INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES KOLKATA

Annual Report

2007-08

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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 current or former 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 Atis Dasgupta, Professor Subimal Sen, 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. In the area of teaching its flagship programme is the multidisciplinary M.Phil programme on Development Studies, in collaboration with the Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities, University of Calcutta. It completed its first two-year course in July 2008 and eleven M.Phil candidates obtained the M.Phil degree in Development Studies from the University of Calcutta.

The IDSK is now in the sixth 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 six 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 Research 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.

The Governing Council of the IDSK was reconstituted in 2007 for a term of three years and the tenure of the Director has been extended for another term of five years by the Search Committee consisting of Professors Irfan Habib, Sabyasachi Bhattacharya and Utsa Patnaik.

The foundation stone laying ceremony of the building of the IDSK was held on 15 February 2008 at 27/D, DD Block, Salt Lake. The foundation stone was laid by Shri Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee, Honourable Chief Minister of West Bengal in presence of Professor Asim Dasgupta, Honourable Minister of Finance, Government of West Bengal, Professor Sudarsan Raychaudhuri, Honourable Minister of Higher Education, Government of West Bengal, Professor Asis Banerjee, Vice-Chancellor, University of Calcutta, Professor Biswajiban Majumdar, Chairman, Bidhannagar Municipality and Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi, Director, IDSK.

II Research Programmes

A. The programme on ‘Women, work and education’ funded by the Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, Berlin

After the successful completion of the first project (Women and media in the context of globalization) supported by the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, Berlin, IDSK is at present engaged in the second project Women, work and education. This two-year long interdisciplinary project began in 2007 and will be completed this year. Professors Achin Chakraborty and Subhoranjan Dasgupta are coordinating this project in which Drs. Indrani Chakraborty and Barnita Bagchi are also actively involved. Two intensive surveys in some villages of Murshidabad and South 24 Parganas have already been conducted and the findings, which are now being analysed, will be utilized to examine the basic proposition ‘Access to education increases work opportunities for women’. With the help of workshops, seminars, surveys and evaluation of secondary literature, this project is examining the nature of labour force participation by women in both rural and urban sectors in terms of both demand and supply side factors. Researchers are also analysing the importance of contributory factors such as education, family attitudes, role of castes
and communities and the impact of the local economy on women’s labour and employment.

**B. The project on 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. It is a huge project because among other things, economic history is taken in the widest possible meaning of the term, covering data and developments judged significant for the economic, social, legal and ecological history of the country. Under the joint direction of the General and Associate Editors and the work of a team of research assistants of the project, the documents for Eastern India covering the period 1860s-1870s have been collected and it is expected that a volume containing these documents will be sent to the ICHR in the near future.

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 fourth volume of the railway documents has been prepared and has been sent to the ICHR.

**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 Coordinator. 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
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. The final report is in drafting stage and it will be submitted by April 2008.

D. Evaluation of National Child Labour Project in the states of West Bengal (five districts) and Assam

The IDSK has been entrusted to conduct an evaluation study of National Child Labour Project (NCLP) in the districts of West Bengal and Assam by the Ministry of labour and Employment, Government of India through its autonomous body, the V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, Noida, Uttar Pradesh. The study covered Kolkata and districts of North Dinajpur, South Dinajpur, South 24 Parganas and Malda of west Bengal and Nagaon district of Assam. The purpose of the evaluation was to make a quick assessment of the functioning of the NCLPs while locating the role of Special Schools in the elimination of child labour and the working of the project societies. The evaluation was mainly based on the primary data collected at district, project society, special schools and community levels. The report has been sent to the V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, Noida in February 2008.

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 objective of the project is to analyze the existing trade and industrial scenario of India and Australia since 1991. The possibilities of further economic collaborations in manufacturing areas between India and Australia have also been pointed out. This study has also tried to focus on the attitude of the manufacturers and traders towards foreign collaboration with special focus on
Australia. As a part of the study the data and other information have been collected from manufacturers and traders working in and around Kolkata, West Bengal, Delhi, Mumbai, Maharashtra, Bangalore, Karnataka, Chennai, and Tamilnadu. Views of different traders and manufacturers’ associations have been included. Such information has been collected either through personal investigation by questionnaire or through meeting with respective persons or organizations and associations. Fieldwork and data collection have been completed. At present the writing of the final report is in progress.

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 report has been submitted after incorporating the suggestions made in a workshop held on 18 July 2007.

G. The State Development Report

The Development and Planning Department, Government of West Bengal approached the IDSK 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. A workshop was held on 22 November 2007 to discuss the findings of the report in which, Professor Asim Dasgupta, Minister of Finance, Shri Nirupam Sen, Minister of Development and Planning and Professor Sudarsan Raychaudhuri, Minister of Higher Education, Government of West Bengal participated. Suggestions were received in the workshop and these were taken into consideration. A revised and updated State Development Report is currently under preparation.

H. Preparation of Birbhum District Human Development Report

The Planning Commission of India and UNDP have been persuading the state governments to prepare Human Development Reports for districts. The Department of
Planning, Government of West Bengal, in turn, has instructed the District Magistrates (DM) of different districts to prepare their own reports with the help of specialists in the area. IDS has been requested by the Office of DM, Birbhum, for help. The report would focus on such basic dimensions of human development as education, health, and access to resources (as indicated by district income). In each of these areas district-specific factors are identified and analysed. In terms of indicators of human development, Birbhum turns out to be one of the backward districts of West Bengal. The presence of a significant number of people belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and the Muslim community in the district, who are generally more disadvantaged than others, makes it important to focus on various forms of inter-group disparities. The special emphasis will be on different forms of vulnerability among various segments of population. Various indicators will be presented at different levels of disaggregation depending on the availability of data, complemented by studies based on small surveys that researchers have done. The report will be completed very soon. Professor Achin Chakraborty (Lead Coordinator), Dr. Subrata Mukherjee and Dr. Saswata Ghosh are involved in preparation of the report.

III Collaborations

a. Collaboration with the University of Calcutta

IDS 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 faculty and the University faculty associated with CSSH. The details of the M.Phil programme are provided in the next section.

b. Collaboration with Sciences PO, Paris, France

IDS 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.
c. Collaboration with Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, Paris

IDSK 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', was organized at Paris.

d. Collaboration with South Asia Institute (SAI), University of Heidelberg, Germany

A collaborative agreement has been made between IDSK and SAI, University of Heidelberg under which cooperation shall be carried out in exchanging faculty members, academic materials and other information, participating in seminars and academic meetings and holding interdisciplinary and result-oriented joint research activities. An international seminar was held in February 2008 under this programme, the details of which are provided in section V.

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 2007–2009 in collaboration with the University of Calcutta has been commenced in July 2007. The dissertations of M. Phil students for the session 2006-08 are in final phase.

b. Training of fellows working towards Ph.D

Two scholars of IDSK working for their Ph.D. have submitted their theses. They are Shri Sankalpa Bhattacharjee and Ms. Nirmalamati Maisnam. The topic of research of Sankalpa is ‘The problems and prospects of the software industry in West Bengal’. Ms. Maisnam was researching on ‘Democratic decentralisation and rural development in Manipur’. Professor Prabhat Datta supervised the work of Nirmalamati and Professor Soumyen Sikdar supervised the work of Sankalpa.

Shri Panchanan Das submitted his Ph.D thesis on ‘A comparative study of industrial growth in Gujarat and West Bengal’ to the University of Calcutta under the supervision of Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi. Professor Achin Chakraborty examined the Ph.D theses of two students of Indira Gandhi Development Research and Jawaharlal Nehru University.

V Conferences, Seminars and workshops

A. Conferences and seminars

The IDSK, in collaboration with National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganized Sector (NCEUS) organized a seminar on India’s informal economy: Conditions of work and promotion of livelihoods on 13 February 2008. The principal speaker at the seminar was Dr. Arjun Sengupta, MP and Chairman of NCEUS. The other full time members of the Commission Professors K.P. Kannan and Ravi Srivastava also participated in the seminar. The main purpose of the seminar was to discuss the Report on ‘Conditions of work and promotion of livelihoods in the unorganized sector’. Economists,
eminent academics, activists in trade unions, members of West Bengal Women’s Commission and representatives of enterprises in the unorganized sector interacted with the Commission.

An international conference on **Utopia and dystopia** was organized by the IDSK in collaboration with the Maison des Sciences de l’Homme (MSH), Paris, held in Paris on 14 and 15 February 2008. The two coordinators of the conference were Dr. Barnita Bagchi of the IDSK and Dr. Martin Spensky of the University of Tours, France. Professor Subhoranjan Dasgupta was also a participant in the conference. The conference was adopted as part of the Indo-French Cultural Exchange programme and the ICSSR provided funding support.

An international seminar on **The health transition in India: public health, governance and the market** was held from 19 to 21 February 2008, with funding support from the ICSSR. Scholars specializing in public health and politics from Heidelberg University, with funding support from DFG (the academic funding body of the German Government) participated in the conference. Other participants included besides the faculty of the IDSK, eminent health specialists from India and Australia. The speakers in the seminar were Professor Rainer Sauerborn, Dr. Michael Marx, Professor Gita Dharampal Frick and Nitin Verma, Professor Subrata Mitra and Anja Kluge, Professor William Sax and Dr. Sylvia Sax of Heidelberg University, Professor Gavin Mooney of Curtin University of Technology, Australia, Professor K. Srinath Reddy, Department of Cardiology, AIIMS, Professor V.R. Kutty of Achutha Menon Centre, SCTIMST, Trivandrum, Professor N. Krishnaji, National Fellow, ICSSR, Professor D. Narayana of Centre for Development Studies, Kerala and Professor Debdeep Banerjee, Achin Chakraborty, Dr. Saswata Ghosh, Dr. Subrata Mukherjee and Bijoya Roy of IDSK.

**B. Workshop:**
The IDSK has collaborated with Pratichi Trust (India) under the academic leadership of Professor Amartya Sen, and organized a workshop on 27 December 2007, on **Role of workers’ organizations in the service sectors in advancing human development.**
C. Lectures delivered by visiting scholars

On 1 June 2007, Professor Dipankar Coondoo, Economic Research Unit, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata gave a lecture on ‘Underemployment in India: Measurement and some analysis based on NSS, 61st Round’.

On 6 August 2007, Professor Marcus Rediker, Professor of History, University of Pittsburgh, USA, delivered the First Michael Sprinker Lecture on ‘The floating dungeon: The slave ship in the history of capitalism’.

On 23 August 2007, Professor Abhijit Vinayak Banerjee, Ford Foundation Professor of Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA and Honorary Visiting Professor, IDSK gave a talk on ‘Randomized evaluations and the demand for healthcare’.

On 5 September 2007, Professor Nighat S. Khan, Dean of Studies, Institute of Women’s Studies, Lahore delivered a lecture on ‘Tenant struggle in Okara and Khanewal (Pakistan)’.

On 12 October 2007, Dr. Debjani Sengupta, Professor of Sociology, University of Kalyani and Member, West Bengal Commission for Women, gave a lecture on ‘The self-help group movement in West Bengal’.

On 2 November 2007, Professor Joseph Stiglitz, Nobel Laureate in Economics, delivered a public lecture on ‘Making globalization work’, organized by the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata in collaboration with the Finance Department, Government of West Bengal at Bidyut Bhavan.

On 20 November 2007, Professor Martha Nussbaum, Ernst Freund Distinguished Professor of Law and Ethics and Honorary Visiting Professor, IDSK gave a talk on ‘Education and human development’.

On 5 December 2007, Professor Maria Cristina Marcuzzo, Professor of Economics, University of Rome, “La Sapienza”, delivered a lecture on ‘Cambridge as a place in Economics’.

On 12 December 2007, Professor Oliver Mendelsohn of the Law School, La Trobe University, Australia gave a seminar on ‘Law and civil society in India’.

On 11 January 2008, Dr. Dilip Dutta, Director of the Centre for South Asian Studies Group and Associate Professor of Economics, University of Sydney, Australia gave a talk on ‘The retail sector of India – A structuralist analysis’.

On 4 February 2008, Professor Preben Kaarsholm of the Department of Society and Globalisation, Roskilde University, Denmark, delivered a lecture on ‘Migration, Islam and identity strategies in KwaZulu Natal.

On 8 February 2008, Professors Francesca Bettio and Ugo Pagano of the University of Siena, Italy delivered lectures on ‘Occupational segregation and gender wage disparities
in developed economies’ and ‘Primates’ fertilization systems and the evolution of the human brain’ respectively.

On 18 March 2008, Justice Diane P. Wood of University of Chicago, USA and Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit gave a talk on ‘The winding road toward equality for women in the United States’ and Professor Martha Nussbaum, Ernst Freund Distinguished Professor of Law and Ethics of University of Chicago, USA and Honorary Visiting Professor, IDSK delivered a talk on ‘Compassion and violence against women’.

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 7509 (processed) books till 26 January 2008. The library also subscribes to 42 foreign and 35 Indian journals, 354 government and 60 non-government reports. It has 88 digital documents.

The Library has established network connections with DELNET, Prowess and is a member of Calcutta University's E-Journals under UGC INFONET Programme, Indiastat.com, Oxford e-bundle journals in economics. The library is using SOUL (Software for University Libraries) for its ongoing automation activities.

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

Gave a talk on ‘Story of commercial venture in Bengali literature in the pre-independence era’, organized by *Kaalpratima*, a tri-monthly literary magazine on 23 May 2007.

Inaugurated the UGC funded National Seminar on ‘Social exclusion and empowerment’ organized by the University of Burdwan on 28 May 2007.


Delivered the Dieter Conrad Lecture 2007 on ‘Public health, governance and the market in South Asia: The way forward’ organized by the South Asia Institute, University of Heidelberg, Germany on 28 June 2007.

Participated in a workshop on the ‘Political economy of health’ at the Copenhagen Business School organized by the Danish Institute of Health Services Research on 8 July 2007.

Gave a talk on ‘Migration, morality and finance’ at an International Conference on ‘International migration, multi-local livelihoods and human security: Perspectives from Europe, Asia and Africa’ organized by the Institute of Social Studies, Hague, The Netherlands on 31 August 2007.

Gave a keynote address on ‘Finance and development’ at the OFSE-EADI conference and presented a paper on ‘Akamatsu’s flying geese: Some are sparrows and hawks are in the air’ at the EADI conference at Vienna, Austria on 18 September 2007.

Delivered the keynote address and also chaired a session at the state level seminar on ‘Theory and methodological issues of development: With particular reference to India’ organized by the Centre for Economic Studies, Department of Economics, Presidency College on 14 December 2007.

Gave a lecture on ‘The rights of authors under the copyright law and the cases of breach of copyright law’ at the seminar on ‘Translating Bharat’ organized by SIYAH, a literary organization of Jaipur, and held on 21 January 2008.

Delivered the valedictory address on ‘Where are the questions coming from in financial economics and what should be the questions’ at the international conference on ‘Globalisation, FDI and development’, organized by the Department of Economics, University of Kalyani on 30 January 2008.

Gave a keynote address on ‘Decentralized governance and human development’, at the second conference of Manipur Economic Association at Imphal on 8 March 2008.

Delivered the Annual Ravinder Kumar Lecture on ‘Uncovering the demographic history of colonial India’, organized by the University of Jamia Millia Islamia on 29 March 2008.

Nominated as the first Chancellor of Tripura University (Central University).

Barnita Bagchi

Presented three invited papers in an international colloquium on ‘Pouvoir, Persée, Judgement Politique: Travailler sur et avec L’ouvre de Hannâh Arendt’), at the University of Lausanne, from 10 to 12 May 2007.

Presented a paper on ‘The history of women’s education in colonial India: Networks and agency’, at the colloquium of department of Political Science, South Asia Institute, Heidelberg University on 17 July 2007.


Delivered the keynote lecture on ‘The history of women’s education in South Asia: Voices, resources and agency’, at the 16th Annual Conference of the Women’s History Network on ‘Collecting women’s lives’ at Winchester University on 9 September 2007.


Gave a seminar on ‘Analysing female utopias and narratives of female education’, at Reid Hall of Columbia University, Paris on 12 November 2007.

Gave a seminar on ‘Hannah Arendt, education and liberation: A comparative South Asian perspective’ at Methoden Colloquium, Department of Political Science, South Asia Institute, Heidelberg University, 4 December 2007.

At present giving lectures in the specialization module of the 2nd semester of the IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies for the session 2007-09.

Debdas Banerjee

Visiting Professor at the D’Etudes Politiques de Paris, Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques.

Invited speaker in the opening session on ‘Working together using information technology to act against climate change’ of the 3rd International Forum TIC21 (Sustainable development and information technology), held during 30-31 October 2007.

Acted as discussant in the International Workshop on ‘Global production networks and decent work: Recent experience in India and global trends’, organized by International
Institute of Labour Studies (IILS), Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) and Institute for Human Development (IHD) in association with Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bangalore, and held in Bangalore, during November 18-20, 2007.


Appointed as a member of the Advisory Committee of West Bengal State Electricity Regulatory Commission.

At present giving lectures in the specialization module of the 2nd semester of the IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies for the session 2007-09.

**Sudeep Basu**


Attended the third CRG Workshop on Internal displacement in India: Causes, linkages, responses and durable solutions’, organized by the Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group held in Kolkata from 3 to 6 September 2007.

Participated in the first Annual Conference of the Sociological Association of West Bengal on ‘Social change in contemporary West Bengal’ on 22 September 2007.

Gave lectures on ‘Qualitative methods – Ethnography’, in the first semester of the IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies for the session 2007-09.

Supervised jointly the fieldwork of first year M.Phil students of IDSK in two gram panchayats of Birbhum during November-December 2007.

Supervised jointly with Professor Subhoranjan Dasgupta the M.Phil dissertation of an M.Phil student of IDSK on refugee issue.

Gave lectures on ‘Ethnicity, tribal development and globalization’ and ‘Refugees, displacement and diaspora’ in the second semester of the IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies for the session 2007-09.

**Uttam Bhattacharya**

Participated as a resource person and gave a lecture on ‘WTO and India’ in the UGC Refresher Course of the Department of Economics, Gauhati University, Assam held on 31 July 2007.
Gave a lecture on ‘Intellectual property rights and the new business opportunities’ in the UGC Refresher Course on ‘Commerce and business management’, organized by the Department of Commerce, University of Calcutta.


Participated in an international seminar on ‘Environmental degradation’, organized by the Department of Business Management, University of Calcutta on 6 March 2008.

Delivered a lecture on ‘Human security and intellectual property rights (IPRs) in India’ at the national seminar on ‘Contemporary security concerns of India’ organized by the Department of International Relations, Jadavpur University held on 18 March 2008.

Acted as the project coordinator of the project on ‘The Evaluation of National Child Labour Project’ supported by Ministry of Labour and Employment and V.V. Giri Labour Institute, Noida, U.P.

Acted as joint Project Coordinator (along with Pundarik Mukhopadhyay, Macquarie University, Australia) of the project on ‘Possibilities of Closer Economic Ties between India and Australia in Capital Goods Industries in the WTO Regime’.

Achin Chakraborty

Is a member of the Task Force on ‘Social, economic and human development for the Commission on Centre-State Relations, Government of India.

Invited to give a lecture on ‘Capability comparisons’ at the workshop on ‘Values and multidimensional poverty’ as part of the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) organized by the Department of International Development, Queen Elizabeth House, University of Oxford from 29 May to 1 June 2007.


Gave a lecture as a resource person at the workshop on ‘Training the trainers of human development’ at Assam University, Silchar on 4 February 2008.

Completed a project (as the lead project coordinator) on ‘An Evaluation Study on Advocacy of Safe Motherhood under Community Health Care Monitoring Initiative’, sponsored by the Department of Panchayats and Rural Development, Government of West Bengal in September 2007.

Working (as the lead project coordinator) on the project on ‘Preparing Birbhum District Human Development Report’ sponsored by Office of the District Magistrate, Birbhum, along with Dr. Subrata Mukherjee and Dr. Saswata Ghosh.

Working on the project (as joint project coordinator) on ‘Women, work and education’ sponsored by Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung.

Acted as the Coordinator of the CU-IDSK M.Phil Programme in Development Studies.


**Indrani Chakraborty**


Gave lectures on ‘Econometrics’ and ‘Globalization and finance’ in the specialization module of the 2nd semester of the IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies for the session 2007-09.


Supervised the M.Phil dissertation of a student of IDSK for the session 2006-08.

Examining a Ph.D thesis of a student of Jadavpur University.

Working on the project on ‘Women, work and education’ sponsored by Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung.

**Subhoranjan Dasgupta**

Presented a paper on ‘The great divide – globalised reality of India’ at the International Conference on ‘Human dignity and globalisation’ in Wuppertal, Germany, held between 4 and 6 June 2007.

Presented papers on ‘The political vision of Peter Weiss’ and ‘Cultural revolution and politics’ at the International Conference and Workshop on ‘The relevance of Rosa Luxemburg and Antonio Gramsci ’ in Esslingen, Germany held from 7 to 10 June 2007.
Presented a paper on ‘The confessional mode of creativity with emphasis on Gunter Grass’ at the Conference on ‘Modern international creativity’ held at Bangla Academy, Kolkata on 22 June 2007.

Attended a seminar cum workshop on ‘Women and marriage’ at the School of Women’s Studies, Jadavpur University on 9 August 2007.

Moderated a session at the international conference on ‘Justice and equality’ organized by the Calcutta Research Group on 22 August 2007.

Attended the workshop on Etienne Balibar as a discussant, organized by the Calcutta Research Group on 8 September 2007.

Presented a paper on ‘Gunter Grass’s relationship with Kolkata’ at the international conference on ‘Gunter Grass’s politics and creativity’ in Danzig, organized by the German and Polish governments held from 4 to 7 October 2007.

Attended the International Conference on ‘Politics and future of the Middle East’ in New Delhi, organized by the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation and Observer Research Foundation from 20 to 22 November 2007.

Made a presentation on ‘Human cost of neo-liberalism’ in a seminar on ‘Unequal transfer of global resources’ in New Delhi organized by Vani and Global Justice Network on 7 and 8 December 2007.


Working on the project (as joint project coordinator) on ‘Women, work and education’ sponsored by Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung.

Gave lectures in the 1st semester of the IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies for the session 2007-09.

At present giving lectures in the 2nd semester of the IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies for the session 2007-09.

Supervising the M.Phil dissertations of two students of IDSK for the session 2006-08.

**Bidhan Kanti Das**


Acted as a team member of the project on ‘An Evaluative Study on Advocacy of Safe Motherhood under CHCMI’ sponsored by the Department of Panchayats and Rural Development, Government of West Bengal, jointly with Professor Achin Chakraborty and Dr. Subrata Mukherjee. This project was completed in September 2007.
Teaching post graduate students of Anthropology at Vidyasagar University.

Assisted the students from the Sciences Po – Institut D’etudes Politiques de Paris for a field based research work.

Supervised jointly the fieldwork of first year M.Phil students of IDSK in two gram panchayats of Birbhum during November-December 2007.


Sent a paper on ‘Floods, forest laws and forest people: A case from protected area of West Bengal, India’, to Journal of Forest Research, Springer Publications.

Sent an article on ‘Prevalence of undernutrition among Telaga adolescents: An endogamous population of Kharagpur, India’ with S. Bisai for publication in Journal of Tropical Pediatrics, Oxford University Press.

Accepted a paper ‘Good strategies are not enough for development interventions: Experiences from India Eco-development project at Buxa Tiger Reserve, West Bengal, India’ for the 16th World Congress of the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences at Kunming, China to be held between 16 to 23 July 2008.

Saswata Ghosh

Completed a project on ‘Preparing Birbhum District Human Development Report’ sponsored by Office of the District Magistrate, Birbhum, jointly with Professor Achin Chakraborty and Dr. Subrata Mukherjee.

Completed a project on ‘Socio-economic profile of Patients in Kolkata: A case study of R.G. Kar Medical College & Hospital and AMRI’, jointly with Dr. Zakir Husain and Ms. Bijoya Roy.

Working on ‘What determines success of ‘100 days work’ at the Panchayat level?: A case study of Birbhum district, West Bengal’ along with Dr Subrata Mukherjee, Post-doctoral fellow, University of Montréal, Canada.

Sent an article on ‘Does women’s empowerment facilitate in improving child nutritional status?: Some exploratory evidences from India’, to Journal of Health, Population and Nutrition, ICDDR, Bangladesh.

Zakir Husain

Is currently a member of State Planning Board, West Bengal and also a member of the editorial board of African Journal of Agricultural Research.

Completed a research project on ‘Survival strategies of urban poor’, jointly with Diganta Mukherjee(ICFAI) during July to December 2007.
Currently is working on a research project on ‘Health cares seeking behaviour in Kolkata’, along with Dr. Saswata Ghosh and Bijoya Roy of IDSK.

Taking classes on ‘Environment and resource economics’ as Guest lecturer in the Department of Economics, University of Calcutta.

Supervising the M.Phil dissertation of a student of IDSK for the session 2006-08.

Guiding Ph.D research on ‘Municipal finances in West Bengal’ at Netaji Subhas Open University.

**Subrata Mukherjee**


Participated as a resource person in Summer Institute 4 for New Global Health Researchers, organized by Canadian Institute of Health Research, hosted by Centre for Development Studies, Kerala held during 13-21 August, 2007.

Acted as a team member of the project on ‘An Evaluative Study on Advocacy of Safe Motherhood under CHCM’ sponsored by the Department of Panchayats and Rural Development, Government of West Bengal, jointly with Professor Achin Chakraborty and Dr. Bidhan Kanti Das.

Working as a team member on the project on ‘Preparing Birbhum District Human Development Report’ sponsored by Office of the District Magistrate, Birbhum, along with Professor Achin Chakraborty and Dr. Saswata Ghosh.

Gave lectures on ‘Quantitative methods’ in the 1st semester of the IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies for the session 2007-09.

Awarded CANADA-HOPE Scholarship 2007 by the Canadian Institute of Health Research for research on ‘Economic burden of illness and health care in India: An analysis of household surveys’, for which he will join the International Health Unit of the University of Montreal by March-April 2008.

**Bijoya Roy**

Presented a paper on ‘Privatisation of hospitals’ in Independent People’s Tribunal on The World bank Group of India held on 22 September 2007.


Working on a project on ‘Study on the profile of the public and private sector hospital users’. The project has been implemented in AMRI Apollo and R.G. Kar Hospital.
Supervised jointly the fieldwork of first year M.Phil students of IDSK in two gram panchayats of Birbhum during November-December 2007.

**Prasanta Ray**

Gave a lecture on ‘When civil society initiative encounters power’ organized by the Calcutta Samaritans on 15 May, 2007.

Delivered Vikraman Nair Lecture on ‘Public opinion and the state’ organized by Nandimukh, Kolkata on 1 June 2007.

Participated in a seminar on ‘Developments in political sociology’, organized by Gurudas College and West Bengal Political Science Association on 4 August 2007.

Presented a paper on ‘Space in city and elsewhere, and cultural globalization’ in a seminar on ‘New frontiers in Geography’, organized by the Geography Department, Calcutta University, 17 September, 2007.

Gave a lecture on ‘For a people’s perspectives on the post-colonial state’, at the Department of History, Jadavpur University on 3 December 2007.
Delivered a lecture on ‘Epistemological choices in studies on forced migration’, at the fifth Annual CRG Winter Course on 8 December 2007.

Presented papers on ‘Dilemma of people’s struggle’, and ‘Conflicts in post-colonial India’ in Research Group on ‘Conflicts in India’, XXXI Social Science Congress, on 28 December 2007.

Supervising the M.Phil dissertations of two students of IDSK for the session 2006-08.

Giving lectures in the specialization module of the 2nd semester of the IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies for the session 2007-09.

**Dipankar Sinha**

Working as Research Advisor for *Backward Village Survey in West Bengal* by the Department of Panchayats and Rural Development, Government of West Bengal since June 2007.

Appointed as External Advisor for Post Graduate Diploma Course on Governance, at Hyderabad University.

Gave a lecture on ‘Development journalism: Role of small and rural newspapers’, organized by Mass Media Centre, Department of Information and Cultural Affairs, Government of West Bengal on 30 April 2007.

Delivered a lecture on ‘Development and participation: The political paradox of linkage, at the UGC seminar on ‘Development and participation, emerging theories, policies and practices in the context of local governance in West Bengal’, organized by Ramakrishna Mission Vidyamandir, Belur Math on 4 May 2007.

Gave a lecture on ‘Women and media’ in Administrative Training Institute on 15 January 2008.


At present giving lectures in the specialization module of the 2nd semester of the IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies for the session 2007-09.

Supervising the M.Phil dissertation of a student of IDSK for the session 2006-08.

**Krishna Soman**

Gave a talk on ‘Women’s health and medical care services in India’ organized by SACHETANA on 9 October 2007.


Presented a paper on ‘Gender, household and women’s health: A policy analysis at the national seminar on ‘Gender, household and perspectives of the policy makers’ organized by EIWIG & SACHETANA, on 20-21 February, 2008.

Completed (as a project coordinator) a project on ‘Women’s Health Report and Empowerment in Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS): An Exploration in West Bengal’ – A research based report from a collaborative project with the National Commission for Women, 2007.

Gave lectures on M.Phil course in Women’s Studies to the students of University of Burdwan during January 2008.

At present giving lectures in the specialization module of the 2nd semester of the IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies for the session 2007-09.

Giving lectures on M.Phil course in Women’s Studies to the first and second year students of Jadavpur University.

Supervising the M.Phil dissertations of two students of IDSK for the session 2006-08 and also a student of Jadavpur University.

Evaluated a Ph.D thesis of Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Hong Kong. The title of the thesis was ‘Repackaging ayurveda in post-colonial India: revivalism and global commodification’.
IX Publications

A. Publications of IDSK

a. Books:


b. Occasional Papers:

No.10 *China, India and Russia: Moving out of backwardness, or ‘Cunning passages of history’* by Amiya Kumar Bagchi, May 2007.

No.11 *Rethinking knowledge as ideology: Reflections on the debate from Max Scheler to Theodor Adorno* by Sudeep Basu, September 2007.


c. Special Lecture:


d. Reports


B. Publications of individual faculty members

Amiya Kumar Bagchi

Articles:


In Bangla


Barnita Bagchi

Reviews:


Debdas Banerjee

Articles:


Uttam Bhattacharya

Article:

Achin Chakraborty

Article:

Review:

Indrani Chakraborty

Article:

Subhoranjan Dasgupta

Articles:


In Bengali:


Review:


**Bidhan Kanti Das**

Article:


**Saswata Ghosh**

Articles:


**Zakir Husain**

Articles:


Dipankar Sinha

Books Co-authored:


Articles:


Krishna Soman

Articles:


Members of faculty

Director
Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi

Professors
Debdas Banerjee
Achin Chakraborty
Subhoranjan Dasgupta

Associate Professors
Barnita Bagchi
Uttam Bhattacharya
Indrani Chakraborty
Zakir Husain
Krishna Soman

Lecturers
Sudeep Basu
Bidhan Kanti Das
Saswata Ghosh
Subrata Mukherjee

Research Coordinator
Bijoya Roy

ICSSR Senior Fellow
Dr. Manali Chakrabarti

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