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Field Visit to Cocoon Market Visit

Report

Department: Zoology
Class: BTZC&BZC Second Year
Date of Visit: 24 January 2026
Place of Visit: Cocoon Market, Thirumalgiri
Faculty Guide: Ms. G. Ruchita, Department of Zoology

The Department of Zoology organized an educational field visit to the Cocoon Market, Thirumalgiri on 24 January 2026 for BZC and BTZC second-year students under the guidance of Ms. G. Ruchita. The visit was conducted as part of the academic curriculum to provide students with practical exposure to sericulture and cocoon marketing systems.

At the market, students observed a well-regulated trading system where farmers bring freshly harvested cocoons for sale. The market operates under government supervision, ensuring transparency, quality control, and fair pricing. Students were introduced to various stages of market operations, including cocoon display, grading, weighing, and auction. Traders evaluate cocoons based on parameters such as size, weight, color, firmness, moisture content, and shell ratio, which determine their market value.

During the visit, a farmer explained the complete life cycle of the silkworm—egg, larva, pupa, and adult—and emphasized the importance of mulberry leaves as the primary food source. The process of cocoon formation and the environmental factors affecting cocoon quality were also discussed. Additionally, students learned about cocoon marketing procedures, where an open auction system ensures competitive pricing for farmers.

The Assistant Director demonstrated the process of weighing cocoons using standardized equipment and explained how prices are calculated based on quality and quantity. He also highlighted the importance of transparency in transactions. Students were made aware of the challenges faced by sericulture farmers, such as diseases, climate variations, high production costs, and price fluctuations.

Overall, the field visit was highly informative and enriched students' understanding by linking theoretical knowledge with real-world practices. It enhanced their observational skills and provided valuable insights into the economic significance of sericulture and its role in supporting rural livelihoods.

