

My name is Aanshika Jasrotia (D/O of Sunil Kumar), and I am from Air Force School, Jammu writing about my experience with VVM which started out when I arrived at the campus of BHU. I had the honor of being selected from my state at the national level and go to the BHU (Banaras Hindu University) to attend the final leg of the competition. I visited the various hostels for the students who lived on the campus but were currently away for their summer vacations. We were called into an auditorium to be registered to our grades and classes and were seated together in front of a huge stage. The start out was with the organizers and the directors going up on the stage to start the introductory portion of the event. There were various important people come up on the stage to present mementos to each other. Next, were several speeches given revolving around the history of Varanasi, the role played by it in the development and history of our country's culture and the knowledge and traditions that stem from it as well as about the Banaras Hindu University, its founder, the history and about why, how it was formed and the purpose behind it.





The day after that was when the tests procedures and our evaluation started out. We left early in the morning at around 9 to reach the main campus where all the buildings, various departments and classes are located. The students were divided into four groups with our numbers and the senior and junior groups went on shifts to take part in all the events. All participants were to stay together with their fellow groupmates at all times. We had some short-written examinations, a viva, practicals, an essay to write, a mind map to draw and a team game to play together. The junior level which was up to grade 8 who gave their tests and experiments of different subjects whereas the senior group from grade 9 to 11 had to face a total of four: mathematics and science (physics, chemistry and biology). We were asked to write an essay on the topic of leadership, what constitutes it and what are the top three qualities required to lead a team, according to us. There was the task to play a mind game of sorts after that in which there was an obstacle course built which we had to walk through with our team. It was built of boxes, stools and red and green flags which we were to cross without brushing against anything but the green flag which would give us a point, otherwise points will be deducted. In the team of three, there will be a leader and the other two members who will be blindfolded and form a train to pass the obstacle course. The objective was to see how a strategy would be planned among the team and how the team leader, who has to guide their blindfolded members properly to the finish line while assisting them in their path. Only the blindfolded members could score the points and have them taken away from the team.



For our activity regarding the UN, we were to read up on the SDGs regarding the goal set for 2030. And for the assigned topic, we were to create a mind map around what the current local government is doing in regard to those issues and educate ourselves around that. All the points scored throughout these activities were recorded by our evaluators. The BHU campus spans across several acres and is as good as a city. Various signs are set up for the visitors to be able to navigate around the huge area. Innumerable buildings and areas

are there for different fields of education and research, some of which I had not even known existed beforehand. In the awards ceremony at the end, we had similar speeches at the end.
Thank You.

