

City adventurers touch Everest base

12-member group trekked 120 k.m. to reach the base camp

Staff Reporter

HYDERABAD: Braving all odds thrown at them by Mother Nature, 12 adventure seekers from the capital successfully reached Everest Base Camp (EBC), which is 17,500 feet above the sea level. The motley group started their journey on May 1 from Kathmandu and trekked through a clutch of valleys, villages, visited monasteries and covered 120 kilometres and made it to the base camp on May 9.

All the 12 members of the group, which was formed by Greater Hyderabad Adventure Club (GHAC), managed to reach EBC.

"Despite odds everybody reached the base camp and that's a big achievement. It's not easy because the trek is treacherous and challenges the will power of everybody," recalled Ali Rizvi, team leader of the expedition, who reached the base camp for the second time in as many years.

Women members

The team members, who relived their experiences of the adventure in a GHAC meeting on Thursday, also included four women. "While trekking, I used to think whether it was worth taking the pain. But when you reach the base camp, you realise the real worth of visiting such a place. You get to see peaks like Mount Everest in real and that feeling is hard to describe," said G. Manisha, a



AGAINST ALL ODDS: Members of Greater Hyderabad Adventure Club at the base of Mount Everest.

- The group which formed Greater Hyderabad Adventure Club trained for two months
- They started on May 1 from Kathmandu; some suffered altitude sickness, sleeplessness

group member.

The group consisted of persons from all age groups.

"At 54, I was the oldest but

was determined that I should not become a burden to anybody in the team. We trained really hard before embarking

upon such an arduous journey," said Ranjan Sood.

The group trained hard for two months.

"The training was rigorous and included speed walking a few kilometres and then climbing 1,500 steps at Amuguda every day.

Despite such training, several members suffered altitude sickness and

sleeplessness," team leader Ali Rizvi said.

The team members who made it to the base camp include Ali Razvi (team leader), Inderpreet, Nathalia Rodriguez, Ranjan Sood, Sunil Kumar, Sanjeev Reddy, Vaibhav Patil, Priyanka Singh, Narasimha Reddy, Gaurav Duggal, Manisha Gadhalay and Tanveer Fathma.