

**“EK BHARAT SHRESHTHA BHARAT” REPORT BY GANDHI  
INSTITUTE FOR TECHNOLOGY (GIFT), BHUBANESWAR**



**एक भारत श्रेष्ठ भारत**

*“EK BHARAT SHRESHTHA BHARAT”* an initiative by GOVERNMENT OF  
INDIA and AICTE

**St. Vincent Palloti College Of Engineering And Technology  
Visit To Gandhi Institute For Technology**

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## **Maharashtra meets Odisha**

*17th Feb 2020 to 21st Feb 2020*



Organised by:

Gandhi Institute For Technology (GIFT), Bhubaneswar  
Gramadiha, Gangapada,  
Bhubaneswar-752054, Odisha

## About Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB)

The AICTE initiative of “**Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat**” was announced by our Hon’ble Prime Minister on 31st October 2015 on the occasion of 140th birth anniversary of **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel**. This objective of this program is to spread the knowledge of the culture, traditions and practices of different States & UTs and to enhance understanding and bonding between the States and UTs, thereby strengthening the unity and integrity of India.

According to The EK Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Engagement Matrix, Odisha has been paired with Maharashtra for the Student Cultural Exchange Program. The Students Cultural Exchange Program will help us admire and appreciate the cultures of both the states and thus, strengthen the sense of togetherness and bonding.

## About The Program

As per this unique initiative our college, **Gandhi Institute For Technology (GIFT), Bhubaneswar** was paired with twelve different colleges, **St. Vincent Palloti College of Engineering and Technology, Nagpur, Maharashtra** being the first college to respond to our invitation. The visit was scheduled to take place from the **17<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020 to 21<sup>st</sup> Feb 2020**, with twenty nine students and 2 faculties. **Mr Amitav Saran**, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering was made the Faculty In-charge of this program from our end while **Mr Manish Gudadhe**, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science was the Faculty in-charge from their end. In order to share seamless information a Whatsapp Group “**EBSB GIFT-ST.VINCENT**” is formed which includes all the stakeholders.

The Five Day Student Exchange Program included interaction among the students from both the colleges along with language sharing and visits to nearby villages and local market. As a means to promote national integration through systemic exchange of culture and history visit to places having rich cultural heritage was also planned. Small events were also conducted to help the students from both the state to know about each other’s Culture, Language, Tradition Food and Lifestyle. We assigned Student Buddies to each student of the visiting college. The purpose behind this student mapping was to guide the visiting students throughout the trip and also help them adjust and understand the whole new surrounding better.

## Day 1: 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020 (Monday)

A group of 29 students along with 2 faculties from St. Vincent Pallotti College of Engineering and Technology, Nagpur were welcomed at the Bhubaneswar station by the students and faculties of Gandhi Institute For Technology.

At the college the students were received and traditionally welcomed by Students and Staff members of GIFT, Bhubaneswar. Registrations of the students were done and each student of the visiting college was assigned a student Buddy who was going to be their friend and confidant during their whole trip.



The Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat program was inaugurated by **Dr. Surekha Sundari Swain, State Nodal Officer for EBSB, Odisha** and **Dr. Pravat Kumar Subudhi, Principal, GIFT**. **Lt. Col (Retd) Mihir Kumar Raut, Dean Admin, GIFT** and **Mr. Vivek Sharma, Registrar, GIFT** were also the part of the inaugural program.

The program started with the students singing “Bande Utkal Janani” the state anthem, and with an Odissi dance performance which showcased the culture and tradition of Odisha. Prof. Amitav Saran, SPOC, EBSB, GIFT briefed about the program and schedule for next five days. A presentation was made for the visiting students to make them aware about the rich cultural heritage of Odisha.



After the inaugural program the students were served traditional Odia food for lunch. Later the students were taken for a college tour. As it was the first day of their visit much time was devoted to student buddy interaction.

## Day 2: 18<sup>th</sup> February 2020 (Tuesday)

The syllabus varies from one state to another and the same goes for the teaching methods so we made the students of St. Vincent College attend classes with our students in their respective branch & year for three hours with a motive of understanding the academic practises and the approach of the students. The best way to make the student understand the diversity and unity of their country.

Post lunch, the students visited the Tribal Museum near CRPF square where they were briefed about the different tribes like Kotia, Bonda, Gandia, Jatapu, Khond, Koli, Lodha, Mundari etc. They also got an insight about their beliefs, deity, attire, ornaments, food, hunting and households through a picture and video presentation.



The next destination of the day was the Dhauli, Shanti Stupa. The student buddy gave a run down on the history of the Kalinga War, Samrat Asoka and Daya River. Later the students also visited the Raja Rani Temple.

The last thing in their schedule was visit to the Local Market; the students were really impressed seeing the varsity of the market. They also brought merchandise from the market to take with them to their hometown.

### Day 3: 19<sup>th</sup> February 2020 (Wednesday)

By the third day of the trip the students have really got along, they were spending quite a lot of time with each other and were bonding really well. The imprints of each other's culture were being reflected on their dialects. The Maharashtrian students were introducing themselves in Odia and our students had also taken up the Marathi Language.

The schedule for the third day was visit to the Konark Temple, the Jagannath Temple and the Puri Sea Beach. The trip started by paying visit to the Konark Temple. The story behind the construction of the great architecture and Dharmpada, the young boy who gave his life after building the temple was told to the students. After soaking themselves in the beauty and architecture of the Konark Temple, the students visited the Puri Temple, the Eastern Dham of India. It was a great spiritual experience for them. To know in detail the students and the faculties visited the Temple Kitchen and other small museums present inside the Temple. They were really intrigued on learning about the different proceedings of the temple. To their luck they also witnessed the changing of the sacred flag of the temple. The Puri MahaPrasad was served for lunch to the students.



In the evening the students visited the Golden Puri Sea Beach and also saw the Swarg Dwar. They were also briefed about the history of Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu.

## Day 4: 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020 (Thursday)

The day started by paying a visit to the nearby village of Pitapalli along with the NSS students of GIFT. There students conducted a Cleanliness Drive under Swachch Bharat Abhiyan and Village living condition Survey under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan. The students also interacted with the villagers to understand their lifestyle and culture of the villages in Odisha. They also made a note about the efforts taken by GIFT College and Govt. of Odisha to improve their life standards.

For lunch the students enjoyed the famous Odia delicacy, "Dahi Pakhala". The concept of putting water to cooked rice was really fascinating to them as it was something they have never seen or heard before.



Post lunch, SVP CET students participated in the Hobby Classes conducted by our college. Each student was made to be part of Hobby clubs according to their preferred hobby or interest.



After completion of the hobby classes the students had a small interactive session with Er. Patitapaban Panda, Vice- Chairman, GIFT and the students of GIFT. It was a great interactive session as the students were sharing their experiences of their visit.



Later the visitors visited Esplanade Mall located in Rasulgarh, Bhubaneswar. The students were quite impressed seeing the growth of the city.



## Day 5: 21<sup>st</sup> February 2020 (Friday)

On the last day of the of the program the students gathered in the auditorium to play some activity games, which was not only a fun activity but was also helping them prepare themselves for their corporate life ahead. A presentation on Odisha culture and tradition was shown and a small quiz was conducted to test the knowledge the students have gained during the visit was also conducted.



Post lunch the valedictory program started in presence of Mr. Suresh Chandra Mantry, retd. IAS, Smt. Sarita Patel, NSS Regional Head and Mr. Samir Ranjan Panda, CEO Skills, DDU-GKY. Dr. P.K Subudhi, Principal, GIFT, Mr. Vivek Sharma, Registrar, GIFT, Mr. Manish Gudadhe, Assistant Professor, St. Vincent Palloti College of Engineering and Technology, Nagpur, Maharashtra and Mr. Amitav Saran, Assistant Professor and SPOC of the program were also present in the Valedictory Function.



The Cultural program started after the valedictory program in which the students of Maharashtra and Odisha displayed showed their culture through their songs and dance. The cultural program was jointly organised by students from both the colleges. The highlight of the evening was the Maharashtrian students grooving to the famous Sambalpuri song, "Rangabati". The students had got

along with the culture so well that they the Maharashtraian students gave their speech in Odia while our students gave it in Marathi. The students from both the colleges also prepared a small video of the trip as a memory to cherish for a lifetime.



After the valedictory and cultural program ended, the students took their dinner and started off their journey for Nagpur.



## Our Words (GIFT EBSB)

Being a part of this program has had a deep impact on all the participating team members, spiritually and culturally. This is a great initiative by Government of India and AICTE, made each one of us aware about each other's culture and traditions. Not only the students got an idea about each other's culture but also were able to make friends for a life time. Apart from this Programme, now we are united in one great cultural aspect and bondage of exploring each other's Culture and Tradition.

The Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat is a great initiative of understanding the culture of different state in a fun and interactive manner. Through close cross-cultural interactions we were able to induce a sense of responsibility & ownership for the nation as a whole.

The students and the faculty of the St. Vincent Pallotti College of engineering and Technology were really interactive and cooperative. Seeing their spirit, enthusiasm, and energy made us all geared up to make it one great event. It was a great experience interacting with them; our students are really happy and excited that through this unique concept of the Student Exchange Program they were able to meet such high spirited Buddies. They have been so enthusiastic and proactive that we couldn't help but praise and admire their spirit.

**Picture Share by St Vincent College which they have put in their college Campus post their visit**

