

Dr. Vishwanath Karad
MIT WORLD PEACE UNIVERSITY | PUNE
TECHNOLOGY, RESEARCH, SOCIAL INNOVATION & PARTNERSHIPS

Four Decades of Educational Excellence

RURAL IMMERSION PROGRAM

Mission of B To I (Bharat to India) & I To B (India to Bharat)



WORLD'S FIRST UNIVERSITY FOR LIFE TRANSFORMATION



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www.mitwpu.edu.in

Hon'ble Prof. Dr. Vishwanath Karad
Founder President



WORDS OF BLESSINGS

MIT-World Peace University is imbibing the values of social commitment & social change among the students. This will help to bridge the deep chasm between urban & rural sections of India.

I am extremely happy to note that MIT-WPU has initiated a Rural Immersion Program in its curriculum. This is a very positive step to integrate the students with the heart of India, i.e. the Rural Society.

Much before independence, Rastrapita Mahatma Gandhi had appealed to the people of our country to stop migrating to the cities & instead, strengthen the villages to make them more self-sufficient.

I myself belong to a small village Rameshwar - Rui in Latur district of Maharashtra & it has been my endeavour to give back to my village as much as I can & turn it into an ideal village as envisaged by the Founding Fathers of our great Nation. It therefore makes me very happy that MIT-WPU is imbibing the values of social commitment & social change among the students. This will help to bridge the deep chasm between urban & rural sections of India.

I congratulate Executive President of the MIT-World Peace University, Prof. Rahul Karad and Vice Chancellor Prof. I. K. Bhat for initiating this mission.





SEED THOUGHT

The true Indian Culture and hospitality remains safe in the hands of rural communities. Their struggle for survival is inspiring and their contribution for food security for our country is enormous.

I am of the strong opinion that the true Indian culture and hospitality remains safe in the hands of rural communities.

I am very happy that the team of Rural Immersion Program of MIT- World Peace University is publishing it's first ever Accomplishment Report of founding year of this unique program. I congratulate all students, faculty members, staff and other members of MIT-WPU family for making this differentiator program, a grand success. More importantly I thank all Sarpanch, village leaders and farmers for their proactive support and exemplary hospitality provided to our students and teachers. I am of the strong opinion that the true Indian culture and hospitality remains safe in the hands of rural communities.

My idea of Rural Immersion Program was not only limited to give exposure to university students to visit villages as a part of one day rural tourism activity but to create a learning opportunity for students of urban background by actually living in the farmer's house for few days, understand their plight, problems and value system and their courage to cope up with the continuous natural and man-made calamities the farming sector facing. Their struggle for survival is inspiring and their contribution for food security for our country is enormous.

The MIT-WPU's Rural Immersion Program is designed and evolved as 'Bharat to India' and 'India To Bharat' which is learning and empowering experience for the youth and even for faculty members.

I am all sure that the way in which our Rural Immersion Program team is implementing this unique activity, it will attract the attention of global higher education sector and many more Universities and HEIs will follow our path for the progress of the rural communities in their respective countries.



Prof. Dr. Sudhir Gavhane

Director: Rural Immersion Program & National Outreach and Networking



Director's Message

Higher education in the world is changing in terms of technology, methodology and profitability. It's losing its connect with industry in terms employability. Most concerned worry is students of new generation, known as millennia, are victims of total disconnect with society and most of them are self- centric and individualistic. It's very essential that youth of any nation must be connected with society and people around them. They must be problem-solvers than problem -creators.

In India, which is a continent in itself with 17.5 % population of the world, there exist two nations within it: one is 'India'- Urban India of metropolis and cities and other is 'Bharat' - consisting of villages of rural India. 'India' is advanced and 'Bharat' is underdeveloped, deprived and backward. In rural India (Bharat), there are as much as 638 thousands villages with 69% population residing in them. In view of this under socially committed visionary leadership of MIT- World Peace University's founder President Hon'ble Prof. Dr. Vishwanath Karad and an idea of dynamic Executive President Mr. Rahul Karad, we have designed the completely different Rural Immersion Program, which is mandatory to all students of MIT-WPU University, including students of Engineering, Management, Pharmacy, Arts, Science, Commerce, Law, Education and School of Government.

Every year more than 6000 students of MIT-WPU participate in this unique Rural Immersion Program. The philosophy behind design of this program is to **'Bharat To India' (B To I)** and **'India To Bharat' (I TO B)** which preach that the students of urban India should go to rural India not educate them but to learn from them, how to survive while facing unbearable obstacles. After understanding their plight and problems through humanly communication and interaction urban students are expected to apply their knowledge and capabilities to provide solutions to rural folks.

The learning out of this **Rural Immersion Program** is three dimensional which is empowerment process for these students. The three dimensions deployed here are **Service Based Learning (SBL), Project Based Learning (PBL) and Research Based Learning (RBL)**.

AN UNIQUE MODEL OF RURAL IMMERSION

Introduction:

Rural Immersion is a part of WPU Method component for all the programs run under the MIT World Peace University. This immersion program is designed to achieve "Social Mission" of University.

Rural Immersion is applicable for all students across all streams under MIT-WPU. It is designed to give students to rural realities. This unique concept is been implemented with an intention of sensitizing the budding Engineers, Administrators, Entrepreneurs and Liberal Arts Aspirants to become a part of rural development through various activities in rural area.

Rural Immersion Program is the participatory method for the analysis of local problems by the students of different streams and different background. It helps the students to understand their problems, lifestyle and needs and inspires them to come up with ground – breaking solutions.

VISION

To build leadership that generates good citizens and a strong commitment to society.



MISSION

1. To sensitize the urban students towards the problems faced by the villagers
2. To provide an opportunity to the students to become a part of rural development process
3. To apply knowledge of respective disciplines to solve social problems.



Main Objectives

1. Connecting urban Youth to Bharat (I To B)
2. Connecting rural Bharat to Urban Area (B To I)
3. Creating opportunities to learn from rural Bharat for MIT-WPU students.
4. Contributing to Rural development by urban youth of India.
5. Sensitizing urban youth about issues and problems of villages in general and farmers in particular.
6. Attempt in providing solutions to village problems through Project Based Learning (PBL).

MIT – WPU Method



Academic Credit System(ACS):

Flexible Credit System allowing students to customize their education after firm foundation, by opting for an appropriate track.



Continuously Updated Education (CUED™):

Continuously Updated Education is a way of ensuring effective learning @ MIT-WPU. The CUEd System expedites adapting the latest development in each subject into the real time learning-teaching



Case Study Approach



Team Teaching



Digital Learning Technology



Industrial Collaboration for Internships



Research Collaborations



Fostering Entrepreneurship



Social Missions



Peace Programmes for Holistic Development



Sports Culture for Peace



Rural Immersion Programme*



Alumni Involvement:



International Credit Programmes*



Life @ MIT - Beyond Classroom



National Study Programme*

*Condition Apply

WPU Method of Education

Teaching Pedagogy

MITWPU provides a specialist management programme designed by experienced advisory board. The MBA programme provides the flexibility to allow students to get in depth knowledge in Telecom and Marketing Management & Lighting and Energy Management. Programme also offers opportunities for work-based research and to undertake a company internship to gain invaluable work experience in the industry.

The Pedagogy will include but not limited to current topics, case studies which have impacted the Telecom and Lighting industry, theory and practical teaching which will provide students hands on experience, industry specific visits to Telecom and Lighting organizations. The intensity of the course will educate students on the resilience required to succeed in the Telecom and Lighting industry.



MIT-WPU Academic Leadership



Prof. Dr. Jay P. Gore
Principal Advisor, MIT-WPU
PhD (Purdue University),
M.S. (Penn State University)



Prof. Dr. Inder K. Bhat
Vice Chancellor, MIT-WPU



Prof. Dr. Shrihari Honwad
Provost-Engineering, MIT-WPU



Prof. (Gp Capt) D. P. Apte
Registrar and Dean
Peace Studies

Team of Rural Immersion Program



Prof. Dr. Sudhir Gavhane
Director, Rural Immersion Program
And National Outreach & Networking



Neelam Pandit
M.S.W. Project Co-ordinator
Rural Immersion Program



Prof. Dr. Ajit Deore
Chief Co-ordinator
Faculty of Engineering
Rural Immersion Program



Prof. Dr. T. J. Vidyasagar
Chief Co-ordinator
School of Management (PG)
Rural Immersion Program



Prof. Dr. Prasad Pathak
Chief Co-ordinator
Faculty of Management (UG)
Rural Immersion Program



Prof. Dr. Rajendra Bartakke
Chief Co-ordinator
School of Business
Rural Immersion Program



Prof. Nitin Sharma
Chief Co-ordinator
School of Liberal Arts
Rural Immersion Program



Ms. Manisha Shedage
Chief Co-ordinator
Faculty of Commerce
Rural Immersion Program



Prof. Sachin Bohite
Chief Co-ordinator
Faculty of Sciences
Rural Immersion Program



Prof. Ranjit Gadhave
Chief Co-ordinator
School of Pharmacy
Rural Immersion Program



Prof. Dr. Jaideep Jadhav
Chief Co-ordinator
School of Telecom Management
Rural Immersion Program



Prof. Parimal M. S.
Chief Co-ordinator
School of Government
Rural Immersion Program



Prof. Dr. Vandana Kenjale
Chief Co-ordinator
Faculty of Education
Rural Immersion Program



Prof. Dr. Sunil Karad
Chief Co-ordinator
School of Polytechnic
Rural Immersion Program



Prof. Mahesh Sane
Chief Co-ordinator
School of Justice and Legal Education
Rural Immersion Program



Prof. Aparna Pathak
Chief Co-ordinator
Faculty of Fine Arts, Media
& Photography
Rural Immersion Program



Prof. Nilesh Magar
Chief Co-ordinator
Faculty of Sciences
Rural Immersion Program

Learning Design of Rural Immersion Program

Service Based Learning (SBL)

Mashal Feri, Street Play, Health Camp,
Sessions for Villagers on Health and Hygiene

Research Based Learning (RBL)

Village Development Survey (VDS)
Rural Home Baseline Survey (RBHL)

Project Based Learning (PBL)

through voluntary contribution of labour
for a social cause

Rain water Harvesting (Water management)
Tree Plantation (Green Environment)

Rural Immersion Program

Execution in 100 villages every year

Participation of multidisciplinary students: 5000 +

Coordinating Faculty members: 200

Active involvement of non-teaching staff: 100



Links

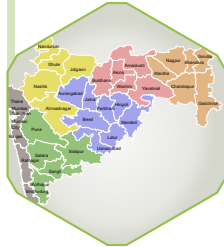
1. MIT-WPU Rural Immersion program: Concept and experiences shared by students: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hrOQfld6wX4>
2. MIT-WPU's Rural Immersion Program executed in Village Kasari, Taluka Shirur, District Pune, Country India: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9un7z3l8pK0>
3. MIT-WPU's Rural Immersion Program executed in Village Gurholi, Taluka Purandar, District Pune, Country India : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lztPsCwXSQg>
4. MIT-WPU's Rural Immersion Program executed in Village Varasgaon, Taluka Velhe, District Pune, Country India : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NoiggXgZoT4>
5. Project Shileshwar is a documentary about the Rural Immersion Program executed in Village Shileshwar, Taluka Mulashi, District Pune, Country India by the students of division 13, F.Y.B.Tech, MIT-WPU : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wp9dX7IGEYA>
6. www.mitwpu.edu.in

Structure of Rural Immersion Program

Schedule Pre Visit Activities

IDENTIFICATION OF VILLAGE

for the execution of Rural Immersion Program.



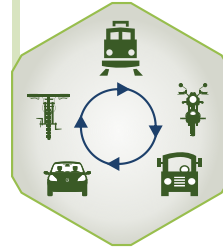
ARRANGEMENTS

And requirements for the Rural Immersion Program by the team leaders (Teachers and Students at identified village)



TRAVEL PLAN

Actions designed to encourage safe, healthy and sustainable travel options



SENSITIZATION

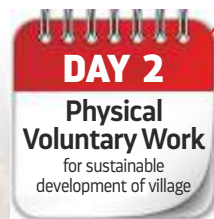
And Orientation program for Students and Faculty



On the Spot : Visit Activities



- Mashal Feri
- Street Play
- Transect Walk



- Water conservation activity
- Tree Plantation
- Health Education/Camp



DAY 2
School Activities

- Yoga Activity
- Drawing competition
- Sports Competition
- Career Guidance



DAY 2
Research Based Learning Activities

- Rural Household Baseline Survey (RHBS)
- Village Development Survey (VDS)



DAY 2
Experiential Learning Activities

- NGO Visit
- Visit to Old Aged Home
- Visit to School for Children with Special Needs
- Visit to NGO working for HIV/AIDS affected children



DAY 2
Skills Sharing Activities

- Women health related issues
- Organic Farming
- Waste Management
- Horticulture





DAY 2
Project Based Learning

- Identifying major problems of the village/villagers
- Providing workable short term and/or long term solution
- Creating meaningful difference



DAY 2
Review Meeting



DAY 3
Visit to Village Institutions

- Interaction with the formal leadership in the village
- Valedictory Function
- Review Meeting
- Leave the village



Assignments for Students/Teachers:

1. Experience Sharing of Rural Immersion Program in 500 words containing individual photo and activity photos.
2. Audio and/or Video short films of 2 minutes and uploading on the YouTube.
3. Daily Observation Report (DOR): 200 words each day.
4. Awards for Best Experience Sharing Report, Best Audio/Video short film.

Testimonials

“ Being born into a generation where people aim for the sky and forget their roots, we the students of Dr. Vishwanath Karad MIT-WPU got this amazing opportunity to get back to the roots of nation through the Rural Immersion Program. Rural Immersion Program is designed with the intent of bringing the back-trodden realities of our society into a picture. It aims at helping us explore, analyse & find solutions to the prevailing problems of the villagers. Through this we learned about leadership, teamwork & problem-solving skills. We learnt about their culture & their livelihood.

Staying with the villagers made us realize how happiness comes from within. These people lead a more happy and satisfied life than we do, despite the lack of basic necessities. We have read in books “life in a village” but actually trying to live a life like theirs is a faraway reality. Rural Immersion Program thus helped us explore the maze of life. All of this would not have been possible without the support & encouragement of our Executive President Mr. Rahul V. Karad, the faculty members & every single person involved & we are extremely grateful & obliged for this.

Nitin Aswani

F.Y.B.Tech Division 1

“ First and foremost we are thankful to our managing committee of Dr. Vishwanath Karad MIT-WPU for placing the Rural Immersion Program component as a part of our curriculum. We got an idea of rural life and their livelihood. We got a chance to open up with people there and found how happy and satisfied they are. Those days ongoing activity was about Conservation of Water which is basically Rain water harvesting by traditional method. Many initiatives were taken for conservation of water. People from village showed their active participation in that.

We students helped out people there, coming out of our comfort zones and together ‘Shramdaan’. Felt great after seeing those people smiling inspite working under red hot conditions. So what did we get from that...? A lesson to be Hardworking, Being happy with what we have and rural development attitude in mind!!

Het Patel

F.Y. B. Tech Division 12

“ The Rural Immersion Program is a unique initiative to provide for a rich, practical and socially oriented approach to learning. Everything, right from conducting the pilot visit to actually visiting the village and staying there was truly a learning experience.

The Rural Immersion program allowed us to learn life lessons through communicating with the villagers and gander into their simple yet productive lifestyle. We interacted with the villagers, participated in their daily chores, performed a skit on the prevalent social ills and taught at the local school as well. The interactions with the elderly at the village and their wonderful stories, the games that we played with the children at school would remain etched in our memories forever. Through this visit we could not only experience the rural life away from the chaos and commotion of the city but also understand the challenges and opportunities for businesses in the rural markets and develop an overall understanding of the rural society at large.

Dimple Sahajwalla

MBA General Marketing Division B

“ The Rural Immersion program in association with MIT-WPU was organized in Hivre village near saswad. During our stay in the village we realized that even small things can make people happy it's all about accepting it. The villagers were very happy with all the small things they had.

We found out that right information can help people to make right decisions by conducting a lecture for them on cervical cancer. All the women were very delighted with the information provided and gave a positive feedback. During the family survey the families welcomed us with love and care, they were so kind that they offered us breakfast, through this survey we learnt about their problems. This program taught us to live in unity, be polite and help one another. Because of this program we realized there is a real world outside the gadget world.

Ruchira Gawade

M.B.A. (CSR)

“ ‘You will never feel left out in a village’ this is what exactly happened with us during Rural Immersion Program. We were always surrounded with the love and care of people. We not only got connected with people but we also got connected with Mother Earth while doing ‘Shramadhan’. I also felt we need to have technical knowledge because villager's life has been changed and they are really good with machines. We should be aware of the life style they are living. Water is something which unites the villagers or tears them apart. But due to the work of Pani Foundation we could see people conserving water. If someone wants to see the real India one should visit the villages where you can see the beauty of nature, smiling faces and helping hands. This is what I saw and experienced.

Jayesh Bahyegaonkar

B.A. (Hons) Psychology

“ The experience at ‘Sevalaya’ was positive despite the children staying there were HIV positive too, but the zeal and positivity they had was totally inspirational. The tiny faces taught a lot about how to overcome and accept what life wants us to face with a gentle smile and thought of acceptance which most of us fails to do nowadays.

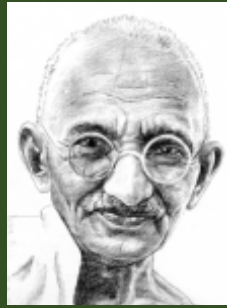
I really feel privileged that through Rural Immersion Program I got an opportunity to meet and stay with them without any prejudice. They are truly a blessing and source of inspiration for all of us. This program has been a life changing experience as it brought ground reality in front of our eyes and encouraged us to bring out some changes in the society for the sake of well-being of this nation.

Muskan Thanvi

B.A. Political Science

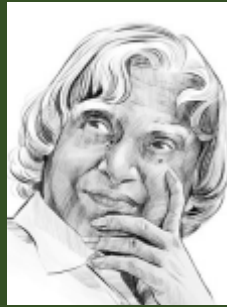


Mahatma Gandhi



I would say that if the village perishes, India will perish too. India will be no more India. Her own mission in the world will get lost. The revival of the village is possible only when it is no more exploited. Industrialization on a mass scale will necessarily lead to passive or active exploitation of the villagers as the problems of competition and marketing come in. Therefore we have to concentrate on the village being self-contained, manufacturing mainly for use. Provided this character of the village industry is maintained, there would be no objection to villagers using even the modern machines and tools that they can make and can afford to use. Only they should not be used as a means of exploitation of others.

Hon'ble A. P. J. Abdul Kalam



“Almost half of the population of the world lives in rural regions and mostly in a state of poverty. Such inequalities in human development have been one of the primary reasons for unrest and, in some parts of the world, even violence.”

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Janaseva Foundation



Shri Swami Samarth Shetkari
Utpadak Company



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Our CSR Associates

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Dr. Vishwanath Karad

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MIT-World Peace University, Survey Number 123, Sarasvati Vishwa B - Wing,

MIT-WPU Campus, off Paud Road, Kothrud, Pune 411038.

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