

Towards a Better Health Care System in West Bengal: A Public Discussion

Date: February 12, 2007

On February 12, 2007, the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata (IDSK), in collaboration with Pratichi Trust (India), held a workshop on *Towards a better health care system in West Bengal: A public discussion*. The workshop was inaugurated by Surjya Kanta Mishra, Honourable Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Panchayats and Rural Development, Government of West Bengal.

Amartya Sen addressed the participants and held an interactive session with them. Besides Mishra, Asim Dasgupta, Honourable Minister of Finance, Government of West Bengal were also present. Among other participants mention may be made of:

- Dilip Ghosh, Joint Secretary, Department of Panchayats and Rural Development
- Dilip Mahalanabis, Senior Fellow of IDSK and recipient of Prince Mahidol Award for his contribution to healthcare
- Amitava Sen
- Gouripada Datta, former MLA and Professor of NRS Medical College
- Abhijit Choudhury, Associate Professor, School of Post Graduate Medicine, SSKM Hospital
- Debu Dattagupta of the Coordination Committee of government employees
- Krishna Soman and Achin Chakraborty of IDSK
- Amiya Kumar Bagchi, Director, IDSK

The workshop concluded with important statements made by Surjya Kanta Mishra and Asim Dasgupta regarding the steps taken by the Government of West Bengal to improve the healthcare system.