

Jaipur Field Trip Report

Abhijit Datey

abhijit.datey@teriuniversity.ac.in

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

1. **Heritage Walk of Amber, Jaipur:** -The group undertook a heritage walk of Amber settlement with heritage conservationists. The group saw the old settlement and its climate responsive planning of houses, temples and open spaces. The group also experienced three major conservation sites which were restored by the architects and learnt about the history and challenges of conservation. There was a discussion on heritage, what should be termed as heritage and the challenges of heritage conservation in an urban landscape.
2. **Dravyavati River Project, Jaipur:** -A drainage water channel called Amaanishah Naala is getting converted into a green riverfront through a huge project undertaken by Tata projects limited. The naala is now renamed as Dravyavati River. The group was taken to the construction site at the river front. The management and construction challenges of a project of such mammoth size were illustrated. The group also saw a huge sewage treatment plant under construction and asked various questions about the project and its relevance.
3. **Barefoot College, Tiloniya:** -We went to the two campuses of the Barefoot College situated at Tiloniya Village where we were first shown the whole campus including variety of trainings they undertake to strengthen the rural community. The group was shown facilities like library, dental clinic and other innovative facilities like a community radio station. In the second campus we visited a workshop which was manufacturing solar cookers and attended a training session of women who came from different parts of the world to learn to assemble solar panel and LED light arrangements. The highlight of the visit was a puppet show which is used to disseminate information in rural areas.
4. **Sariska National Park:** -With the help of guides sent by the Chief Forest officer, the students undertook a tiger safari and learnt about the abode of the tiger, challenges for their habitat and the reasons why conservation of tigers is successful at Sariska.

REPORT ON LOGISTICS

1. Facilities at the Hotel Regenta Central were good. The idea of combining breakfast and dinner with the room rent was very helpful and took away troubles of managing food arrangement for large groups.
2. Facilities at Tiger's Den at Sariska were also good. The staff was very helpful.
3. Travel: We had major troubles with our driver "Mr. Nanda" who was outright rude and unhelpful. He never followed instructions of the faculty members and sometimes did what he wanted to do irrespective of the instructions. We faced problem with him since

the first hour of the trip and the trouble continued for all the four days. He had no understanding of the roads and took long detours at few places. Kept talking to the subordinate during the travel and almost missed the turn to Tiloniya village. I request you to raise a complaint with the travel agency so that such drivers are not sent for the such trips.

4. Preeti was really helpful during the trip. She managed everything quite well. We saved lot of logistic troubles because of her.

CONTACTS

1. Architect Kavita Jain, Heritage Expert, Jaipur
2. Brig. Gajendra Nigam, Dravyavati River Project-
3. Brijesh Gupta, Barefoot College, Tiloniya-
4. Dr. Govind Bharadwaj, CFO Sariska Tiger Reserve

Field Trip Report

Jaipur is the capital and largest city of the Indian state of Rajasthan in western India. Jaipur is also known as the “Pink City of India”. The city was founded by Maharaja Jai Singh II who ruled Jaipur state from 1699 to 1744. Initially his capital was Amber which lies 11 km from Jaipur but by seeing the growth of population and scarcity of water he felt the need of shifting the capital. Jaipur is located 280 km from New Delhi. Jaipur lies on a border line between a hot desert climate and hot semi-arid climate. Temperatures remain high during summer season from April to July. It receives 650 mm rainfall annually but most of rainfall occurs in month of July and August. The area has pleasant weather in month of November and it continues till February. Jaipur is a place of heritage, culture, art and has numerous lovely attractions that facilitate with refreshing experience to the visitors.

The picture depicts the history of Jaipur and Rajasthan that there is scarcity of water. The women are the water collectors who travel long distance to fetch water for their families and to fulfill their daily requirement. The nature of society is of Patriarchal where men’s are the ones who dominate on ladies. Women are the one’s who bear a main responsibility for collecting water in the rural areas. Apart from collecting water they do household courses which apparently affect their health and the health of their children. The scarcity of water is a major issue in Rajasthan and collecting water is their daily job. The water crisis in the desert shoots up as the summer approaches and around 13,500 villages do not have access to water and depend on the mercy of tank water provided by the government. The hand pump water has fluoride content which makes it unsuitable for drinking. Even the water table is at a very greater depth so it becomes very difficult to tap water from such depths.



Source: Picture clicked in the Lobby of Hotel Tiger Den, Sariska

Maota Lake: The Maota Lake is located in Amber, in the Indian state of Rajasthan. Lake is located in the south city of Amber about 11 km from Jaipur. The lake collects rain water flowing down from the nearby hills and was the main source of water for the Amber Fort and the

common people. It is called as “Maota” due to large trees located near the lake. But at present the condition of the lake is completely degraded. The size of the lake has been reduced and the water has become poisonous to such an extent that fishes have started dying in the lake. The smell is so stinky that it becomes difficult for the visitors to stand and look at this pathetic view. The fishes which have died are consumed by the birds, pigs and dogs. The process of “biomagnification” can be observed that poison from one source of food chain enters into another. This will adversely affect the entire food chain. As per the information collected by me from the villagers the fishes are dying because the water in the lake is extremely polluted and it is due to the immersion of statues of Lord Ganesh on the occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi. The chemicals used in the idols are the main source of pollution due to which the entire water body is dead. It is not supporting the growth of flora and fauna. It is a matter of great concern that why the fishes are dying in the sarovar.

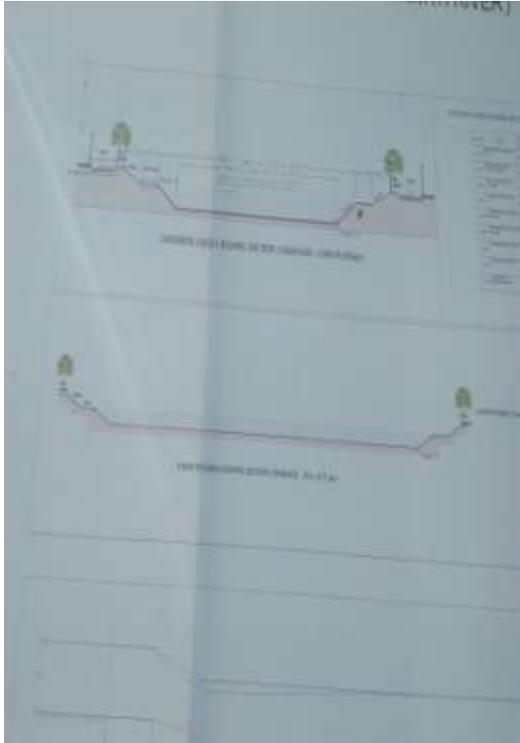


Source: Maota Lake Amber

Amanishah Nala Project:The project is about Rejuvenation of Amanishah Nala into Daryavati River. It is a dream project of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Rajasthan chief Minister Vasundhara Raje. For over a century, the Drayawati River has been deteriorating into a nala, increasingly becoming the cause of widespread water borne diseases like dengue and chikungunya. The infertile and rather hazardous water damages underwater ecosystems, ruins soil gradients of the land and make it prone to floods. Moreover, the Amanishah Nala runs a distance of 47 km and ruins the look of the beautiful pink city. Apart from the amortization of 170 MLD polluted water, The Darayawati River Project will see more than 100 fall structure constructed to ensure seamless water supply throughout the year. With more than 16,000 trees planted and 65,000 square meters green area developed under this project. Tata are the advisor for

the project and looking after it. The project is dealing with the treatment of waste water into the fresh water. It is a Rajasthan Government Project looked by Jaipur Development Authority (JDA) and Tata are the advisors looking after this project. Since the region has scarcity of water therefore for curing purpose water is not used. Certain curing compounds are used so that minimum amount of water is used. The entire patch is about 47.5 km long. There are 5 trenches which will trap Industrial as well as domestic water. The Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) will treat the domestic and industrial water coming from the city of Jaipur and will convert it into a beautiful river known as Daryavati. 100 to 300 mm water is to be maintained throughout the reach of river. The residue obtained from the plant is dumped, right now they are not working on the residue aspect. People living in slums in nearby areas have been given proper houses for their resettlement. The project is to be completed before 2019 election. Stone pitching is used to conserve ground water. Transition wall is provided at upstream as well as downstream side to avoid damage.





DETAILS OF CHECK DAM / FALL

Sl. No.	Name	Height (m)	Length (m)	No. of Piers	Concrete (m ³)	Other Material
1	Check Dam	1.5	10	1	15	0
2	Check Dam	1.5	10	1	15	0
3	Check Dam	1.5	10	1	15	0
4	Check Dam	1.5	10	1	15	0
5	Check Dam	1.5	10	1	15	0
6	Check Dam	1.5	10	1	15	0
7	Check Dam	1.5	10	1	15	0
8	Check Dam	1.5	10	1	15	0
9	Check Dam	1.5	10	1	15	0
10	Check Dam	1.5	10	1	15	0
11	Check Dam	1.5	10	1	15	0
12	Check Dam	1.5	10	1	15	0
13	Check Dam	1.5	10	1	15	0
14	Check Dam	1.5	10	1	15	0
15	Check Dam	1.5	10	1	15	0
16	Check Dam	1.5	10	1	15	0
17	Check Dam	1.5	10	1	15	0
18	Check Dam	1.5	10	1	15	0
19	Check Dam	1.5	10	1	15	0
20	Check Dam	1.5	10	1	15	0

Source: At the site of Daryawati River

Barefoot College, Tilonia:

The Social Work and Research Centre (SWRC) started officially in the village of Tilonia on 5 February 1972. The main objective of Barefoot College is to bridge the knowledge gap by training the rural people with technological aspects so that they do not run to the urban areas for the settlement and in search of jobs to earn their livelihood. The college provides education to the girls living in the remote parts of Rajasthan and ensures that girl child development is not lagging. The college is also working for the upliftment of woman by training them in the “Women Barefoot Solar Engineering Training Centre.”

The women in the college are making sanitary pads at an affordable rate so that menstrual hygiene can be maintained. Women across remote parts of Rajasthan don't use sanitary pads, they use rags and other materials which is unfit for their health. The sanitary pads are made in bulk and sent to the remote parts of Rajasthan so that every woman can get it. The remote part of Rajasthan is not much educated and lacks knowledge and where woman feel shameful to discuss their private matters in public and use shitty materials without taking opinion of anyone which later on have an adverse impact on their health. This campaign raised by Barefoot College is really incredible. The woman thinks Menstruation as a cultural taboo but this thought process has been changed through various campaigns, workshops, puppet shows and etc.

The college has a library which is run by the women for the children so that they can get the study material whatever is required by them. Education is a powerful tool which can change the future of the country therefore the major focus of the college is to educate the children who are the future of our country. Girl child education is also a major focus of Barefoot College. Even the college has its own radio station which is run by the women which discusses the issue of social taboo, upliftment of woman, agriculture and etc.

The Barefoot College wanted to break the barrier in the society which has been created on the basis of caste, class, creed, age, sex and ethnicity. The women are trained in such a way so that are not dependent on anyone to earn their livelihood. Even the women from 37 countries across the globe come and learn the work of solar energy, they are given proper training so that the same knowledge can be implemented in their country also and their problem can be resolved.

The college also works on the water quality of Rajasthan as the water is unfit for drinking because it has high fluoride content in it which results in dental and as well as skeletal fluorosis. The college has tested the water samples from the remote part of the village and has checked the basic drinking quality parameters to decide whether the water is fit for drinking or not. The college has a small laboratory in it where test are conducted by specialist who have knowledge on the particular aspect. Villagers are told not to drink hand pump water. Certain treatment plants have been established so that fluoride can be removed from water. Rain water harvesting systems are developed in the communities so that water can be used for drinking purpose.

