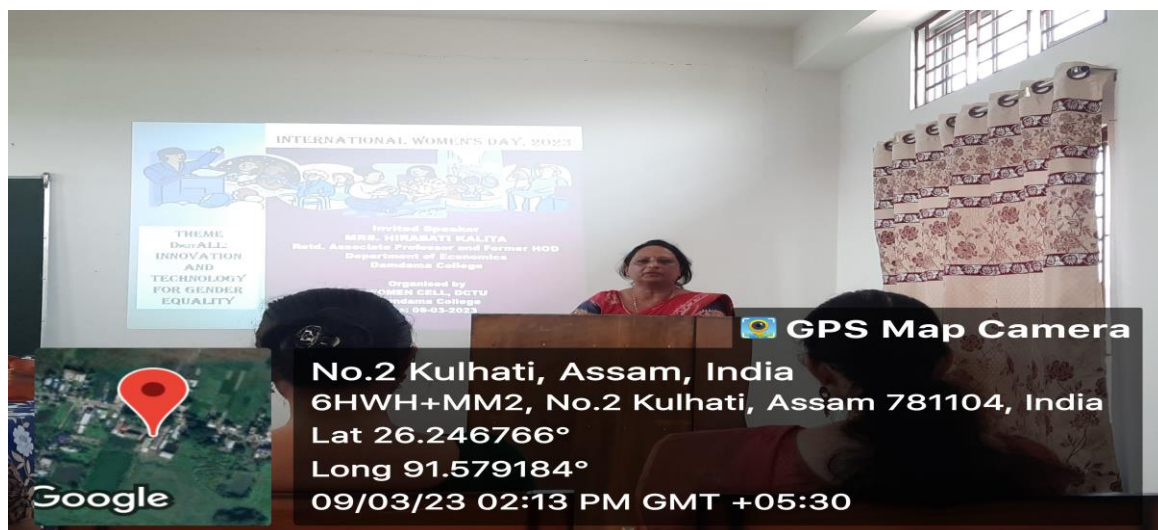
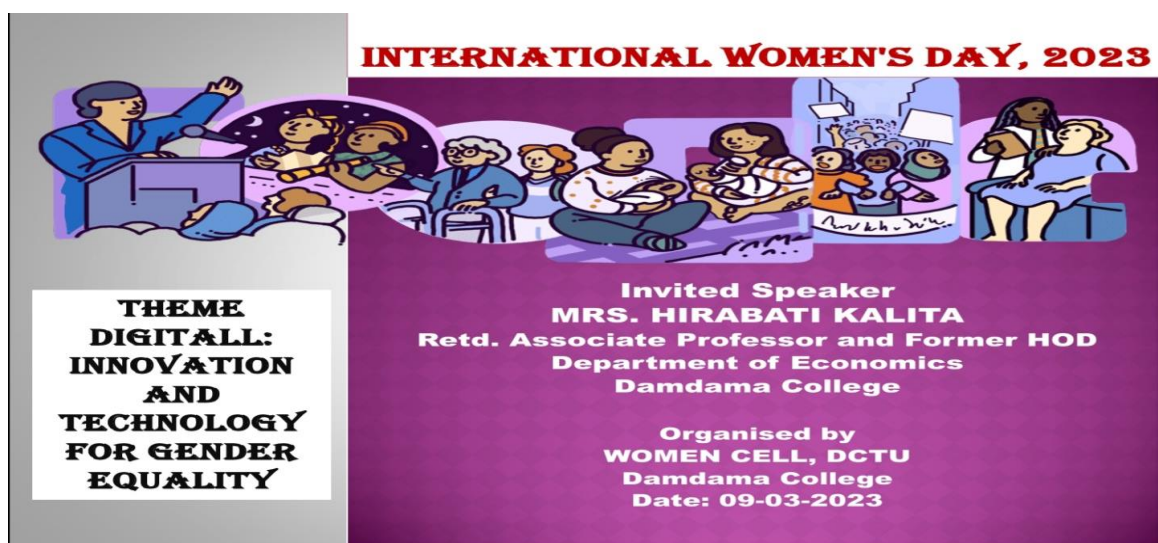


MINUTES OF THE MEETING

(09/03/2023)

Women Cell, Damdama College organized a programme on the International Women's Day (IWD) on 9th March, 2023. Though it is celebrated every year on 8th March all over the World; the college organized the event a day later due to the local holiday on "Holi" ordered by the DC, Kamrup. The program followed the theme of IWD, 2023, i.e. "DigitALL: Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality" and displayed a digital banner.

Mrs. Hirabati Kalita was invited to deliver a lecture on the above mentioned theme. She is a retired Associate Professor and Former HoD, Economics, Damdama College.

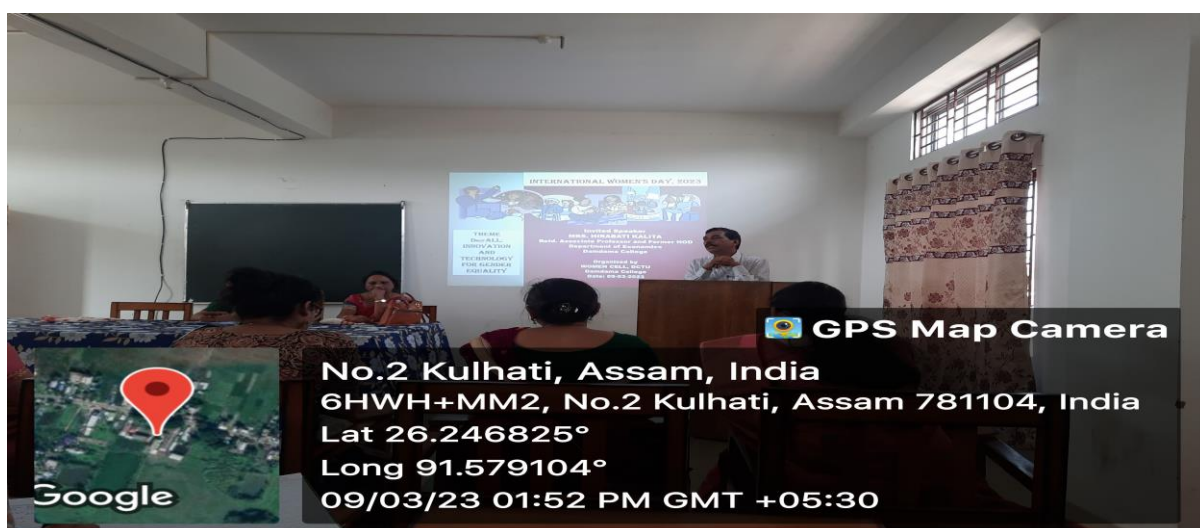


A welcome ceremony followed by felicitation for the Invited guest **Mrs. Hirabati Kalita**; **Dr. S. Sarma**, Principal, Damdama College; and **Dr. Dikshita Buragohain**, President, DCTU was initiated by **Dr. Nazneen Ara Hoque**, convenor of Women Cell (DCTU). The convenor then addressed the audience and talked about the purpose of the meeting. The agenda of the meeting was explained by the President, DCTU.



Highlights of the Day

Speech by Principal: Dr. S. Sarma talked about the empowerment of women. The broad idea of empowerment though is to embrace others who are often neglected in the decision-making process. Inclusion and acceptance of women in such roles can be termed as empowerment. He talked about the role of women in various fields. In this regard he also mentioned about the importance of women in the field of Technology and Innovation and how their presence can make a significant difference to the society if given the required opportunity.



Speech by Invited Speaker: Mrs. Hirabati Kalita initiated her lecture with the topic of evolution of womens day. In her speech she talked about how women are struggling to establish their rights in the society. For instance, in 1908, about 15,000 women in USA protested for their wages, working hour and voting rights. The first ever women’s day was celebrated in 1996 with specific theme. She then explained about the prevailing “digital gender gap”. As per the Groupe Speciale Mobile Association (GSMA), approximately 42% women uses internet whereas 58% are male users in India. As today’s world is now

considered as a Global Village, hence educating and empowering women in the fields of technology are crucial. This can be achieved with adding **computer education** in curriculum at school level. According to the world economic forum, in 2050 most of the employment will be related to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). Low and Middle Income countries already faced a loss of \$1 trillion due to less involvement of women in digital world. Hence, educating and engaging women in digital technology, AI (Artificial intelligence) can lead any country or region towards transformation and development.



After the lecture programme President, DCTU offered her vote of thanks to the audience and requested everyone to participate in the next program.

Screening of Film related to Women: Women cell in collaboration with the Film Society (Mr. Chandan Jyoti Chutia, Convenor, Film Society, Damdama College) arranged screening of an Iranian movie name “**ROZI KA ZAN SHODAM**” directed by Marzieh Meshkini related to women. The film was explained and screened by Mr. Rajib Mahanta, HoD, Economics Department.

