

## **High Altitude Himalayan Trekking**

### **Report on Trek to Nag Tibba, January 2023**

26 January' 23 - 29 January'23

Organized by: Department of Business Economics and Nature & Adventure Society

Faculty Coordinator: Ms. Gayatri Yadav

Student Coordinator: Vamani Gupta

Report by: Vansh Rastogi

### **Trekking: A way to reconnect with ourselves & others**

It was just 5 days ago when 33 people from across the three years of Business Economics had agreed to take on an adventurous journey, one they'll remember for the rest of their lives.

#### **Day 0 & 1**

It was the night of 26th January, after having celebrated the 74th Republic Day, the students of BBE Department had something to look out for, the bus was set to depart from ISBT Kashmere Gate at 8:30 pm. The students and the faculty involved boarded the bus with their bags packed with savory snacks, trekking equipment and clothing to help them adapt to the chilly temperatures expected at Nag Tibba.

Around 2 am, the caravan reached ISBT Dehradun, after having made a brief stop for dinner, snacks and most importantly tea- to fight off the winter gusts. The pack had a 2 hour wait ahead of them; however, the ever-inspiring BBE department spirit turned this short layover into an invigorating team bonding session- with dodgeball, football & music jamming sessions occupying most of the time.

Soon enough, our cart for the rest of our journey: a Volvo, arrived & the students though tired, but still high on enthusiasm boarded the bus quickly, for an approximately 5-hour long journey to Pantwari, the village located at the foothills of the Nag Tibba Peak.

After dozing off and recharging for the trip ahead, the travelers woke up to a refreshing breakfast option mid-way. The quick stop made it possible for the group to stretch, freshen up, and get their tummies filled up with delicacies. After 2 hours from this stop, we had finally made it to Pantwari, but wait did we skip the views encompassing the journey? My bad, the Himalayan valleys, waterfalls, the spiraled mountain pathways & the jolly faces visible along the road were worthy enough to be etched forever in the travelers' mind.

The group was provided with rooms to freshen up and repack their rugsacks for the trek ahead, the students were advised to carry proper trekking equipment, along with mountaineering shoes to ensure safety.

The trek of Nag Tibba starts at Pantwari which is a hamlet at an elevation of 9,905 ft in the Garhwal District. Donned with trekking shoes, energy drinks, and a ton of team spirit, the contingent comprising 33 students, professors and a seasoned trekking expert Mr. Raveendra Singh, began the 7 km trek to the campsite at 11 am, 27/01/23. Despite undertaking a 350 km road journey, the students didn't lack pomp and show, the group traversed the trails of himalayas in approximately 5 hours, making pit stops along the way for refreshing lemonades and maggi to get their energy back up. The students were also offered packed lunches for the trek. The group was awestruck seeing the majestic peaks and valleys of the Himalayas, though the mountains may seem old to us, in mountain language, this range is still very young, troddy paths, fallen rocks, tricky traverses-made the trek a challenging, however with the help of team spirit and expert guidance of Mr. Ravi and the Faculty, the students were able to cover the trek to the basecamp in 5 hours. The Nag Tibba trek is a wonderful delight for adventure lovers as it showcases the best serenity and exciting trekking routes through thick jungles and meadows, during the trek, the students get the chance to discover amazing flora and fauna.

After covering steep inclines, rocky patches and mud laden trails, the glimpse of the basecamp was a sight for sore eyes!

The students were allotted their respective tents, and soon at around 5 pm, Maggi along with tea was served. As soon as the clock struck 5:30, the sky was struck with amazing hues of orange, blue and yellow, the picturesque sunset dinged a smile on everyone's face and made the day 1 trek worthwhile, for the views were once in a lifetime opportunity!

To end the enthralling day 1, dinner was served at 7:30 PM followed by a bonfire session, accompanied by spine chilling horror stories and scary real-life adventures of folks. The trip's Day 1 can be summed up in a magical and adventurous tale, let's look on for day 2!



## Day 2

The students woke up at 7:30 am, largely energized yet still tired, bound by traces of yesterday's hard work; greeted by the days' first sunrays. The pack soon sprung to get the morning routine done, followed up by a freshly prepared breakfast, consisting of bread, butter, jam, and fluffy omelets. Some students had woken up to the morning chatter of a few groups passing by at 4:30 am, driven to catch the glimpse of sun from the Nag Tibba Summit. However, they fell to sleep shortly after. Chilly winds and knee-deep snow were expected to be there at the summit, with temperatures dipping well below 0 degree Celsius, multiple layers of clothing were a necessity.

Just after exiting the basecamp and setting the first foot out, we could already see a majestic meadow, changing the scenery drastically, one thing was sure, it was going to be a magical sight.

Humming with the tunes of nature and some artists, we again traversed the trails, easy at first, snow laden later. While trekking up, numerous travelers greeted us, with locals also adding to the charm of the people we met. Despite whom we met, our first question to anyone coming down hill was- "How far is the Summit?" - unexpectedly, they all said just a bit far, to our surprise, the time we took to trod up the same path exceeded the quoted time quite a lot, a mystery we would solve later. The path was escorted with thick local vegetation of Oak, Pine, Bhimal & Khadki Trees.

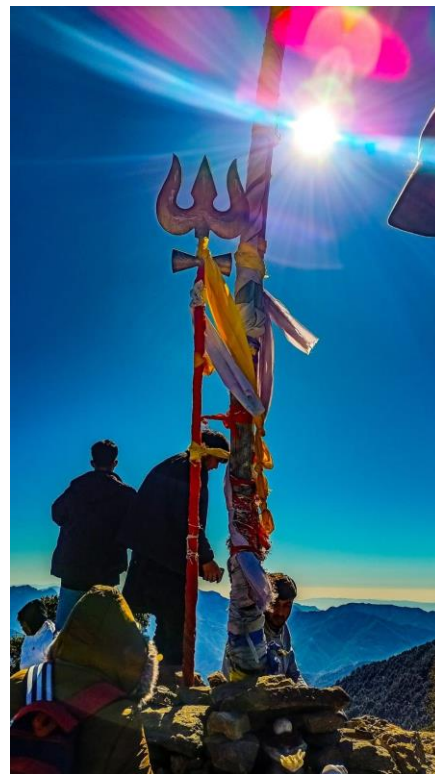
The first stop in the 3 km trek to Nag Tibba Summit from the basecamp was the Nag Tibba Temple. However, apart from the holy sight, one more incident swung a smile on everyone's face- it was the fur like snow, which lay on the ground, reflecting the bright sunlight, seeming like white patches disturbing the green meadows. The temptation to have a snowball fight couldn't be held for much longer, the students quickly sprung themselves into teams, and took control of key ammo positions, i.e. snow deposits, for many this was the first time they were witnessing the snow, and having this very experience with their best buds, made it all a lot more special. Soon a Maggi point appeared, and it was time for a quick snack break. After relaxing the muscles for a bit and gobbling some food & drinks, it was time to make the final ascent to Nag Tibba Summit, the view that everyone was waiting for.

However, if the journey from here were to be so easy, it wouldn't have been half as memorable. Not everyone could continue with the upward journey, our guide, Mr. Ravi, advised the students to wait near the temple only, as the climb ahead would be challenging and could result in worsening of symptoms.

The sight of snow laden mountains was a cheery and a dreamy one, however as soon as we started to step foot on the same, we immediately realized how challenging this could be, as, even after having the best of shoes, some of the patches were too slippery. However, the BBE camaraderie sprang into action once again, and the group moved ahead in teams, with people supporting each other. This trek fossilized the true meaning & advantage of team work for the people involved. After a vigorous 1.5 hours of further trekking from the temple, slippery and treacherous patches, knee deep snows. We finally set foot on the summit. The serene views of Banderpunch, Swargarohini, Srikanth, Gangotri group of peaks, Black Peak, Kedarnath peak in the north, Doon Valley & Chanabang gave respite to our tired bodies. The summit also boasted of a Shiva Temple, which proved to be a source of peace for all.

The group sprang into action for snow fights, making snowmans, sliding in the snow & clicking a thousand Photographs!

After taking it all in and having made tons of memories, it was time to head back, as the sun was already at its peak and the snow would become more slippery as time passed. The group was advised for the caution to be bore while descending as the chances of slipping increase while trodding down. The team again moved in groups, and made it to the basecamp in 1.5 hours, considerably less than the 4 hours it took to reach the summit. The pack, exhilarated and spent, was served with a delicacy of Kidney Beans, Rice & Flatbread. The group rested for about an hour till 6, and soon came out to again capture the picturesque sunset, this time for the last one, as we'd begin the journey back home the next day. Dinner and bonfire escorted the end of day 2 along with some leftover & amazing horror stories.



### Day 3

The group woke up sharp at 6:30 am to freshen up, repack their belongings, and begun the descent by 8:30 to Pantwari, the same village where we began our now “To be remembered forever” Trek to Nag Tibba. Having had a scrumptious breakfast the group was high on energy, and began their descent, the journey down was physically less demanding, however all the attention was laid on making the journey same, as descents again, can prove to be risky. It was a smooth journey till about 40 minutes (the same distance would have taken about 2 hours to ascend ) until we encountered a patch consisting of fallen rocks, a lot many of us had doubts, however our guide, Mr. Ravi along with the Faculty, marked the path for us, and ensured everyone crossed the same

securely. Our rate of descending was very quick compared to our erstwhile record of when we were ascending; the mystery was now solved, the people descending quoted lower time to us, who then were ascending, simply because it took them a lot less time descending!

We made stops in between the journey to help our parched throats with the natural spring water occurring from within the heart of Himalayas. Within 2.5 hours we completed the journey downward, freshened up at rooms provided at Pantwari, and boarded the bus back for Dehradun.

Most of us were sleepy, and utilized the 5 hours of road travel back to Dehradun for recharging. We stopped near Mussoorie for a delightful lunch and boarded the bus again. Soulful music and hearty talks elevated the mood for the journey back home. We reached ISBT Dehradun by 5:30 pm and boarded a bus to Delhi. Talks and Sleep again highlighted the journey back home. However, for one thing, we felt lucky, for it was raining across the journey back home, and even at Nag Tibba! Had we been a day late, our journey could have become cumbersome, the whole trip now seemed as it was meant to be- something that was destined.

The bus arrived at ISBT Kashmiri Gate at around 12 Midnight, some of us had parents picking us up, while others managed the way back home by themselves, the faculty coordinators ensured everyone reached their respective homes on time and safely through routine checkup and acknowledgements.

All of us departed with a bag full of dirty laundry, left over snacks & a lot many memories! In the end it was all worth it, and we'd do it all over again!

*“We slipped, we fell & got scratches, but we picked each other up & kept walking towards a glorious journey.”*









**List of Student participants:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>College Roll. No.</b>
Vamani	3rd	BBE/20/79
Anvesha	3rd	BBE/20/55
Jyotiraditya Chauhan	3rd	BBE/20/77
Vansh Rastogi	3rd	BBE/20/16
Garvit	3rd	BBE/20/94
Aryan Jaiswal	3rd	BBE/20/38
Tanmay Khandelwal	3rd	BBE/20/69
Harsh Singh Raghuvanshi	3rd	BBE/20/23
Deepti	3rd	BBE/20/47
Archan	3rd	BBE/20/56
Manjeet	3rd	BBE/20/49
Kartik	3rd	BBE/20/28
Ayan Mondal	3rd	BBE/20/19
Praveen Kumar	3rd	BBE/20/29
Mayank	3rd	BBE/20/51
Paawan Madan	3rd	Bbe/20/13
Moid	3rd	BBE/20/60
Harsh Bhati	3rd	BBE/20/86
vinay sagar	3rd	BBE/22/11
Yatharth Yadav	3rd	BBE/20/83
Ajitesh Rai	3rd	BBE/20/89
Avadhoot	1st	BBE/22/09
Abhishek	1st	BBE/22/02
Daksh	1st	BBE/22/13
Dhruv Punia	1st	BBE/22/16
Harshit	1st	BBE/22/62
Vaidik	1st	BBE/22/51
Kshitij Gumber	1st	BBE/22/27
Meheer	1st	BBE/22/54
Jiyaa	1st	BBE/22/26
Avantika	1st	BBE/22/10
Vishal Tejiyan	1st	BBE/22/52
Sanchit Gupta	1st	BBE/22/43