

ADVENTUROUS LEARNING FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Fields of swaying grain rush past us, as we drive through the picture-perfect, tree-lined highway to coffee country, Coorg. It is a green escape in Karnataka that is sure to please toddlers, youth and the old alike. Not that this hill station needs to be chosen for a sojourn by eliminating other similar destinations in the vicinity. Just a three-hour drive from Mysore, 150 km away, Coorg district on its own has much to offer, much to see, admire and soak in at this hill station.

An outbound training was organized at Kadkari Resorts in Coorg (Karnataka) on August 7-8, 2013. The Learning & Development department in coordination with Adventure project team arranged two days training for improvement in the areas of teamwork, team bonding, problem solving, decision making, motivation, change and personality development. Mr Jacob Chacko (CEO, Total Experience) was invited as master trainer to conduct this training. Total Experience is an organization that offers adventurous training programs like team building training, outbound training and soft skills training programs. Over 100 participants from Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala attended the outbound training program. Fr. A. M. Joseph SDB (Executive Director, DB Tech), Fr. Jeeson Kurian SDB (Regional Head - South, DB Tech), Mr Hari Krishna (Project Head - Adventure, DB Tech), Mr Stanley Jones (Head-L&D, DB Tech), Mr. Devi Prasad Mahapatra (Sr. Manager-Communications, DB Tech), Mr. Ujjal Paramanik (Sr. Manager - Accounts, DB Tech) and Mr Vachaspathi Bhaskar (Asst

Manager - Accounts, DB Tech) from National and Regional offices participated in the training program.

Before unlocking the potential of participants, a meeting was organized to brief every employee about the current status and future plan of the skill development projects in the region. Addressing the gathering, Fr. Joseph said, "Now it is time to relax, reflect and rejuvenate ourselves. Don Bosco Tech has a great mission and vision for the youngsters of India. We are here to learn, to experience, to share in this 2-day training program and go back to the respective centres to work passionately." In his address, he said that DB Tech set a target to train 2.25 million youth in coming ten years. Now DB Tech has 176 training centres across India and is planning to expand in partnership with various like-minded organizations to 500 centres, at least one centre in every district. After his speech, Mr Hari Krishna briefed about the project and future prospects of all participants in DB Tech. The meeting ended with speech by Fr. Jeeson who mentioned that this type of training is a platform to know each other of this big family and share the best practices with others. This is an opportunity to relax, rejuvenate and mingle with others to enrich in every step of intervention.

After the meeting, Mr Jacob conducted team building activities named ice-breaker (non verbal), spider web, treasure hunt, dress the boss, sky walk, create your chart, super launch, obstacle race, etc. Regarding experience in outbound training, Mr Auro Edwin (Hospitality

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Fr. A. M. Joseph
Executive Director

Training Programme on Effective Office Management in Kolkata (West Bengal)



The PRT of Kolkata province organized a training programme on Effective Office Management on August 24, 2013. Coordinators and trainers from DB Tech centres in Park Circus, Liluah, Mirpara, Dumka, Siliguri, Krishnagar along with DBDOC staff participated in the programme.

This 3-day tailor-made programme is conducted to cater certain needs and requirements. Mr. K.L. Kuli (Joint

Director, CSTARI) and Mr. B. K. Singha (Deputy Director, CSTARI) were the Guests of Honor for the day. The training session was taken ahead by Mr. S. C. Basu (Guest Faculty). Changing concepts of management, motivational techniques, importance of checking mail and reply identification of problems and provide solutions, office communication, duties and responsibilities of staff towards organization were some of the topics being highlighted during the discussion. The session was quite interactive and interesting.

Third day was started with a session by Mr. R. N. Bandhopadhyay (Director, CSTARI), who brought forward the topic of Leadership Qualities. At the concluding session, the participants were of the view that things being learnt in this session are not taught during the academic sessions. The session has helped the participants with a brief picture of the corporate industry and its working environment.

Exposure Visit to Hotel JC Residency (Madurai, Tamil Nadu)



The students undertaking training in Hospitality Domain at DB Tech (Madurai) visited Hotel JC Residency as a part of their exposure visit on August 15, 2013. The JC Residency is one of the best hotels in the Madurai region, which is rising to the challenges of a remote land. 65 trainees accompanied with DB Tech trainers welcomed by Mr. Shanmuganathan (F&B Manager - JC Residency, Madurai) at the hotel. Mr. Shanmuganathan first introduced the

group to the entire staff of hotel. He then gave a brief about Hotel & Service industry to DB Tech trainees. Moreover, he asked the staff of JC Residency to assist DB Tech trainees in knowing more about the Hospitality sector. Mr. Iyappan (House Keeping Captain - JC Residency, Madurai) explained several things to the trainees such as rooms tariff, types of rooms, making of bed, room facilities, room amenities, cleaning equipments, maintaining swimming pool area, how to set the banquet hall, etc. Mr. Shanmuganathan explained about restaurant details, room services, buffet rates, and buffet menu. While returning from the place the students were of the view that the visit was quite useful and informative; they necessitate some more visits like this.

Four days Training of Trainers (ToT) at DB Tech (Srinagar, J&K)



Four days Training of Trainers (ToT) was organized for the newly employed staff in Kashmir region under Himayat project at DB Tech (Srinagar) on August 17-20, 2013.

Fr. Shajun Chacko (Project Coordinator - DB Tech, Srinagar) initiated the session with a welcome speech addressing all the participants. At the training staff was oriented about Himayat project, its vision, government's initiative and project guidelines. Then were introduced to DB Tech as an organization and how it is doing justice with its tagline - 'Rewriting India's Skilscape' through training and placement of thousands of youth across India each year. Next session covered the history and scope of skill development in India, a group activity was performed on National Rural Livelihood Mission.

Next day was completely dedicated to DB Tech's process of pre-implementation, implementation and

post implementation. On third day, participants were oriented about induction module meant for the newly admitted students followed by a session on classroom covering theory as well as practical classes. Last day was entirely devoted to the demonstration session on each domain which was aimed at assessing and improving the classroom delivery mechanism.

Guest Lectures on HIV Awareness in Karnataka and Bihar

Two guest lectures on HIV/AIDS were organized at DB Tech (Chitradurga) and DB Tech (Muzaffarpur) on August 10 and August 08, 2013 respectively. The lectures were arranged with the aim to enhance students' knowledge and create awareness about HIV/AIDS for its prevention. The resource persons invited to the awareness program were the people working with AIDS patients for several years.

Before the session could actually begin, the students were first introduced to the resource person and were asked to make positive use of the session. During the session, they were made clear of the fact that HIV does not get transferred through hugging, touching, wearing the clothes of HIV patients or even through sharing food with them. Unprotected sexual relationship with an HIV infected person, using unsterilized syringes and scissors, blood transfusion from an infected donor are some of the real causes of HIV/AIDS. In case the mother is HIV positive, the child can also get affected by this deadly disease. The students were also advised to not to discriminate HIV affected people. They are normal human beings, thus behave just like another friend of yours. Serving the purpose better, students were shown documentary films and movies on AIDS to give them certain clarifications about the disease. At last, the students were asked to create the awareness about HIV/AIDS in their respective localities. On the part of the trainees, it was an enriching day, they were feeling convinced and satisfied with the important information they have gained from the session.



Rising Star

Vevozolu Theyo



20-year old girl Ms. Vevozolu Theyo belongs to Thenyuzumi village located in the Phek district of Nagaland. Her parents work as farmers to earn the livelihood for ten member family. She is the eldest among her four sisters and three brothers. Being failed in matriculation, she was sitting idle at home. The thought of becoming a burden on parents encouraged her to join an employment oriented training programme. And thus she joined BASE training offered by DB Tech in partnership with MoRD (Govt. of India) especially for the poor and marginalised youth like her. She joined DB Tech (AIDA, Nagaland) with a wish to be independent.

Before finalising the domain in which she will be imparted training, she was counselled by the trainers and was asked to give an interest inventory test. Based on the interest inventory test results, she was offered Spa domain. Vevozolu Theyo started training quite seriously with certain expectations of gaining domain specific skills & knowledge and thus to become capable enough to earn a livelihood. Throughout the training, she was one of the regular and punctual students.

When asked about the training, she whispered, "I have learned a lot from this three months training. This programme has provided me with an opportunity to grow. The training has awarded me with complete understanding of Spa, Beauty and Body care. Beside that it has allowed me to groom myself, gain confidence, communicate well, and overcome shyness in addition to basic computer knowledge, time management skills and most importantly interpersonal skills. I enjoyed every activity held during the training."

The successful completion of the training and a sense of confidence helped her get a job at O2 Spa located in Elante Mall (Chandigarh) at a monthly income of Rs. 7500/- Today she is happily working there and said, "Hospitality Industry is growing really fast. The decision of taking training in the Spa domain was the best decision of my life. I am glad that my career has been built in this profession. The credit for all this goes to DB Tech. I thank DB Tech wholeheartedly for giving me new directions."

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