VISIT TO THE NATIONAL MUSEUM

A trip to the National Museum, Delhi was scheduled for the students of D. El. Ed and B. Ed on 11th and 12th of September respectively by the Institute of Vocational Studies. There was a wave of excitement and curiosity in the students. National Museum showcases the extensive works of art and culture from the past. It is among the largest museums in India. The museum provides an insight in India’s history and the achievements and innovations in terms of art, culture and other fields of development. We first visited the ground floor which include items from Harappan civilization and Indus valley civilization. A special mention for the famous dancing girl of Harappa. She is just about 4 inches in height. The main highlights are the terracotta toys, funeral mount and even a skeleton of a woman from Indus Valley civilization. Other pieces that are displayed here are those portraying Gupta Art, Buddhist Art, Indian miniature paintings, Indian scripts and decorative arts. The floor also has a library and an auditorium. Special exhibitions are held at first floor. The other collections displayed here include Manuscripts, Central Asian antiquities, Ajanta paintings and Thanjavur paintings. The museum has the biggest collection of miniature paintings from across the country. Miniature painting gallery at the museum is the best place to admire and appreciate this art form. The creative use of small space to depict a lot is what we can learn from these paintings. The second floor has a large collection of costumes and textiles from the historical times of India. There is an elaborate collection of coins belonging to different periods of history i.e. the British period, the Mughal period. The fabric pieces are so immaculately
and beautifully designed. A special section is dedicated to house the amazing musical instruments from different eras. It clearly depicts the strong association of music with our culture.

The students learned so many things about the rich Indian culture. It proved to be a great learning experience for all of us. We got to know so much about the culture and traditions of the previous times and also realised that it is our responsibility to keep the essence of Indian culture alive by staying connected to our roots.