

Report: Industrial Visit to K P Thomas Indoor Stadium Construction Site

Date: November 21, 2023

Organized by: Department of Civil Engineering

Introduction:

On the crisp morning of November 21, 2023, the Department of Civil Engineering orchestrated an immersive industrial visit, transporting 3rd and 4th-year students from the classroom to the bustling construction site of the K P Thomas Indoor Stadium in Nedumkandam. The day was earmarked for a firsthand encounter with the complexities of real-world construction, offering a transformative experience for the students.

Journey to Knowledge:

The expedition commenced at 8:00 am, as a convoy of eager students embarked on a journey from the college premises, weaving through picturesque landscapes to reach the construction site by 11:00 am. The anticipation among the students was palpable, as they prepared to step into the realm of bricks, steel, and concrete.

The Marvel Unveiled: K P Thomas Indoor Stadium Project:

The K P Thomas Indoor Stadium, a testament to architectural prowess, is a project commissioned by the Central Government of India and executed by KITCO Ltd., a distinguished consulting firm based in Cochin. With a financial footprint of 30.76 Crores, this colossal venture sprawls over 5.5 acres of land, promising to redefine the sporting landscape upon its completion in 2024.

The stadium is envisioned as a multifaceted structure, encompassing an indoor arena with a capacious seating arrangement for 4000-5000 spectators. The 9000m² expanse includes a meticulously designed pitch, a VIP Pavilion exuding opulence, 12 office rooms, warm-up chambers, restrooms for the comfort of attendees, 2 strategically positioned ticket booths, and a subterranean haven for parking convenience. Not to be overlooked are the critical components of a sump and water tank integral to the construction.

The foundation of the stadium rests on isolated footings, a strategic decision owing to the fortuitous presence of a rock stratum, obviating the need for extensive piling. The pitch is slated to be adorned with synthetic fiber, ensuring both durability and visual appeal. Above, the roof assumes a structural dance, orchestrated by 14 steel trusses poised to don gallium sheets. This stadium, constructed to meet international standards, is poised to be a venue of choice for hosting prestigious national and international games.

Immersive Learning Amidst Concrete Giants:

The students, guided by a sense of curiosity, navigated through the labyrinth of construction marvels, absorbing lessons in every step. The site engineers, akin to seasoned storytellers, unraveled the narrative woven within blueprints and structural designs. Every question posed by the students found resonance in the patient and enlightening responses of the engineers.

As the students traversed the expanse, the intricacies of a Reinforced Concrete Structure (RCC) revealed themselves. The drawings came to life, and the construction process unfolded before their eyes. The site engineers, akin to professors in the open-air classroom of the construction site, elucidated the nuances, elucidating how textbook theories seamlessly intertwine with the practical demands of construction.

Insights and Interactions:

The visit not only exposed the students to the tangible elements of construction but also facilitated discussions on site selection considerations and the associated challenges. The

engineers, with a wealth of experience, shared insights into the decision-making processes, elucidating both the triumphs and pitfalls of such endeavors.

Beyond the structural intricacies, safety emerged as a paramount theme. The students received a firsthand account of the safety measures meticulously woven into the ongoing construction, underlining the industry's commitment to the well-being of its workforce.

Educational Impact and Reflection:

As the day unfolded, it became evident that this industrial visit was not merely a sojourn; it was an educational odyssey. The students, exposed to the practical symphony of construction, gained an appreciation for the multifaceted nature of civil engineering. The gap between theory and practice diminished, and a newfound clarity emerged regarding the intricate dance of planning, execution, and problem-solving in the world of construction.

The K P Thomas Indoor Stadium construction site, with its amalgamation of architectural splendor and engineering pragmatism, served as an immersive classroom. The students departed not just with visual memories of steel and concrete but with a deeper understanding of the discipline they were pursuing. The industrial visit, like a masterstroke, painted a vivid mural of possibilities for the future civil engineers.

Conclusion:

In the fading twilight of November 21, 2023, the buses rolled back towards the college, carrying not just students but ambassadors of a newfound knowledge. The industrial visit to the K P Thomas Indoor Stadium construction site had transcended its role as a field trip; it had become a cornerstone in the educational journey of each student. The echoes of construction, the lessons etched in concrete, and the interactions with seasoned engineers would resonate in the classrooms, shaping the aspirations and understanding of a generation poised to build the future.



