Interactive Session on Tourism and History: Perspectives Opportunities and Challenges with Mr. Samrat Sanyal and Mr. Pinaki Mitra

The Department of History, Loreto College, in collaboration with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), organised an interactive session on **"Tourism and History: Perspectives, Opportunities and Challenges"** on **24 September 2026**. The session featured **Mr. Samrat Sanyal**, Chairman, Tourism Panel, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), North Bengal Zonal Council, and **Mr. Pinaki Mitra**, Founder and CEO, Travel Live (India) Pvt. Ltd.

The programme commenced with a panel discussion involving **Mr. Samrat Sanyal, Mr. Pinaki Mitra, Professor Dr. Krishnokoli Hazra, and Professor Dr. Anindita Bandyopadhyay**. Mr. Sanyal initiated the discussion by highlighting the significant role that tourism can play in the historical studies. He further elaborated on the possibilities of collaboration between the two disciplines and emphasised the potential of the tourism sector to provide valuable internship and professional opportunities for undergraduate students.

Mr. Mitra provided valuable insights into the significance of **World Tourism Day**. He highlighted the theme of World Tourism Day 2026, **"Digital Agenda and Artificial Intelligence to Redesign Tourism,"** and also drew attention to the potential of international tourism and its capacity to generate diverse employment opportunities for the youth.

The session was then opened to the students, who actively participated in an interactive question-and-answer session with the speakers. Students raised questions regarding the skills and competencies required to pursue careers in the tourism sector and also the challenges that the industry may experience in the coming years and the ways in which these challenges could be addressed.

An engaging discussion followed on **eco-tourism and sustainable tourism practices**. Mr. Sanyal and Mr. Mitra shared their perspectives on the importance of maintaining a balance between the commercial interests of the tourism industry and the need to preserve environmental and cultural sustainability.

The interactive session was both informative and engaging, providing students with valuable insights into the relationship between history and tourism, career opportunities, and the

challenges facing the tourism sector. The exchange of ideas between the speakers, faculty members, and students made the programme a meaningful academic and professional learning experience.




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