

February 2025: Field Visit by PGPPM Students to Anekal



As part of the experiential learning component of the Post Graduate Programme in Public Policy and Management (PGPPM), a field visit was organised by the Field Team Centre for Public Policy (CPP), IIM Bangalore. This initiative, supervised by Professor Gopal Naik (Chairperson, CPP) and Professor Arnab Mukherjee (Chairperson, PGPPM), aimed to provide the PGPPM 2024–25 batch with direct exposure to rural education systems.

An Orientation into the Education System in India was provided by Prof Gopal Naik, highlighting the Policy, Practice and Possibilities for Rural School Education in India. This was followed by a visit to the Government Primary and High Schools and the Anganawadi Centre in Anekal.

The group interacted with headmasters, teachers, and students, engaging in discussions that highlighted key aspects such as infrastructure, teaching quality, learning environments, mid-day meal schemes, and student performance. Through these interactions, students could observe both the strengths and existing challenges within rural schools.

The afternoon session was held at IIMB's Jigani campus, where participants held one-on-one discussions with Mr Venkatesh, Block Education Officer (BEO) and Ms Kavitha, Child Development Project Officer (CDPO) of Anekal, discussing challenges at the grassroots.

These interactions offered insights into policy implementation and administrative hurdles faced at ground level in both schools and early childhood centres and contributed greatly to sensitising policy practitioners to the realities and nuances of rural education. It reinforced the need for context-driven approaches in public policy design and highlighted the importance of practical understanding for effective governance and development.

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