Detailed Programme

Field Trip Delhi – Agra

Title: Rehabilitation of degraded lands, hortipasture and Silvipasture
Dates Offered: 14 February’14
Length of tour: Overnight Trip (Pickup time 0700 Hours)
Tour start and end point: Conference Venue/Hotel of Stay

DAY 01

DELHI - AGRA

Early morning you will be picked up from Conference venue & driven to Agra enroute visit to Mathura. (200 Kms/3 – 4 Hours)

Packed breakfast will be served at coach.

On the way to Agra you will visit Central Institute for Research on Goats (CIRG)-Makhdoom, Mathura
Distance from Delhi to CIRG is 180 kms. The institute is located at the bank of river Yamuna, near Farah town in Mathura district of Uttar Pradesh (27.100 N, 78.020 E and 169.2 m above MSL), at National Highway No. 2.
CIRG undertakes basic and applied research in all disciplines related to goat production and develops processing technologies to its ultimate users. The agricultural farm area at CIRG is about 220 hectares, which includes cultivated area, grass, land/agro-forestry and natural pasture. It is maintaining about 3000 goats and sheep under different projects. Since the ground water is saline in this region, feed resources development for goats are done through establishment of two and three tier perennial agrisilvi – horti – pastures and agroforestry systems. Water from Yamuna river is mainly used to irrigate cultivated fodder crops. Cultivated fodders meet the annual needs of the livestock. Besides research, animals are also allowed for browsing/grazing on the natural pasture land of the institute.

After your visit continue your drive to Agra & check into your hotel followed by lunch at hotel.

Agra in terms of ambiance is still associated with its Mughal period. The Mughals besides being great rulers were also great builders and they preserved their best architectural wonders for Agra & its neighbourhood. It has many wonderful monuments and the Taj Mahal, the greatest of them all, is a masterpiece of Mughal architecture at its best. The massive but elegant Agra Fort, the delicate artistry of Itimad-ud-daulah’s tomb, the magnificent Taj and Akbar’s deserted capital, Fatehpur Sikri, are each unique and outstanding. Their architectural genius can also be seen in the forts, palaces and aesthetically laid out gardens - each one a silent witness to a grand style of a golden era.
Return to your hotel after the sightseeing tour.
Post lunch visit Central Soil and Water Conservation Research and training Institute (CSWCRTI), Chhalesar, Agra

Formation of ravines or gullies due to water erosion in areas nearby river networks in Indi-Gangetic alluvial plains adversely influences the soil health and fertility as well as profile moisture storage potential. This poses adverse influences on sustainable production, food and livelihood security and environmental quality due to mass removal of nutrients; organic carbon etc. from the top soil. CSWCRTI undertakes research and develops strategies for controlling land degradation under all primary production systems and for rehabilitation of degraded lands in different agro-ecological zones of the country. Participants of this field visit can see experimental ravines of river Yamuna where the centre has adapted standardize methodology to reduce soil erosion and increase productivity.

Chhalesar research farm (81.6hac) represents the typical features of the Yamuna ravine system and is ideal for research on stabilization, reclamation and utilization of ravine lands for agroforestry. This research site gives a true picture of crops and vegetation management in agricultural land and forest areas where sustainability of grasses, shrubs and tree species have been evaluated for the ravine top, bottom and side slopes. Aloe vera, mustard, pearl millet, wheat, Vulgaries are common crops along with bamboos grown extensively in semi-arid rain fed production system of Yamuna ravines on sustainable lines.

Evening drive back to Agra.

**Enjoy your dinner at local restaurant.**

Overnight at hotel.

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**DAY 02  AGRA - DELHI**

After breakfast proceed for the **sunrise tour of the Taj Mahal (Closed on Friday’s.)** Midway Tonga’s “horse carriages” would be waiting for you and will drop you at the gates of the Taj Mahal. The Taj Mahal is everything that has been said about it and more. Taking 22 years and 20,000 men to build, the white marble was quarried 200 miles away and was transported to the site by a fleet of 1000 elephants. Built by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan as an expression of his love for his wife Mumtaz Mahal, in mid 17th century, the Taj Mahal is truly one of the wonders of the world. Though the Taj appears to be amazingly perfect from almost any angle, it is the close-up marble inlay work, which is really astounding. You will have ample time to view and be mesmerized by this outstanding piece of architecture.

Later you will proceed for the visit to Agra Fort - the seat and stronghold of the Mughal Empire under successive generations. This was the seat of Mughal rule and administration and the present structure owes its origins to Akbar who erected the walls and gates and the first buildings on the eastern banks of Yamuna River. Shah Jehan added the
impressive quarters and the mosque while Aurangzeb added the outer ramparts. Visit its Hall of Public Audience and its Royal Pavilions.

After visiting the famous monuments return to your hotel & check out.

**Lunch at local restaurant.**

Later you will drive to Delhi, enroute visiting Sikandra. In the centre of a peaceful garden at Sikandara, 4 km north-west of Agra, lies the sandstone and marble tomb of Akbar. The mausoleum represents Akbar's philosophy and secular outlook blending Islamic, Hindu, Buddhist, Jain and Christian motifs and styles.

Continue your drive to Delhi & drop at conference venue/hotel
COST PROPOSAL

PRE/POST CONFERENCE TOUR (USING AIR - CONDITIONED LARGE COACH)

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<th>Tour Price</th>
<th>Rate Per Person</th>
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<tr>
<td>25 - 29 Paying Pax</td>
<td>USD 125</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 - 35 Paying Pax</td>
<td>USD 120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Room Supplement</td>
<td>USD 45 Per Single</td>
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*The above are per person costs and in USD*

FIRST CLASS CATEGORY OF HOTELS

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<th>City</th>
<th>Name of the Hotel</th>
<th>Room Category</th>
<th>Night</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agra</td>
<td>Howard Plaza</td>
<td>Deluxe Room</td>
<td>01</td>
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PRE/POST CONFERENCE TOUR (USING AIR - CONDITIONED VOLVO COACH)

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<td>30 - 35 Paying Pax</td>
<td>USD 130</td>
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<tr>
<td>Single Room Supplement</td>
<td>USD 45 Per Single</td>
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OUR QUOTE INCLUDES: -
- 01 night accommodation on twin sharing at the hotels mentioned above or similar
- Daily buffet breakfast at hotel.
- 02 Lunches & 01 Dinner at Local restaurant.
- 01 packed breakfast to be served at Coach.
- All transfers, excursions and sightseeing tours will be by air-conditioned transportation. The vehicle used under each pax bracket will be as follows: -
  - 25 - 35 Paying Pax: 01 Air-conditioned Large Coach (35 seater). [Package using Air conditioned Volvo coach has also been offered at different slab]
- Road taxes, parking fee, fuel charges, interstate taxes.
- Services of an English speaking local guide shall be provided for all the sightseeing & excursion tours.
- Entrances fees to be paid at monuments

THE ABOVE COST DOES NOT INCLUDE: -
- Expenses of personal nature like tipping, laundry, telephone/fax calls, alcoholic/non-alcoholic beverages, camera/video camera fee at monuments, medical expenses, airport departure tax, any insurance etc.
- Any meals other than the mentioned.
- Any other services not mentioned in the inclusions.
- Our quote is not valid any period other than mentioned above.
- Government service taxes as applicable
- Tipping to the Guide and Driver

SPECIAL NOTES:-
- Rates include only those items specified in your itinerary.
- In case of amendment in local Government taxes, or any fuel hike, we reserve the right to adjust the tour price accordingly.
• Please note, the names of hotels mentioned above only indicate that our rates have been based on usage of these hotels. It is not to be construed that accommodation is confirmed at these hotels until and unless we convey the confirmations to you on receipt of your acceptance. However in the event of any of the above mentioned hotels not becoming available at the time of initiating the reservations, we shall book alternate accommodation at a similar or next best available hotel and shall pass on the difference of rates (supplement/reduction whatever applicable) to you.

• Hotel Check-In / Check-out time 1200 NOON