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat Debate Competition, Discussion on Variety of Food and standard of living in different parts of country, Lecture on Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat and Seminar on International Women’s Day on the topic Right and Equality of Woman. An Essay Competition on Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat was organised for the participants. Tripura won the first position and participants from Bihar bagged the second prize followed by Mizoram on third position. Friendly Kabaddi match and Volley Ball match were also organised between the participants of participating and host states.

Field Visits were organised for the participants. The participants were taken to Nalanda, Jarasandh Ka Akhada, Garm Kund, Bhagwan Mahavir’s Jain Mandir, Buddha Temple, Swarn Bhandar, Rajgir, Shanti Stupa, Bihar Museum, District Magistrate Office, Gaya and Sanjay Gandhi Jaivik Udyan etc.

A total of 116 youth participants (25 from Tripura, 20 from Mizoram and 71 from Bihar) participated in the programme.

2. Madhya Pradesh and Manipur & Nagaland

Department of Education, Government of Manipur organized several Essay Writing competitions, Extempore Speech competition, Collage making competition, Elocution competition and Painting competition between January 2019 to March 2019. The topics of the competition were tourism attractions, folk dances, faith and religion, festivals, wild life, cuisines, famous temples, handlooms and handicrafts, language and literature of Madhya Pradesh.

Department of Tourism, Government of Manipur conducted Nature and Culture Trails of Imphal and its surrounding areas from 11th and 13th March, 2019.

3. Karnataka and Uttrakhand

An Inter State Youth Exchange Programme was organized by Nehru Yuva Kendra, Mussoorie at Youth Hostel, Mussoorie w.e.f. 14th February, 2019 to 28th February, 2019. The programme was participated by the youths of Karnataka and Uttarakhand.

Daily activities included Experience Sharing, Games and Sports, Language Learning, Lecture sessions, Cultural exchange, Cuisines of paired states, Sharing of best practices of Paired states, Padyatra, Rallies, field visits etc. A Language learning session and Cultural exchange session was organised by dividing 90 participants in a groups of 10 each followed by detailed presentation which was conducted by group leaders. Session on Voter Awareness, Group Communication and understanding cultural diversity was conducted. A Slogan making competition was conducted on Swachhta drive in Haridwar by the participants. Swachhta Awareness Rally was conducted in Haridwar followed by Chart making competition. Drama Competition was organised on social issues. Session on Indian Sciences and its effects on youth, Lecture session on types of loans that youth can take from various Public Sector Banks, Discussion on Government Social Security Schemes for Rural India, Session on Positivity and Awareness on New India , Session on Digital India and MUDRA scheme were conducted.

Participants got an opportunity to witness the speech of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 27th February, 2019 in Valedictory function of National Youth Parliament Festival 2019 which was live on Doordarshan TV Channel.

Field Visits were organised for the participants. The participants were taken to Company Garden and Mall Road in Mussoorie, Shanti Kunj, Har ki Paudi, Bharat Mata Mandir, Forest Research Institute and Science City in Dehradun where participants watched 3D Fiction movie also. A tribute was paid to Martyrs of Pulwama attack by the participants followed by a rally from Har Ke Paudi to VIP Ghat, Haridwar.

A total of 90 youths (40 from Uttarakhand and 50 from Karnataka) participated in the programme.

4. Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Chandigarh

Dadra & Nagar Haveli is paired with Chandigarh under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat programme. The students and officials of Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS), Dadra & Nagar Haveli visited Chandigarh from 27th February 2019 to 3rd March 2019. They visited various institutions including office to

Chandigarh Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Snehalaya, Maloya Colony, UT Chandigarh etc. During the visit, various interactive sessions were held in collaboration with other Departments of Chandigarh Administration. Many cultural events had also been organized where students exhibited their cultural aspects of their respective State.

An Inter State Youth Exchange Programme was organized by Nehru Yuva Kendra, Chandigarh at Rajiv Gandhi National Institute for Youth Development (RGNIYD) Regional Centre, Sector 12, Chandigarh w.e.f. 20th February, 2019 to 6th March, 2019.

The programme was inaugurated on 23rd February, 2019 with Vandana, performance of Gatka (Martial Art Punjab), Bhangra and group song by the participants. A Rally on Swachhta was organised from RGNIYD Campus to Khuda Ali Sher Village to make the participants and locals aware about the work done by the local Youth Clubs for the betterment of the area under Swachh Bharat Mission. The participants interacted with the locals and learned about their culture, lifestyle and the problems faced by them. A Youth Parliament was organised in which the participants discussed on topics of national importance and put forward their views followed by a Candle March organised in wake of Pulwama attack to show their support for the soldiers and their families.

Various other activities conducted during this period were performance of Yoga by the participants, Lecture on “Importance of Social Health” , Session on “Importance of Positivity”, Seminar on the “Rights of Animals and Stopping Cruelty”, Workshop on “Gender Sensitization” to sensitise the participants and create awareness on gender equality. Participants learnt 100 words of each other’s language in Language learning session. Life skill session was organised for the participants where they learnt about Life skills and also enjoyed the session which was followed by games & sports.

Field visits were organised for the participants. The participants were taken to places of historical importance viz. Golden Temple, Jallianwala Bagh, Rose Garden , Rock Garden, Sukhna Lake and Chattbir Zoo.

A total of 99 Youths (16 from Chandigarh, 35 from Punjab and 48 from Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Gujarat) participated in the programme.

5. Daman & Diu and Puducherry

The Art and Culture Department, Puducherry organized a Children Dance Festival during 15th-17th February, 2019 and had invited a cultural troupe from Daman & Diu to participate in it. The Department of Tourism, Daman had selected the local dance troupe to perform in the Children Dance Festival. 15 students from Daman along with two officials from the Department visited the U.T of Puducherry and participated in the Children Dance Festival on 15th -17th February, 2019 by Art and Culture Department, Puducherry.

6. Gujarat and Chhattisgarh

Chhattisgarh Government organized a Trekking event in Chhattisgarh from 8th to 11th February, 2019 with the participants from Gujarat. 8 persons from Gujarat participated in the event. On 8th February, 2019 the team reached to Panchdhara and had a small trek to waterfall. Full day trekking was organized up to the Fish Point on 9th February, 2019. The team trek to Sindurghati, Daldali and reached to *Sail* resort in the evening on 10th February, 2019. They trekked to Buddhist Monastery on 11th February, 2019 and departed to Jabalpur in the evening.

7. Goa and Jharkhand

An Inter State Youth Exchange Programme was organized by Nehru Yuva Kendra , Goa at Farmer Training Center, Ela Old Goa w.e.f. 24th January, 2019 to 7th February, 2019.

The Programme was inaugurated on 25th January, 2019 by Sh. Shripad Naik, Hon'ble Union Minister of State in the Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy. Participants from Jharkhand performed Welcome Dance on the occasion of Inaugural function.

Daily Activities included morning prayer, yoga, and various interstate sharing session between host and participating states which included Songs, Folk dances, proverbs, sentence in local language, Cultural Programme, Sports & games.

A Rally was organised on the occasion of Republic Day Celebration followed by a Costume Rally from Ela Farm (Krishi Vigyan Kendra) to Gandhi Circle, Old Goa. Discussion on Red Ribbon Club was conducted. Group discussion was organised for the participants on Social issues viz, Prevention of Drug, Swachh Bharat, Prohibition of Dowry and Violation of Traffic Rules & Road

Accidents. Debate Competition was organised on the topic of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (Gender Equality) and on National Integration. Session on Book Making and Book Writing was conducted followed by Quiz competition on Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat. Discussion on Employment Opportunities was conducted. Lecture on Provision of Constitution & Importance of Gram Sabha was taken.

Field Visits were organised for the participants. The participants were taken to Archaeological monument and places of historical importance viz, St. Francis Xavier Church at old Goa, Excursion to Old Goa Church, Aguad Fort, Goa State Kala Academy, Goa State Assembly, Sai Nursing College at Sakhali, Ravindra Bhavan, Sanskruti Bhavan at Panaji, Shivaji Maharaj Fort, Safa Masjid, Pandawa Caves at Harwarlem, Sikirim Beach, garbage treatment plant at Saligao, Bondla Wildlife Sanctuary and Santa Monica ship at Mandovi River.

Cultural Exchange Programme was organised for the participants where participants from Goa & Jharkhand performed folk dances of their respective states. Portuguese dance was also performed by the participants of Goa in the cultural programme organised at Santa Monica Ship.

A total of 108 Youths (51 from Jharkhand, 28 from Maharashtra and 29 from Goa) participated in the programme.

Ministries/Departments

Department of Youth Affairs

Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan under Deaoartment of Youth Affairs organised several Inter State Youth Exchange Programmes on the basis of the paired stataes.

For the youths of Chandigarh and Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Nehru Yuva Kendra, Chandigarh organized programme at Rajiv Gandhi National Institute for Youth Development (RGNIYD) Regional Centre, Sector 12, Chandigarh w.e.f. 20th February, 2019 to 6th March, 2019.

For the youths of **Rajasthan and Assam**, Nehru Yuva Kendra Nehru Yuva Kendra, Jaipur organized programme at Shankara Group of Institutions, Riico Industrial Area Kukas, Delhi Road- Jaipur w.e.f. 19th January, 2019 to 2nd February, 2019. For the youths of **Goa and Jharkhand**, Nehru Yuva Kendra, Goa organized programme at Farmer Training Center, Ela Old Goa w.e.f. 24th January, 2019 to 7th February, 2019. For the youths of **Uttarakhand and**

Karnataka, Nehru Yuva Kendra, Mussoorie organized programme at Youth Hostel, Mussorie w.e.f. 14th February, 2019 to 28th February, 2019. For the youths of Bihar **and Tripura & Mizoram**, Nehru Yuva Kendra, Patna organized programme at Youth Hostel, Fraser Road, Patna w.e.f. 2nd March, 2019 to 16th March, 2019. (Details of the activities conducted during these Inter State Youth Exchange programme have already been given above).

Department of Sports

Department of Sports organized a Mallakhambh demonstration from 30th January to 1st February, 2019 at Ahmedabad, Gujarat. The match was conducted in the category of Boys and Girls U-21. The demonstration was given by the teams of Gujarat and Chhattisgarh comprising of 32 players and officials.

It organized Roll Ball Competition and Malakhambh demonstration in February 2019. Roll Ball competition was conducted at Mahesh Vidyalaya, Kothrud, Pune from 1st to 3rd February, 2019. The match was conducted in the category of Boys U-17. The participant teams were Rajasthan and Assam; Goa and Jharkhand; Uttarakhand & Karnataka; Uttar Pradesh & Arunachal Pradesh & Meghalaya; Madhya Pradesh & Manipur & Nagaland; Maharashtra & Odisha; Punjab & Andhra Pradesh; Gujarat & Chhattisgarh; Haryana & Telangana; Jammu & Kashmir and Tamil Nadu; Himachal Pradesh & Kerala; and Pudducherry & Daman & Diu. A total of 203 players and officials participated in the competition.

Mallakhamb demonstration matches were conducted at Jalandhar, Punjab from 26th to 28th February, 2019. The matches were conducted in the category of Boys and Girls U-21. The demonstration was given by the teams of Punjab and Chhattisgarh comprising of 32 players and officials.

It organized Kho-Kho competition on 10th March, 2019 at Margaon, Goa. The match was conducted in the category of Boys and Girls U-21. The teams of Goa and Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh & Chandigarh and Dadra & Nagar Haveli participated in the competition. A total of 54 players and officials participated in the competition.

The events were covered extensively in the print and electronic media and were witnessed by more than 2500 persons.

Ministry of Culture

The Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India organized **Sanskriti Kumbh** from 10th January, 2019 spanning for 29 days with intent to showcase the rich cultural heritage of India viz. Performing Arts- Folk, Tribal and Classical art forms, Handicrafts, Cuisines and Exhibitions etc. all in one place.

Sanskriti Kumbh was inaugurated by the Governor of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Ram Naik in the presence of then Union Minister of State for Culture (I/C) Dr. Mahesh Sharma. A 30 minutes choreographed performance by 250 artists of all the Zonal Cultural Centres under Ministry of Culture was presented in the inaugural ceremony which gave a gist of the grandeur of the coming spiritual and cultural celebration.

With a view to promote and reconnect the people especially the youth with the magnificent and multifaceted culture along with the opulence and its historical significance, a massive exercise in the online and social media sphere was undertaken along with live footage of Sanskriti Kumbh, which was aired on Ministry of Culture's Youtube Channel and on large number of LED screens in the Kumbh Mela Premises.

In the Sanskriti Kumbh, an opulent Main Stage near Arail Ghat , Sector 19 was set up in Mela premises for Folk Dance and Singing performances took place in two phases i.e 2pm to 5pm and 6pm to 9pm daily. The folk dances, representing states from East, West, North and South India, showcased the spirit of Unity in Diversity that is Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat. The artists representing seven Zonal Cultural Centres were enjoined upon the task of performing at main stage as well as taking it to different locations of Kumbh Mela. “Chalo Man Ganga Yamuna Teer” accommodated cultural performances by artists from all seven Zonal Cultural Centres of Ministry of Culture.

A “Kalagram” was also organized in which pavilions were set up by all the Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) as well as Academies, Museum and BTIs. In Kalagram, rare handicrafts, delectable traditional cuisines from various states were put in stall for dispense, Vedic exhibition gallery set up by IGNCA, book stalls by Sahitya Akademi , exhibition on Mahakumbh by Allahabad Museum, Sand Mandala Exhibition by CIHCHS, Dahung and Live Portrait Symposium by Lalit Kala Akademi were organised. In the same premises the Classical Dance, singing and musical performances by artists of National and International stature were

being coordinated by Sangeet Natak Akademi and Spic Macay till end of the festival i.e 4th March, 2019.

Under the banner of Sanskriti Kumbh, Rashtriya Shilp Mela was organized in the premises of NCZCC where Shilp Haats were set up to display handicrafts and live demonstration of the skill by skilful craftsmen. Day long activities of traditional performances of fringe folk art like Behroopiya, Baazigar, Kachhi Ghodi by Maidani Kalakars took place in designated places.

Zonal Cultural Centres under Ministry of Culture organized a large number of activities in the month of February 2019. **Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre, Kolkata organized** many programmes including Kolkata Theatre Festivals, National Theatre Festival in Nawgaon, Assam; Cultural Evening with introduction to Cultural Performances and Handloom of the Eastern Culture, Purba Rang-National Theatre Festival and Workshop on Sattriya Dance. **North Central Zone Cultural Centre, Prayagraj** organized programmes of Photography Workshop, Cultural Evening Performances, Beti Hi Vardaan and Chalo Man Ganga Jamuna Teer. **North East Zone Cultural Centre, Dimapur** organized Discover North East- A Cultural Yatra and Kumbh Mela- Folk Dance Presentation. **North Zone Cultural Centre, Patiala organized** 18th Shyam Sangeet Sammelan, Vividh Rang, Cultural programme for MOHFW, Brahmanad- 27th Indian Classical Music Assembly, Sang Utsav, Basant Mela, Cultural Presentations, Natak, Yatra Kashmir Lok Rang, Kavi Sammelan, Bhajan Yatra and Cultural presentations at Fourth Global Digital Health Partnership Summit.

South Central Zone Cultural Centre, Nagpur organized Presentation of Geet Ramayan, Lok and Adivasi Painting Workshop, Lok Kala Darshan, Kalidasa Mahotsav **South Zone Cultural Centre, Thanjavur** organized All India Folk Festival, North East Octave Janapadi Magi Utsav and Cultural Programme of HRIDAY, **West Zone Cultural Centre, Udaipur** organized Basantotsav, Beneswar Mela and Loktarang.

Zonal Cultural Centres under Ministry of Culture organized a large number of activities during the month of March, 2019. Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre, Kolkata organized Celebration of Vasanta Utsav, Festival Folk and Tribal Arts, An Evening of Folk songs and dances and Khongjom Parva Festival. **North Central Zone Cultural Centre, Prayagraj** organized Training Workshop in Yoga and Pranayam and Octave 2019. **North East Zone Cultural Centre, Dimapur**

organized Theatre Workshop, Umang Festival, Discover Manipur- A Cultural Yatra in Manipur, Shilp Mahotsav 2019, Performing Art Festival, Cultural Event at Raj Bhavan and Tribal Festival 2019. **North Zone Cultural Centre, Patiala** organized Tricity Theatre festival, Poet's Meet, Dogri Theatre Festival, Cultural presentation during Saras Mela, Octave 2019, Holi Mahotsav, Akhil Bharatiya Kavi Sammelan, Chandigarh Kalagram Mahotsav, Tribal Festival, Saang Utsav, Kavi Sammelan and Akhil Bharatiya Lok Kala Mahotsav. **South Central Zone Cultural Centre, Nagpur** organized 11th National Vasant Natyotsav, Painting Workshop, 'Anubhuti'- Durlabh Saaj Sangeet Mahotsav, 2019, Beach Festival, Rang Natya Utsav and Lok Kala Darshan. **South Zone Cultural Centre, Thanjavur** organized All India Folk and Dance Festival, Sanskriti Yuva Mahotsav and Vedanga Parichay Conference. **West Zone Cultural Centre, Udaipur** organized Writu Vasant, Mahatma Gandhi Photograph Exhibition and Exhibition and Discussion on "Historical Dandi March" .

Ministry of Tourism

As a part of "Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat" programme, various Institutes of Hotel Management under the Ministry of Tourism organized food festivals and other programmes.

Institute of Hotel Management, Goa organised a Bengali Cuisine Workshop in their campus on 12th & 13th of February 2019 to popularize the Bengali food. The dishes ranged from starters to desserts as well as street food and temple food of Bengal.

Institute of Hotel Management, Mumbai, Maharashtra organized an Odiya Cuisine Workshop in their campus on 15th February 2019 to popularize Odiya food. The dishes ranged from starters to desserts traditional food of Odisha prepared by the students of IHM Mumbai. The creative team of the Student Council decorated the venue as per the theme of the lunch.

Dr. Ambedkar Institute of Hotel Management, Chandigarh, organised a Dadra & Nagar Haveli regional cuisine Food festival in their campus on 17th February 2019 to popularize the regional cuisine of Dadra & Nagar Haveli. The students and faculty from the institute put up a great show by giving feel of Dadra & Nagar Haveli by depicting its culture by traditional dresses, Warli art and a mouthwatering regional cuisine of the area of Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

Institute of Hotel Management, Kovalam, Kerala organised a Lakshadweep themed lunch titled ‘Kavaratti’ in their campus on 19th February 2019 to popularize the food from Lakshadweep. The food counters and setup and the dress code were planned according to the theme of the event.

Institute of Hotel Management, Shillong, Meghalaya organised a Meghalaya Cuisine festival at the Community Hall, Mawdiangdiang, Shillong on 19th February 2019 to popularize the Meghalaya food.

Institute of Hotel Management, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh organised a Kerala Food festival in their campus on 15th March 2019 to popularize the food from Kerala. The students attired in Kerala dress served used food and drinks prepared from authentic recipes from Kerala. The Housekeeping team contributed by decorating Rangoli and Flower decorations on Kerala in the campus. The students performed dances, songs and poems.

Institute of Hotel Management, Hajipur, Bihar organised Holi Food festival in their campus on 15th March 2019 to popularize the food from State of Bihar. The entire décor and ambience of the restaurant was on the line of Indian Art and Culture. The students attired in traditional dresses put up a cultural show involving traditional local Music and Dance.

It also organised a Mizoram and Tripura Food festival in its campus on 27th of March 2019 to popularize the food of both the States. The restaurant was decorated with bamboo sticks and banana leaves to create an ambience of Tripura and Mizoram. The students of IHM Hajipur displayed the culture of Tripura and Mizoram and performed traditional dances attired in traditional costumes.

Institute of Hotel Management, Shillong, Meghalaya organised a Tripura Cuisine festival at the State Convention Center, Shillong on 15th March 2019 to popularize the food from the State of Tripura. The Tripura cuisine food festival showcased the indigenous dishes, their preparation and was offered to the tourists and staff of the convention center for tasting and promotion.

Ministry of Human Resource Development

Indian Institute of Technology, (Indian School of Mines), Dhanbad

Indian Institute of Technology, (Indian School of Mines), Dhanbad organized a Cultural program in connection with Institute's Alumni Day (Basant) on 2nd and 3rd February, 2019 . A Cultural festival and inter-

college competitions (Srijan, Institute's cultural festival) were organized on 8th, 9th and 10th March, 2019 respectively.

Indian Institute of Technology, Dharwad

Indian Institute of Technology, Dharwad celebrated the rich culture of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Punjab, Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Meghalaya on 17th February 2019. A cultural programme was organized with the participation of around 20 students.

It also celebrated the rich culture of Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Uttarakhand, Puducherry, Tripura, Mizoram, Karnataka, Odisha, Assam, Tamil Nadu, Chattisgarh, Jharkhand, Nagaland, Manipur and Chandigarh on 30th March 2019. A cultural programme was organized with the participation of around 20 students.

The collective effort of a number of students made the cause vibrant. The gathered students cheered the light regional songs performed and accompanied by orchestra played by the Music Club members. In addition, students spoke about cultures of these states. The cultural programme ended on a happy note with considerable learning of new words, practices and awareness about different cultures from across India. The Programme was covered by All India Radio, Dharwad.

Indian Institute of Technology, Bhubaneswar

IIT Bhubaneswar organised the event of Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat (EBSB) initiative on 31st March 2019 to promote the spirit of national integration through a deep and structured engagement between paired Union Territories of Andaman Nicobar & Lakshadweep, for enabling people to comprehend and admire the diversity of the nation, thus nurturing a sense of common identity.

In this event many students, faculty, staffs and their family members enthusiastically performed cultural activities on an integrative content relating to the paired UTs. More than 40 performers from various cultural society of students' Gymkhana, faculties and family members of faculties and staffs performed on the music, song, culture of the paired states. Informative videos were displayed based on the music, dance, handicrafts, literature, festivals, painting, sports, sculpture, flora, fauna, etc., of the paired UTs in order to enable audiences learn about

different cultural units across varied geographies and to imbibe the innate chord of binding and brotherhood.

A photo gallery was displayed at the venue to showcase the culture, customs and traditions, art forms, handicrafts, cuisines of either state to impress upon the discerning audience about the inter-connectedness between the constituents of various cultures and traditions, which is so vital for the spirit of nation building.

The event was given a complete official media coverage by Doordarshan, Bhubaneswar apart from that full photo and video coverage to the event was given by Clixand Cinematic society of students' gymkhana.

Indian Institute of Technology, Indore

Fluxus, a 3-day Annual Cultural Festival of Indian Institute of Technology, Indore was celebrated from 15th February to 17th February 2019. It included Dance, Drama, Music, Debate, Painting, Photography, Movie Making, *Artathon*, and Kavyanjali. The Dance Club brought Street Battle, Shwathy Moves and Group Showcase which demonstrated the cultural heritage of the country. Dramatics Clubs's Hunkaar and Monoact Competitions shouted it out in the streets for some cause or drown in the splurge of emotions. The Pronite was an amalgamation of various cultural dances and music of the country.

Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode

A cultural festival "Echoes'19" was organized in the Institute in the month of February, 2019. It was organized with the theme "Young.Wild.Free", to pay tribute to the aspiring "You" who is Young at Heart, Wild in Dreams and Free as breathes. A multitude of events were organized like music, dance, fashion, art and theatre with participation from students nationwide, including those from Himachal Pradesh. The fashion show had participants dressed according to the traditional Himachal custom. Students from Himachal Pradesh also sang songs in their native tongue. The Nukkad Natak team from Himachal Pradesh also portrayed the social issues being faced by people in the state. It was a successful 3-day event, which added to the holistic development of students and created memories for everyone on campus.

Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode, organised a Holi Celebration in the month of March 2019. Holi in Himachal Pradesh is celebrated in much the same way as in rest of North India. People light bonfires-fires called Holika, symbolic of victory of good over evil and play with colours. The Institute tried to

bring about a similar culture wherein all the students got together and celebrated the colour of festivals with utmost joy.

National Institute of Technology, Meghalaya

The students of Motilal Nehru National Institute of Technology Allahabad visited National Institute of Technology, Meghalaya during 27th January 27 to 2nd February , 2019. They visited Cherrapunji where the main campus of NIT Meghalaya is coming up and visited some other famous tourist spots in Meghalaya along with the famous Don Bosco Meuseum at Shillong to understand the tradition and culture of the North Eastern states of India.

The students of NIT Meghalaya visited NIT Arunachal Pradesh during 30th January to 1st February 2019. Six undergraduate students accompanied by one faculty member visited Arunachal Pradesh and made an interaction with students of NIT Arunachal Pradesh to explore the cultural activities of the institutes. During this visit, the students interacted with the Director of NIT Arunachal Pradesh. They also visited some of the remote villages, tourist spots etc. to know about the local culture, tradition etc. of Arunachal Pradesh.

National Institute of Technology, Raipur

Literary Committee, National Institute of Technology, Raipur organised an Essay writing competition on 28th February 2019. It was a bilingual competition and both Hindi and English essays were entertained. The Essay competition attracted several entries with diverse array of essays exploring different themes related to economy, culture, and social structure of Gujarat.

National Institute of Technology, Raipur also organized Quiz competition exploring different themes related to Gujarat. The event was conducted on 29th March 2019 by the Literary Committee of NIT Raipur. The quiz broadly encompassed the culture, history and diversity of Gujarat.

Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology, Nagpur

Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology, Nagpur organized various competitions for national integration under the EBSB. Students of VNIT, Nagpur enthusiastically participated in Elocution competition, Deabte competition, Singing competition, Dance and drama, Poems reading, Poster presentation and Essay writing. All these activities celebrated by students towards celebration of Mother Tongue Day. Students from various states expressed views in their mother

tongue. The Institute also organized a four days Educational visit to National Institute of Technology, Rourkela during 14th February 2019 and 17th February 2019 for Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Abhiyan. The objectives of the educational tour were to spread awareness about Maharashtra culture and Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Abhiyan, to collaborate with different Departments of NIT Rourkela and other academic institutions, to interact, learn and understand the traditional cultures and lifestyle of different states of India and to study the effect of cultural change and their impact on students and society.

The delegation visited the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences and School of Management and had a word with HOD about their departmental issues and concerns and also about the cultural aspects, extra-curricular activities and other academic and traditional events held in NIT campus. Power-point Presentation on traditions and culture of Maharashtra was made focusing on History, Culture and Festivals, Entertainment and music, Infrastructure and Cities of Maharashtra and Information technology and development.

The visit brought positive change in thinking and provided cultural insights about the traditional approach and also the future prospects of the nation. Significant progress was made to establish a memorandum of understanding between NIT-Rourkela and VNIT-Nagpur for future joint collaborative work. Students experienced the lifestyle, culture, tradition, food habits, infrastructure, and technological developments in Maharashtra.

Indian Institute of Information Technology, Bhagalpur

The students of IIIT Bhagalpur and NIT Mizoram participated in EBSB programme organized by NIT Agartala on 15th February, 2019. Students from these respective institutes exhibited the cultural heritage of their respective regions. The events organized under this programme were Poetry, Drama, Traditional Songs and Traditional Dance. The poetry included "Kaash apne waqt ko thora peeche kar pata" and "Khud ko khokar dekho accha lagta hai".

The students of IIIT Bhagalpur performed three carefully scripted dramas related to Chhath Puja, mime act addressing various social issues and a satirical drama called "Hindi Beemar Hai". One "Bhojpuri Bhakti Song" was performed by a student of IIIT Bhagalpur and traditional song "Khorang Khwlaidi" was performed by the student of NIT Agartala. IIIT Bhagalpur students witnessed the traditional dance performances of NIT Agartala such as Hojagiri folk dance, a tradition of Bru (Reang) people in the state of Tripura, India. Lebang dance was also demonstrated by them in front of the audience.

Sardar Vallabhbhai National Institute of Technology, Surat

Under Ek Bharat Shreshth Bharat program, Gujarat has been paired with Chhattisgarh. To participate in the EBSB Celebrations of 150 years of Mahatma Gandhi's Birth Anniversary, five students of SVNIT, Surat made **five day visit** (dates) to NIT Raipur, Chhattisgarh.

On the first day of their visit, the students were briefed about the Departments of NIT, Surat in their Campus tour. After the tour, they went out for exploring the city of Raipur. They went to Ghadi chawk, Magneto Mall and Marine Drive.

On Second day, the students went on Jungle Safari .The whole safari was divided into four spots - Black Buck's safari, Bear safari, Lion safari (major attraction) and Tiger safari.They also enjoyed boating in the lake within jungle safari. After the jungle safari, they explored the regional food of Chhattisgarh. Some of the regional foods explored were Paneer chela, Muthia and Bhajia.

On the third day they went to Mahadev Ghat. The students participated in the Annual Culture Fest Eclectica 2019 of NIT, Raipur. They participated in several events and their group won several coupons and rewards on events. One of the interesting event was 'FOOD FIESTA R-1' in which their group cleared that round and further proceeded to second round the next day.They participated in the event organized by sponsor "SWIGGY" in which they all won the prizes individually. EDM NIGHT began at 7:00 pm. There were two DJ's who came that night. One played Hindi songs and other played English songs.

On the fourth day, they went to Marine Drive. It was situated alongside Telebandha Lake. After coming back from Marine Drive, they commenced for the round 2 of the Food Fiesta event which they had cleared. They were one of the seven teams selected out of 50 got selected in round 2.

On the fifth day, they had an interactive session with the Dean (Academics) of NIT Raipur. In that session, they shared much information regarding history of Chhattisgarh state and also about establishment of NIT Raipur campus and upcoming new campus. The students of SVNIT, Surat also shared many information about their college i.e. Curriculum, student chapters, clubs, research activities etc. Session was very interactive and exchange of many ideas took place.

Then they all explored the day events of ECLECTICA 2K19 that is last day of the fest. They participated in many of the events and also won some rewards

too. After that at the night there were two events. Firstly there was a performance of a BAND (SAPANK) followed by a live concert of Bollywood singer Mohhamed Irfan.

National Institute of Technology,Raipur

Four students of NIT Raipur visited SVNIT, Surat under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat program during 28th – 31st March 2019.. The accommodation was arranged for them in the campus in the institute hostels. They visited different departments of SVNIT Surat campus and different places in Surat city. They enjoyed a lot and had good time in Surat. They had an amazing interaction with the students of our institute also.

Indian Institute of Science and Research, Kolkata

IISER Kolkata organized multiple events under the theme of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat this year. Instead of organizing one special event for such theme, Student Affairs Council had decided to organize multiple such events looking at particular occasion during month of January- March 2019. Student Affairs Council (SAC) of IISER Kolkata in collaboration with various clubs representing particular art forms organized various activities in above mentioned period. Some major events organized by student body of the institute which had major implications on the cultural integration were Makar Sankranti, Basant Panchami and Utkal Divas. The festival of Makar Sankranti contained Kite flying competition, a Feast – North Indian Food, Cultural programme. The Highlights of the Basant Panchami Festival were Bengali poem recitation and songs performance by 2-3 groups, Chhau and other tribal dance forms, an odishi play and Odissi Dance.

Utkal Divas(Odisha day) is celebrated on 1stApril across Odisha in the memory of the formation of the state as a separate province on 1stApril, 1936.Institute had organized a cultural evening where not only culture of Odisha but of all the states were exchanged by student community.Highlight of the Programme was the performance of Sambalpuri folk dance.

Central University of Tamil Nadu

A programme on “Culture & Heritage of Jammu and Kashmir” was organized at Central University of Tamil Nadu on 18th Februaray 2019 in its campus. Students were formed into six teams and they presented various cultural and heritage aspects of Jammu and Kashmir.

University of Delhi

Several institutes under Delhi University organized programmes under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College, University of Delhi organized “Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Programme” with focus on its partner state - Sikkim. A series of events were showcased under the banner - Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Programme celebrating the state of Sikkim on 15th February 2019 in the College Auditorium. At the very beginning of the programme, the audience was apprised with the motto of “Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Programme”. The major attractions of the programme were Maruni Dance, Mask Dance and Yak-Cham Dance of Sikkim; Photo Exhibition of the places, culture and lifestyle of Sikkim; Ethnic Fashion Show on the culture of Sikkim and Singing Competition. The whole programme was attended by around 500 students and the faculty members of the college.

A group of three girl students of Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College participated in the group dance competition organised by Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar College under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Program on 29th March, 2019.

Illuminati, the Quizzing Society of Shaheed Sukhdev College of Business Studies, Delhi conducted "Sikkim Quiz" in the college on 25th February 2019, as a part of the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat initiative. The quiz tested the participants' knowledge on the local culture, natural wonders and tribal heritage of Sikkim and its neighbouring states.

Dhwani (singing society) and Blitz (dance society) of the College performed and showed the various attributes of the north eastern India, primarily the state of Sikkim through dance forms like Gurung on 11th March, 2019.

Tezpur University

Assam is paired with Rajasthan under EBSB programme. Tezpur University organized a Spot Essay Writing Competition under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat programme on 18th March 2019. The language of the the Essay writing competition was Assamese and Hindi and the topic was contribution of Rajasthani people in the socio-economic development of Assam. Thirteen students participated in the Essay Writing Competition.

Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya, Chhattisgarh

A team of Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya, Chhattisgarh made a six day visit from 17th February, 2019 to 22nd February, 2019 to Gujarat for Art and Culture training and Kutch visit. On their visit to Vadodara, the Gujarat team visited the heritage building of MS University of Baroda. They also visited to the Statue of Unity of Sardar Vallabhai Patel, the tallest statue of the world. A

technical session “Balakshara” was organized, where they learnt about Gujarati alphabets and sentence making. They also learnt about Mud and Mirror work (also known as Lippan Kaam) which is the traditional mural craft of Kutch, Gujarat and also Kutchi work, a handicraft and textile signature art tradition of the tribal community of Kutch. During their visit they went to several historical places, such as Prag Mahal of Bhuj, Kutch Meusum, Swami Narayan Mandir, Bhujang Dada Mandir, Aina Mahal, Koteswar Mahadev Mandir, Narayan Sarovar Temple, India House-Shyamji Krishna Varma Memorial Society, Vijay Vilas Palace, Mandvi Beach, Dandi Kutir, Sabarmati Aashram and Akshardham. They also went to the India- Pakistan Border and Kaala Dongar and Dattareya Temple where they got the chance to dress up in the traditional attire of Gujarat. They visited the Great Rann of Kutch, one of the largest salt desserts of the world.

Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas

Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Jhabua-1, Madhya Pradesh

It organized several programmes on Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat theme on 2nd February, 2019 which included Group dance (Ek Tu Hi Bharosa), Panto mime (Quami Ekta) and Poem recitation. A Folk Dance Competition was conducted on 30th March, 2019.

Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Naichana, Rewari, Haryana

It organized Cultural programmes on Republic Day on 26th January, 2019 and on International Mother Language Day on 21st February, 2019.