

A Week-long Workshop on Planet, People or Profit? The ‘Perilous Passage’ and the Capitalist Transformation of the Natural World
10-14 September 2012

IDSK organised a week-long workshop on **Planet, People or Profit? The ‘Perilous Passage’ and the Capitalist Transformation of the Natural World** from September 10 to 14, 2012 at the Salt Lake Campus of the Institute to familiarise as well as refresh the faculty members and research scholars from the discipline of history or from other disciplines interested in environmental studies. 40 participants from different parts of the country registered in the programme. It began with the welcome address of Prof. Amiya Kumar Bagchi who provided a broad outline of the entire course bringing out the inversely proportional relationship between advancing capitalism and environmental degradation. It was followed by the inaugural speech of Prof. Mahesh Rangarajan. Rangarajan. Eminent historians and environmental scientists reflected on 5 major themes (1. The Industrial Revolution and natural environment in the west, 2. Colonial capitalism and its impact on the natural landscapes of Americas, Asia, and Africa, 3. Environment and environmentalism(s), post-WWII scenario, 4. Ecological thought (with emphasis on ecological materialism, 5. Ecological Practices) followed by case study based presentations from both the invited practitioners from the field and the participants themselves. The discussions were extremely interactive where both instructors and applicants engaged in brainstorming activities to sketch ecological alternatives for the betterment of our planet and emancipation of mankind.