

Day12: College on Wheels Initiative Explores Wardha Sewagram in Maharashtra

November 30,2023

In a groundbreaking educational initiative, the "College on Wheels" program from Jammu and Kashmir embarked on a transformative journey to Wardha Seva Gram in Maharashtra. The endeavor, aimed at fostering cultural exchange and community engagement, unfolded as students and faculty members explored the rich tapestry of Wardha's social initiatives and historical significance.



The convoy of knowledge enthusiasts arrived at Wardha Seva Gram, an emblematic hub of sustainable development and community service, where they were warmly welcomed by the local community leaders and residents. The visit commenced with an insightful introduction to Wardha Seva Gram's pioneering projects, highlighting their commitment to rural development, education, and environmental sustainability.



One of the program highlights included interactive sessions between the students and Wardha Seva Gram representatives, facilitating a robust exchange of ideas and experiences. These discussions delved into the unique challenges faced by rural communities and the innovative solutions implemented by Wardha Seva Gram, providing a valuable learning experience for the College on Wheels participants.

Furthermore, the visit included guided tours of Wardha's historical landmarks, providing participants with a comprehensive understanding of the region's historical significance, including its association with Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy of non-violence and community.

The visit encompassed Bapu Kuti, Ba Kuti, the prayer ground, the dining hall, Bapu's office, and the school within the ashram premises. The experience offered a profound insight into Mahatma Gandhi's principles of simple living, self-reliance, and community service. The students gained a firsthand understanding of the historical significance of these spaces, fostering a deep appreciation for the values upheld at Sewagram Ashram. Students also visited the Khadi manufacturing factory within the Ashram premises. Inspired by the visit, the students

bought Khadi items and books on Mahatma Gandhi from the Khadi Bandar.

The event concluded with expressions of gratitude from both sides, emphasizing the mutual enrichment derived from the cultural exchange. The College on Wheels program not only provided students with a unique opportunity to witness firsthand the challenges faced by communities in rural Maharashtra but also encouraged a spirit of social responsibility and civic engagement.

As the College on Wheels resumes its journey, it leaves behind a trail of inspiration and newfound perspectives, echoing the transformative power of education and cross-cultural collaboration. The experience at Wardha Seva Gram serves as a testament to the program's commitment to holistic education and community-driven initiatives, fostering a generation of socially conscious leaders.

Student's bytes:

- **Divya, a student from University of Jammu said** *“Visiting Sewagram in Wardha through the College on Wheels program was enlightening. Exploring Gandhi's ashram provided valuable insights into his philosophy, fostering a deeper understanding of India's freedom struggle. The experience seamlessly blended historical significance with educational enrichment.”*
- **Another student named Suhani shared her experience** *“Visiting Gandhi Ashram Sewagram, Maharashtra, was insightful. It's where Mahatma Gandhi lived and worked on India's independence. The serene atmosphere, simple living, and Gandhiji's teachings felt inspiring. It was a*

window into his life, principles, and the significance of self-reliance, non-violence, and community service. The experience was a blend of history, philosophy, and a sense of reverence for Gandhi's impactful legacy."

- **Neamat exclaimed** *"Visiting Sewagram, Mahatma Gandhi's ashram in Maharashtra, offers a glimpse into his life and principles."* **Further ,she added** *"It provides a unique insight into the life and teachings of one of the world's most influential leaders."*
- **Vidhita said** *"Sewagram Ashram, a beacon of Gandhian principles, offered a unique student experience. Learning at the ashram wasn't just academic; it was a transformative journey embracing simplicity, self-reliance, and community service. Immersed in the spirit of Mahatma Gandhi's teachings, Sewagram instilled values that extend beyond textbooks, fostering a holistic development that echoes the essence of true education."*
- **Sarnish shared her experience starting with** *"A visit which was indeed the best part in the Whole college on Wheels trip. Sewagram Ashram is a place, that gave me a pleasure of immense comfort. The experience was seamlessly beautiful. Learnt a lot about Gandhi ji and his principles and taught me about the importance and great legacy of Bapu."* **She added** *" In the end we bought some handmade gifts for our loved ones and seriously this unique visit*

gave us a experience which is full of learnings and true essence.”

- **Paridhi ,another student from University of Jammu exclaimed** *"In the heart of Sewagram Gandhi Ashram, amidst echoes of history, my College on Wheels journey discovered the profound simplicity that fuels the spirit of education and service—a transformative pilgrimage of mind and soul."*
- *"I'm Kashvi, a Jammu University student, and I had a life-changing experience when I visited Sewagram Gandhiji Ashram in Wardha. As soon as I stepped foot on the peaceful ashram grounds, I fell in love by the place's overall simplicity and calmness. The modest dwellings, the verdant surroundings, and the atmosphere of Gandhiji's presence created an intense feeling of contemplation and introspection.”* **Said Kashvi, while expressing excitement.**
- **Harshit exclaimed** *“ As Jammu University student, I felt a mix of anticipation and excitement as I entered Sewagram Ashram in Nagpur. The serene surroundings and the aura of spirituality immediately embraced her. Over time, I experienced a profound sense of peace, simplicity, and community, making my time at the ashram a transformative and enriching experience. “*

