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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 seventh year of its existence. During the seven 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 foundation stone of the building of the IDSK was laid by Shri Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee, Honourable Chief Minister of Government of West Bengal on 15 February 2008 at 27/D, DD Block, Salt Lake. The building at the site is coming up on schedule and the IDSK is expected to shift to its new premises by the end of 2009.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has sponsored the setting up of the Rabindranath Tagore Centre for Human Development Studies (RTCHDS) under the auspices of the IDSK through the University of Calcutta. An Advisory Committee has been constituted with the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Calcutta as Chairman, the Director of IDSK as Vice-Chairman and with other representatives from the IDSK and the University of Calcutta. The Committee has formulated certain guidelines for the functioning of the RTCHDS. The academic scheme of the Centre includes a programme for Ph.D students, post-doctoral fellows and visiting academics at various levels. The setting up of this Centre and the larger space at the new premises of IDSK will facilitate further work in the areas in which the IDSK has already made a major mark. These include studies of education, especially among the disadvantaged communities of India, a structured programme for study of rural health care in West Bengal and issues of gender, work and displacement.

Talks of collaborations with the academics of the University of Calcutta, faculty of the IDSK and Monash University on public health issues are in active progress.

II Research Programmes

A. The programme on ‘Gender, Empowerment and the State’ funded by the Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, Berlin

The Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, Berlin funded a project for three years on *Women and media in the context of globalization* in 2004. This was brought to a successful completion in November 2006. Then the IDSK started its second project on Women, work and education
funded by the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation in 2007 and it was completed in December 2008. This two-year long interdisciplinary project began in 2007. Professors Achin Chakraborty and Subhoranjan Dasgupta are coordinating this project in which Drs. Indrani Chakraborty and Barnita Bagchi are involved. The project on ‘Women, work and education’ was primarily based on the reading of secondary literature, in-depth surveys, interviews and rigorous evaluation of the data collected in the surveys. Two particular segments of women’s activity were chosen for survey and econometric analysis, namely, women’s engagement in the beedi industry and women’s engagement in the IT sector. While the first showed that there was no uni-linear link between education and employment in its sphere, the second, in comparison, demonstrated the link between education and work. In fact, the surveys and analysis examined in detail the possible link between education and employment and also tried to find out to what extent these two lead to the genuine empowerment of women. It needs to be mentioned here that the sponsor Rosa Luxemburg Foundation highly appreciated the quality of the final report. After submitting the final report a dissemination seminar on the project was held on 24 February 2009.

After the successful completion of the second project Women, work and education, the IDSK is at present engaged in the third project Gender, empowerment and the state sponsored by the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, Berlin.

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 in a volume that was published by Manohar and released at IDSK on 31 March 2009. A second volume
containing documents related to Eastern India during the 1880s and 1890s is expected to be sent to the ICHR by the end of March 2009.

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. A fifth volume is under active preparation.

C. The State Development Report

The Development and Planning Department, Government of West Bengal and the Planning Commission, Government of India approached the IDSK for preparing a State Development Report for West Bengal. The draft report was completed by September 2007 under the direction of Professor Debdas Banerjee. After incorporating the suggestions of the workshop held on 22 November 2007, a penultimate report was prepared by Dr. Panchanan Das and other members of the IDSK under the guidance of Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi. The report was submitted to the Core Committee at a meeting of the Planning Commission on 17 November 2008. The final version of the State Development Report has been sent to the Planning Commission and the Development and Planning Department, Government of West Bengal in the beginning of March 2009. The final Report contains fourteen chapters. They are Growth and Structural Changes, Agriculture, Industry, Services, Rural development, Urban Development, Employment, Unorganized Sector, Power Sector, Public Health, Education, Social Progress, Environment and State Finance.

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

The Institute took 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 has 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. The project is in the final stage of report writing.

E. Preparation of Birbhum District Human Development Report

This is the third in the series of District Human Development Reports that the Department of Planning, Government of West Bengal, has instructed the District Magistrates (DM) of different districts to prepare their own reports with the help of experts from the academia. IDSK was requested by the Office of DM, Birbhum, for help. At IDSK, along with Professor Achin Chakraborty, (lead coordinator), Dr. Subrata Mukherjee and Dr. Saswata Ghosh were involved in preparation of this report. The Report was duly completed and was released by Shri Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee, Honourable Chief Minister of West Bengal on 4 February 2009.

The Report is divided into nine chapters. It focuses on such basic dimensions of human development as education, health, and access to resources (as indicated by income and assets). In each of these areas district-specific factors have been identified and analysed. In terms of basic 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. A special emphasis has been put on different forms of vulnerability among different segments of population. A number of indicators has been constructed at different levels of disaggregation, depending on the availability of data, complemented by studies based on small surveys that researchers have done.
F. MDG-based Poverty Reduction Strategy for West Bengal

To help the planning processes in the states, UNDP, through the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai, as the nodal agency, commissioned MDG-based poverty reduction strategy papers for as many Indian states as possible. The present paper on West Bengal, prepared by Professor Achin Chakraborty and Dr. Subrata Mukherjee of IDSK, is among the two or three such papers that have so far been completed for different states. The paper has been submitted to IGIDR, and IGIDR has shared it with the Department of Planning and Development, Government of West Bengal. The paper examines the poverty and deprivation situation in West Bengal in a multidimensional framework and explores possible strategies towards reduction of poverty in the state, keeping in view the Millenium Development Goals (MDGs). The MDGs, adopted by a United Nations summit of representatives of 189 countries in September 2000, consist of eight objectives within which there are specific targets to be achieved by 2015, covering income poverty, hunger, primary education, gender equality, child and maternal mortality, HIV/AIDS and other diseases, and environmental sustainability. The MDG-based poverty reduction strategy therefore encompasses multiple dimensions of deprivation which include income poverty as only one of the dimensions. Based on the analysis of recent trends in various indicators of poverty, food adequacy, health and health care, education and rural employment generation, a number of policy suggestions have been made.

G. The project on ‘Economic and employment status of Minorities in West Bengal: Evidence from NSS’

The IDSK has undertaken a project on ‘Economic and employment status of minorities in West Bengal’ based on NSSO 61st Round sponsored by the Department of Minority Affairs and Madrasah Education Department, Government of West Bengal. The final report of the project was submitted to the Minority Affairs Department during the last week of November 2008. In this report it was observed that differences in workforce and labour force participation rates between socio-religious communities(SRCs) are marginal. Unemployment rates, too, are low among Muslims. However, while unemployment by current daily status has fallen between 1999-00 and 2004-05 for Muslims, it has increased marginally when measured in terms of usual status. Poverty levels are highest among Muslims in both rural
and urban areas. In rural areas, land owned and possessed by Muslims is lower than that of other SRCs, while land cultivated is greater than only Backward Castes. Despite their rural centricity, a relatively smaller proportion of Muslims are engaged in agriculture than other SRCs. Sharp differences in earning were found in agricultural and non-agricultural occupations, with Muslims lagging behind in most cases. The Report found a uni-dimensional picture of relative deprivation of Muslims in urban West Bengal. The majority of Muslims were engaged in the informal sector. This was indicated by an analysis of distribution of workforce by economic status and place of work. The low representation of Muslims in sectors like police force, education, health and public health was concerning. It was recommended that targeting of Muslims in Government schemes is essential for improving their welfare. Special schemes may also be introduced in collaboration with institutions like NABARD and SIDBI. In the long-run, the provisioning of mainstream education facilities in Muslim-concentrated areas is another important requirement for improving the current status.

III Collaborations

a. Collaboration with the University of Calcutta

In 2006, IDSK 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 first batch of eleven M.Phil students (2006-08) successfully completed their coursework and dissertation and obtained their degrees in 2008. The teaching faculty mainly consists of the IDSK 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

IDSK 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 in Paris. It is expected that a book will be published containing a selection of papers presented at the conference.

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 2008 under this programme.

### IV Teaching and Research Guidance

**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 third M.Phil course in Development Studies for the session 2008 –2010 in collaboration with the University of Calcutta was started in July 2008. The dissertations of M. Phil students for the session 2007-09 are in final phase.

V \hspace{1cm} Conferences, Seminars and workshops

A. Conferences and seminars

A national conference on Women, Work and Education was held on 22 and 23 August 2008. The speakers in the seminar were Dr. Padmini Swaminathan of Madras Institute of Development Studies, Professor Sunanda Sen of Academy Third World Studies, University of Jamia Millia Islamia, Professor Jeemol Unni, Gujarat Institute of Development Studies, Dr. Ravi Srivastava, Member, National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector, Dr. Mukul Mukherjee, Women’s Studies Research Centre, University of Calcutta, Professor Supriya Roy Chowdhury, Institute for Social Economic Change, Bangalore, Professor Ishita Mukhopadhyay of Women’s Studies Research Centre, University of Calcutta and Professor Chaiti Sharma of Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, Drs. Deepita Chakravarty of CESS, Hyderabad and Ishita Chakravarty of Vidyasagar College, Kolkata, Dr. Indrani Mazumdar of Centre for Women’s Development Studies, New Delhi, Professor Samita Sen
of School of Women’s Studies, Drs. Zakir Husain of IDSK and Mousumi Dutta of Presidency College, Kolkata, Professor Achin Chakraborty and Dr. Indrani Chakraborty of IDSK, Ms. Mandira Sen, Publisher of Stree and Samya.

The Institute of Development studies Kolkata organized an international seminar on Health Systems Research and Policy on 10 December 2008. The speakers in the seminar include Professor D. Narayana and Dr. T.R. Dilip of Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, Dr. Srijit Mishra of Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai, Dr. Jean-Frédéric Levesque of Institut National de Santé Publique du Québec and University of Montreal and Dr. Subrata Mukherjee of IDSK and International Health Unit, University of Montreal. The welcome address was given by Professor Achin Chakraborty of IDSK and Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi, Director, IDSK made the concluding remarks.

B. Workshops

A workshop on ‘Future of self-help groups in West Bengal’ was organized by the IDSK and the West Bengal Commission for Women on 11 June 2008. Participants in the workshop included representatives from different banking and financial organizations and West Bengal Commission for Women.

A workshop on ‘Human development’ was held between 17-21 March 2009. Teachers and students from different colleges and universities of West Bengal participated in the workshop. The speakers in the workshop included Professor Madhura Swaminathan of Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, Professor S. Subramanian of Madras Institute of Development Studies, Professor Ishita Mukhopadhyay of University of Calcutta, Professors Amiya Kumar Bagchi, Debdas Banerjee and Achin Chakraborty of IDSK, Dr. Manabi Majumdar of Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta and Dr. Bhaskar Chakrabarti of Indian Institute of Management Calcutta.

C. Book Release

On 22 December 2008, Professor Asis Banerjee, former Vice-Chancellor of University of Calcutta and a student of Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi released the book Post-Reform Development in Asia : Essays for Amiya Kumar Bagchi at IDSK. The first volume of the
book was presented to Dr. Asim Kumar Dasgupta, Finance Minister of West Bengal. Dr. Dasgupta was also a student of Professor Bagchi. Professor Prabuddha Nath Roy, a former Pro-Vice-Chancellor of University of Calcutta was in the Chair. The collection of eleven essays by nineteen contributors has been published by Orient BlackSwan. The editors of the book are Manoj Kumar Sanyal, Mandira Sanyal and Shahina Amin. A galaxy of teachers, researchers and scholars assembled at the launch of the book to pay tribute to, as well as to express solidarity with, a senior teacher in his presence.

On 31 March 2009, Professor Sabyasachi Bhattacharya, Chairman, Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) released the book *Documents on Economic History of British Rule in India, 1858 -1947 : Eastern India in the Late Nineteenth Century, Part I: 1860s-1870s*, edited by Amiya Kumar Bagchi and Arun Bandopadhyay at IDS. The publisher of the book is Manohar. Professor Bhattacharya also released the book *Railway Construction in India: Select Documents (1832-1900) : Indian Railway Acts and Rules 1849-1895, Volume IV* edited by Bhubanes Misra. The general editor of this book is Amiya Kumar Bagchi. The publisher of this book is Indian Council of Historical Research in collaboration with Anamika publishers. Professor Binay Chaudhuri, National Professor, ICHR presided over the programme and Professor Ishrat Alam, Member Secretary, ICHR and Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi, Director, IDS were present on the occasion.

C. Lectures delivered by visiting scholars

On 27 March 2008, Professor Dilip M. Nachane, Director of Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai gave a lecture on ‘Capital account convertibility’.

On 28 May 2008, Professor Sudipta Sen, Professor of history, University of California, Davis delivered a lecture on ‘Man-slaughter, medicine and law in the late eighteenth century British India’.

On 4 August 2008, Professor Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, Avalon Foundation Professor of Humanities and the Director of the Centre for Comparative Literature and Society, Columbia University gave a talk on ‘The legacy of Derrida?’

On 9 January 2009, Professor Anthony P. D’ Costa, Professor of Indian Studies, Asia Research Centre, Copenhagen Business School, Denmark gave a lecture on ‘The barbarians are here’.
On 28 January 2009, Professor Sir James Mirrlees, Nobel Laureate in Economics, 1996, delivered a lecture on ‘Bad markets and the current crisis: Investment and lending’, organized by the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata in collaboration with British Council at Taj Bengal, Kolkata. Professor Mirrlees also met social scientists and other institutions in and around Kolkata on 2 February 2009 at the interactive session.

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 8094 (processed) books till 23 February 2009. The library also subscribes to 30 foreign and 35 Indian journals, 413 government and 114 non-government reports. It has 88 digital documents. The library also contains the archives of Rosa Luxemburg projects which include reports, booklets, posters, pats or scroll paintings, CDs, DVDs, audio cassettes, catalogues, transparencies and fact sheets.

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. Currently the library has entered and processed 4832 documents in SOUL.

The Institute has been gifted with very valuable collections, that of the late Michael Sprinker, a leading radical literary theorist, Shri Gopal Krishna Gandhi, Governor of West Bengal, 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.
Amiya Kumar Bagchi

Delivered the convocation address of Vidyasagar University on 3 April 2008.

Gave a lecture on ‘Industrialisation in a global perspective’, organized by the Department of Economics, Belur Vidyamandir on 5 April 2008.

Delivered a lecture on ‘An overview of Centre-state financial relations’ and chaired a session at a meeting on ‘Centre-state relations’, organized by the Government of Kerala at Thiruvananthapuram on 5 May 2008.

Gave a lecture on ‘Money under capitalism’ at IDEAS conference held at New Delhi on 12 September 2008.


Delivered the Godrej Archives lecture at Mumbai on ‘Building up the archives of the State Bank of India’ on 29 September 2008.


Gave a keynote address at the seminar on ‘Nehruvian paradigm’, organized by the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre of the University of Jamia Millia Islamia on 12 November 2008.

Delivered a lecture on ‘Towards democratization of education in India’ and also chaired two sessions at an international seminar on ‘Democracy and social education’ organized by the Ministry of Education, Government of Kerala and Kerala University on 4 and 5 December 2008.

Gave an inaugural lecture at the conference on ‘China-India: Growth dynamics and institutions’, organized by the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences Calcutta on 17 December 2008.

Gave a keynote address on ‘What to teach in financial economics’, at a seminar organized by the Department of Economics, University of Madras on 30 January 2009.

Delivered the Presidential address on ‘State-led capitalism and neo-liberalism in a semi-feudal society: India 1947-2009’, at the 29th Annual Conference of Bengal Economic Association at the University of North Bengal on 7 February 2009.
Presided over the first convocation of Tripura (Central) University as the First Chancellor of the University on 14 February 2009.

Awarded the degree of Doctorate of Science (Honoris Causa) by Bengal Engineering and Science University, Shibpur on 16 February 2009. He also participated in a panel discussion on ‘Sustaining excellence in technical education’ on the same day.

Spoke on ‘Impact of the economic crisis’ at the Regional Consultation on Social Determinants of Health organized by the Ministry of Healthcare and Nutrition, Government of Sri Lanka and World Health Organization at Colombo held between 17 and 21 February 2009.

Delivered a lecture on ‘Indian economic history and global imperialism: expropriation, agency and survival’, at the University of Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi on 27 February 2009.

Delivered the keynote lecture on ‘the current global economic crisis’ at a seminar organized by the Marxist Studies, Jadavpur University.

Gave a lecture on ‘What is world history’, at the conference on ‘World history and historical materialism’, organized by University of Manitoba, Winnipeg on 14 March 2009.

Gave lectures in the 1st and 2nd semester of the IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies for the session 2008-10.

Barnita Bagchi


Presented a paper on ‘South Asian women’s narratives of education’, (in French) at IRISES-CERSO-CNRS, University of Paris Dauphine on 12 December 2008.

Gave a lecture in a seminar on Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain at Presidency College, Kolkata on 28 January 2009.

Participated as a discussant for the session on ‘Masculinity’ at a seminar on ‘Transforming gender relations through redefining masculinity, education and agricultural interventions’,
organized by Saajhi Dunia and Indian Council of Philosophical Research, Lucknow on 11 February 2009.

Gave lectures on ‘Literature and feminism’, at UGC-sponsored refresher course on ‘Literature and thought’ organized by the Department of English, Jadavpur University.

Supervised the M.Phil dissertations of Sudarsana Sarkar (co-supervisor Subhoranjan Dasgupta) and Sukla Chatterjee of IDSK in 2008. The title of the thesis of Sudarsana was ‘Education : Its intrinsic value and social utility’ and of Sukla was ‘Feminist, utopia and human development’. Also supervised the M.Phil dissertation of Damayantee Mitra of the Department of Women’s Studies of Jadavpur University.

Gave lectures in the specialization module of the 1st and 2nd semester of the IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies for the session 2008-10.

Awarded Hermes Fellowship by Maison des Sciences de l’Homme, Centre Nationale de Recherche Scientifique, and Ministry of External Affairs, France, during October to December 2008, affiliated to Centre de Sociologie des Pratiques et Representations Politiques, University of Paris VII, France.

Was a Visiting Researcher at the Centre for the History of Women’s Education, Winchester University, UK during June-July 2008.

Is currently a member of Editorial Advisory Board, Heidelberg Papers in South Asian and Comparative Politics, from spring 2008 onwards.

Debdas Banerjee


Was engaged in a monograph-length work on Contemporary Indian Economy.

Continued to work in the International Editorial Board, Working USA: The Journal of Labour and Society (Blackwell Publishing)

Continued to work in the State Advisory Committee, West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission.

Continued to work in the Board of Associate and Advisory Editors for the 8-volume reference ‘International Encyclopedia of Revolution and Protest, 1500 to the Present’, Blackwell Publishing.

Examined the Ph.D thesis of a student from Burdwan University.
Uttam Bhattacharya

Presented a paper (jointly with Ushree Sengupta) on ‘Trade in agricultural commodities in India during the WTO period) at the international seminar on ‘International competitiveness and inclusive development’ organized by UNCTAD and Centre for Development Studies(CDS), Thiruvananthapuram on 20 and 21 October 2008.


Presently engaged in a project on ‘Possibilities of closer economic ties between India and Australia in capital goods in the WTO regime’ sponsored by Macquarie University, Sydney.

Gave lectures in the specialization module of the 1st and 2nd semester of the IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies for the session 2008-10.

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.

Visited Sciences-Po Paris as Visiting Professor and taught a course on ‘Indian economy: Poverty, inequality and growth’ during May 2008.


Participated as a resource person in the workshop for beginning doctoral scholars on ‘Inequalities and differences’ at the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences held on 1to 4 July 2008.

Delivered a lecture at the UGC sponsored state level seminar on ‘Globalisation, development and migration’ at Srikishna College, Bagula on 25 July 2008.

Participated as a resource person at the Young Scholars Programme at the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai held during 10 to 22 November 2008.
Gave a lecture at the UGC sponsored state level seminar on Women’s empowerment in West Bengal: With special reference to Kolkata and North and South 24 Parganas’ at Naba Ballygunge Mahavidyalaya, Kolkata on 25 November 2008.

Participated as a panelist in a panel discussion on ‘Methods in development economics’ at the XVIIIth Annual Conference on ‘Contemporary issues in development economics’, at Jadavpur University held on 19 and 20 December 2008.

Chaired the first Chandrakant Patil Memorial Health Dialogue on ‘Have we given up on equity in health?’ organized by Liver Foundation, West Bengal and Pratichi (India) Trust on 30 December 2008.

Presented a paper at the conference on ‘Challenges in human development in India’, held at the Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala on 24-25 January 2009.

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

Completed a project (as the lead project coordinator) on ‘Preparing Birbhum District Human Development Report’ sponsored by Office of the District Magistrate, Birbhum.

Completed the project ‘MDG-based poverty reduction strategy for West Bengal’ sponsored by UNDP through IGIDR Mumbai.

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

Supervising the M.Phil dissertations of students of IDSK of 2007-2009 batch.

Editing two books (jointly with others) – one on Public Health and the other on Women, Work and Education.

Indrani Chakraborty


Delivered two lectures on ‘Inflows of foreign capital in India’ at the Research Training Programme in economics organized by Jadavpur University under its project on ‘strategies and preparedness for trade and globalization in India’ sponsored by UNCTAD, DFID and Government of India on 4 June 2008.

Presented a paper (jointly with Professor Achin Chakraborty) on ‘Female work participation and gender differential in earning in West Bengal, India’ at the Conference on ‘Women, work and education’ held on 22 and 23 August at IDSK.

Presented a paper (jointly with Professor Achin Chakraborty) on ‘Female work participation and gender differential in earning in West Bengal, India’ at the Conference on ‘Challenges in human development in India’ held at the Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

Completed the project on ‘Women, work and education’ sponsored by the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, Stiftung along with Professors Subhoranjan Dasgupta, Achin Chakraborty and Dr. Zakir Husain of IDSK in 2008.

Supervised the M.Phil dissertations of a student of IDSK of 2006-2008 batch.

Supervising the M.Phil dissertations of two students of IDSK of 2007-09 batch.

Presently giving 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 2008-10.

Examined the Ph.D thesis of a student from Jadavpur University.

**Subhoranjan Dasgupta**


Gave a lecture on ‘Bishnu Dey’s poetry and prose’ at a symposium at Presidency College organized by the Presidency College Alumni Association on 18 July 2008.

Organized a national conference on ‘Women, work and education’ at the IDSK on 22-23 August 2008.

Chaired the concluding session at a conference on ‘Women’s representation in the globalised media’ at Lucknow on 28 August 2008.


Attended the international conference on ‘Relevance of Rosa Luxemburg in our times’ in Berlin on 15 and 16 January 2009.


Gave lectures in the specialization module of the 1st and 2nd semester of the IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies for the session 2008-10.
Supervised the M.Phil dissertations of Sudarsana Sarkar (co-supervisor Barnita Bagchi) and Suranjana Gangopadhyay of IDSK in 2008. The title of the thesis of Sudarsana was ‘Education: Its intrinsic value and social utility’ and of Suranjana was ‘Life after partition Refugee women’s struggle in their new home’.

Completed successfully a two-year long project on ‘Women, work and education’ supported by the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, Stiftung.

Presently engaged in implementing a new project on ‘Employment, empowerment and the state’ also sponsored by Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, Stiftung.

**Bidhan Kanti Das**

Presented a paper on ‘Forest villagers’ responses on reducing cattle population from national parks: Lessons from a national park in Sub-Himalayan Bengal’ in the 4th Indian National Confederation and Academy of Anthropologists (INCAA) organized by the Department of Anthropology, Hyderabad Central University from 21 to 23 February 2009.

Supervising the dissertations of two M.Phil students of the 2007-09 batch jointly with Drs. Krishna Soman and Saswata Ghosh.

Supervised jointly the fieldwork of first year M.Phil students of IDSK on ‘Drop outs in primary education level’ in some blocks of Birbhum during November 2008.

Working as an instructor of sociology special paper of the M.Phil students for the session 2008-2010.

Teaching post graduate students of Anthropology at Vidyasagar University, Midnapore.

Acting as a team member on the IDSK project ‘Employment, empowerment and the state’ sponsored by Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, Berlin.

**Panchanan Das**

Presented a paper on ‘Output and employment growth in registered manufacturing industries in India: Testing Kaldor’s hypothesis’ in the international conference on ‘Employment opportunities and public employment policy in globalizing India’, held at the Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala from 3 to 5 April 2008.

Participated in a workshop on ‘History of economic thought: Keynes and post-Keynes’ organized by the STOREP European Summer School, Department of Economics, University of Pavova, Italy from 21 to 31 August 2008.

Presented a paper on ‘Regional disparity and increasing returns in manufacturing industries in India’ in the Annual Conference of Indian Association for Research in National Income and Wealth at the Institute of Social and Economic Change, Bangalore, from 27 to 29 November, 2008.

Engaged in a two-year project on ‘Wage inequality in manufacturing industries: Pre and post-reform scenario in India’, sponsored by the University Grants Commission. The project will be completed by April 2009.

**Saswata Ghosh**

Presented a paper on ‘What determines success of ‘100 days work’ at the panchayat level?: A case study of Birbhum district, West Bengal’ at an international conference on ‘Employment opportunities and public employment policy in globalizing India ‘ organized by the Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram from April 3 to 5, 2008.

Presented a paper (jointly with Dr. Bidhan Kanti Das) on ‘Do the poor and the socially excluded utilizing Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) in India? Some exploratory evidences from NFHS-3” at the Conference ‘Priorities 2008’, organized by the University of New Castle, UK from 28 to 31 October, 2008.

Supervised jointly the fieldwork of first year M.Phil students of IDSK on ‘Drop outs in primary education level’ in some blocks of Birbhum during November 2008.

**Zakir Husain**

Presented a paper (jointly with Dr. Mousumi Dutta) on ‘Determinants of crime rate: An inter-state analysis’ at DRS seminar organized by Department of Economics, University of Calcutta on April 2008.


Presented a paper (jointly with Amrita Chatterjee) on ‘Variations in primary completion rates across socio-religious communities: An exploratory analysis’ at the International Conference on Human Development organized by the Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram on 24-25 January 2009.
Completed a survey on ‘Socio-economic profile of patients in Kolkata: A survey of RG Kar and AMRI, along with Dr. Saswata Ghosh and Dr. Bijoya Roy in 2008.

Completed a project on ‘Economic and employment status of minorities in West Bengal: Evidence from NSS’ commissioned by the Department of Minority Affairs and Madrasah Education, Government of West Bengal in November 2008.

Completed ‘A new horizon: A survey of women workers in Kolkata’s IT sector’ along with Dr. Mousumi Dutta, funded by Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung as part of the project ‘Women, Work and Education’.

Prasanta Ray

Presented a paper on “Representations: Old and new: from symbols without words to visuals with narratives’ in the UGC sponsored seminar on ‘New social movements and increasing people’s participation’ at Sibnath Sastri College on 4 April 2008.


Gave lectures in the specialization module of the 1st and 2nd semester of the IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies for the session 2008-10.

Bijoya Roy


Gave lectures in the modules on ‘History of health and medicine in modern India’ and ‘Participatory development and its application in health studies’ of the IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies for the session 2008-10.

Supervised jointly the fieldwork of first year M.Phil students of IDSK on ‘Drop outs in primary education level’ in some blocks of Birbhum in November 2008.

Supervising the M.Phil dissertation (co-supervisor Professor Achin Chakraborty) of Rukmini Thapa of IDSK of 2007-09 batch. The title of her thesis is ‘Barriers to elementary schooling faced by children of unorganized sector workers: An exploratory study Matigara block, Darjeeling’.
Dipankar Sinha

Presented a paper on ‘Development communication: The background of development journalism’ at the workshop on ‘Development journalism’ organized by the Calcutta Information Centre on 3 April 2008.

Gave a lecture on ‘Mediated society in globalizing India’, in a seminar on ‘Media and society under the changing waves of globalization: The Indian scenario’, organized by the Netaji Institute for Asian Studies on 14 August 2008.

Presented a paper on ‘Self-help groups in West Bengal: Lessons from a micro-study’ at a national conference on ‘Women, work and education’ organized by IDSK on 22 August 2008.

Delivered a lecture on ‘Communal harmony and democracy: Positing education as communication’ at the UGC State-level Golden Jubilee seminar on ‘National integration and democratization of education’, organized by Ramakrishna Mission Shikshana Mandira, Belur on 19 September 2008.


Gave a lecture on ‘Electronic (Re) viewing: ‘Development’ on Indian television in national seminar on ‘Re-viewing development’, organized by the Department of Political Science, University of Calcutta on 16 January 2009.

Delivered a lecture on ‘Media agenda and human rights’, organized by the Administrative Institute, Government of West Bengal, Kolkata on 21 January 2009.

Presented a paper on ‘Social science research and teaching in West Bengal/Eastern India: Networking as the missing key’, at the national workshop on ‘Status of social science research (Eastern Regional Centre) and Centre for Bio-Social studies, Sambalpur University on 18 February 2009.

Krishna Soman

Presented an invited paper on ‘Traditional medicine and health care planning in India: Pushing boundaries’, at the first Euro-Indian conference on ‘Holistic medicine’ organized by the Institute of Holistic Medical Sciences, Kerala and Ayurveda-und Venen-Klinik, Austria at Kottayam, Kerala from 21 to 23 August 2008.
Participated as a discussant in a session on ‘Decentralization of rural health care in India, at the collaborative workshop on ‘Health systems development under NRHM: Meeting the challenge of integration’, organized by the National Health Systems Resource Centre, Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Currently giving lectures in the specialization module of the 2nd semester of the IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies for the session 2008-10. She also gave some lectures in the M.Phil Course of Burdwan University, Department of Women’s Studies.

Supervising the M.Phil dissertations of Jaydeep Sengupta and Parama Ukil of 2006-08 batch and Asish Mandal of 2007-09 batch of IDSK.

Also supervising the M.Phil dissertation of Shalini Gupta of School of Women’s Studies of Jadavpur University. The title of her thesis is ‘Social determinants of women’s health: An exploration with the teachers in colleges of Kolkata.

IX Publications

A. Publications of IDSK

a. Occasional Papers:


No.15 Education for child labour in West Bengal by Uttam Bhattacharya, October 2008.

No.16 What determines the success and failure of ‘100 days work’ at the panchayat level? A study of Birbhum district in West Bengal by Subrata Mukherjee and Saswata Ghosh, February 2009.

b. Working Paper:

No.3 Representation of public health in the print media: A survey and analysis by Swati Bhattacharjee, January 2009.
c. Special Lectures:


No.4  *Compassion: Human and Animal* by Martha C. Nussbaum, July 2008.

d. Report

In Bangla

*Manab Unnayaner Pothe 2: Manab Unnayane Pariseba Khetrer Karmachari Sangathaner Bhumika*

B. Publications of individual faculty members

**Amiya Kumar Bagchi**

Articles:


‘Contesting models of East Asian development and financial liberalization: A case study of South Korea’, Social Scientist, 36(9-10), 4-23, 2008.


In Bangla


Reviews:


**Barnita Bagchi**

Articles:


Debdas Banerjee

Article:


Uttam Bhattacharya

Articles:


Achin Chakraborty


Indrani Chakraborty

Article:


Subhoranjan Dasgupta

Articles and papers:


Reviews:


Bidhan Kanti Das

Articles:


Panchanan Das

Articles:


Zakir Husain

Article:


Dipankar Sinha

Book:

Krishna Soman

Article:


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
Bidhan Kanti Das
Panchanan 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

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