

REPORT ON THE OBSERVATION VISIT TO KILLAI VILLAGE TOWN PANCHAYAT, CUDDALORE DISTRICT

To get practical exposure to development administration in Indian principles, policies, and programs, a village visit was organized on 13th October 2022 by the course faculty Dr. Biju Joseph, who teaches *Development Administration in India* for the 2nd year students of B. Com.

The observation visit commenced from Loyola College at 5 am and reached Killai village in Cuddalore District around 10.30 am. The village was once affected by Tsunami. The team first went Killai Village Panchayat office and met the chairperson of the village. The people living there belong to a scheduled tribe known as Irulas and survive on their daily wages, fishing, agriculture, and 100 days employment opportunities offered by the MNREGA scheme.

The group visited then visited the houses built by the government after the people had lost their houses to Tsunami in 2004 and talked to the people about the development plans. The students visited the Government Middle School, MGR Nagar, Killai and spent time with the students and the people. Then the group visited Muzhukkuthurai and met the Village Vice-Chairman Mr. Killai Ravindran and got to know about the village administration. They also spent time with the fishermen's children studying in the Government Primary School.

After that, the group went to the Pitchavaram tourism Spot and visited Pitchavaram Mangrove Forest and enjoyed boating. The place has a record of zero death during Tsunami (2004). Relishing the fun and frolic the group had enjoyed at Muzhukkuthurai and Pitchavaram returned to Chennai at 4.30 pm. The students thanked Dr. Biju Joseph for care and accompaniment.

The salient points learnt during the Observation visit:

- Financial conditions of the people and rural livelihoods
- Hurdles in continuing higher studies
- Local body governance system
- Village developmental activities
- Difficulties faced during the pandemic time for survival
- Challenges students faced in online education mode
- Crucial times during Tsunami and governmental aid
- Support extended by NGOs post-Tsunami
- Earnings through fishing and tourism
- Lack of transport facilities

GALLERY



