

**DIAMOND HARBOUR WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY**  
A Webinar on **Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainability**  
**CELEBRATION OF WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2020**  
**REPORT**

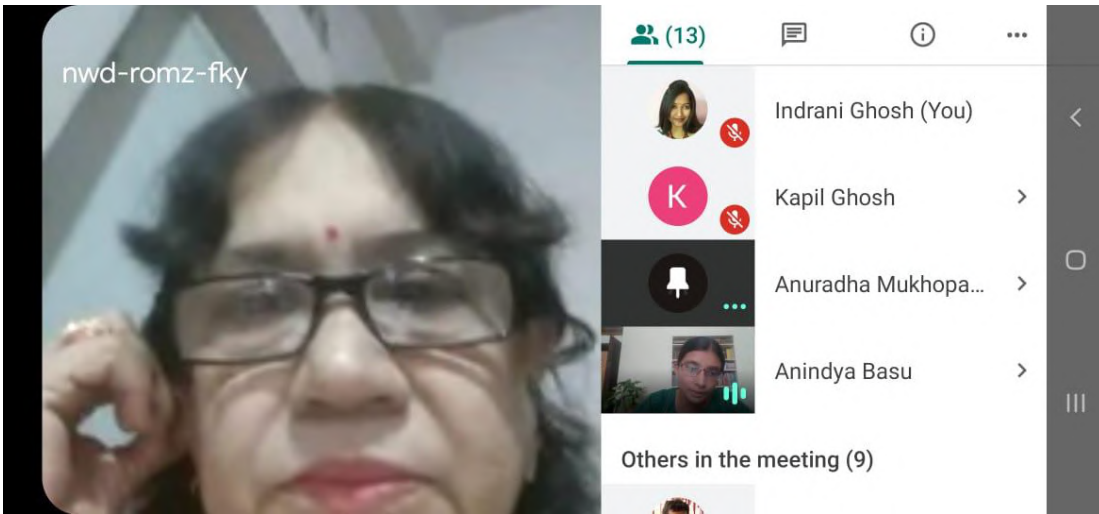
The World Environment Day is held every year on 5<sup>th</sup> June Worldwide. From 2018 onwards this day is being celebrated every year by Department of Geography, Diamond Harbour Women's University. This year due to COVID 19 Pandemic it was celebrated through a plantation programme on 5<sup>th</sup> June and a Webinar on **Celebration of Biodiversity and Sustainability**. The department of Geography celebrated World Environment Day in 2018 on the theme **Beat Plastic Pollution** and in 2019 on the theme **Beat Air Pollution** organizing various academic talks and plantation programmes.

This year webinar was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2020 on **Celebration of Biodiversity and Sustainability** through Google Meet to celebrate World Environment Day 2020 on the theme "**Celebrate Biodiversity**". Professor Anuradha Mukhopadhyay, Chief Patron of the Webinar, Key-note speaker Professor Ashis Kumar Panigrahi, Pro-Vice Chancellor, The University of Burdwan, speaker Professor Asish Kumar Paul, Department of Geography and Environment Management, Vidyasagar University, speaker Dr. Punarbasu Chaudhuri, Department of Environmental Science, Calcutta University, Dignitaries, guests, officers, teaching and non-teaching staff and students of the University participated and enriched the webinar. The webinar started at 12.30 pm with the introductory speech by Dr. Anindya Basu, Asst. Professor, Department of Geography followed by the opening Rabindra Sangeet '**Moru Bijoyero Ketan Urau....**' presented by Sri Somnath Sarkar, faculty member of the department of Geography.

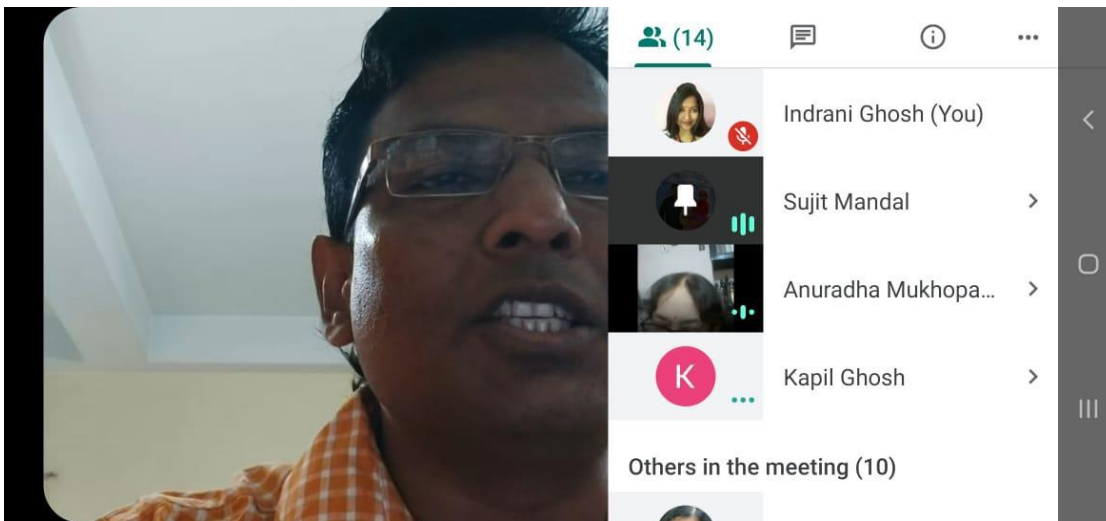
The Inaugural Address was delivered by **Prof. Anuradha Mukhopadhyay**, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of the University. In her speech Madam Vice Chancellor said that after the announcement of nationwide lockdown almost all activities of the University were conducted through online medium in order to safeguard the students and staff from the deadly disease. She also pointed that the theme is extremely relevant because human beings are part of the ecosystem and cannot continue to survive in isolation. Biodiversity is important for the survival of all living things big and small, on land, or in water. Every aspect of human health is affected by it. This was followed by welcome address which was delivered by **Prof. Sujit Mondal**, Professor, Dean, Faculty of Science and Convener of the Webinar. In his speech Prof. Mondal said that at least 40 per cent of the world's economy and 80 per cent of the needs of the poor are derived from biological resources. In addition, the richer the diversity of life, the greater the opportunity for medical discoveries, economic development, and adaptive responses to such new challenges

as climate change. The Key-note speaker **Professor Ashis Kumar Panigrahi** delivered his speech on the topic entitled “**Studies on Fish Diversity Loss in some rivers of South Bengal due to anthropogenic pollution**”. He stressed on water quality status of some rivers of South Bengal such as the Bhagirathi, The Jalangi, the Churni, the Damodar etc. with strong data bases. He also pointed out that human activities plays an important role in changing the quality of river as well as the river ecosystem. Resource Person **Professor Asish Kumar Paul** spoke on “**Coastal Biodiversity with Special Reference to Sundarbans**”. Professor Paul highlighted causes and consequences of habitat fragmentation and habitat losses in Sundarbans region. Resource person **Dr. Punarbasu Chaudhuri** presented his speech on “**Climate Emergency and Polar Biodiversity**”. He figured out climate emergency of the World and particularly of Antarctica.

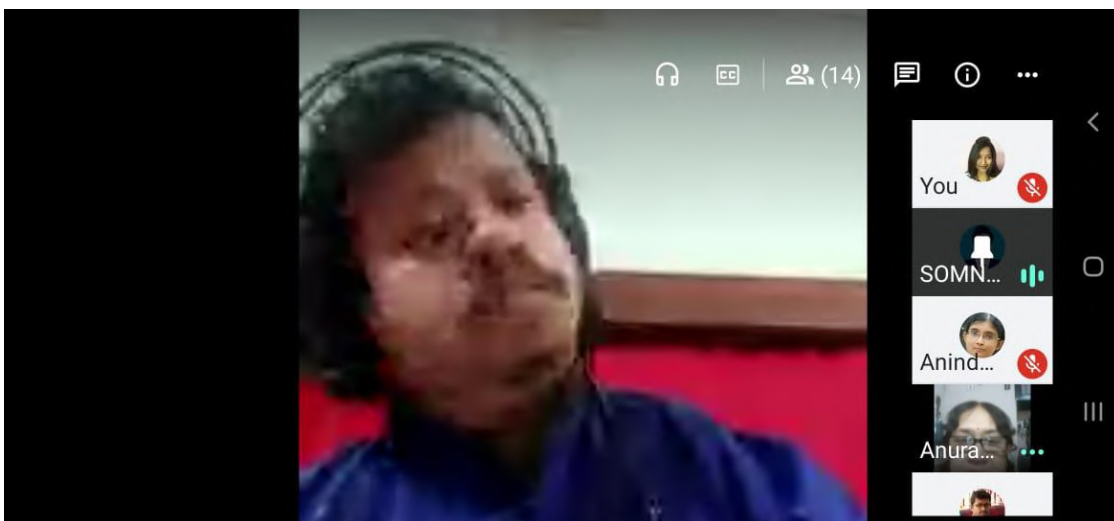
There was an engrossing interaction with the audience at the end of each speech. The chat box overflowed with questions. It was not possible to discuss all but most were answered by speakers. The webinar ended with Vote of Thanks which was delivered by Dr. Shovan Ghosh, Associate Professor, department of Geography. Technical support was provided by Dr. Kapil Ghosh and Mr. Rajesh Karketta, Asst. Professor, department of Geography. The programme was a huge success as more than 1700 academicians participated and participants posted warm and positive feedback.



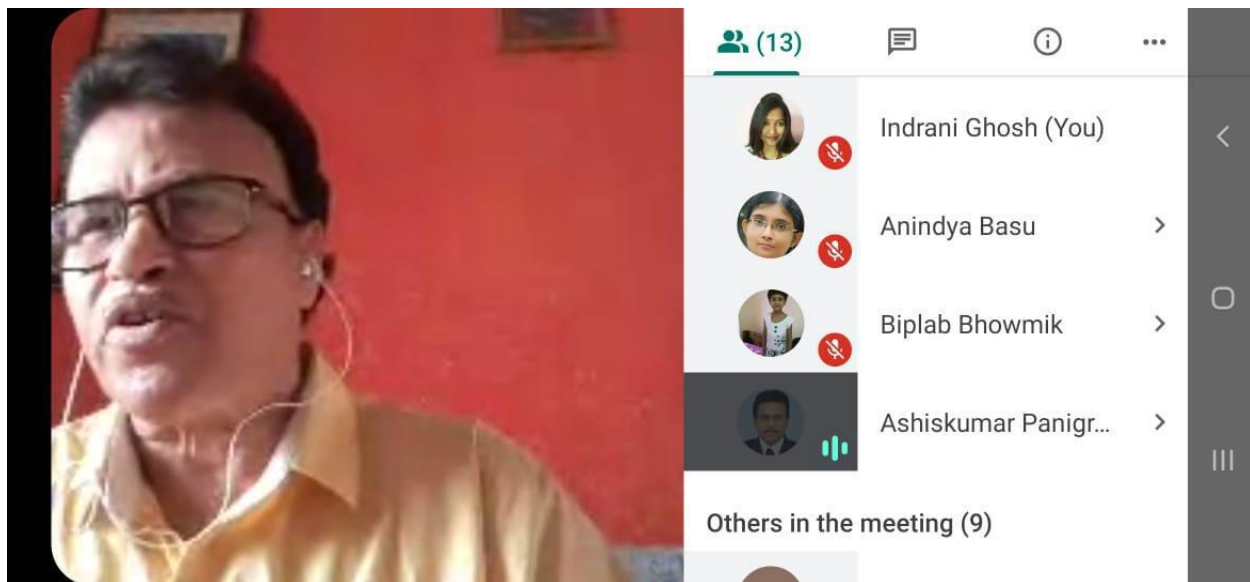
**Inaugural Speech by Professor Anuradha Mukhopadhyay, The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor.**



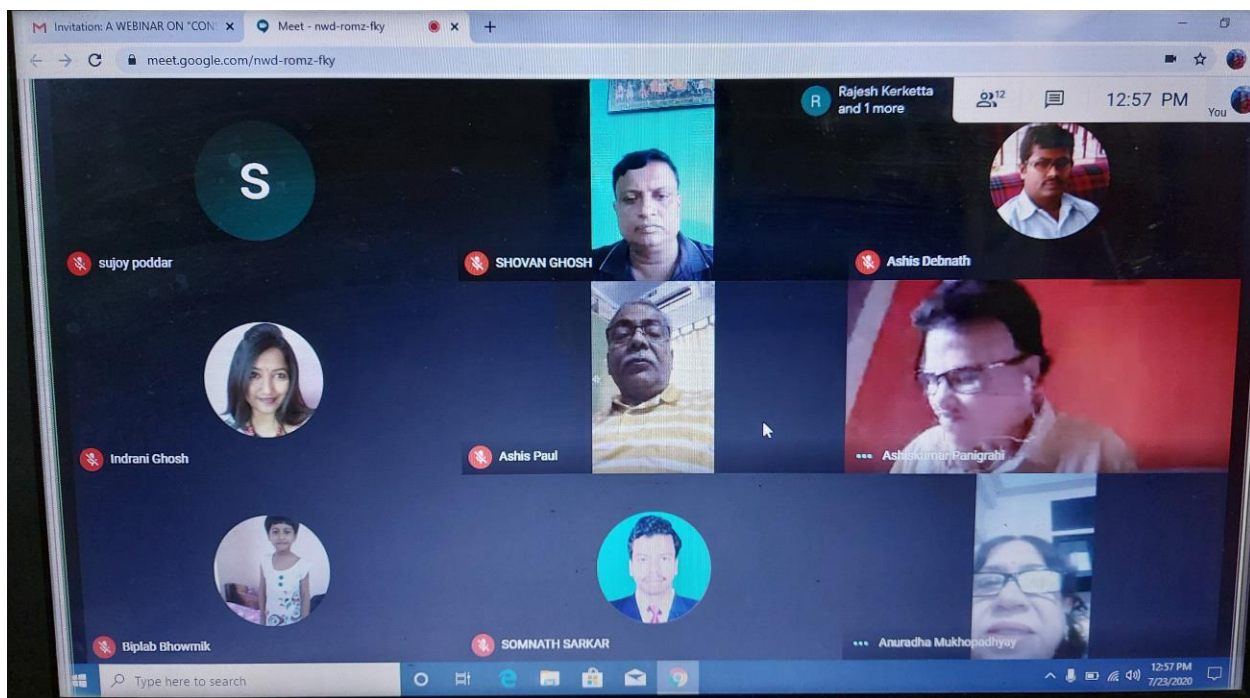
**Welcome Address by Professor Sujit Mandal, Dean of Science**



**Inaugural Song by Shri Somnath Sarkar, Asst. Professor, Department of Geography**

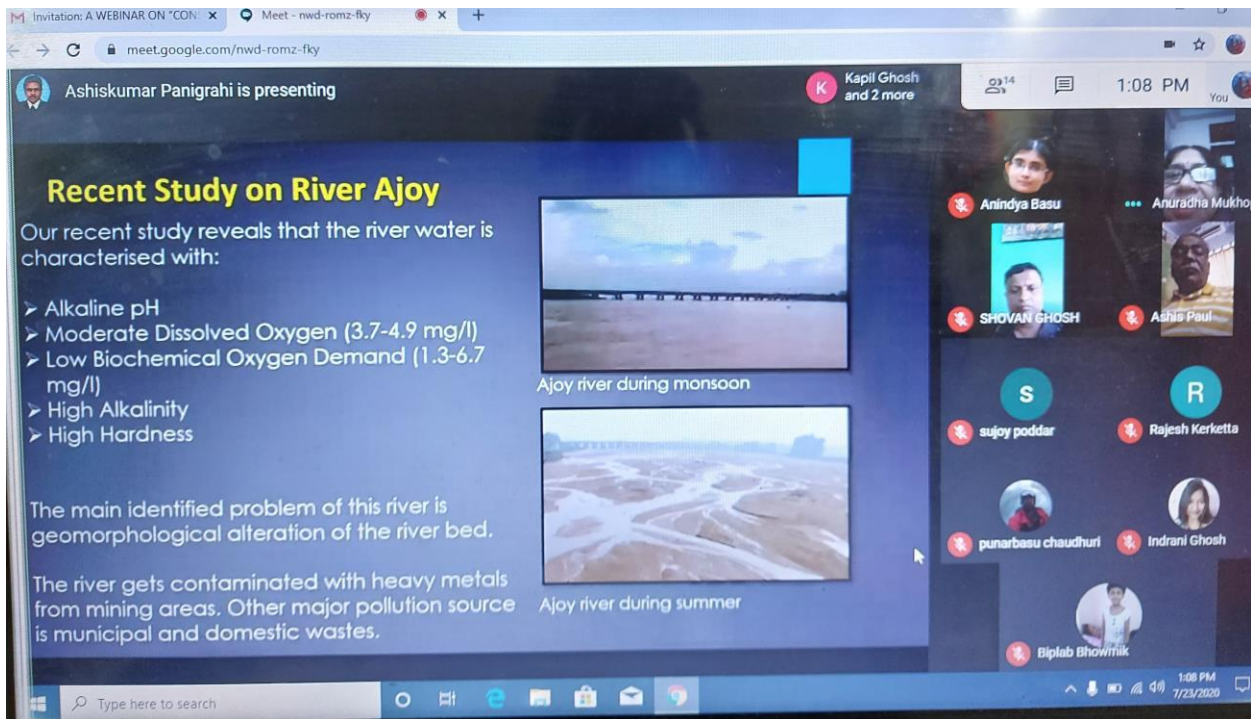


Key-note Speaker, Professor Ashis Kumar Panigrahi, Pro-Vice Chancellor, The University of Burdwan

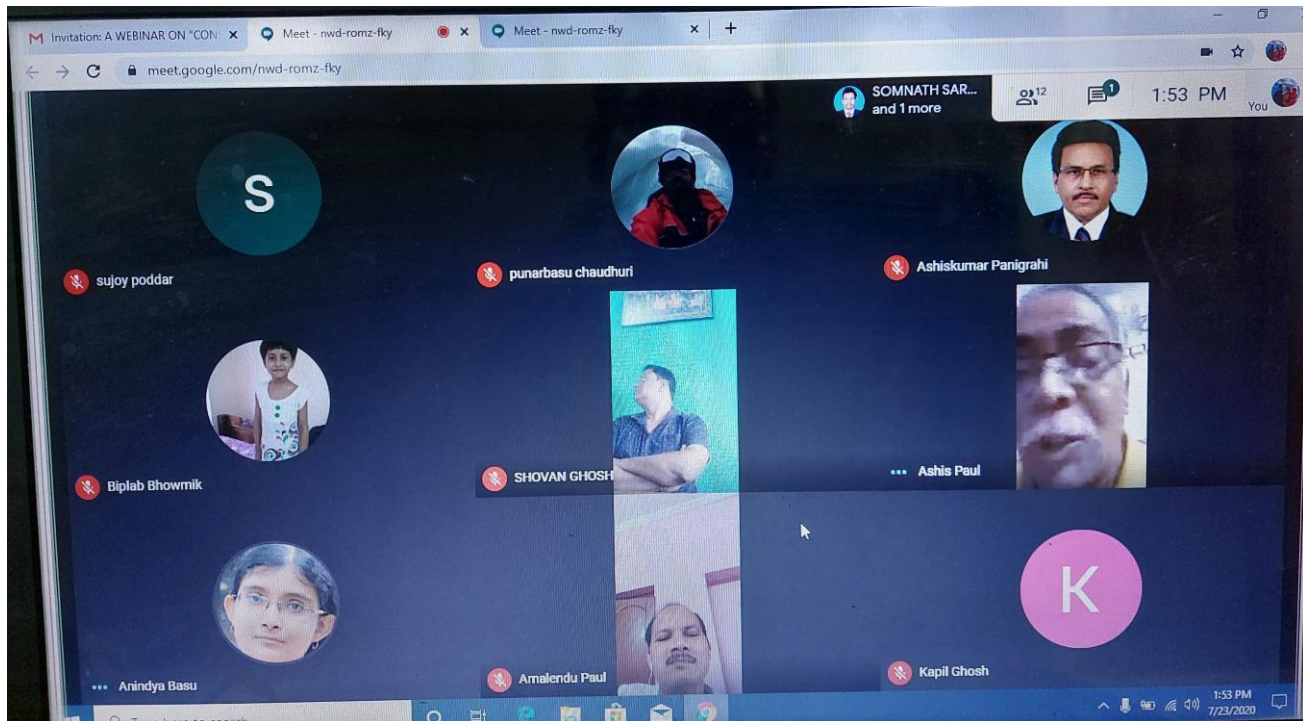


Glimpse of the Webinar during the Inaugural Speech of Hon'ble Vice chancellor



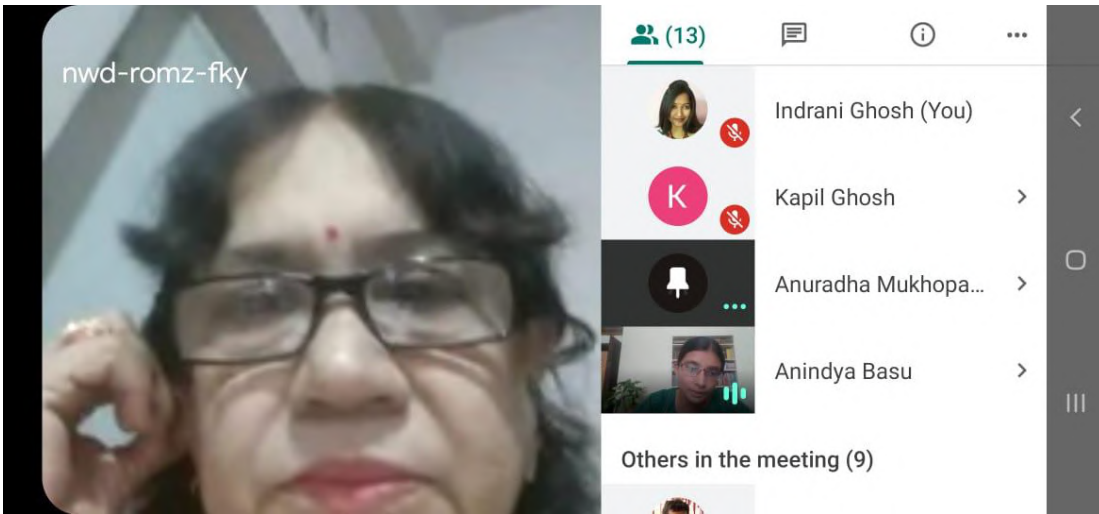


Glimpse of the Webinar during the Key-note Speech by Professor A.K.Panigrahi.

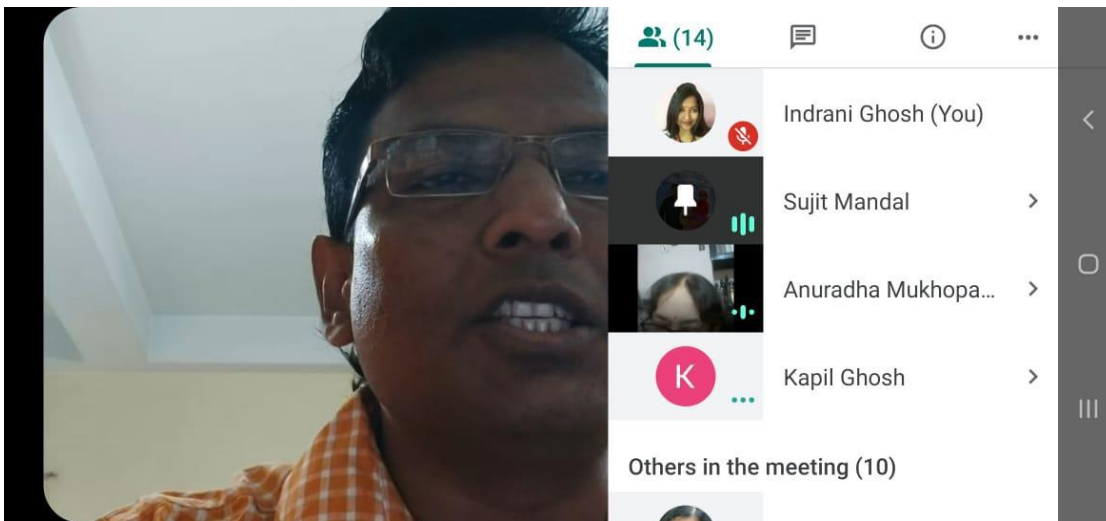


Glimpse of Webinar during the Speech of Professor Asish Kumar Paul.

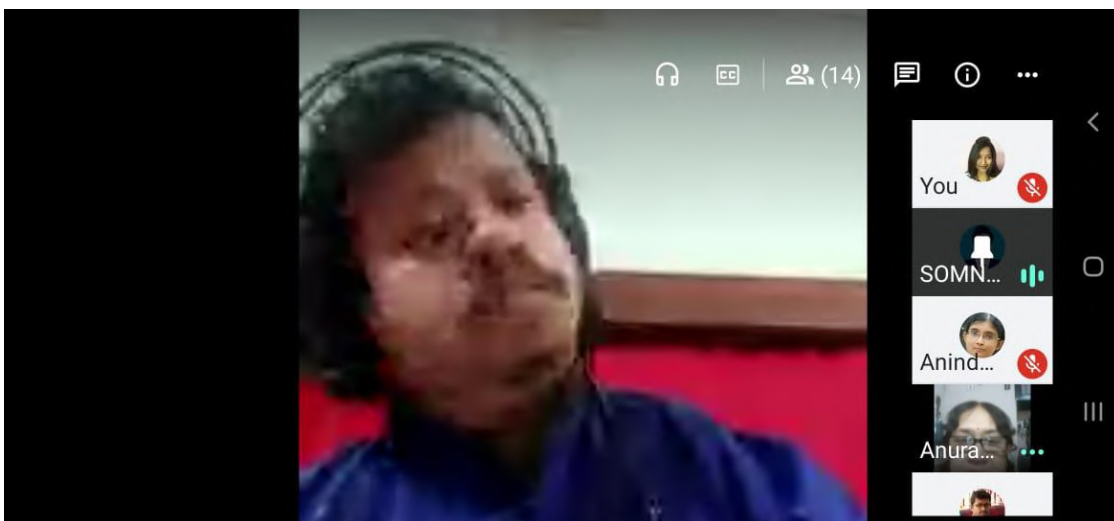




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