Dept of History Sem 1 Major Field Visit to RBI Museum

On the 16 January 2026, the Semester 1 students of the Department of History, Loreto College, Kolkata, went on a field visit to the Reserve Bank of India Museum, Kolkata as part of the Skill Enhancement Course (SEC) in History.

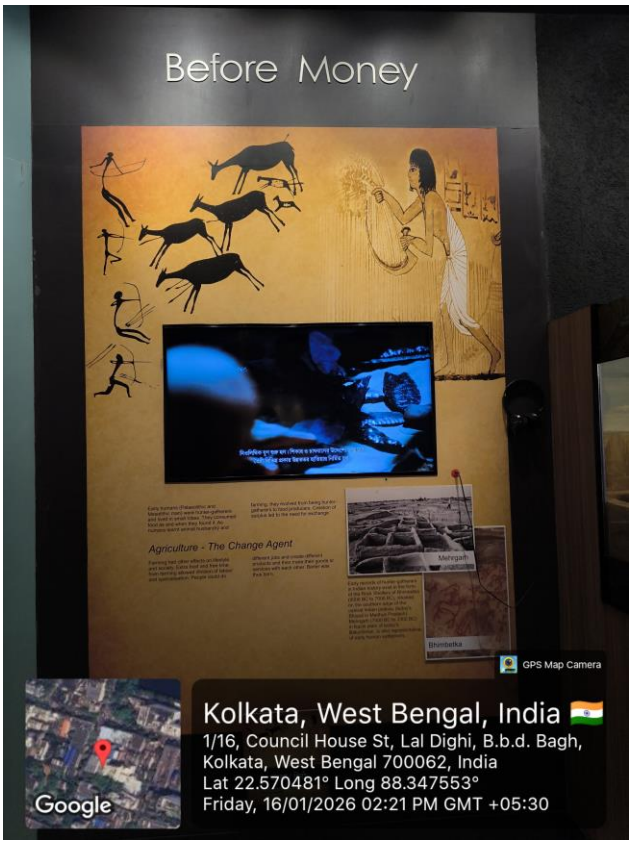
The students witnessed an informative display of the timeline of development of economic strategies and use of currency in India, from prehistoric to modern times. The ground floor showcased alternative objects used in ancient times as money, coins from various periods in Indian history and currency notes from different countries worldwide. Walls were covered in information boards on themes ranging from the barter system and the development of coinage to detailed histories of colonial financial policies and the beginning of the RBI in India. The museum was filled with interactive features such as digital maps, contactless books and models of note-binding machines, currency box cutters, seal-pressing tools, etc.

The second floor was very visually stimulating. It had a large display case of all currency notes printed in India and a touch-screen device that presented information about the evolution of each note, a visual representation of one crore rupees in terms of 10-rupees notes, models of one-rupee coins minted in different cities and a comparative display of the history of foreign exchange. A favourite among students was the educational and entertaining games such as one testing the knowledge of Indian currency notes and another teaching about inflation.

The location of the museum added to the architectural significance of the experience as it is housed in a repurposed heritage building (formerly the Alliance Bank of Simla). The modern and engaging displays with many interactive features helped the students to gain awareness of contemporary museum practices.
Overall, the educational trip was an enriching academic experience, enabling students to appreciate the evolution of money and media of exchange in India, while gaining a deeper understanding of various aspects of regional, national and international financial systems and their interconnected nature.






Before Money
Agriculture - The Change Agent
Mehrgarh
Bhimbetka
GPS Map Camera
Kolkata, West Bengal, India
1/16, Council House St, Lal Dighi, B.b.d. Bagh,
Kolkata, West Bengal 700062, India
Lat 22.570481° Long 88.347553°
Friday, 16/01/2026 02:21 PM GMT +05:30
Google


The Earliest Exchange
Before Money
GPS Map Camera
Kolkata, West Bengal, India
8, Council House St, Lal Dighi, B.b.d. Bagh,
Kolkata, West Bengal 700062, India
Lat 22.5705° Long 88.347533°
Friday, 16/01/2026 02:25 PM GMT +05:30
Google


Money through the Centuries
Cowries as Money
Paper Currency
Electronic Money
c. 1200 BC
c. AD 800
AD 1550
The Present
GPS Map Camera
Kolkata, West Bengal, India
1/16, Council House St, Lal Dighi, B.b.d. Bagh,
Kolkata, West Bengal 700062, India
Lat 22.57049° Long 88.347545°
Friday, 16/01/2026 02:21 PM GMT +05:30
Google