

Name of the event: Educational Visit to Kolkata Book Fair 2025

Category: Educational Trip

Date: 6th February 2025

Time: 12 pm onwards

Venue: Central Park Mela Ground, Salt Lake, Kolkata

Organising Unit: Department of Sociology, RKSMVV

No. of Participants: 10 students and 3 faculties

Brief Description of the Event: The Department of Sociology of Ramakrishna Sarada Mission Vivekananda Vidyabhavan (RKSMVV) organized an educational visit to the Kolkata Book Fair on 6th February 2025 for students of Semesters 1, 3, and 5. The visit was designed as a co-curricular exposure to the world of literature, culture, and contemporary discourse beyond the classroom setting.

Faculty members accompanied the students to the Central Park Mela Ground, Salt Lake, where the Book Fair was held. Known as one of the largest book fairs in Asia, the Kolkata Book Fair served as an ideal space for students to explore a wide range of academic texts, literature, journals, and regional as well as international publications.

The outing allowed students to interact directly with publishers, booksellers, and fellow readers. They navigated through various stalls, including those dedicated to philosophy, sociology, history, political science, gender studies, and world literature. A special emphasis was placed on locating texts and authors relevant to their academic curriculum and personal interests.

Students also had the opportunity to visit the theme pavilion, engage with live panel discussions, and attend book launches and cultural programmes happening concurrently within the fair premises. The enthusiastic participation and disciplined conduct of the students made the visit fruitful and enjoyable for all involved.

Programme Outcome: The educational visit to the Kolkata Book Fair 2025 was both intellectually stimulating and culturally enriching for the students. Key outcomes of the event included:

- Enhanced awareness of contemporary and classical works

- Encouragement of a reading culture, with many students purchasing books that aligned with their syllabus as well as personal interests.
- Exposure to diverse voices and publications, both Indian and international, widening their academic horizons.
- Opportunities to engage in peer discussions and informal learning in a vibrant literary environment.
- Development of a greater appreciation for the role of books and cultural fairs in shaping academic thought and societal reflection.

The visit also fostered a sense of independent learning and curiosity, inspiring students to view learning as an ongoing, enjoyable process. It strengthened the relationship between faculty and students, reinforcing the importance of experiential learning beyond traditional classroom boundaries. Overall, the Book Fair visit was a successful initiative, contributing meaningfully to the holistic development of the students while encouraging them to become more engaged and informed learners.

