

Day 14:

Today was the 14th day of the Ganga Aamantran Abhiyaan... Today we are moving to Mirzapur, a place famous for the holy shrine of Vindhyachal, Ashtbhuj and Kali khoh and also Devrahw Baba ashram. Apart from this, Mirzapur is also famous for a popular series that goes by the same name.

We got up early and reached the Prayagraj Boat Club, all charged and excited, at around 8 AM. We were welcomed by Sh. G. Ashok Kumar - ED(P), Sh YP Shukla - DFO, Prayagraj and Smt Anamika Chaudhary - Ganga Vichar Manch along with people from all walks of life. The Ganga Aamantran Rafting Expedition has gained a lot of popularity and people are coming together to support the movement. It is delightful to see people making time in their lives to support the cause.

At the boat club, we interacted with the locals and they told us all about how Maa Ganga holds a place of utmost importance in their lives. As it was getting late, we decided to bid farewell to the people and move ahead in our journey. Sh. G. Ashok Kumar - ED(P), Sh YP Shukla - DFO, Prayagraj and Smt Anamika Chaudhary - Ganga Vichar Manch falgged off with best wishes for the journey ahead.

As we moved ahead, we saw aquatic lives around us. It is so beautiful how Maa Ganga contains so many different forms of life in itself. Moving ahead, we entered Mirzapur and as we approached Pakka Ghat, we could see a huge crowd waiting for us. We could hear them roaring, "Har Har Gange, Namami Gange.. Har Har Gange, Namami Gange." Located near the Trimohani locality in the centre of the city, Pakka ghat is the most famous and scenic ghat in the city. Its speciality is artistic work on stone.

At the ghat, we were welcomed by Shri Ramashamkar Singh Patel, Minister of State-Petroleum Ministry), Smt. Sushista Maurya - MLA, DM Mirzapur, CDO, DFO, CMO, DPRO, and official of SPMG & NMCG along with thousands of locals. The crowd was overwhelming. Students from different schools, volunteers from various NGOs, government officials and locals were there to welcome us and show their support for Ganga Aamantran Abhiyaan.

We were then accompanied to the event site by the NCC cadets. The cultural programme includes Kathak Dance, Shiv Tandav, Swagat Geet, Folk Songs - Kajari and Bhajans. the collective effort of Prabodhini Foundation, students of Arya Kanya school & Shri Swami Govindaashram Balika Inter College, Paidupur and NCC & Scout guides resulted in an amazing cultural evening. The programme was ended with a key address by Wing Commander explaining the objective of the expedition and followed by DM and Minister of State - Energy.