



Event Name: Rural Gujarat Homestay and Village Exposure for Chhattisgarh students at IRMA

Venue: Bhavnagar, Gujarat

Date: 9 October to 26 November 2019

State - Pair: Gujarat – Chhattisgarh

Brief about event: One IRMA student from Chhattisgarh underwent a village homestay and rural exposure in a village of Bhavnagar district of Gujarat as part of the Post Graduate Diploma in Rural Management (PGDRM)

Report of the event: One PGDRM student of the 40th PGDRM batch from the domicile of Chhattisgarh underwent his Village Fieldwork Segment (VFS) with an organization called Coastal Salinity Prevention Cell (CSPC) and lived in the village of Khandera in Bhavnagar District, Gujarat. The student worked on the project titled, *“Diffusion of sustainable agriculture practices: Enablers and Restraints”*. The student executed small action-oriented tasks entrusted to him by CSPC and also participated in a collaborative research work with a faculty member from IRMA. The student stayed in the Khandera village for the period of 45 days with a village household as his host.

The Village Fieldwork Segment (VFS) after the first classroom term of PGDRM is an extended period of exposure to the rural economy, society and polity. The eight-week term develops in the participants a deeper understanding and sensitivity to the concerns of rural communities as well as helps them in identifying inherent constraints and opportunities. Student groups are attached to local host organisations and are placed in villages across India. The students execute small action-oriented tasks entrusted to them related to the host organization’s area of work, known as the Rural Action Component (RAC). They also participate in collaborative research work with faculty members from IRMA by way of detailed surveys and thematic research. IRMA faculty closely interacts with students during this segment to guide and work with them in mapping their classroom learning to the ground realities and in developing their detailed Village Development Reports (VDR). Students' learning is then evaluated on the basis of their presentations and discussions in the seminars and the VDRs submitted at the end of village fieldwork. The participants also receive constructive feedback from the host organizations and their faculty guides.

Link of the images:

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1sjU9Kq_P2GRQ5gZrJKgdV0fw4N_VPVE