



Holy Cross College, Agartala
Department of Economics

HCC-AGT/ECO/MM/2025-05

Date: 26th of September, 2025

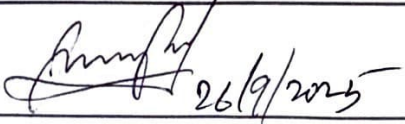
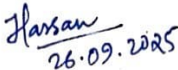

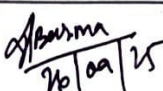
Minutes of the Meeting

Date: 26 September 2025 (Friday)

Time: 11:00 AM

Venue: Room No. F1-11, Main Campus

Chairperson: Father Joe Paul CSC, Vice Principal (Administration)

Member Present	Signature with Date
Father Joe Paul CSC, <i>Vice Principal (Administration)</i>	 26/9/2025
Mubdiul Hassan, <i>Head (in-charge) & Assistant Professor</i>	 26.09.2025
Swnaya Debbarma, <i>Assistant Professor</i>	 26.09.25
Ajoy Debbarma, <i>Assistant Professor</i>	 26/09/25

Agenda: Discussion on the plan for seminars, talks, research activities, and study tour.

1. Academic and Outreach Activities

- **Debate Competition:** Scheduled for the last week of October, the competition will focus on contemporary economic issues with special emphasis on international trade and tariffs. Faculty members are strongly encouraged to actively involve students in preparation, facilitation, and event coordination. Suggested debate topics on tariffs include:
 1. "Do tariffs protect domestic industries or hinder overall economic growth?"
 2. "Tariffs and consumer prices: Who really pays the cost?"
- **Invited Lectures:** Planned for the 2nd week of November, these lectures will focus on practical applications of economic theory, with case studies addressing recent tariff policies and their effects on sectors such as agriculture, manufacturing, and services. Lecturers will also cover outcomes of the departmental research studies.



- **Seminar Preparation:** All Faculty members of the department will work intensively towards presenting their conclusive findings, comparative analyses, and policy recommendations at the February 2026 departmental seminar. Faculty members will do literature reviews, data analysis, report drafting, and presentation design. These efforts would reflect the faculty's commitment to integrating academic inquiry with policy relevance.
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2. Research Project Ideas

A. Impact of Russian Crude Oil Imports

- To review current and historical data on Russian crude oil imports.
- To do a longitudinal comparative study across recent years to evaluate implications for India's energy security, balance of trade, domestic inflation, and foreign policy orientation.
- Research will include price volatility analysis, supplier diversification strategies, and policy advisories.
- This project is part of the academic work planned for this year based on initial discussions.

B. Rubber Plantations and Regional Economic Development

- To study rubber plantations' socio-economic impacts, focusing on rural employment, household incomes, and environmental sustainability.
- Proposal to be submitted to the Rubber Board by October for funding of a primary data collection survey.
- The findings will be incorporated into the February seminar presentations.

C. Market Structure and MNC Penetration

- To conduct a study examining the influence of multinational corporations and supermarkets on the viability of traditional village markets.
- The study should aim to map market penetration, consumer behavioral shifts, and local supply chain adaptations through detailed field surveys.
- Implications for rural livelihoods and local entrepreneurship are major themes for current academic investigation.



D. Cooperative Models: AMUL Study Tour

- Proposed educational visit for faculty and students to AMUL to witness a successful cooperative business model.
- A comparative study with the Gomati cooperative will evaluate governance mechanisms, member engagement, market outreach, and impacts on regional economic development.

Additional Research Project for Next Academic Year

E. Decline of Jute Cultivation in Tripura

- The department will initiate a comprehensive study on the decline of jute cultivation in the state of Tripura.
 - The research will focus on historical trends in acreage and output, contributing factors to the fall (such as changes in agricultural policy, market prices, labor migration, crop diversification, and climate conditions), and impacts on local economies.
 - This project is planned for launch in the next academic year as part of ongoing efforts to address critical issues in regional agriculture and rural development.
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3. Policy Analysis: Tariffs and Economic Impact

Effect of Tariffs Imposed by the US on India

Key points discussed included:

- The imposition of tariffs by the US leads to a reduction in India's trade surplus with the US, adversely affecting exporter profitability.
- Small and medium enterprises in rural and semi-urban areas face risks of declining orders, job losses, and wage reductions.
- A consensus was reached on the necessity of rigorous, data-driven research and a sectoral policy framework to support affected industries.
- Substantial collaboration involving data collection and student engagement in policy research analysis was planned.

These discussions and analyses are planned as core academic projects for this academic year.



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4. Next Steps and Action Items

- Draft research proposals for the impact studies on oil imports, rubber plantations, and the local market penetration effect by October.
- Develop survey instruments and outreach strategies for field research on MNC penetration effects.
- Finalize logistical arrangements for the AMUL study tour.
- Prepare guidelines, briefing materials, and evaluation rubrics for the upcoming debate competitions, and also formulate a detailed plan for the invited lecture.
- Initiate data compilation and literature review on the impact of US tariffs as a foundation for detailed sectoral impact analysis.
- Progress updates to be collated and presented at the department meeting after mid-October.

Prepared by:

Hassan
26/09/2025

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HEAD
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