

# 45 students from MP reach NITK under 'Yuva Sangam'

**MANGALURU, DHNS:** A delegation of 45 students from diverse higher education institutions in Madhya Pradesh arrived at NITK Surathkal on Thursday as part of the second phase of the government's cultural and educational programme, 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Yuva Sangam.'

Accompanied by four faculty/staff members from MANIT, Bhopal, the group will be staying at NITK till May 16.

NITK director Prof Prasad Krishna said that the aim of the visit is to increase the exchange of rich cultural and traditional ideas between the two states and promote tourism, tradition, progress, technology and mutual contact.

Dr P Prabhakaran, nodal officer (Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Cell - NITK), said that the visiting delegates from Madhya Pradesh will visit several tourist destinations in and around coastal Karnataka, including Sasihitlu Beach, Pilikula Nisarga Hama, Udupi, Murdeshwar, Agumbe, Moodbidri, Karkala, Sringeri, and Mangaluru city.

Various cultural programmes, showcasing Karnataka's culture, are planned at NITK for the visiting delegates.

The students of Madhya Pradesh will also interact with locals to expose them to Karnataka's culture and practices, promoting mutual contact.

The Yuva Sangam Youth Exchange programme, under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat, is a Ministry of Education initiative. Its primary objective is to strengthen people-to-people connections, particularly between youth from different states, and introduce them to the culture and values of India.

The initiative was launched in February this year, with the first phase seeing overwhelming participation of 1,200 youngsters who visited Northeast India.

Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat was conceptualised and structured by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to create a cultural connection between the various states of India.