Barak Valley tea workers protest

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SILCHAR: Workers of almost all of the 104 tea gardens of the Barak Valley on Friday staged protests against the cash crunch in front of the offices of their respective managements.

The protests were organized by the Intuc-affiliated Barak Cha Shramik Union and will continue for the next three days, said a union official.

Assistant general secretary of the union, Dinanath Baroi, said the protest programme had not disrupted the functioning of the gardens.

He added that the workers wanted the traditional system of cash payment of wages to remain as only five or six gardens in the valley had micro-ATMs. He said the workers had been facing extreme hardship in getting their money and were very unhappy.