

ADD-ON COURSE ON DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

REPORT


DAY 1 (23.05.2023)

- *Inaugural Session*

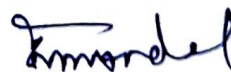
The Add-on course on Development Studies was inaugurated on 23rd May, 2023 at 12 noon, with magnificence with the presence of more than 60 students of the Departments of Economics of three reputed colleges of Kolkata namely Women's Christian College (the host of the inaugural session, here in after WCC), St. Paul's Cathedral Mission College (here in after SPCMC) and Moulana Azad College (here in after MAC), the faculty members of the Departments of Economics of the three colleges and the guests of honour. Dr. Mausumi Kar, Associate Professor of Economics, WCC conducted the session with the august presence of the Hon'ble Principal Madam, Prof. (Dr.) Ajanta Paul. Dr. Kar mentioned the purpose and objective of conducting such course and thanked the faculty members of the other colleges for their assistance in designing the course curriculum for this well-shaped course on development studies to be offered in a blended mode with a vision to enrich the participants on diverse aspects of development studies without making them burdened with the course work.

The welcome address was then offered by the Principal Madam of WCC, without whose all round support, motivation and inspiration, it would not have been possible to organize the event in such a stature. Dr. Jaya Mukherjee, Head of the Department of Economics, St. Paul's C. M. College and Shri Ujjwal Chattopadhyay, Associate Professor of Economics, Maulana Azad College also addressed the audience. The Head of the Department of Economics of Women's Christian College, Dr. Sudeshna Biswas introduced the Chief guest of the inaugural session, Prof. Soumyen Sikdar, the extraordinary teacher and mentor, formerly attached to the Department of Economics, University of Calcutta and Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta and invited him to offer his inaugural lecture. It was really an amazing and thought-provoking lecture on 'Rise and Fall of Globalisation and India', offered by Prof. Sikdar that had kept the audience spell bound for about an hour. The participants and the faculty present there were grateful to Prof. Sikdar for offering such splendid food for thought that actually marked the beginning of an immensely interesting course work to be continued for a month's span. After the inaugural lecture, another senior faculty member of WCC, Dr. Arnab Majumdar offered his vote of thanks and announced the end of the first part of the inaugural session.

The second session of the day started with the introduction of the other guest of honour, Dr. Simantini Mukhopadhyay, Assistant Professor of Economics, IDSK by Dr. Arnab Majumdar. Dr. Mukhopadhyay presented a very well -thought lecture on 'Human development and Inequalities in It'. The

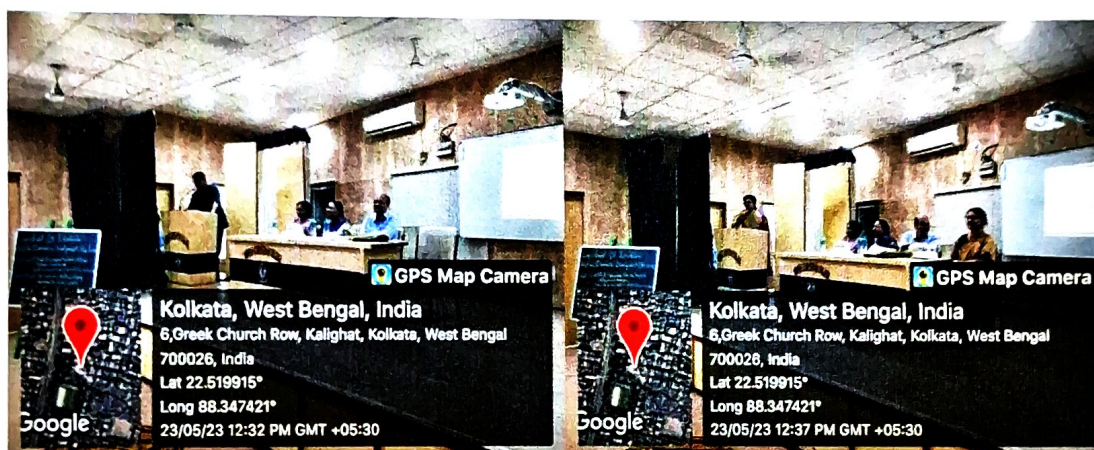
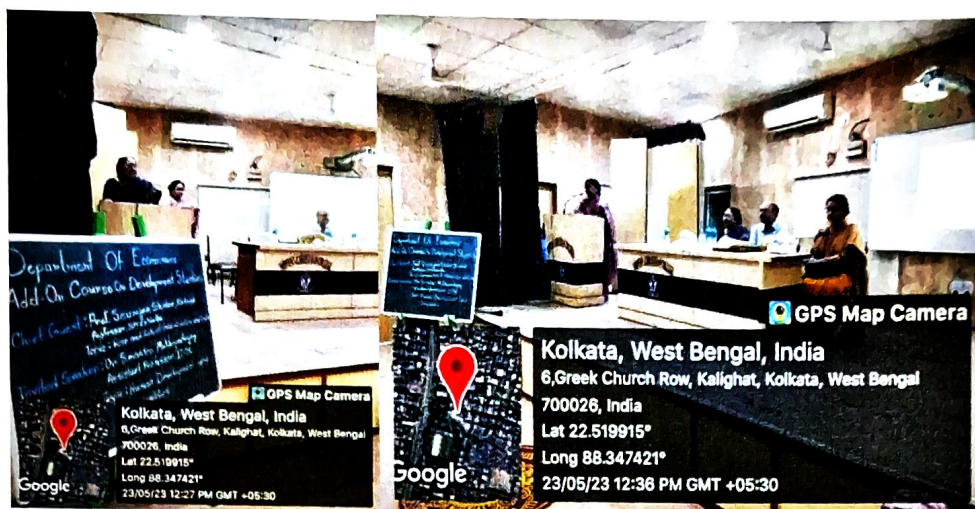


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presentation encompassed different income-based and non-income based parameters of Human Development and indicators of inequality and was truly inspiring for the students willing to study Development Studies, especially Development Economics.



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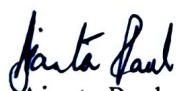
DAY 2 (24.05.2023):

Two sessions each for one and half hours duration was scheduled for the 2nd day of the Add-on course at Women's Christian College, Kolkata from 12 noon onwards. The speaker of the first session was Dr. Mausumi Kar, Associate Professor of Economics, WCC and her title of talk was 'Trade and Development: Some Contemporary Theoretical Issues'. She elaborated special issues of international trade ranging from traditional to contemporary framework including virtual trade with Time-Zone differences, outsourcing of services and other interesting issues in the backdrop of digital revolution. Students took ample curiosity in the conceptual ideas and examples shown and participated in the discussion with great enthusiasm and attention. Then Dr. Arnab Majumdar, Assistant Professor of Economics, WCC spoke on 'Development Issues in Indian Industry'. Students were very much cooperative and claimed that they took interest in the sessions.

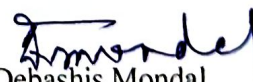


DAY 3 (27.05.2023):

The lectures on the third day of the course was designed to be offered in the online mode and was arranged by WCC. Two consecutive lectures, each for one and half hours duration were offered on Demographic studies. The first speaker was, Dr. Senjuti Saha, Associate Professor and HOD, Department of Geography, WCC and the title of her presentation was 'Demography – A Key to Development'. The Second speaker was Dr. Sudeshna Biswas, Associate Professor and HOD, Department of Economics, WCC and she presented on 'Demographic Dividend and Youth Unemployment'. The presentations were very lucid, receptive to the young pupils and indicative of a very important path of development, namely the

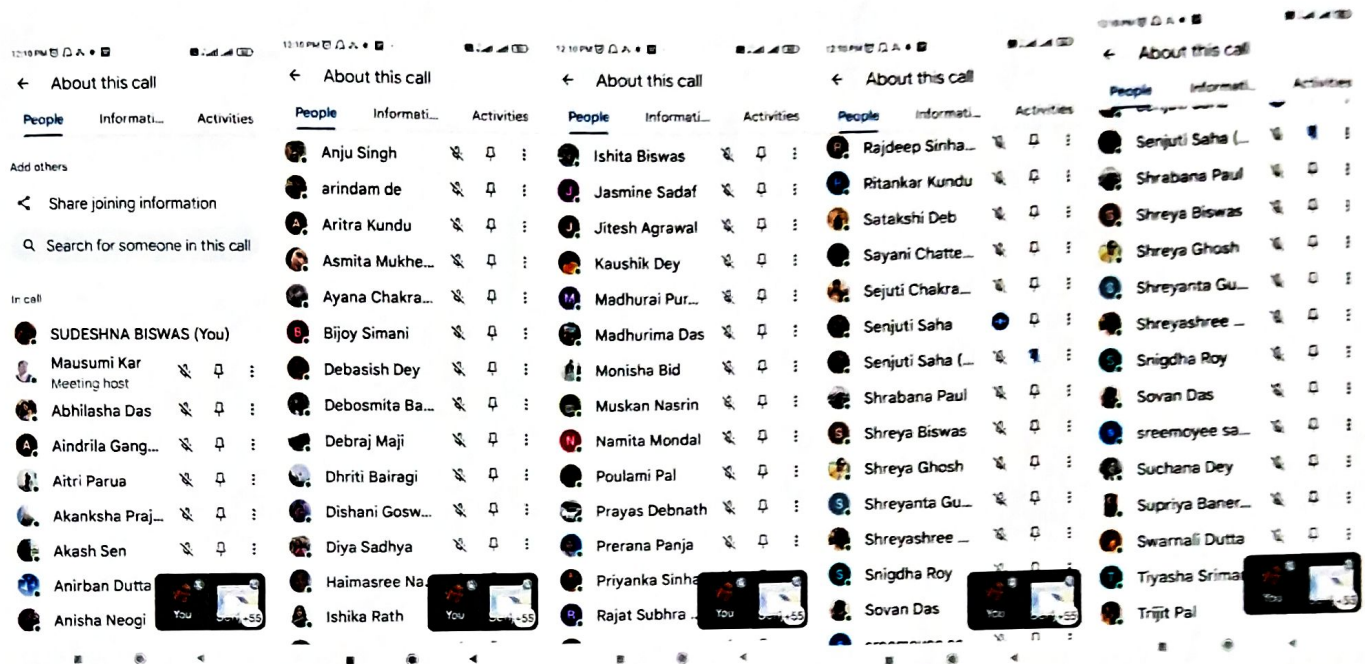


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demographic transitions, yet they differ in the approaches of stride, the former being the Geographer's perception while the latter is precisely from a much more technical and economic point of view.



DAY 4 (31.05.2023):

The fourth class of this add-on course was a three-hour practical session that was held in the computer lab of St. Paul's Cathedral Mission College on 31st May, 2023. This class was attended by 56 students. The session was conducted by Dr. Suparna Gangopadhyay, Associate Professor & Head, Department of Economics, Surendranath College for Women.



The topic of her session was "Application of STATA on Economic Data: An Introductory Approach". In this session, the students were given a hands-on training on handling statistical data for analyzing different issues of development studies using the statistical software STATA. The students thoroughly enjoyed this session as they learnt the application of different economic theories to real life data. Dr. Gangopadhyay addressed all the queries of the students and the

session extended well beyond the scheduled hours.

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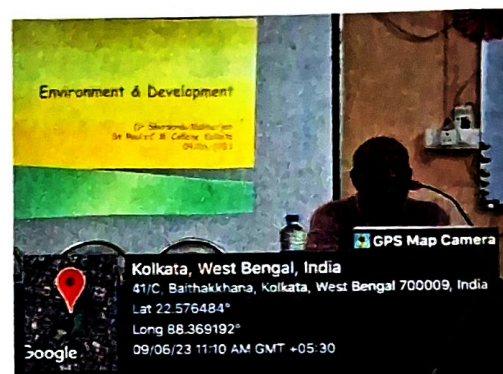
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DAY 5 (09.06.2023):



The fifth class was held on 9th June in the Sesquicentenary Seminar Hall of St. Paul's Cathedral Mission College from 11 am to 2pm. Dr Shirsendu Mukherjee, Associate Professor in the Department of Economics of St. Paul's C. M. College, conducted this three-hour session on "Environment and Development". The session was attended by 33 students. The attendance was relatively low in this

session compared to the other sessions because the Semester 4 results were published on that day and the students were very tensed on account of that. However, those who attended had a highly interactive session. This session gave the students an exposure to some burning environmental issues affecting the world today and efforts made at the international level to deal with these problems.



DAY 6 (12.06.2023):

The Department of Economics, Maulana Azad College was one of the collaborators of the **Add-On Course on Development Studies** initiated by the Department of Economics, Women's Christian College, Kolkata; the course was held during May-June, 2023.

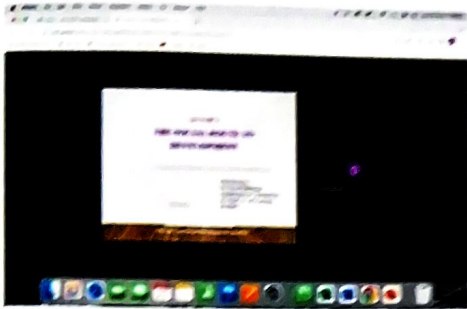
As a collaborating institution, Maulana Azad College, Kolkata conducted the three hours' lecture session delivered by Shri Ujjwal Chattopadhyay, Associate Professor of Economics, Maulana Azad College on 12th June, 2023. Shri Chattopadhyay delivered his lectures in the Seminar Room of the college; the topic of his lecture was "**Cultural Studies and Thoughts of Economic Development**".

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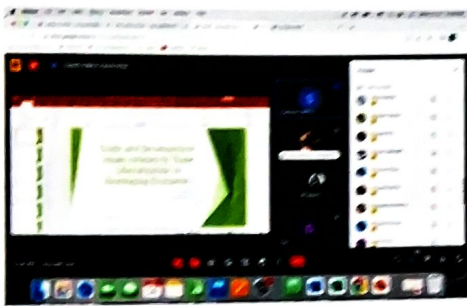
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DAY 7 (14.06.2023):



The seventh class of the course was held online from 10.45 am to 2pm with a 15 minutes break from 12.15 to 12.30. Because of the extreme heat and humidity, students were finding it difficult to commute and so this class was held on the Google Workspace platform. The first one and half hour session was conducted by Dr Jaya Mukherjee, Associate Professor and Head, Department of Economics, St. Paul's C. M. College. The topic of her lecture was "The Social Route to Development". She gave the students an idea about the crucial role played by social sectors in the development process of nations. The second lecture, also of one and half hour duration, was delivered by Dr Sudeshna Mitra, Assistant Professor in



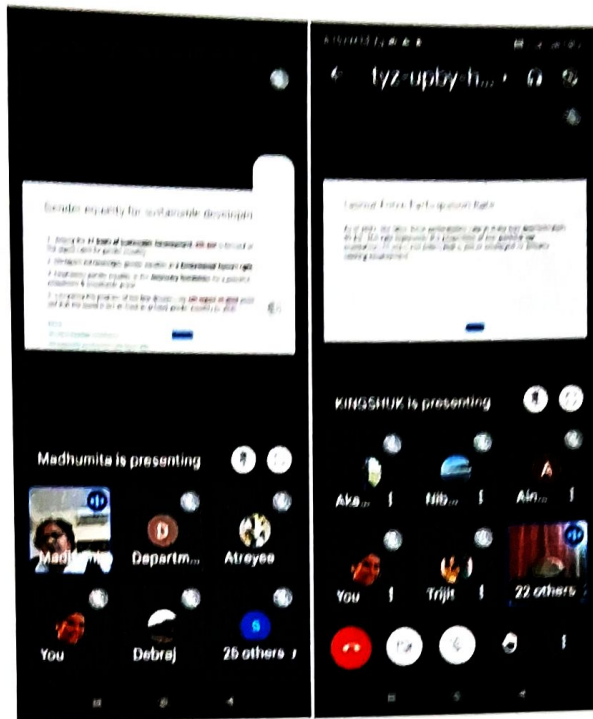
the Department of Economics of St. Paul's C. M. College. Her topic was "Trade and Development". She introduced the students to the impact of trade liberalization on the formal and informal sectors of developing countries.

DAY 8 (21.06.2023)

On the eighth day of the Add-on Course there were two online sessions of duration one and half hours each conducted by Maulana Azad College. In the first session Dr. Madhumita Sen, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Sociology, Government General Degree College for Women, Ekbalpore, Kolkata delivered her lecture on "Women in the Context of Development: The Myth and the Reality". The speaker of the second session was Dr. Kingshuk Sarkar, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Economics, Goa Institute of Management. His deliberation was on "The State of Labour Market in India".

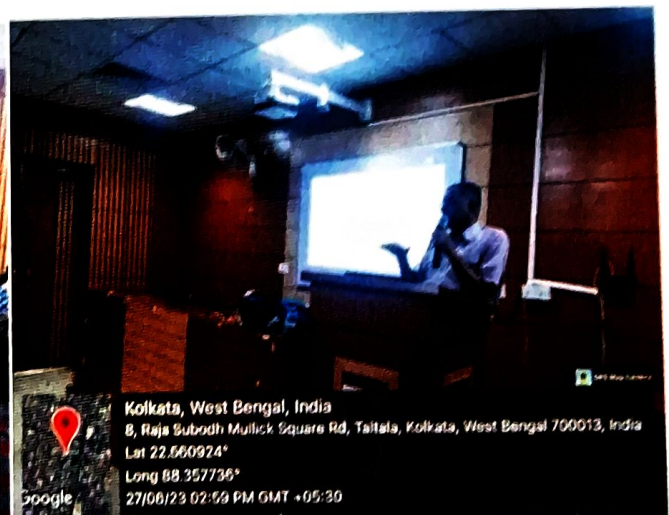
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DAY 9 (27.06.2023)

Prof. Santanu Ghosh delivered the concluding lecture of the course on June 21, 2023; the theme of his lecture was “**Institutional Issues in Agrarian Development**” and the session was conducted in the Seminar Room of Maulana Azad College, Kolkata.



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Concluding Day (28.06.2023):

The Add-on course on Development Studies was completed on 28th of June, 2023 at 12 noon with splendor as all the participants were in high spirits. The Principal of Women's Christian College, Prof. (Dr.) Ajanta Paul has addressed the participants, encouraged them and thanked them for successfully completing this 30-hour long course. The two senior professors Dr. Indrani Banerjee of St. Paul's Cathedral Mission College and Professor Santanu Ghosh of Maulana Azad College also addressed the audience. Dr. Sudeshna Biswas, Head of the Department of Economics, Women's Christian College introduced the chief guest of the Valedictory Session, Prof. Achin Chakraborty, Professor and Former Director, Institute of Development Studies Kolkata. Prof. Chakraborty explained the importance and relevance of development studies in today's Social Science curricula.

The students also participated in the evaluation test and after successful evaluation, the participants were offered Course-Completion certificates by the guest of honour and our Honourable Principal Madam. The certificate distribution programme was conducted by Dr. Jaya Mukherjee, Associate Professor and Head, Department of Economics, St. Paul's C. M. College.

With a thanks note the Valedictory session came to an end. Everyone associated with the entire course happily agreed to conduct this in coming years also.



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