



INSTITUTIONAL INNOVATION COUNCIL, DACN  
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# **Dr. Ambedkar College, Deekshabhoomi, Nagpur.**

## **Department of Biochemistry and Biotechnology.**

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### **Report of Hariom Biotech Agro Farming, Industrial Visit for Problem Identification**

On

**23<sup>rd</sup> October 2021**

Institutional Innovation council (IIC) and the Department of Biochemistry and Biotechnology, Dr. Ambedkar College, Nagpur organized an Industrial Visit for the UG and PG students of Biochemistry and Biotechnology to Hariom Biotech Agro Farm located at Village Sawali about 18 Kms from Nagpur. The purpose of this visit was to acquaint the students with Mushroom culture and farming techniques performed at the Industry level. Hariom Biotech Agro Farm was the best place to do so as in the last decade it has grown as the central India's Largest Mushroom producing farm.

42 students enrolled for the visit and they were accompanied by 12 staff members from the department. After giving a prior intimation to Bajaj Nagar Local Police station's Nirbhaya Pathak about the number and details of the female candidates of this visit we left the college premises at 9:00 am. As the lab visit was planned at the evening the students were first taken to the Chickpea farm of Dr. Dongre near Gumthala village, Bhandara Road Nagpur to examine the effect of excessive rains and climate change on growth and yield of chick peas. Some samples of the affected and unaffected varieties of chick pea plants were taken for laboratory analysis of their genomic and proteomic makeup. The sample analysis could be further used for designing a pest management strategy.

Post farm visit the students were taken for an excursion activity to Rawanvadi wildlife reserve. The biodiversity and the water-body of the spot was observed and the students were given lunch at the location. After having their lunch students were allowed to relax for a while before leaving for the Mushroom Farm. We reached the Hariom Biotech Agro Farm at 6:30 in the evening and met the managing director of the farm Mr. Anurag Goyal. Mr. Goyal gave the students an overview of the mushroom cultivation process and

explained them the intricacies of the process. Mr. Goyal also took the students and the staff around for observation of the industrial setup needed to properly grow mushrooms under controlled conditions. Hariom farm grows its own spawns needed for the culture of button mushrooms and is amongst India's biggest supplier for the same. The entire process from spawning, inoculation of spawns into processed organic manure, Crowning of the grown spawn with coir and complete growth of the mushroom was very descriptively explained and the entire activity was shown to all the students at the Farm. Mr. Goyal also gave each student and the faculty members a packet of button mushroom as a souvenir while we left the farm at 7:30 pm. All the students and the staff members reached the college back at 8:30 pm thus concluding the activity.

The Mushroom farm visit and excursion visits were planned for identification of gaps in the field of mushroom farming that can be taken further for development of innovative solutions. The IIC of DACN actively encourage their students for conducting such farm visits to develop entrepreneurial attitude among the students.

