

OUTBOUND PROGRAM @ AVANI ORCHARDS

22nd October 2022



On October 22, 2022, EMPRESARIO, the XIME Entrepreneurship Club in Bangalore, held its first-ever outbound programme in a scenic location on the outskirts of the city. Avani Orchards was the destination for the daylong programme when thirty-one of us, mostly club members and a few non-member students, boarded XIME's bus on a bright Saturday morning to travel a distance of 62 kms away from the institute. Mr. Pratap Hegde, the creator and the owner of the Orchards was the host for the day who has the rare distinction of having a distinguished career in the IT industry for almost two decades followed with his own entrepreneurial journey for almost equal number of years with an impressive track record all through.

The short study tour-cum-excursion trip was no doubt a unique opportunity for all of us to learn and share something new while also raising the bar for the Empresario in its quest for novelty and excellence. The full-day session began with a tour of the facilities in the sylvan surrounding of Avani Orchards which is spread over 5 acres of fertile land full of vegetation and fruit bearing trees. It was then followed by a casual yet intelligent one-on-one conversation session in the forenoon hours with Mr. Hegde in presence of Dr Pattanayak, our faculty co-ordinator.

Soon after a sumptuous lunch on the lap of nature, we moved on to the second part of the learning session with Mr Hegde, who explained us in detail about two of his entrepreneurship projects , one in the urban mobility space

wherein a multi-stakeholder digital platform was created through Auto Driver Cooperative structure, and the other being a sectoral initiative by the Indian Chemical Council (ICC) called Nice Globe ,which is working on a digital platform supporting the logistical operations of the companies in this sector. The two projects certainly gave a lot of insight to all of us in learning the most recent trends and difficulties in one's entrepreneurship journey.

The enjoyable part of the trip was reserved towards the end when some of us engaged ourselves in playing cards and badminton while others preferred to move around the facility to appreciate nature in the company of Mr Hegde. An evening tea, coffee, and snacks were served followed with a photo shoot session to carry some wonderful memories back to our institute.

We could not have asked for more from this outbound program as all of us thoroughly enjoyed this daylong trip to our hearts content. Though exhausted, the expression on our smiling faces clearly manifested the level of contentment and fulfilment, especially when Diwali was knocking at the door !