



**GOVERNMENT COLLEGE**

An Autonomous Institution Since 2000 :: RAJAHMUNDRY, ANDHRA PRADESH, INDIA



## **REPORT ON EDUCATIONAL TOUR – 19 NOVEMBER 2025**

### **DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS**

**Class:** III B.A. Economics (Honours) – 29 Students

**Accompanied by Faculty:**

- **Sri K. Ananda Rao**
- **Sri Ch. Sivaji**
- **Dr. A. Prasad**
- **Smt. Gandhimani**
- **Sri K. V. Ganesh Kumar**

**Date of Visit:** 19 November 2025

### **1. Introduction**

The Department of Economics organized an **Educational Study Tour** on **19th November 2025** for **29 students** of III B.A. Economics (Honours), accompanied by five faculty members—**Sri K. Ananda Rao, Sri Ch. Sivaji, Dr. A. Prasadu, Smt. Gandhimani, and Sri K. V. Ganesh Kumar**.

The objective of the tour was to expose students to **rural industries, scientific research, small-scale manufacturing, women empowerment initiatives, and defense technology**, thereby bridging theoretical classroom concepts with real-world applications.

The tour covered the following locations:

1. Uppada Household Handloom Weaving Industry
2. Agricultural Research Institute, Peddapuram
3. APIIC Industrial Area – Vimal Cool Drink Bottling Unit & Water Packet Cover Manufacturing Unit
4. DWACRA Training Institute for Women
5. Indian Navy Decommissioned Aircraft – Beach Park, Kakinada

## 2. Visit to Uppada – Household Handloom Weaving Industry

The tour began with a visit to **Uppada**, renowned for its household handloom weaving tradition. Students observed artisans working in their homes, using traditional looms to create the famous Uppada sarees.

### 2.1 Detailed Observations

- Students witnessed the **entire weaving process**, including warping, dyeing, thread setting, and hand-weaving.
- Artisans explained how **intricate designs are manually crafted**, requiring precision, patience, and years of experience.
- Students learned about the **economic challenges** faced by weavers:
  - Low wages due to middlemen interference
  - Limited market access and dependence on seasonal demand
  - Difficulty in competing with mechanized textile mills
  - Occupational health issues caused by long working hours
- Students also gained insight into how weaving remains a **primary livelihood** for many families despite hardships.

### 2.2 Learning Outcomes

The visit enriched students' understanding of:

- Rural artisanal economy
- Labour-intensive production processes
- Need for government support to preserve traditional crafts
- Role of handloom sector in socio-cultural identity



### **3. Visit to Agricultural Research Institute, Peddapuram**

The next important visit was to the **Agricultural Research Institute (ARI), Peddapuram**, where students explored scientific research processes and interacted with senior scientists.

#### **3.1 Interaction with Principal Scientist**

Students met **Dr. M. Ramabhadraraju, M.Sc (Ag), Ph.D**, Principal Scientist (Plant Pathology) & Head of the Institution.

He elaborated on:

- The **significance of agricultural research** in improving crop productivity
- Ongoing experiments on **millets** such as:
  - Ragi
  - Jowar
  - Maize
- The relevance of millets in addressing climate change, soil health, and nutritional security
- The importance of **plant disease identification and protection** in safeguarding farmer livelihoods

#### **3.2 Interaction with Senior Scientist**

Students also interacted with **Dr. I. Sudheer Kumar**, Senior Scientist, who explained:

##### **Weather & Environmental Monitoring Equipment:**

- Rain Gauge – measuring rainfall patterns
- Windfall Measurer – wind speed and direction readings
- Temperature & Humidity Sensors – monitoring microclimate
- Soil Moisture Instruments – assessing irrigation requirements

These instruments help researchers predict **crop diseases, climatic variations, and yield outcomes**.

##### **Agricultural Research Mechanism Explained**

Dr. Sudheer Kumar gave a comprehensive explanation of:

- Structure of agricultural research in India – **ICAR, SAUs, KVKs**
- Administrative hierarchy within Andhra Pradesh agricultural research institutions
- How **Minimum Support Price (MSP)** is determined
- Role of **CACP (Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices)** in MSP recommendation, using:

- Cost of cultivation
- Market demand and supply
- Price trends
- Farmer welfare considerations

### 3.3 Learning Outcomes

Students understood:

- The importance of **scientific research** in improving agriculture
- Relationship between **policy decisions** and **agricultural economics**
- How climate data is used to support crop planning
- The significance of millets in future food security



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## 4. Visit to APIIC Industrial Area, Peddapuram

Students visited two small-scale industries located in the **APIIC Industrial Zone**.



### 4.1 Visit to Vimal Cool Drink Bottling Plant

Students observed the **entire production cycle**, including:

- Preparation of the cool drink syrup
- Mixing, filtering, and carbonation process
- Automated bottle filling
- **Capping and sealing mechanisms** demonstrated by staff
- Labeling and packaging for distribution

The unit staff explained that this cool drink enjoys **high popularity in the local market** due to its unique taste and affordability.

### Learning Impact

Students gained exposure to:

- Beverage production technology
- Industrial hygiene and safety measures
- Cost of production and local market dynamics



## 4.2 Visit to Water Packet Cover Manufacturing Unit

Students learned:

- How **polyethylene rolls** are transformed into water packet covers
- Cutting and sealing process
- Printing of labels and branding
- Quality checks to ensure hygiene and safety

This visit highlighted the **simplicity yet economic significance** of small-scale packaging industries.



## 5. Visit to DWACRA Training Institute for Women

The students visited a **training institute supporting DWACRA groups**, aimed at empowering rural women through skill development.

### Key Learning Points

- Training programs available in tailoring, embroidery, food processing, beautician courses, and small entrepreneurial activities
- Government schemes promoting women's financial independence
- How women-led micro-enterprises contribute to rural economy
- Importance of SHGs in promoting credit access and group savings

### Impact on Students

Students understood:

- The role of **women's empowerment** in socio-economic development
- How training institutes support **skill formation and entrepreneurship**
- Real-life functioning of **self-help groups (SHGs)**



## 6. Visit to Indian Navy Decommissioned Aircraft – Beach Park, Kakinada

The tour concluded with a visit to a **real Indian Navy decommissioned war aircraft** displayed at Beach Park, Kakinada.

### What Students Learned

A naval guide explained:

- The aircraft's role in defense operations
- **Bombing procedures** and safety protocols
- Internal structure and compartments of military aircraft
- Maintenance routines followed during active service
- How aircraft are **decommissioned** after their operational lifespan

### Educational Value

Students gained:

- Awareness of defense technology
- Understanding of aviation engineering fundamentals
- Respect for the role of armed forces in national security



## 7. Overall Impact of the Educational Tour

The tour proved to be academically rich and multidimensional. Students experienced:

### **Economic Understanding**

- Traditional handicraft industry
- Market challenges for rural artisans
- Industrial production mechanisms
- Agricultural policy-making
- Women empowerment through DWACRA
- Defense economics and technology

### **Skill Development**

- Observation and analytical skills
- Understanding socio-economic linkages
- Appreciation of research and innovation

### **Holistic Exposure**

The tour successfully integrated **theoretical knowledge with practical field experience**, enhancing students' understanding of:

- Rural development
- Agricultural economics
- Industrial economics
- Public policy
- Gender studies
- Defense studies

## 8. Conclusion

The educational tour conducted on **19 November 2025** for **29 students** of III B.A. Economics (Honours), accompanied by **Sri K. Ananda Rao, Sri Ch. Sivaji, Dr. A. Prasad, Smt. Gandhimani, and Sri K. V. Ganesh Kumar**, was highly productive and enriching.

The Department expresses deep gratitude to:

- **The Principal**, Government College (A), Rajahmundry
- **All faculty members** who guided the students
- **Officials and scientists** at ARI Peddapuram
- **Industrial unit personnel** at APIIC

- **DWACRA Institute trainers**
- **Indian Navy personnel** at Beach Park

The tour successfully achieved its objectives of **experiential learning and practical exposure** and significantly enhanced the academic growth of the students.

Principal

Incharge

Lecturers