

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
HOLY CROSS COLLEGE, AGARTALA

To
The Principal
Holy Cross College, Agartala
Jubatarra Campus, 799210

Date:- 23.04.2024

Subject: - Request for Permission to Organize a Special Lecture on International Workers' Day.

Respected Father,

I hope this letter finds you well. As we approach International Workers' Day, also known as May Day or Labour Day, on 1st May 2024, [Wednesday], the Department of History at Holy Cross College, Agartala, seeks your permission to organize a Special Lecture to enlighten our students about the significance of this important historical day.

In this context, we would like to extend an invitation to Dr. Bidisha Dhar, Assistant Professor in the Department of History at Tripura University, who specializes in Labour Studies. Dr. Dhar's expertise in this field will provide our students with valuable insights into the historical and contemporary aspects of workers' rights, struggles, and contributions.


The primary objective of organizing this Special Lecture is to enhance our students' understanding and appreciation of International Workers' Day. By engaging with Dr. Dhar's expertise, we aim to facilitate a meaningful learning experience that will enable our students to recognize the importance of workers' rights and the socio-economic impact of their contributions.

We believe that hosting this event aligns with the academic goals of our department and will serve as a valuable educational opportunity for our students. Therefore, we kindly request your permission and support to conduct this Special Lecture on the specified date.

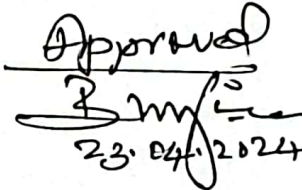
We assure you that all necessary arrangements, including logistical and promotional activities, will be managed with utmost care and professionalism to ensure a successful and enriching event for our students.

We eagerly await your positive response and guidance on the next steps. Thank you for considering our request, and we appreciate your continued support in promoting intellectual growth and academic excellence of the Department of History at Holy Cross College, Agartala.

Warm regards,


23/04/24
Department of History
Holy Cross College
Agartala.

Head
Department of History
Holy Cross College, Agartala


23.04.2024

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HOLY CROSS COLLEGE
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Web: www.holycrosscollege.in

To
Dr. Bidisha Dhar
Assistant Professor
Department of History
Tripura University
Suryamaninagar, 799022

Date: - 23.04.2024

Subject: Invitation to Deliver a Special Lecture.

Respected Dr. Bidisha Dhar Madam,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. We are delighted to extend an invitation to you to deliver a special lecture at Holy Cross College Agartala. Your esteemed expertise in the field of history, particularly on the topic of Labor Studies, working-class people and their movement, is well-recognized, and we believe that your insights would greatly benefit our students and faculty.

Event Details:

Date: 1st May 2024, Wednesday

Time: 10:00 AM

Venue: Jubatara Campus, Holy Cross College Agartala

You are free to choose any suitable theme within the broad topic of "The History of Working-Class People and their Movement," be it focusing on the Indian context or the global perspective¹. We are confident that your lecture will be both enlightening and engaging for our academic community. We would be honored to host you and look forward to your positive response. Kindly let us know at your earliest convenience if you are available on the proposed date and time. Should you require any further information or assistance regarding your visit, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for considering our invitation. We eagerly await your affirmative response and hope to welcome you to our campus soon.

Warm regards,

[Debasish Datta]

Head

Department of History

Holy Cross College Agartala

Department of History
Holy Cross College
Agartala.

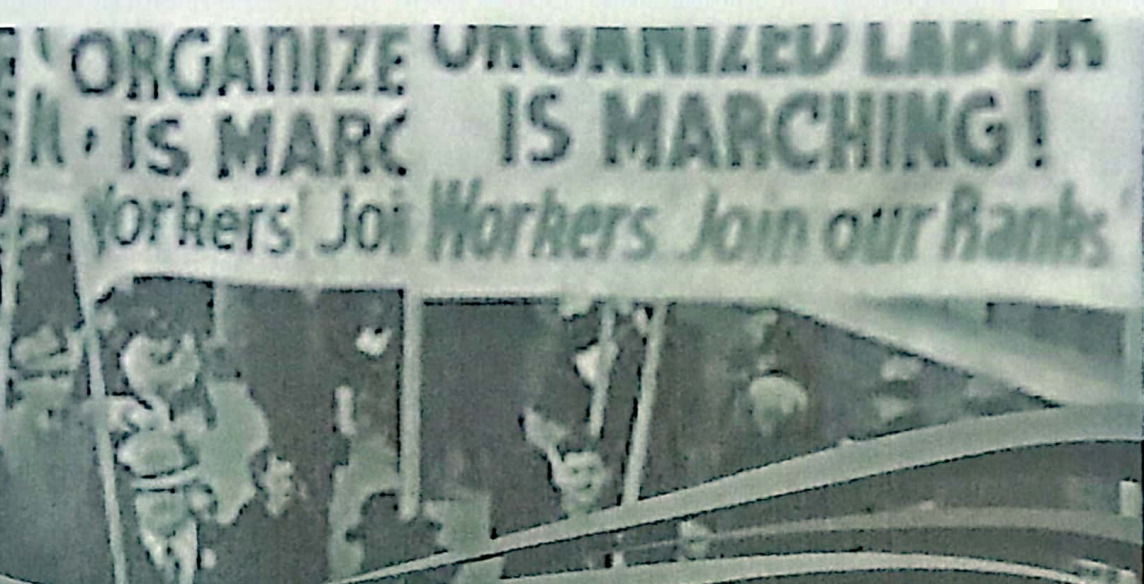
[Dr. Fr. Beny K. John, CSC]

Principal

Holy Cross College Agartala

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AGARTALA

¹ As per the regulations delineated by Holy Cross College, Agartala, we adhere to the protocol of offering transportation services for esteemed guests, including the revered Resource Person, to and from their designated residential or occupational abode to the Jubatara Campus of Holy Cross College, Agartala, and conversely. Alternatively, should the Resource Person opt to arrange their personal transportation for their visit to the aforementioned campus, the College Administration extends its gratitude by presenting a nominal token of appreciation in the form of Rs. One thousand (1000/-) for each one-hour lecture delivered.



**SPECIAL LECTURE
ON
HISTORY OF LABOUR:
CHANGES AND
CONTINUITIES**

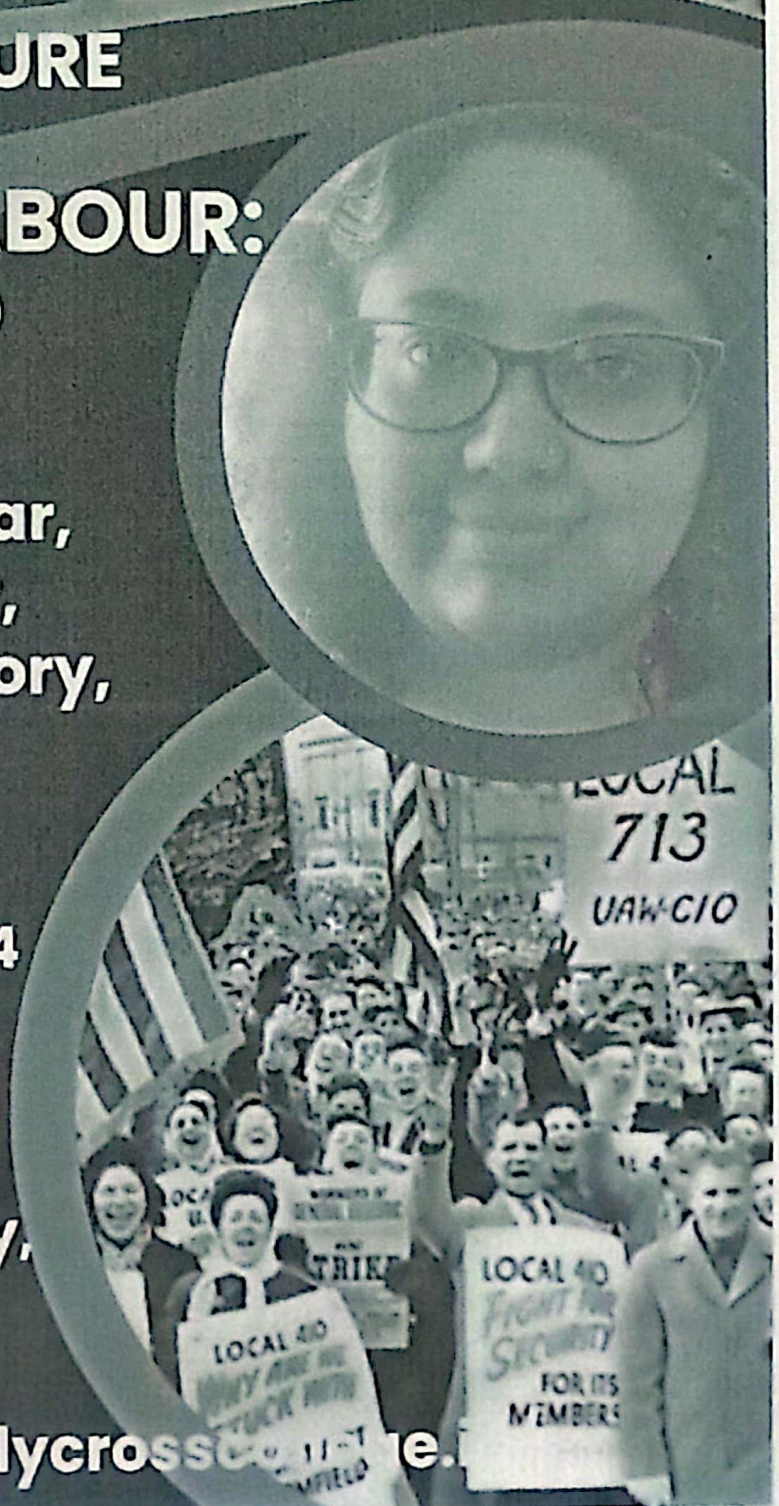
**By: - Dr. Bidisha Dhar,
Assistant Professor,
Department of History,
Tripura University**



**10:00 am
01ST MAY, 2024
F-02-18**

**Organized By: - The
Department of History,
Holy Cross College,
Agartala**

<https://www.holycrosscollege.org>





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Special lecture

on

"History of Labour: Changes and Continuities"

Organized by

The Department of History
Holy Cross College, Agartala

Program Schedule

Date: - 1st May 2024 (Wednesday)

Venue: - F-02-18

Time: - 10:00 AM – 11:12 AM

Minute to minute details

Sl. No.	Event	Timing
1	<i>Welcome Address, welcoming and the felicitation of the Respected Guest, Dr. Bidisha Dhar, Assistant Professor, Department of History, Tripura University by Dr. Fr. Benny K. John, CSC, Hon'ble Principal, Holy Cross College, Agartala</i>	10:00 AM – 10:05 AM
2	<i>Introduction of the Invited Guest Speaker by Debasish Datta, Head and Assistant Professor, Department of History, Holy Cross College, Agartala</i>	10:06 AM – 10:10 AM
3	<i>Special Lecture by the Respected Invited Speaker, Dr. Bidisha Dhar, Assistant Professor, Department of History, Tripura University</i>	10:11 AM – 11:05 AM
4	<i>Q & A Session by Dr. Susmita Banerjee, Assistant HoD and Assistant Professor, Department of History, Holy Cross College, Agartala</i>	11:05 AM – 11:10 AM
5	<i>Vote of Thanks by Dr. Subhash Debnath, Assistant Professor, Department of History, Holy Cross College, Agartala</i>	11:10 AM – 11:12 AM

MC - Dr. Susmita Banerjee, Assistant HoD and Assistant Professor, Department of History,
Holy Cross College, Agartala.

Dr. Fr. Benny K. John, CSC,
Hon'ble Principal,
Holy Cross College, Agartala
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Special lecture

on

"History of Labour: Changes and Continuities"

Organized by

The Department of History

Holy Cross College, Agartala

Date; - 1st May 2024 (Wednesday)

Venue: - F-02-18

Time: - 10:00 AM - 11:12 AM

Registration/Participation/Attendance Sheet

Sl. No.	Name of the Student	Current Semester	Name of the Department
1.	Deerba Das	2 nd	History
2.	Lucky Guung	2 nd	History
3.	Maiti Paul.	2 nd	History
4.	Punya slak Sinha	2 nd	History
5.	Jebin Jamatia	2 nd	History
6.	Nilesh Debbarma	2 nd	History
7.	Simi Debbarma	2 nd	History
8.	Riya Noatia	2 nd	History
9.	Rijak Debbarma	2 nd	History
10.	Jenika Debbarma	2 nd	History
11.	Barsha Debbarma	2 nd	History
12.	Johnson Debbarma	2 nd	History
13.	Anjun Debbarma	2 nd	History
14.	Devidasaj Maria	6 th	History
15.	Amrit Joseph Marik	2 nd	"
16.	Arkesh Debbarma.	6 th	"
17.	Tjesh Debbarma	6 th	"
18.	Edison Reang	6 th	History
19.	Tanmay Saha	6 th	History
20.	Rajal Jamatia	2 nd	History
21.	Brian Debbarma	2 nd	History
22.	Jainth Debbarma	6 th	History
23.	Aloa Debbarma	6 th	History
24.	Ritica Debbarma	6 th	History
25.	Bunika Devi Jamatia	6 th	History
26.	Mahima Jamatia	6 th	History
27.	Manoj kr. Debbarma	2 nd	History



Certificate of Appreciation

This is to Certify that

Dr. Bidisha Dhar

Assistant Professor, Department of History, Tripura University

*has been the Resource Person and
delivered a Special Lecture on the topic of "History of Labour: Changes and
Continuities"*

Organized by:

The Department of History

Holy Cross College, Agartala

Accredited with NAAC 'A+' Grade (Cycle - 2)

on 01st May 2024

(Dr. Fr. Benny K John, CSC)
Principal

Holy Cross College, Agartala





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**CERTIFICATE
OF PARTICIPATION**

**THE FOLLOWING CERTIFICATE IS GIVEN
TO**

Punyaslok Sinha, Student

for Participation in the Special Lecture on "History of Labour: Changes and Continuities"

Organized by the Department of History, Holy Cross College, Agartala

on 01st May 2024 at 10:00 AM

Rebnoid Borth

**HOD, DEPT. OF HISTORY
HOLY CROSS COLLEGE, AGARTALA**



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**CERTIFICATE
OF PARTICIPATION**

THE FOLLOWING CERTIFICATE IS GIVEN

TO

Durba Das, Student

for Participation in the Special Lecture on "History of Labour: Changes and Continuities"

Organized by the Department of History, Holy Cross College, Agartala

on 01st May 2024 at 10:00 AM

Rebasid Datta

HOD, DEPT. OF HISTORY

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**CERTIFICATE
OF PARTICIPATION**

THE FOLLOWING CERTIFICATE IS GIVEN

TO

Jeblin Jamatia, Student

for Participation in the Special Lecture on "History of Labour: Changes and Continuities"

Organized by the Department of History, Holy Cross College, Agartala

on 01st May 2024 at 10:00 AM

Rebasish Barua

HOD, DEPT. OF HISTORY
HOLY CROSS COLLEGE, AGARTALA



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**CERTIFICATE
OF PARTICIPATION**

THE FOLLOWING CERTIFICATE IS GIVEN
TO
Lucky Gurng, Student

for Participation in the Special Lecture on "History of Labour: Changes and Continuities"

Organized by the Department of History, Holy Cross College, Agartala

on 01st May 2024 at 10:00 AM

Rebasish Barik

HOD, DEPT. OF HISTORY
HOLY CROSS COLLEGE, AGARTALA



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**CERTIFICATE
OF PARTICIPATION**

THE FOLLOWING CERTIFICATE IS GIVEN

TO

Maitri Paul, Student

for Participation in the Special Lecture on "History of Labour: Changes and Continuities"

Organized by the Department of History, Holy Cross College, Agartala

on 01st May 2024 at 10:00 AM

Rebasid. Bntt

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Date: - 02/05/2024

Department of History Report on Special Lecture: International Labour Day

Event Details:

- **Occasion:** International Labour Day
- **Date:** 1st May 2024, Wednesday
- **Time:** 10 AM onwards
- **Venue:** Department of History, Holy Cross College, Agartala, F2-18, Board Room
- **Invited Speaker:** Dr. Bidisha Dhar, Assistant Professor, Department of History, Tripura University
- **Title of Lecture:** "History of Labour: Changes and Continuities"

Summary of the Lecture

Dr. Bidisha Dhar, an esteemed Assistant Professor from Tripura University, delivered an enlightening lecture on the "History of Labour: Changes and Continuities" during a special event organized by the Department of History at Holy Cross College, Agartala, to mark International Labour Day.

Key Points Discussed:

1. Situating the Indian Working Class:

- **Period:** Early 19th century (c.1800s)
- **Industrialization:** Introduction of an industrial working class with the rise of industries such as tea plantations in northeastern and southern India, the beginnings of the iron and steel industry, the commencement of railway construction in the mid-19th century, the jute industry around Calcutta, and the cotton industry in Bombay and Ahmedabad.

2. Numerical Figures:

- **Census Data:** By 1911, India had a population of 303 million, with 2.1 million workers in organized industries. Between 1911 and 1921, an additional 575,000 workers were added.



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****3. Organized vs. Unorganized Labor:****

- ****Factory Laws:**** The 1881 series of factory laws began to define organized and unorganized labor in India.

- ****Unorganized Sector:**** Predominantly casual laborers in docks, markets, and domestic servants, which have dominated the Indian labor scenario since the late 19th century, though academic focus has been more on the organized sector.

****4. Reasons for Labor Increase:****

- ****Push Factors:**** Rural-urban migration driven by the decline of the agrarian economy, leading to landless laborers, submarginal peasants, and ruined artisans.

- ****Pull Factors:**** Attractiveness of industrial employment and urban living, with motivations for migration varying, including cyclical migration that maintained rural ties.

****5. Rural-Urban Connections:****

- ****Neighborhoods and Ties:**** Urban industrial neighborhoods reflected rural-urban ties based on religion, caste, and ethnicity, affecting working-class movements and job types.

- ****Recruitment Systems:**** Roles of jobbers and sardars in labor recruitment, providing a steady supply of labor and jobs but also wielding significant power in labor discipline.

****6. Gender Inequities:****

- ****Industrial Policies:**** Certain low-paid and unskilled jobs were reserved for women, reinforcing gender inequities in the labor market.

****7. Strikes and Worker Solidarity:****

- ****Reading Strikes:**** Analysis of strikes, such as the Madras textile strike of 1921 and the Talla riots in Calcutta in 1897, showed that workers' actions were often motivated by community rather than class consciousness.

- ****Trade Unionism:**** Despite some support from the Indian National Congress, there was limited growth in trade unionism, characterized by militancy but little organization.



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****8. Broader Scope of Labor History:****

- ****Case Studies:**** Detailed examination of specific events like the Calcutta and Kanpur plague disturbances, and the Machli Bazar riots highlighted economic vulnerabilities and dependence on wages.

****9. Nature of Worker Movements:****

- ****Complex Structure:**** Community, class, and workers' collective action formed a complex structure, influenced by their relationship with the colonial state and nationalism.

****10. Growth of Trade Unionism:****

- ****Historical Strikes:**** Numerous strikes across various cities such as Bombay, Ahmedabad, Sholapur, Calcutta, Jamshedpur, Nagpur, Madras, and Coimbatore indicated a vibrant but challenging trade union movement.

****11. Ways of Writing Labor History:****

- ****Interdisciplinary Approach:**** Modern labor history combines history and anthropology, focusing on workers' autonomy, culture, and living patterns, with research expanding to mines, plantations, artisanal workshops, and homes.

Participation and Engagement

The lecture was attended by fifty-three (53) students and faculty members from the Department of History, Holy Cross College. The event fostered a deep understanding of the historical and contemporary issues faced by the labor class in India, emphasizing the need for continued research and advocacy in labor history.

Dr. Dhar's lecture provided a comprehensive overview of the historical evolution of labor in India, highlighting significant changes and continuities, and prompting engaging discussions among the attendees.



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Prepared by:

Debasish Datta

Convener, Special Lecture

Certified by:

Debasish Datta
21/05/24

Department of History
Holy Cross College
Agartala.

(Debasish Datta)

Head

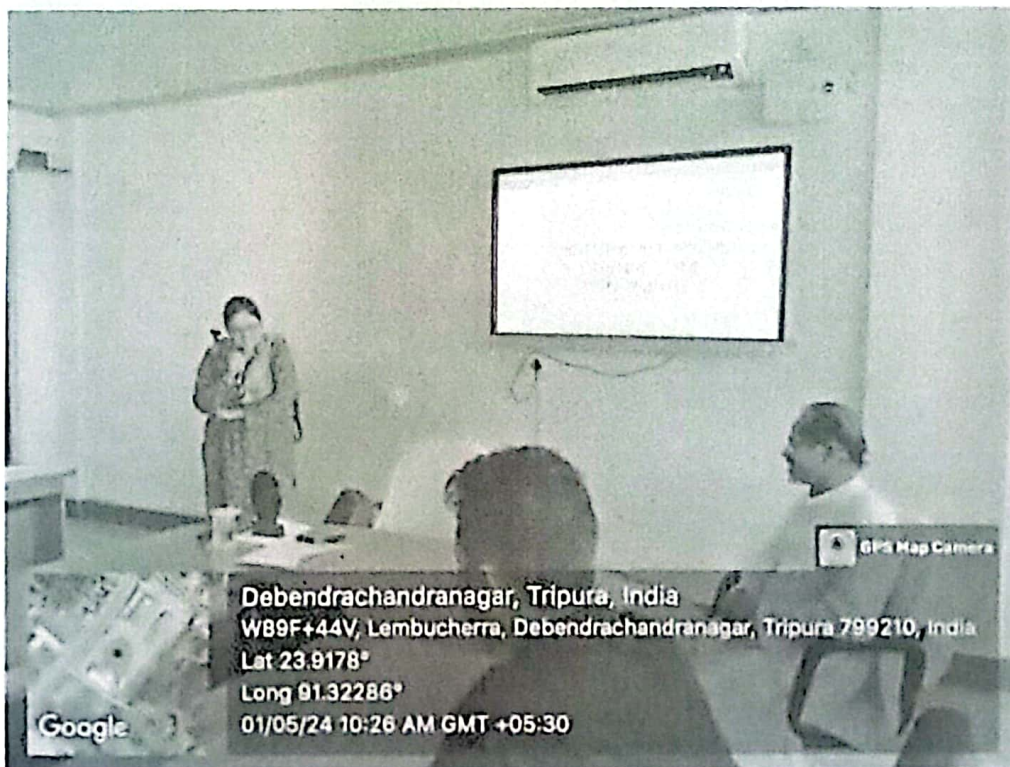
Department of History

Holy Cross College, Agartala.

Video recording web link of the Special Lecture:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MAcnOILrBkE>

Geo tagged pictures:





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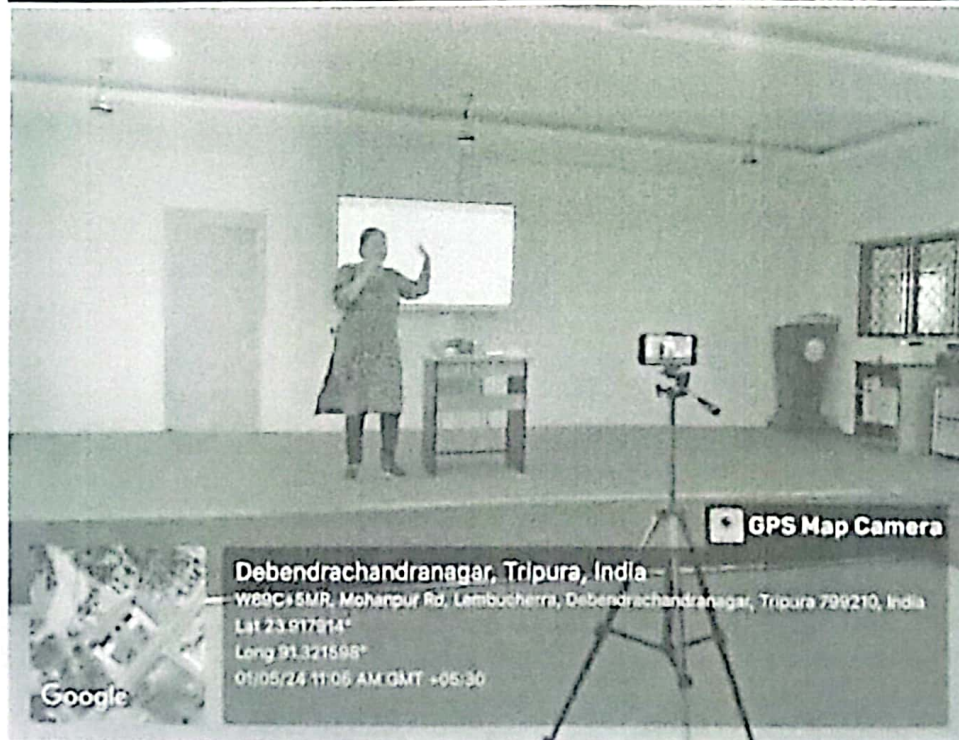
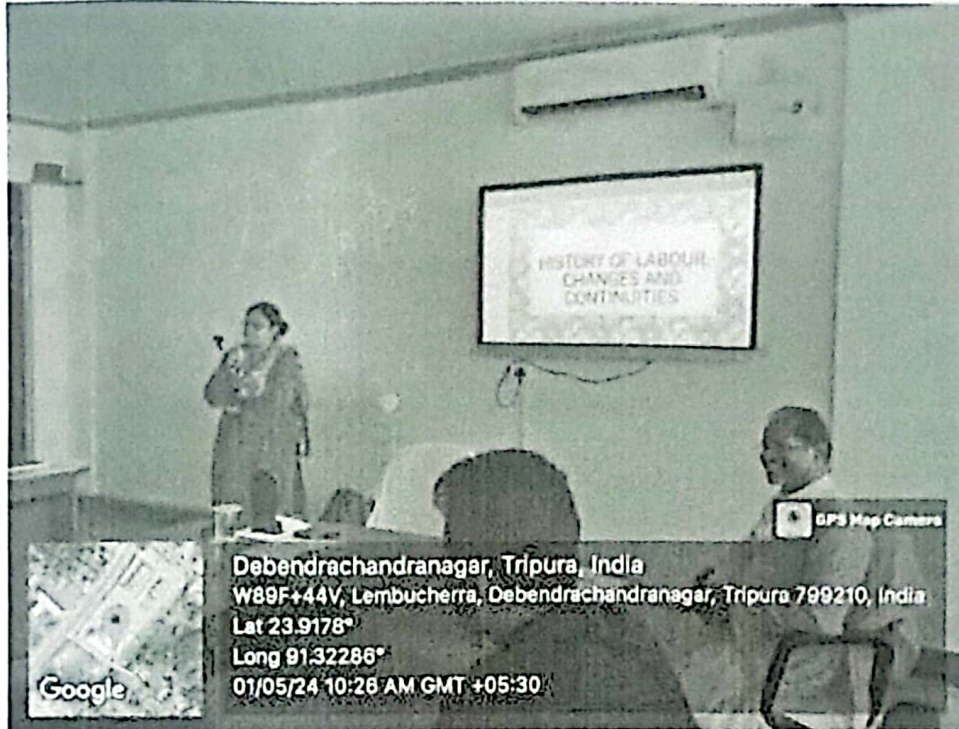
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