

My Impression of Palle Srujana 57 Shodha Yatra

When my teacher, Varalakshmi Mam, first told me about the Palle Srujana 57 Shodha Yatra, I was not very interested in joining. However, she encouraged me many times and requested me to participate. Finally, I decided to join the Yatra. Before it started, I had only one doubt in my mind: **“Will this Yatra really meet my expectations?”** But after experiencing it, I can confidently say that it went far beyond my expectations.

Day 1



On the first day, I interacted with many of my co-yatris and had several interesting conversations. One of the people who inspired me was **Modha Siva Kumar**, an innovator who developed a machine to make the work of weavers easier. Learning about his innovation made me understand how simple ideas can create meaningful changes in people's lives.

I also had a good and useful conversation with the Brigadier Sir. During the day, we visited a radio station and an old school that functioned without electricity. The school was naturally cool because of its clay construction. Seeing such simple and practical ways of using local resources was a completely different experience for me.

Day 2



Day 2 began with a useful conversation with my co-yatri **Om Anna**. I also got the opportunity to interact with new yatris who had joined us that day.

We then met another innovator, **Pandu Anna**, who had developed a machine that converts plastic waste into useful products. His work showed me that waste can also become a resource when we look at it with creativity and responsibility.

One of the most memorable experiences of the entire Yatra happened that night. Around 1 a.m., four other yatris and I went to a local temple and joined the local **bhajana**. The people there welcomed us warmly and gave us orange shawls. That unexpected experience created a special feeling of connection with the local community, and it became one of my favourite memories from the Yatra.

During the day, I also interacted with many women working in the fields and met a farmer who was cultivating cotton on a large scale. Speaking with people who work closely with agriculture gave me a better understanding of their lives, efforts, and experiences.

Day 3



Day 3 started with a situation that taught me something very practical. We had to find washroom facilities for our female co-yatris, so we approached local people and requested permission to use their facilities. Through this experience, I learned how important it is to communicate politely, approach people with respect, and ask for what we need without hesitation.

Later, we met another innovator, **Praveen Anna**, who had developed a machine to cut mulberry leaves used for feeding silkworms. I personally interacted with him and learned more about his innovation and the problem he was trying to solve.

What the Yatra Taught Me

The 57 Shodha Yatra was much more than just travelling from one place to another. It gave me opportunities to meet innovators, farmers, workers, students, local people, and

fellow yatris. Every interaction taught me something different.

When I joined the Yatra, I was not sure what to expect. Now, when I look back, I feel that joining was one of the best decisions I made. I learned about innovation, agriculture, rural life, communication, teamwork, and, most importantly, the value of interacting with people and understanding their experiences.

I am especially thankful to **Varalakshmi Mam** for encouraging me to join the Yatra even when I was initially not interested. If she had not insisted, I might have missed an experience that taught me so many things.

The 57 Shodha Yatra changed my perspective. It showed me that learning does not happen only inside classrooms.

Sometimes, the best lessons come from people, places, experiences, and the simple solutions we see around us.

Overall, the 57 Shodha Yatra exceeded my expectations and gave me memories and lessons that I will carry with me for a long time.

A Personal Inspiration

One of the most special things the Yatra gave me was the motivation to finally start something I had been dreaming about for a long time — **my own photography page.**

Throughout the Yatra, I experienced so many beautiful places, met inspiring people, and witnessed moments that made me want to capture and share them through photography. The Yatra gave me the confidence to stop postponing my dream

and take the first step toward it. For me, photography is not just about taking pictures; it is about capturing **people, stories, emotions, and memories**. I am truly grateful that this Yatra inspired me to turn a long-time dream into a beginning.