CONTENTS

I     Introduction

II    Research programmes

III   Collaborations

IV    Teaching and Research Guidance

V     Seminars and workshops

VI    Library

VII   Academic activities of faculty members

VIII  Publications

IX    Members of faculty
I Introduction

The Institute of Development Studies Kolkata (IDSK) has been promoted by the Government of West Bengal as an autonomous centre of excellence in social sciences. It was founded in 2002 as a society with an autonomous governing body, with one of the most eminent historians in India, Professor Irfan Habib as President, Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi as Director and with a Governing Council on which are represented the Vice-Chancellors of two leading Universities in West Bengal, namely Calcutta University and Jadavpur University. The Governing Council also includes such eminent academics as Professor Nirmal Chandra, Professor Suranjan Das, Professor V.K. Ramachandran and Professor Malini Bhattacharya as its members.

The IDSK is devoted to advanced academic research and informed policy advice in the areas of literacy, education, health, gender issues, employment, technology, communication, human sciences and economic development. Other programmes include training of research scholars in the social sciences working towards a Ph.D. The Institute is committed to the dissemination of its research findings through workshops, seminars, publications in the media, and other public counselling and education programmes. The most important new development in the area of teaching programmes has been the launching of a multidisciplinary M.Phil programme on Development Studies, in collaboration with the Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities, University of Calcutta. The course has been commenced in July 2006.

The IDSK is now in the fifth year of its existence. During the first year, the Director and the Research Coordinator were the only academic faculty on its rolls. The other members of faculty joined between the end of 2003 and the latter half of 2004 and 2005. During the four years of its existence, it has made its mark in the world of research in social sciences and humanities in West Bengal and Eastern India. It has actively collaborated with the departments of history, economics, political science, philosophy, business management, the Science College, and the Centre for Urban Economic Studies and Women’s Studies Centre, and most frequently, with the Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities, of Calcutta University. The Institute has also organized a number of training
and research programmes, generally in collaboration with other academic institutions, the
details of which have been given in the body of the report.

During 2006-07 it has collaborated with Pratichi Trust (India) under the academic
leadership of Professor Amartya Sen, and organized two workshops. In the first workshop
held on 1 July 2006, representatives of teachers’ and healthcare workers’ organizations
and other activists in the field discussed the role of workers’ organizations in facilitating
elementary education and primary health care, in active interaction with Professor
Amartya Sen, and Professor Partha Dey, Honourable Minister of School Education,
Government of West Bengal, and other experts on health care and education. On 12
February 2007, the second workshop with Pratichi Trust (India) was held on ‘Towards a
better health care system in West Bengal: A public discussion’. Professor Amartya Sen,
Dr. Surjya Kanta Mishra, Honourable Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Panchayats
& Rural Development, Government of West Bengal and Professor Asim Dasgupta,
Honourable Minister of Finance, Government of West Bengal participated in this
workshop, along with representatives of health care organizations and invited experts
such as Dr. Dilip Mahalanabis, Professor Amitava Sen and Dr. Gouripada Datta.

Professor Amartya Sen has been leading workshops of the Calcutta (Kolkata) Group for
the last five years. This Group held its fifth workshop on ‘Child rights and development’
in collaboration with IDS on 13 and 14 February 2007.

The chief organizations sponsoring the workshop were Global Equity Initiative, Harvard
University, Pratichi Trust(India) and UNICEF India. This year’s workshop was organized
in collaboration with IDS.

During those two days two major reports concerning children’s health and the health
status of Indian children were discussed thoroughly. The key findings of the National
Family Health Survey-III were summarized and discussed by A.K. Shiva Kumar of
UNICEF, and Siddiquur Osmani. The other report, Focus on Children Under Six
(FOCUS), was released and presented by Jean Dréze. The participants in the workshop
also included Sitaram Yechuri, MP and Member of CPI(M) Politburo, Arjun Sengupta,
MP and Chairman of National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganized and
Informal Sector, N. Ram, Editor-in-Chief of the Hindu Group of Newspapers, Ms. Syeda
Hameed and Abhijit Sen of Planning Commission, Government of India, Sudhir Anand
and Ms.. Sabine Alkire of Harvard Global Equity Initiative, Cecilio Adorna, Ms. Ramya

Some near-term projections

The UNDP (India) has recognized the IDSK as the nodal institution for Human Development Studies in the eastern region and has sanctioned that the IDSK can conduct a certificate course in human development studies under the auspices of UNDP (India).

A new agreement has been signed with the Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung (RLS), Berlin. According to this agreement, the IDSK, with the support of the RLS, will carry out a research project on ‘Women, work, education and disparities’. The project shall start from 1 April 2007.
A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed with the South Asia Institute (SAI), University of Heidelberg, Germany to promote a better understanding between the faculty and students of SAI and the faculty and students of IDSK. This MOU shall remain in force for three years. It is expected that with suitable funding, the collaboration with SAI will lead to the development of certain specific areas such as exchange of scholars, collaboration in research, exchange of academic papers and other information, and participation in seminars and academic programmes.

The list of publications in the relevant sections gives a list of monographs, reports or papers already published during 2006-07. We now list three books by IDSK faculty for which contracts have been signed with publishers:

Amiya Kumar Bagchi and Gary Dymski (eds.): *Capture and Exclude: developing economies and the poor in global finance*, New Delhi, Tulika (in an advanced stage of production).


II  Research Programmes

A. The programme on ‘Women and media in the context of globalisation’ funded by the Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung

The Institute of Development Studies Kolkata (IDSK) and Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, Berlin, have established a close and fruitful relationship in the course of the last three years. IDSK, with the support of the RLS, has implemented a research project on ‘Women and Media in the Context of Globalisation’ in cooperation with four other centres -- School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University; School of Women's Studies, Bhubaneswar, Utkal University; Women's Studies Research Centre, Gauhati University, and Saajhi Dunia, Lucknow.
The final report of the project, ‘Women and Media in the Context of Globalisation’ was completed and sent to Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung (RLS), Berlin, in November 2006. Prepared by Malini Bhattacharjee Senior Co-ordinator of the project, and Subhoranjan Dasgupta, Project Manager, with the help of the three Research Assistants: Ranjana Dasgupta, Gargi Sen, Arpita Guha Thakurta and several others who were engaged in fieldwork, this report has been highly appreciated by RLS who sponsored the project.

The final reports of the four other partners, which had been sent earlier to RLS, were also appreciated. Thus, this complex and challenging project scanning the entire terrain of women’s representation in the Indian media in the globalised world has come to an end.

While the elaborate work of dissemination has already been done, at present the IDS K and the partners are building their archives, which can be used by researchers in the future. A final interactive session in which the partners participated as well and an exhibition of the materials prepared and produced (reports, posters, leaflets etc.) were held on December 8, 2006. All major newspapers of the city reported on the event. The reports prepared by IDS K and the partners will appear as monographs soon.

B. Documents on the economic history of British Rule in India 1858-1947

The Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) has appointed Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi General Editor of the project of compiling the basic documents on the economic history of India under British rule and Professor Arun Bandyopadhyay, Nurul Hasan Professor of History, Calcutta University, Associate Editor of the project. Under the original scheme of the project, which had been initiated in 1991-92 but then discontinued for some scheme of the project, which had been initiated in 1991-92 but then discontinued for some years, Dr Bhubanes Misra had compiled three volumes of railway documents pertaining to the period and these had been published by the ICHR. Under the revived project, Dr Misra was appointed as Editor in charge of the further volumes of railway documents, working under the guidance of the General Editor. A forth volume of the railway documents has been prepared and will be soon sent to the ICHR. A volume of documents on the agrarian situation and living conditions in Bengal from 1860 to 1880 has been prepared.
C. The project on ‘Monitoring of school level history textbooks’

The IDSK has undertaken a project on ‘Monitoring of school level history textbooks of West Bengal’ sponsored by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. For this it has set up a (history textbook) monitoring cell. The cell is supervised by Dr. Ramkrishna Chatterjee as the Project Director and Shri Saubhik Bandopadhyay as the Project Co-ordinator. The objective of the project is to pinpoint the errors, inaccuracies, distortion and deliberate falsification of history that are found to be infiltrated in many of history textbooks and to guard against the possibility of young minds being poisoned by communalism or linguistic, or regional chauvinism or chauvinism of any other variety. A report of the study has been submitted to CABE Committee on regulatory mechanisms for textbooks and parallel textbooks taught in the schools of West Bengal. Observations of the survey were incorporated in the main text of the CABE Committee. Evaluation of textbooks for class V prepared by West Bengal Primary Education Council has been done and the report has been submitted in July 2006. The analysis of history textbooks for classes IX and X prescribed by the West Bengal Board of Secondary Education has been completed and the final report will be submitted by June 2007.

D. Allocation and Utilisation of Resources for Social Sector Programmes in Purulia District (with special reference to programmes for women and children)

A study of the reasons for poor utilization of resources meant for social sector programmes in backward districts like Purulia in West Bengal has been carried out by a team of IDSK led by Professor Achin Chakraborty along with Dr. Subrata Mukherjee and Shri Subhanil Banerjee, with funding support by the UNICEF. The report analyses allocation and utilisation of financial resources for the social sector in West Bengal, focusing on Purulia. The state’s rather modest record in providing basic needs – minimum levels of education, health, nutrition, water and sanitation – stands in contrast to the vast amount of resources allocated through central schemes to provide the basic services. A somewhat incomplete list of Centrally Sponsored Schemes for the social sector that the study took into account received an allocation of roughly Rs. 250 crore in a typical recent year. This indicates that the problem is not one of limited resources, but political priorities and incentives at the local level. In the recent years, the Government of India has
increased its allocation to child-specific programmes. The three most important programmes in terms of the quantum of resources allocated are in the areas of nutrition and child development (ICDS), elementary education (DPEP-SSA and Mid-day Meal Scheme) and child health (RCH). In Purulia, Rs. 59 crore was available in 2005-06 for spending in the first two areas, but only 40 percent of the amount could be spent during the year. The generic problems of the central schemes lie in the flawed presumptions based on which the schemes are designed, which in turn creates problems for the implementing agencies. Most of the explanations of non-utilisation of funds in Purulia therefore may not be unique to the district. Only the intensity of the problem is different because of the district’s backwardness in terms of certain basic indicators of human development, such as literacy. The state’s attempts to provide targeted benefits to the poor and disadvantaged have been severely hampered by its inability to provide generic skills through mass education and literacy in districts like Purulia. Based on the findings of the study, a number of policy suggestions have been made.

The final report has been submitted in February 2007.

E. Possibilities of closer economic ties between India and Australia in capital goods industries in the WTO regime

The Institute has taken up a project on ‘Possibilities of closer economic ties between India and Australia in capital goods industries in the WTO regime’ sponsored by Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia. Dr. Uttam Bhattacharya of IDSK is coordinating the project along with other researchers in India. Dr. Pundarik Mukhopadhyay of Macquarie University and Dr. P.K. Basu from the Charles Stuart University are in charge of the project at the Australian end. The objectives of the project are to analyze the trade and industrial scenario of India since 1995 in the capital goods industries in the context of Indo-Australia economic relations, to evaluate the existing economic ties between India and Australia in the field of manufacturing since 1990s and to explore the possibilities of further collaborations in manufacturing capital goods between India and Australia. To fulfill these objectives, surveys of machinery manufacturing companies working in Mumbai, Bangalore and Kolkata have been done and primary and secondary data collected from the companies have been analyzed. Two interim reports already have been submitted to the Australian partner Institute.
F. Women’s health and empowerment in ICDS – An exploratory study in West Bengal

This exploratory project, in collaboration with the National Commission for Women, is implemented by making field studies of ICDS and women’s empowerment initiatives. It attempts to understand the biological and social cycles associated with the life of a ‘mother’, her social existence and status as a woman implicating health. Engaged in exploration of challenges and options for woman’s health and empowerment, the study covers three districts in the state of West Bengal, namely, North 24 Parganas, Birbhum and Murshidabad. Dr. Krishna Soman is the coordinator of this project. The project is at the concluding phase.

G. The State Development Report

The Development and Planning Department, Government of West Bengal has approached the IDS K for preparing a State Development Report for West Bengal. The work on the project was started in January 2007 under the direction of Professor Debdas Banerjee. It is expected that the report will be ready by end-June 2007.

III Collaborations

Collaboration with the University of Calcutta

IDS K has launched a multidisciplinary M.Phil programme in Development Studies, in collaboration with the Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities (CSSH), University of Calcutta. The M.Phil degree is to be conferred by the University of Calcutta. The teaching faculty mainly consists of the IDS K faculty and the University faculty associated with CSSH.

Collaboration with Sciences PO, Paris, France

IDS K and the Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques (Sciences Po), Paris have entered into a collaboration agreement. Under this agreement two students of Sciences Po have come as interns for attending the M.Phil Course in Development Studies for one semester. Sciences Po will arrange for a scholar to visit Sciences Po as holder of a Chaire Finances Internationales.
Collaboration with Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, Paris

IDS K and Maison des Sciences de l'Homme (MSH), Paris have entered into collaborative relations. IDSK faculty members have held fellowships at the MSH. In the academic year 2007-08, a collaborative Conference between the two institutions, on 'Utopia, Dystopia and Development', has been planned.

IV Teaching and Research Guidance

a. M.Phil in Development Studies

The M.Phil. Programme in Development Studies is multi-disciplinary in nature, and designed to provide an understanding of various perspectives on development issues, through a rigorous course work and guided research. The perspectives are drawn from different disciplines, with a strong emphasis on the classics in social sciences and humanities. The curriculum emphasizes a heterodox perspective on social science paradigms and the methodological underpinnings of social science research. The strength of the course particularly lies in the balance it maintains between theory and hands-on training on tools of analysis – both quantitative and qualitative.

The duration of the entire programme is two years – equally divided between course work and writing dissertation. The first year of course work is further divided into two halves. The first half deals with the core courses, which all the students have to go through, and the second deals with the specialization courses distinguished by a few select disciplines. On completion of the first semester of course work, each student is to specialize in one of the following disciplinary areas: literature and cultural studies, economics, sociology, history and political science. The specialization courses, irrespective of the disciplinary area, will have a strong emphasis on development-oriented topics. By the end of the first year, students will choose their dissertation topics and start working under the close supervision of the faculty.

The M.Phil course in Development Studies for the session 2006–2008 in collaboration with the University of Calcutta has been commenced in July 2006. Eighteen students have been attending this course.
b. Training of fellows working towards Ph.D

At IDSK, four scholars are doing their Ph.D and their work is near completion. Shri Sankalpa Bhattacharjee is researching on the problems and prospects of the software industry in West Bengal. The topic of research of Ms. Nirmalamati Maisnam is ‘Democratic decentralisation and rural development in Manipur’. Ms. Saheli Roychowdhury is researching on urban Bengali middle class response to globalisation-driven economic liberalisation and to neo-imperial designs. The topic of research of Ms. Anusri Pal is ‘The problems and prospects of jute industry in eastern India’. Professor Prasanta Ray is supervising the work of Saheli and Professor Prabhat Datta is supervising the work of Nirmalamati.

Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi is supervising the Ph.D thesis of Panchanan Das whose topic is ‘A comparative study of industrial growth in Gujarat and West Bengal’.

Professor Debdas Banerjee has supervised the Ph.D thesis of Shri Satyaki Roy of Calcutta University. The topic of research of Satyaki is ‘Small manufacturing enterprises in West Bengal in a liberalized regime’.

Dr. Krishna Soman has supervised the M.Phil thesis of Sreerupa Sengupta of Jadavpur University. Her thesis is on ‘Portrayal of women in HIV/AIDS campaign in West Bengal: A social analysis.

V Seminars and workshops

A. Training-cum- research workshops

a. Workshop on ‘The role of workers’ organizations in facilitating elementary education and primary health care’

On 1 July 2006, Pratichi (India) Trust and the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata organized an interactive session with workers' organizations in school teaching and public
healthcare on 'The role of workers' organizations in facilitating elementary education and primary healthcare'. Professor Amartya Sen, and Professor Partha Dey, Honourable Minister of School Education, Government of West Bengal, and other experts on health care and education interacted with the representatives of various teachers' and healthcare workers’ organizations such as All Bengal Teachers Association (ABTA) All Bengal Primary Teachers Association (ABPTA) Bangiya Prathamik Sikshak Sangha Paschimbanga Madrasah Sikshak Samiti, Prathamik Sikshak Sangha West Bengal Primary Teachers' Association Paschimbanga Rajya Sarkari Karmachari Samiti West Bengal State Coordination Committee DPSCs of Birbhum and Burdwan Association of Health Services Doctors Association of Bengal Services Doctors West Bengal Non-Medical Technical Employees Association West Bengal Voluntary Health Association and other activists in the field. A report entitled *Manab Unnayaner Pothe: Prathamik Shiksha o Janaswasther Rupayane Kormi Sangathangulir Bhumika* (in Bangla) covering the main findings of this session has been published.

From the discussion, it came out that while West Bengal had made significant progress in reducing illiteracy and advancing the health status of the people, there is still a considerable distance to go before universal literacy with advances in secondary and higher education, and a satisfactory health status of the people are attained. It was noted that workers' organizations in both the education and health sectors can play a major role in identifying outstanding problems and motivating the members to help to attain the above goals, - in association with other institutions or segments of society and polity such as governmental and non-governmental organizations, guardians and local government representatives and village level committees on health and education. The necessity of democratic movements for attaining these goals was also emphasized.

b. **Workshop on ‘Towards a better health care system in West Bengal: A public discussion’**

On 12 February 2007, the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata (IDSK) in collaboration with Pratichi Trust (India) held a workshop on ‘Towards a better health care system in West Bengal: A public discussion’. The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. Surjya Kanta Mishra, Honourable Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Panchayats & Rural Development, Government of West Bengal. Professor Amartya Sen addressed the
participants and held an interactive session with them. Besides Dr. Mishra, Professor Asim Dasgupta, Honourable Minister of Finance, Government of West Bengal was also present. Among other participants mention may be made of Shri Dilip Ghosh, Joint Secretary, Department of Panchayats & Rural Development, Dr. Dilip Mahalanabis, Senior Fellow of IDSK and recipient of Prince Mahidol Award for his contribution to healthcare, Dr. Amitava Sen, Dr. Gouripada Datta, former MLA and Professor of NRS Medical College, Dr. Abhijit Choudhury, Associate Professor, School of Post graduate Medicine, SSKM Hospital, Shri Debu Dattagupta of the Coordination Committee of government employees, Dr. Krishna Soman and Professor Achin Chakraborty of IDSK and Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi, Director, IDSK. The workshop concluded with important statements made by Dr. Surjya Kanta Mishra and Professor Asim Dasgupta regarding the steps taken by the Government of West Bengal to improve the healthcare system.

B. Lectures delivered by visiting scholars

On 4 July 2006, Professor Yingyi Qian, Professor of Economics, University of California, Berkeley, USA delivered a lecture on ‘Transformation in China since 1978’.

On 17 July 2006, Professor Tanika Sarkar, Jawaharlal Nehru University, gave a seminar on ‘Fire-eaters: Law and faith in early colonial Bengal’. The lecture was organized by the IDSK in collaboration with the Women’s Studies Research Centre and Department of History, University of Calcutta.

On 7 August 2006, Professor Abhijit Banerjee, Ford Foundation Professor of Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA, gave a talk on ‘Corruption and ethnic politics’.

On 21 August 2006, Professor Sugata Bose, Gardiner Professor of History, Harvard University, delivered a lecture on ‘Historical antecedents of contemporary globalization’.

On 10 November 2006, Ms. Henrike Lott, Department of Political Science, South Asia Institute, University of Heidelberg University, Germany delivered a talk on ‘Farmers’ suicides in India: A challenge to governance and strategic reform’.

On 20 December 2006, Professor Ranabir Chakravarty, Centre for Historical Studies, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi gave a lecture on ‘Blockading the Gulf of Eden: A Bishop’s Blueprint (14th Century)’.


On 20 February 2007, Shri Jaideep Hardikar, an investigative journalist based in Nagpur, gave a talk on ‘Politics of farmers’ suicide in Vidarbha’. The talk was jointly organized
by the Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities, University of Calcutta, Netaji Institute for Asian Studies and IDSK.

On 23 February 2007, Dr. Jayasree Basu, Senior Economist and Senior Health Scientist Administrator, Centre for Primary Care, Prevention and Clinical Partnerships at the US Government Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality gave a lecture on ‘Spatial analysis of access to primary care: An Overview of findings’.

VI  Library

The Library, which began functioning from December 2002, already houses an impressive number of books, journals and magazines and primary documents focusing on various development research like Education, Public Health, Economics, Sociology, Political Sciences, Gender Studies, Human Sciences and Globalization. It has a total collection of 6255 (processed) books till 31 January 2007. The library also subscribes to 32 foreign and 27 Indian journals.

The Library has established network connections with DELNET, Prowess and is a member of Calcutta University's E-Journals under UGC INFONET Programme, Indiahealthstat.com, Oxford e-bundle journals in economics.

The Institute has been gifted with very valuable collections, that of the late Michael Sprinker, a leading radical literary theorist, and also a collection of about 1900 books from Shri Parimal Dasgupta, a leading journalist. These two gifts have been designated as the Michael Sprinker and Parimal Dasgupta Collections respectively.

VII  Academic activities of faculty members

Amiya Kumar Bagchi

Delivered the keynote address at the International Young Scholars’ seminar on ‘Rich nation, poor people’ organized by the Academy of Third World Studies, University of Jamia Millia Islamia in association with Leftword Books on 4 April 2006.

Gave a special lecture in the two-day national seminar on ‘Intellectual property rights (IPR): General issues and implications for India’, organized by the Department of Economics, Rabindra Bharati University on 12 April 2006.
Delivered a lecture on ‘Is stability dangerous for democracy’ organized by Democratic Teachers’ Forum, University of Calcutta on 13 April 2006.

Attended the seminar on ‘Privatization and commercialization of higher education’, organized by National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA), New Delhi on 2 May 2006.

Gave a talk on ‘Higher education in India in the era of globalization – problems and prospects’ organized by Burdwan Raj College in their 125th anniversary celebration on 9 August 2006.

Delivered Dr. Satyendranath Sen Memorial lecture on ‘Towards a people-centered history of finance’ organized by the Asiatic Society on 11 September 2006.

Gave a lecture on ‘Relevance of social science in the present scenario’ at Vidyasagar University on 26 September 2006.

Delivered the keynote address on ‘China India Russia: Moving out of backwardness or ‘Cunning passages of history’ at the Sixth China India Russia Academic Trilateral Conference organized by The Institute of Chinese Studies, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, New Delhi in association with China Institute of International Studies and Institute for Far Eastern Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences, New Delhi on 2 November 2006.

Delivered Arun Bose Memorial lecture on ‘Capitalist colonialism, imperialism and genocide’ at Kirorimal College, New Delhi on 15 November 2006.

Was Guest of Honour at the National Seminar on ‘Home science for better living in the present era’ which was organized to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of University of Calcutta and the Golden Jubilee celebration of Viharilal College, Department of Home Science on 6 December 2006.

Inaugurated the conference on ‘Globalization and regional economic cooperation: Management challenges organized by the Department of Business Management, University of Calcutta on 24 December 2006.


Presented a paper on ‘Globalization and education’ and also chaired a session on ‘Value, culture and tradition’ at the Fifth International Conference of the Academy of International Business(AIB)-India on ‘India in the emerging global order’ organized by Xavier Institute of Management, Bhubaneswar between 29 to 31 January 2007.

Gave lectures on ‘The Indian economy since independence’ at the Refresher Course organized by the Department of History, University of Calcutta.


**Barnita Bagchi**

Participated in a seminar on ‘Engendering the 11th Five-Year Plan’, organized by Think Tank and National Alliance of Women’s Organizations, Kolkata on 18 June 2006.

Presented a paper on ‘Ramabai, Rokeya, and the history of gendered social capital in India’ at the Women’s History Network conference ‘Thinking Women: Education, Culture and Society’ organized by the University of Durham, UK held between 1-3 September 2006.

Presented a paper on ‘Friends, lovers, and chocolate: Querying/ Queering the comforts of popular fiction’ in India at the Conference on ‘Popular Literature and its Reception in India’ organized by Centre for Advanced Studies, Jadavpur University on 18 December 2006.

Directed and co-moderated a workshop on ‘Gender and sexuality’, organised by Ebong Alap and School of Women’s Studies, Jadavpur University, on 11 January 2007.

Participated as a discussant in Indian Association of Women’s Studies seminar on ‘Feminism and the production of knowledge’ on 6 February 2007.

Gave five lectures on Research Methodology, Mary Wollstonecraft, and F. Engels in the 1st semester of the IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies in 2006.
Gave six lectures in the M.Phil. course of Women’s Studies, Jadavpur University.

At present giving lectures in the specialization module of the 2nd semester of the IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies on ‘Literature and Society’.

**Debdas Banerjee**

Participated in National consultation on ‘Social security for unorganised workers’, organized jointly by Centre for Economic and Social Studies, Hyderabad and Institute for Human Development, New Delhi held at CESS on July 7-8, 2006.

Invited to deliver a lecture on ‘Revisiting Mahalanobis Strategy on planning after 50 years’ at the National mid-year seminar of Bengal Economic Association, held at St. Xavier’s College, Kolkata on September 17, 2006.

Edited the volume comprising selected papers presented in the Conference on ‘Globalisation and Labour’, IDSK, Dec.2004. The manuscript has been accepted by Routledge.

Finalized and submitted the Report as a member of the State Level Committee for Preparation of Perspective Plans for Power Sector (constituted by the Govt. of West Bengal by a Gazette Notification in 2005).

Nominated as the Member of the International Editorial Board of *Working USA : The Journal of Labour and Society* (New York).

Supervised the Ph.D thesis of Shri Satyaki Roy of Calcutta University.

**Sudeep Basu**

Delivered a lecture on ‘Tibetan refugees with special reference to Darjeeling’ at the CRG Winter Course on Forced Migration held in Kolkata on 8 December 2006.

Participated and presented a paper on ‘The Tibetan problem: From refugees to diaspora’ at the International Cultural Studies workshop held at Hyderabad from 28 January to 2 February 2007.


Supervised jointly the fieldwork of M.Phil students of IDSK in Budge Budge during November-December 2006.

At present delivering lectures on ‘Ethnicity, tribal development and globalization’ and ‘Refugees, displacement and diaspora’ in the 2nd semester of the IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies.

**Malini Bhattacharya**

Gave a lecture on ‘Women and media’ at the International Seminar on ‘Science, culture and social change, organized by the University of Calcutta on 20 January 2007.

Delivered the keynote address at the workshop on ‘Integrated action plan for prevention of trafficking’, organized by West Bengal State Commission for Women on 1 February 2007.

Delivered the keynote address at the UGC course on ‘Capacity building for women managers in higher education’ organized by Kalyani University on 13 February 2007.

Gave a lecture on ‘Women and media’ at the refresher course of Women’s Studies research Centre, University of Calcutta on 16 February 2007.

Gave a lecture on ‘Raymond Williams’ at the 2nd semester of IDSK_CU M.Phil course in Development Studies on 27 February 2007.
Uttam Bhattacharya

Presented a paper on ‘Government and WTO and environment regulations in India’ at the National Conference on ‘Sustainable development and role of government’ organized by the Department of Economics, Sudhiranjan Mahavidyalay, Nadia during 3-4 August 2006.

Presented a paper on ‘WTO and Agriculture in India’ at the 66th Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics organized by Indian Council Of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Shillong, Meghalaya held between 8 and 10 November 2006.

Participated in the International Conference on ‘Globalisation and regional economic cooperation: Managing the challenges’, organized by the Department of Business Management, University of Calcutta on 25-26 November 2006.

Attended the International Workshop on ‘Regional grouping in international relations organized by Netaji Institute for Asian Studies and Peace Studies, Calcutta University on 2 December 2006.


Participated in the Round table discussion on Development Concept at the International Conference on Fifty Years of Development Paradigm: A reappraisal with emphasis on India, Post-Centenary Golden Jubilee Celebration of University of Calcutta during 28-30 December 2006.


Achin Chakraborty

Invited to give lectures at the South Asian Water Fellowship Project Staff Training Workshop on Field Research Methodology at Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies, Dhaka, on 19 August 2006.

Delivered a lecture on ‘Human Development’ at the National Seminar on ‘Home Science for better living in the present era’ at University of Calcutta on 15 November 2006.

Invited to deliver a lecture at the UGC sponsored seminar on ‘The economic and political compulsions in policy making: Recent Indian experience of coalition governments’, at Chandernagore College on 18 November 2006.

Delivered a Special Lecture on ‘Contemporary issues in development economics’ at XVIth Annual Conference on Development Economics at the Department of Economics, Jadavpur University, 16 December 2006.
Invited to give a lecture at the ICSSR-sponsored seminar on ‘Frontiers of development economics: An Indian perspective’ at Presidency College, Kolkata on 18 January 2007.

Acted as the Principal Investigator in the UNICEF sponsored research project on ‘Allocation and utilisation of resources for social sector programmes in Puruluia district: A study with special reference to programmes for women and children’.


**Indrani Chakraborty**

Presented a paper on ‘Does financial development cause economic growth? The case of India’ at the 43rd Annual Conference of the Indian Econometric Society held at Mumbai during January 5-7, 2007 and also at IDSK in October 2006.

At present teaching econometrics in the 2nd semester of CU-IDSK M.Phil Programme in Development Studies.

Examined the M.Phil dissertation in Economics of a student of Jadavpur University.

**Subhoranjan Dasgupta**

Participated as a moderator in a symposium on ‘Women’s empowerment and globalisation’ organized by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation at the Frankfurt Book Fair on 6 October 2006.

Attended the seminar on ‘India at the Frankfurt Book Fair’ at the Max Muller Bhavan, Kolkata on 18 October 2006.

Participated as a moderator in the international conference on ‘China and India – Emerging powers’ organized by Rosa Luxemburg Foundation and Observer Research Foundation in New Delhi on 23 November 2006.

Gave a lecture at the symposium on ‘Media and governance’ organized by the Department of Political Science, University of Calcutta on 30 November 2006.

Delivered a talk at the symposium on ‘Migration and human rights’ organized by Calcutta Research Group at Swabhumi, Kolkata on 3 December 2006.


Gave three lectures on ‘Politics in creativity’ and two lectures along with Dr. Barnita Bagchi on ‘Women and Media in the context of Globalisation’ in the 1st semester of the IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies.
Also delivered three lectures on ‘Antonio Gramsci’s hegemony, culture, intellectuals etc.’ in the 1st semester of M.Phil course.

At present giving lectures on ‘Literature and society’ in the 2nd semester of the IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies.

**Bidhan Kanti Das**

Sent a paper on ‘Strategy of sharing cost by people in eco-development investments: Some observations from Buxa tiger reserve, West Bengal, India’ in the 38th Annual Conference of the Indian Anthropological Society at North Bengal University, Darjeeling held during 9-11 December 2006.

(jointly with D. P. Mukherjee) Co-authored a paper on ‘Inbreeding effects on the growth in stature among Telaga boys and girls of Kharagpur, India’ will be published in the first issue of *Anthropologischer Anzeiger* (Germany) in March 2007.

(jointly with Dr. Subrata Mukherjee and Sudeep Basu) Supervised the fieldwork of M.Phil students of IDSK at Budge Budge during November-December 2006.

Assisted the students from the Sciences Po – Institut D’etudes Politiques de Paris for a field based research work on ‘Micro credit and health in rural West Bengal’.

Working as an instructor of sociology special paper of the M.Phil students for the session 2006-08.

**Prabhat Datta**

Appointed as the chairperson, State Level Technical Advisory Group under Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission, Department of Municipal Affairs & Urban Development, Government of West Bengal in 2006.

Appointed as the Research Adviser to the DFID project on ‘Strengthening rural decentralization in West Bengal in the Department of Panchayats & Rural Development, Government of West Bengal in 2006.

Completed a study jointly with Dr. Dipankar Sinha on the working of the Self-Help Groups in 2006 sponsored by the Zilla Parishad, North 24 Parganas.

Completed a pilot study jointly with Dr. Dipankar Sinha on the working of Ward Committees in Chandannagar Munical Corporation in December 2006 funded by the DFID.

**Subrata Mukherjee**

Participated in a two-day consortium on ‘Tracking national expenditure on HIV/AIDS’ organized by UNAIDS (India Country Office) held at Bangalore during 1 – 2 May 2006.

Presented a paper on ‘The importance of quality and price in choice of health care: A study of West Bengal’, at the International Health Unit, University of Montreal on 20 July 2006.


(jointly with Jean-Frederic Levesque) Completed a paper on ‘Health care for the elderly in Kerala, South India: Analysis of the National Sample Survey, 60th Rounded Data, will be published soon in Shanti Johnson and S. Irudaya Rajan (eds). *Ageing and health in India*, Sage, New Delhi.

Acted as the co-investigator in the UNICEF sponsored research project on ‘Allocation and utilisation of resources for social sector programmes in Puruluia district: A study with special reference to programmes for women and children’.

Invited as an academic visitor at the International Health Unit of the University of Montreal, Canada during 15 July – 5 August 2006.

Gave 13 lectures on ‘Quantitative methods’ in the 1st semester of the IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies in 2006.

(jointly with Dr. Bidhan Kanti Das and Sudeep Basu) supervised the field work of M.Phil students in November 2006.

Acted as field research superviser of two students from Institut D’etudes Politiques de Paris who were visiting IDSK to do internship as part of their Masters Programme.

**Prasanta Ray**

Presented a paper on ‘Reflection in Ganga: language, relationship and science in Bengal’, at a symposium organized by Bharathidasan Institute of Management, Trichy on 7 October 2006.

Delivered the keynote address on ‘Democracy in new global society’ at the 30th India Social Science Congress. December 28, 2006.

Presented a paper on ‘Culture of greed and culture of grief’ at the international conference on ‘Poverty and development in South Asia’, organized by the department of Geography, University of Calcutta on 12 January 2007.

Gave a lecture on ‘Status of women in West Bengal’ at Administrative Training Institute, Kolkata on 20 February 2007.
Dipankar Sinha

Gave extension lectures on ‘Decentralised planning: Theory and Indian experience, and NGO-state relations: Emerging political space’, in Department of Political Science, Kalyani University on 10 and 17 April 2006.

Presented the key lecture on ‘The power trap: Public space, democracy and the television in India’ in a seminar on ‘Media-Academia interaction on television news’, organised by School of Media, Communication and Culture, Jadavpur University, and Centre for Media Research and Development Studies on 22 July, 2006.

Presented a paper on ‘Restyling Indian Democracy: A Random Note on the Mainstream Media’ at the UGC National Seminar on ‘Changing face of Indian democracy’ organized by the department of Political Science, Loreto College, Calcutta on 19 September2006.

Presented a paper on ‘Cart before the horse: Recent trends in networking technology and governance in India’ at the National Seminar on ‘Governance, Technology and Development’, organized by Academic Staff College, Hyderabad University on 20 November 2006.

Gave a lecture on ‘Right to information: A bottom-up perspective’ in the seminar on ‘Right to information’, organized by Administrative Training Institute, Kolkata, West Bengal Regional Chapter of Indian Institute of Public Administration, at Darbhanga Hall, Calcutta University, on 7 January 2007.


Gave a lecture on ‘Engendering technology: A political perspective’ in the 4th Refresher Course in Women’s Studies, Women’s Studies Research Centre, Calcutta University on 31 January 2007.


Completed a pilot study and co-authored the project report jointly with Professor Prabhat Datta on the working of Ward Committees in Chandannagar Municipal Corporation in December 2006 funded by the DFID.

Krishna Soman

Presented a paper on ‘Health and empowerment of women’ at the training workshop for district level officials representing ICDS, PRIs and NGOs, organized by the West Bengal Commission for Women on 29 August 2006.
Presented a paper on ‘State violence against women: Some reflections on policies’ at the National Conference of Women’s Organizations on 10 September 2006.

Presented a paper on ‘Commercialization of traditional health care: People’s perspective in development’, at the 8th Annual Conference of the Hong Kong Sociological Association, Shu Yan University, Hong Kong on 2 December 2006.


Participated as a Resource Person at the Annual national Conference of Indian Public Health Association on ‘Violence against women: A public health challenge’ on 19 January 2007.

Acted as the project director of the IDSK project on ‘Health and empowerment of women in ICDS – An exploratory study in West Bengal’.

Formulated the project proposals on ‘Girls’ age at marriage’ and ‘South Asian heritage and indigenous health’.

Invited as a member of the Institutional Ethics Committee, Institute of Post graduate Medical Education and Research, Kolkata.

Gave lectures on ‘Qualitative methods in health research’ in the 1st semester of IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies in 2006 and at present giving lectures on ‘Social dynamics of health’, Health and health services development in modern India’, and ‘Political economy of health’ in the 2nd semester of the M.Phil course.

Supervised and examined the dissertation of M.Phil thesis of a student of School of Women’s Studies, Jadavpur University.

Gave lecture on ‘Medicine, gender and public health law’ at the West Bengal University of Juridical Sciences on 11 August 2006.

Gave lectures on ‘Population policies, health and gender’ at School of Women’s Studies, Jadavpur University on 10 November 2006.

Gave lecture on ‘Gender perspective in health’ at the UGC Orientation Course organized by Women’s Studies Research Centre, University of Calcutta.
VIII Publications

A. Publications of IDSK

a. Occasional Paper Series

No.9 Does financial development cause economic growth? The case of India by Indrani Chakraborty, January 2007

b. Reports


B. Publications of individual faculty members

Amiya Kumar Bagchi

Book:

Articles:


‘The right to choice of identity, and the torture of imposed identities’, *Presidency College Autumn Annual, 2007*.


In Bangla:


Reviews:


**Barnita Bagchi**

Articles:

‘Bengali Folklore and Children’s Literature’, *Indian Folklife*, (Journal of the National Folklore Support Society) no. 21, April 2006.


Reviews:


**Abhijit Vinayak Banerjee**


**Debdas Banerjee**

Articles:


‘Revisiting Mahalanobis Strategy of Planning after 50 years’, *Arthabeekshan*, December 2006. (Special Invited Lecture at the Bengal Economic Association on the occasion).

In Bangla:


**Himani Bannerji**

Articles:


**Malini Bhattacharya**

Article:

In Bangla:


Reports:


*Alleged atrocities against women by militants in Churachandpur, Manipur*, National Commission for Women.

*Alleged atrocities against tribal women in Dantewada, Chattisgarh by ‘Salwa Judum’*, National Commission for Women.

**Uttam Bhattacharya**

Articles:


**Achin Chakraborty**

Articles:

(Jointly with Amiya Kumar Bagchi and Debdas Banerjee) 'A Critique of the Approach

Subhoranjan Dasgupta

Articles:


‘Co-operative Alternatives to Globalisation –West Bengal as an example’ in the Conference Publication on ‘Human solidarity to sustain life’ hosted by Rosa Luxemburg Foundation and COPAC (South Africa), 2006.

‘Vindicated’ [Article on Gunter Grass], *The Statesman*, November 12, 2006.

‘German Literature under the Shadow of Auschwitz’, Annual Number of *Baromas*, 2006.

Poems:


Reviews:


Bidhan Kanti Das

Articles:


Prabhat Datta

Books:


*Decentralization, Participation and Governance*, Kalpaz Publications (Gyan Books), New Delhi, 2006.
Articles:

In Bangla:


‘Ekhan abdi jomir phasal ghare tulte hobe’, *Paschim Banga*, August 2006


**Prasanta Ray**

Reviews:


**Dipankar Sinha**

Book Co-edited :


Articles:


In Bangla:

**Krishna Soman**

Articles:


Review:


### IX Members of faculty

**Director**

Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi

**Professors**

Debdas Banerjee  
Achin Chakraborty  
Subhoranjan Dasgupta

**Associate Professors**

Uttam Bhattacharya  
Indrani Chakraborty  
Krishna Soman

**Lecturers**

Barnita Bagchi  
Sudeep Basu  
Subrata Mukherjee
Research Coordinator

Bidhan Kanti Das

Honorary Faculty Members

Professor Abhijit Vinayak Banerjee, Honorary Professor
Professor Himani Bannerji, Honorary Professor
Professor Malini Bhattacharya, Honorary Professor
Professor Prabhat Datta, Honorary Professor
Professor Martha Nussbaum, Honorary Professor
Professor Prasanta Ray, Honorary Professor
Dr. Dilip Mahalanabis, Honorary Senior Fellow
Dr. Dipankar Sinha, Honorary Adjunct Fellow
Dr. Manali Chakrabarti, Honorary Adjunct Research Associate

******************