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INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES KOLKATA

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INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES KOLKATA

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Introduction

The **Institute of Development Studies Kolkata (IDSK)** is now in its sixteenth year. The Institute was promoted by the Government of West Bengal as an autonomous centre of excellence in social sciences and was founded in 2002 as a registered society with a governing body comprising eminent scholars and Government's nominees. It is fully funded by the Government of West Bengal. During the fifteen years of its existence, IDSK has made its mark in the world of research in social sciences and humanities in India. In 2014 the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) recognized IDSK under the 'New Category of ICSSR Recognized Institutes'.

The Governing Council of IDSK comprises eminent scholars and representatives of the Government of West Bengal. The Council is now headed by the eminent historian Professor Sabyasachi Bhattacharya as the President.

IDSK is devoted to advanced academic research and informed policy advice in the areas of education, health, gender issues, employment, technology, communication, governance, human sciences and economic development. Other important programmes include training of research scholars in the social sciences working towards MPhil or PhD degrees. IDSK conducts MPhil and PhD in Development Studies in collaboration with the University of Calcutta. The Institute is committed to dissemination of its research findings through workshops, seminars, publications in the media, and other public counselling and education programmes.

IDSK has actively collaborated with a good number of academic institutions in India and abroad. Its close association with the University of Calcutta started since its inception. Other institutions with which IDSK has actively



collaborated in the recent years include the Monash University (Australia), University of Melbourne, University of Geneva, University of Rome “La Sapienza”, Italy, and others.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) sponsored the setting up of the Rabindranath Tagore Centre for Human Development Studies (RTCHDS) under the auspices of IDSK through the University of Calcutta. The Advisory Committee of RTCHDS is headed by the Vice-

Chancellor of the University of Calcutta as Chairman, the Director of IDSK as Vice-Chairman and with other representatives from IDSK and the University of Calcutta including the Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic) and Pro Vice Chancellor (Finance). The academic programmes of the Centre include organizing seminars, financially supporting faculty research, supporting doctoral research, hosting post-doctoral fellows and visiting academics at various levels.

IDSK at a Glance

Established in	2002
Members of faculty (as on March 31, 2018)	13
PhD awardees under IDSK faculty supervision till date	29
PhD scholars being supervised by IDSK faculty	30
MPhil Awardees till date	114
MPhil students pursuing coursework	15
MPhil students writing dissertation	17
Completed sponsored projects	31
Ongoing Projects	9
Occasional Papers	59
Working Papers	5
Special Lecture Series	7

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Research Activities

DEMOGRAPHY, HEALTH, AND DISABILITY

These three interrelated areas continue to be among the major areas of research by the faculty of IDSK.

In 'Agricultural Fluctuations and Demographic Crisis in British India (1820-1870): A Case Study', *Journal of Quantitative Economics*, November 2017, Amiya Kumar Bagchi (jointly with Panchanan Das) relates mortality crises in India to harvest fluctuations. It is difficult to quantify the intensity of famines accurately during the period 1820–1870 because of the lack of relevant data. The contribution of the paper is to relate demographic crises to harvest fluctuations in two macro-regions of India and to do it by using data from an early period of British rule. In the process, it also tackles certain revisionist views that have been forwarded in recent times.

In 'Religion, Contraceptive Method Mix and Son Preference among Bengali-Speaking Community in the Indian Subcontinent', *Population Research and Policy Review*, 36(6): 929-959, Saswata Ghosh (jointly with Aparajita Chattopadhyay) examines the influence of religion on contraceptive method mix in the context of son preference among Bengali-speaking population of eastern India (i.e., West Bengal and Tripura) and Bangladesh. In spite of cultural similarity and parallel programmatic approach to family planning in these two distinct geopolitical spaces, differential use of contraception is evident. Using National Family Health Survey (2005–2006) and Bangladesh Demographic Health Survey (2007) and by employing sequential logit model, the paper finds evidence of latent son preference in adoption of modern contraception in Bengali-speaking Hindu and Muslim communities of eastern India. However, such practice is observed only among Hindus in Bangladesh. The paper further argues that although diffusion of the culture of son



preference cuts across religious groups among Bengali-speaking community in eastern India, religious identity dominates over region in Bangladesh, encouraging minority Hindus to adopt a distinct pattern of contraceptive behavior with reference to sons. Such finding calls for further research in understanding the pros and cons of behavioral diffusion in majority–minority population mix in similar tradition and culture.

In 'Decomposing Nutritional Inequality by Caste and Class: A Quantitative Approach to Reckon Intersectionality', *Economics Bulletin*, 37(2), 1339-1350, Achin Chakraborty and Simantini Mukhopadhyay decompose inequality in nutritional status of Indian children along the axes of caste and economic class. Inequality is measured by the most commonly decomposed measures of the General Entropy Class. They first use the traditional method of inequality decomposition and find out how the 'between group' component differs when they consider different groupings, namely caste, class, and caste-class intersections. However, since the traditional method of inequality decomposition is sensitive to the relative sizes and the number of groups under question, the decompositions are not comparable across alternative groupings. In this paper, they use a corrected method of inequality decomposition and show that compared to the traditional method, it is more meaningful even in the non-income space.

In *Caste-Gender Intersectionalities and the Curious Case of Child Nutrition: A Methodological Exposition*, IDSK Occasional Paper, 59, February 2018, Simantini Mukhopadhyay and Achin Chakraborty argue that a growing body of research has addressed the issue of intersectionality since the last three decades, mostly adopting qualitative methodologies. Quantitative attempts to capture intersectionality have been recent and few. They invoke the framework of intersectionality to shed light on the puzzle of an insignificant gender gap in child nutrition in India. Given the multifaceted intersections of caste and gender in shaping inequalities in other indicators such as childhood mortality, reported preference for sons and labour market outcomes, they examine the variations in nutritional status of children

across the intersections of the two axes, sex and caste. This is a methodological paper, attempting to illustrate the various quantitative methods that have been used (with or without adhering to the term 'intersectionality') or may be used to capture intersectional inequalities. They elaborate three methods to study intersectionality, also discussing if and how they diverge substantively.

In 'Impact of the elderly on household health expenditure in Bihar and Kerala, India', *Journal of Health Management*, 2018, 20(1), 1-14, Subrata Mukherjee (jointly with David Loutfi and Jean-Frederic Levesque) examines the impact of the presence of the elderly on household catastrophic health expenditure and three related impacts on access (avoidance of treatment, loss of income, and use of alternate sources of funding to pay for care). They use data from the 2004 National Sample Survey Organization survey on healthcare and choose one developed state (Kerala) and one developing state (Bihar). They find that the rate of catastrophic health expenditure was higher in Kerala and this was likely associated with a higher proportion of households having elderly member, who in turn have more chronic disease. Elderly females in Bihar were at a disadvantage with regards to health services utilization and larger household size might have a protective effect on elderly households. Scheduled caste and Muslim households have to borrow more often than other groups in order to fund their treatment. While the elderly, chronic disease and private treatment are linked to catastrophic health expenditure, our results suggest that other groups may simply be delaying the economic consequences of paying for healthcare, by avoiding treatment or borrowing money. They conclude that the results can be used to explore the impact of the elderly in more detail in future research, and contribute to health policy discussions.

In 'Too Much or Too Little: Paradoxes of Disability and Care Work in India' published in *Review of Disability Studies*, 13(4), September 2017, Nandini Ghosh and Supurna Banerjee discuss that the notion of care often normalizes within it violence that can have devastating effects on the lives of disabled people. Crippling care critiques the normalization of such notions of care. This paper articulates this paradox of care within the lived



experiences of disabled girls and their mothers as primary carers. Through extensive case studies of young, disabled girls and their carers in villages of West Bengal, Jharkhand, and Odisha in India—where abject poverty, lack of resources, and a dearth of sensitive sensitized social relationships remain entrenched—this paper problematizes care relationships, moving beyond social model approaches to include understandings from the Global South of what it might mean to crip care. The paper explores care relationships within the family, which valorise the emotional and physical labor of women in the garb of motherhood while negating the personhood of disabled daughters. While the care relationship between mother and daughter is enhanced by the affective bonds of empathy, emotional responsiveness, and perceptual attentiveness that transform intimate tasks into relationships of trust and demonstrations of trustworthiness, in the unforgiving realities of rural poverty in India the collective act of survival of such families needs to be contextualized within the debates about crippling care.

In 'Socialised into (Dis)Ability: Experiences of Disabled Children in India' in *Empowering Children with Disabilities*, Ocean Books, 2017, edited by Sanjay Prasad, Deepa Sonpal and Suman Vaishnav, Nandini Ghosh shows that children with disabilities and their families constantly experience barriers to the enjoyment of their basic human rights and to their inclusion in society. Their abilities are overlooked, their capacities are underestimated and their needs are given low priority. Yet, the barriers they face are more frequently as a result of the environment in which they live than as a result of their impairment. The process of including a child with a disability in society as a whole begins with access to everyday experiences in the home setting, with parents and caregivers playing a central role. Inclusive practices are relevant for children with disabilities at all ages. The chapter explores the childhood experiences of disabled children in Bengal and the ways in which they are socialised within their families and by the community around them. The aim is to highlight the varied processes through which these children learn to accept and live according to abilist norms that govern their entire lives and lead to the creation of differences that underpin their

identity. Whereas socio-cultural ideologies define disabled people as imperfect and flawed, in Bengali families children with disabilities are loved and cared for, and socialised with startling similarities and subtle differences created and reinforced between them and their brothers and sisters.

INDUSTRY, LABOUR AND POLITICAL ECONOMY

In 'Underemployment in India: Measurement and some Analysis', *IDSK Occasional Paper No. 58*, November 2017, Subrata Mukherjee, Dipankor Coondoo and Indrani Chakraborty deal with measurement and analysis of underemployment of labour. Here an index of underemployment is defined for a person who belongs to the labour force in usual status but may be employed, unemployed and seeking employment or out of labour force during each half-day of a 7-day reference week. This simple index admits aggregation over similar workers and thus can lead to an underemployment index for a category of workers like, workers of a household, a village, a district, of the age group 15-40 years etc. Using the unit-level dataset of the NSS 66th round Employment-Unemployment Survey, underemployment index for different categories of workers have been estimated for comparison. In another exercise Tobit regression analysis has been done using the unit-level survey data mentioned above to find out statistically significant covariates of underemployment at the worker level as well as at the household level.

Activism and Agency in India: Nurturing Resistance in Tea Plantations, London: Routledge Edinburgh South Asia Series (May 2017) by Supurna Banerjee offers an analysis of labour relations and social space in the tea gardens of West Bengal India. Existing literature provides an understanding of how the plantations operate as economic spaces, but in so doing they treat workers as undifferentiated economic beings defined only by their class identity. Space, however, has to be animated to be meaningful. Through participant observation and semi-structured interviews she explores the plantations as actual lived spaces where people are bound by and resist constraints. Within the physical sites of the plantation, she examines how the women perceive these spaces and



how, in moving between ideas of home/world, public/private, these very binaries are negated. Conditioned by gender norms and the resultant hierarchy their narratives can be read as stories of deprivation and misery, but looking deeper their agency can also be uncovered. Focussing on the minute acts of insubordination, deceit and even confrontation the book elucidates how the women made use of the relations of subordination to pave spaces of resistance and sometimes even of autonomy. Furthermore, in expressing themselves, the women use the available political repertoires of protest in forms of strikes, blockades, street plays, etc. Despite their articulate nature, these protests usually seek to address immediate demands and do not escalate into social movements. Also while volatile in action, the protests seek legitimacy within the accepted gender codes that operate in their everyday life in the plantation.

In the article 'From "plantation workers" to "naukrāni": the changing labour discourses of migrant domestic workers' in *Journal of South Asian Development*, 13(2), Supurna Banerjee demonstrates that the tea plantations of Dooars in West Bengal are founded on a gendered division of labour. The economic crisis faced by the tea plantations from 2000-2010, brought long established labour practices into question. Mounting expenses and closures led to rising migration of plantation workers to distant urban areas in north and south India, in search of alternative employment. Many such women found employment as domestic workers and care-workers in Delhi and Gurgaon. Using narratives of such migrant domestic workers, this article explores self-perceptions and representations of work as being produced through particular sets of processes. It focuses on the on-going process of skill acquisition on the one hand and its constant invisibilisation on the other. This reproduces paid domestic and care work not only as women's natural labour but also low skilled and low status work particularly suited for migrant women. Their perceptions allow for problematisation of a monolithic understanding of labour and domestic labour in particular.

In the chapter 'Latin America and Imperialism', in *The Changing Face of Imperialism: Colonialism to*

Contemporary Capitalism, London: Routledge, pp.160-170, December 2017, edited by Sunanda Sen and Cristina Marcuzzo, Amiya Kumar Bagchi points out that Latin America is a continent of both hope and fear. It is a continent of hope because in 1959 under the leadership of Fidel Castro, Cuba carried out a revolution against tremendous odds, kept that revolution alive despite the illegal embargo and aggression carried out by the United States and kept the beacon of an egalitarian society burning even after the fall of the Soviet Union. It is a continent of hope also because between 1998 and 2009, 15 Latin American countries elected left-leaning presidents in multi-party elections. They were Venezuela, Chile, Brazil, Argentina, Dominican Republic, Suriname, Nicaragua, Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Uruguay, Paraguay, El Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica. In 2005, the BBC reported that out of 350 million people in South America, three out of four of them lived in countries ruled by left-leaning president selected during the preceding six years. 1 According to the BBC, another common element of the left-wing turn is a clean break with what was known at the outset of the 1990s as the 'Washington consensus', 'the mixture of open markets and privatisation pushed by the United States'.

In another chapter 'Is Imperialism a Relevant Concept in Today's World?', in the same volume, Subhanil Chowdhury argues that many prominent economists, including Marxists, opine that imperialism as a concept has become obsolete today. The paper tries to revisit and reassess the concept of imperialism in the current era. Three sets of arguments are put forward in this regard. Firstly, the world has witnessed a rise in the economic and political weight of the BRIC countries, whose contribution in Fortune 500 companies and members in the dollar billionaire club has increased significantly, pointing towards significant capitalist development in developing economies in general and the BRIC in particular. Secondly, this capitalist development has not managed to improve the living standards of majority of people in these countries. Thirdly, the USA continues to be a global hegemony. In this changed milieu, the paper tries to analyse the changing nature of global conflicts in today's world. It is pointed out that while intra-imperialist rivalry of Lenin's time has got muted, the current period is



an era of contradiction between developing countries and the advanced capitalist countries. It is not the case that the bourgeoisie of the BRIC countries have become anti-imperialist or through these contradictions they want to gain some benefit for the people. What is argued is that the bourgeoisie of these countries want their place in the global table of power.

In 'Left Front Government, rural development and governance in India's West Bengal: Lessons from a new experiment', *Asian Review of Public Administration*, Vol.27, Prabhat Dutta discusses that borne out of the prevailing socio-economic context in the 20th century India and the growing disenchantment in electoral politics by the middle class, the Left Front Government (LFG) in West Bengal emerged to become one of the longest-surviving leftist regimes in the world, spanning over three decades in existence. The landless and marginalized, which became the focus of LFG for its rural development policies, initially constituted a strong electoral base. However, support for the LFG waned in recent years, following crises in leadership at the local level and internal weaknesses in the democratic processes and institutions that LFG established in the villages. Using the liberalist pluralist framework of democratic decentralization as its analytic lens, this article discusses the challenges faced by the LFG, and how social, political, and institutional factors eventually led to its decline in the recent years.

In 'The Development of Modern Public Administration in India (co-authored with Pan Suk Kim) in *Asian Review of Public Administration*, Vol.27(1&2), Prabhat Dutta discusses that after the Second World War, developing countries came under the influence of American scholarship through exchange programs, funding of public administration institutions, and direct consulting by American development experts. As other developing countries established similar institutions, India's then-Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, established the Indian Institute of Public Administration in March 1954 based on the recommendations of a survey carried out in 1953 by an American scholar, Paul H. Appleby, then Dean of the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University in

the USA. Since then, Indian public administration has developed significantly in both quality and quantity of research and professional education. However, there are many issues to consider for further development. Accordingly, this article tackles such matters in reviewing the spread of American influence in India and the status of public administration as a discipline, and then discusses the neo-liberal and technological phase and its administrative implications.

In 'Land reforms administration in an Indian State : Lessons from the Experiences of Implementation' *Journal of Asian Rural Studies*, Vol.1(2), Prabhat Dutta with his co-authors argue that until the shift of developmental policy in India in 1990s the state used to play an instrumental role India's development. By the time India attained independence it was widely regarded that semi feudal landlordism was the main obstacle in the way of national economic regeneration. In this paper an attempt has been to capture the processes of land reforms in India's West Bengal under the Left Front rule and to critically review impact of this programme on village society. This paper also seeks to identify reasons with the help of empirical studies why it has not been possible for the Left Front Government to achieve the declared objectives of the programme. Major transformations in economic, social and political fields during the first two decades of the Left Front rule characterized by the successful implementation of land reform programmes but failed to produce sustained benefits to the poor beneficiaries of land reforms. The panchayat institutions were unsuccessful in making the poor realize that the existing social situation was not conducive for meeting their basic needs. The concluding part of the paper tries to bring together the lessons that the other countries or states in a federal system can learn from the experiences of implementation of land reforms programme in West Bengal.

URBANISATION

In the chapter 'Structural Limits to Equitable Urbanization' in *Sustainable Urbanization in India*, Springer, 2018, edited by Jenia Mukherjee, Achin Chakraborty argues that contemporary world is marked



by deep inequities in living conditions, on the one hand, and by serious threats to the prospects of good life in future, on the other. These two central problems of contemporary world are often put succinctly as inter-generational and intra-generational injustice. Yet, the typical development planner sees the city as a location where investment, production, consumption, and innovation take place. The dominant approach in the policy circles is one of competition – the city is supposed to be in endless competition with other cities for markets and for new industries. In this paper an attempt has been made to understand the tension among the three goals of urbanisation – economic growth, sustainability and distributive justice. International development agencies, while articulating a normative standpoint, often combine the three goals in such a way as to create the impression that they form a seamless whole, which could be attained without problems only if the international community had been sensitised about the importance of setting such goals. On the contrary, the paper unfolds the tensions and conflicts, drawing on the Indian urbanisation experience and the policy dilemmas to argue that although the imperatives of economic growth in the modern globalised world have an apparent ring of inevitability around them, an articulated view on social justice and appropriate conceptualisation of equity through community engagement can help us understand the alternative possibilities with their associated trade-offs, which in turn would help us tread the contested terrain.

In 'Urbanization of Muslim Community in India—A Metaphor for Development? Evidences from States of West Bengal and Kerala', *Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs*, 2018, Taylor and Francis, Subhanil Chowdhury and Saswata Ghosh (jointly with Sourav Chakraborty) discuss that historically, the religious affiliation of urbanization in India has always rendered a relative advantage for Muslim Community. During 2000–2011, *in situ* urbanization process has strengthened this popular belief. This trend is more pronounced in the states of Kerala and West Bengal, perhaps due to the colossal escalation of new Census Towns (CTs). The study is an endeavour to understand whether recent upsurge of urbanization among Muslims in India can be linked with “development” in these two states based on availabilities

of Basic Urban Infrastructures (BUIs), principally in the new CTs. This has been done by employing an “availability index” of infrastructures by obtaining data from Village Directory of West Bengal and Kerala, Census of India. The BUIs include educational and health institutions, bus and railway services and drinking water facility. Most importantly, where these amenities were absent in 2001, the distance travelled by the inhabitants, to get access to these services has also been examined here. The study concludes through extending the debate on whether an increase in the number of population, particularly of Muslim community, in urban areas can be taken as a true signature of development or not.

In 'Declassification of Census Towns in West Bengal', *Economic and Political Weekly*, 52(25-26), Subhanil Chowdhury (jointly with Sourav Chakraborty, Utpal Roy and Kakali Das) shows that eighty-one new census towns in West Bengal are on the verge of declassification in the 2021 Census. This must not be understood to mean that non-farm workers are moving into farm activities. Rather, evidences suggest that growth of farm employment has simply outpaced that of non-farm employment in these new census towns and is possibly the reason behind their imminent declassification. The case of Patuli, which is only considered as an example, shows that non-farm activities, especially trading, are witnessing a fall-off phase and that it failed to expand owing to the loss of its market town/rural service centre character over time, goaded by some local factors. This has led to the subsequent inability to generate sufficient full-time jobs at Patuli. More studies are required to build a comprehensive outlook on the policy measures required to preserve the role of these new census towns as market towns and/or rural service centres in the future.

LAND

The Land Question in India: State, Dispossession and Capitalist Transition, Oxford University Press, 2017, edited by Anthony P. D'Costa and Achin Chakraborty, takes a fresh look at the land question in India. Instead of re-engaging in the rich transition debate in which the transformation of agriculture is seen as a necessary historical step to usher in dynamic capitalist (or socialist)



development, this collection critically examines the centrality of land in contemporary development discourse in India. Consequently, the focus is on the role of the state in pushing a process of dispossession of peasants through direct expropriation for developmental purposes such as acquisition of land by (local) states for infrastructure development and to support accumulation strategies of private business through industrialization. Land in India is sought for non-agricultural purposes such as purchasing land to reduce risk and real estate development. Land is also central to tribal communities (*adivasis*), whose livelihoods depend on it and on a moral economy that is independent of any price-driven markets. Thus land, notwithstanding its role in the accumulation process, has been, and continues to be, a turbulent arena in which classes, castes, and communities are in conflict with each other, with the state, and with capital, jockeying to determine the terms and conditions of land transactions or their prevention, through both market and non-market mechanisms. The volume goes beyond the traditional political economy of the agrarian transition question, and deals with, *inter alia*, distributional conflicts arising from acquisition of land by the state for capital accumulation on the one hand and its commodification on the other.

In the same volume, Gorky Chakraborty (jointly with Asok Kumar Ray) has authored the chapter 'Land and Dispossession: The Criticalities in the Hills of Northeast India'. This chapter discusses the 'land question' by critically examining the appropriation of community land and subsequent dispossession of the tribes embedded in the social economy of the hills of Northeast India. They state that the historico-epistemological hiatus between the customary law abiding tribes vis-à-vis the positive law imposing state appears to be fundamental in understanding the difference between the two contrasting interpretations of property rights enacted in the highlands of the region. The trivialization of community land and dispossession of the tribal masses in Manipur, Meghalaya, and Tripura suggests that constitutional protections have fallen short in protecting the community resources of the tribes. The hydropower projects in Arunachal Pradesh and the threats of dispossession of the communities under the hegemony of state-business

collusion represent the continuing process of appropriation of the community resources in the hill areas.

Gorky Chakraborty's article 'Wasteland as a Colonial Construct: Was it Waste at all!' in *Blending Region Into Nation: Essays in Honour of Late Amalendu Guha: Primus*, 2018, edited by Sajal Nag and Ishrat Alam, deals with the 'roots' of the colonial construct of wasteland and its post-colonial ramifications. He asks, what has been the socio-cultural rationale in ascribing land, a resource, as 'wasteland'? Is it simply rooted to the logic of revenue generation or are their differences in understanding between the historico-comparative communitarian views of communal/community resources and the understanding of the colonial state rooted in the empirico-positivistic notions of property and resources? Does jurisprudential logic play a role in erecting such a construct? Which philosophical thoughts influenced the notion of wasteland? Was it a manifestation of the foundational binary between the state of nature vis-à-vis state of culture embedded in the colonial project? Or, is it a manifestation of the tendencies of capitalist accumulation and its subsequent expansion of the state to civilize the savages?

NORTH-EAST INDIA

Gorky Chakraborty has edited a volume *Water Conflicts in Northeast India: Routledge*, 2017 (jointly with K.J. Joy, Partha Das, Chandan Mahanta, Suhas Paranjape, Shruti Vispute), that documents the multifaceted conflicts and contestations around water in Northeast India, analyses their causes and consequences, and includes expert recommendations. It fills a major gap in the subject by examining wide-ranging issues such as cultural and anthropological dimensions of damming rivers in the Northeast and Eastern Himalayas; seismic surveys, oil extractions, and water conflicts; discontent over water quality and drinking water; floods, river bank erosion, embankments; water policy; transboundary water conflicts; and hydropower development. It also discusses the alleged Chinese efforts to divert the Brahmaputra River.



In 'The Char Dwellers of Assam: flowing river, floating people', published in a volume *Water Conflicts in Northeast India*: Routledge, 2017, edited by K.J., Joy, Partha Das, et.al., Gorky Chakraborty analyses the unique situation of the people who live in the mid channel bars of Brahmaputra. The life of the *char* dweller is situated within the complex shifting reality, forced migration and a possible return to the *past* piece of land when it re-emerges. The issues get further compounded because of historical prejudices against these dwellers, who are mostly Muslims and are often described as 'Bangladeshi immigrants' from across the border.

In 'Look East Policy and Northeast India: Is it a Conjectured Vision' in *Mainstreaming the Northeast in India's Look and Act Policy East*: Palgrave Macmillan, 2018, edited by Atul Sarma and Saswati Choudhury, Gorky Chakraborty argues that so far the policies seek to analyse the region through a statist paradigm where different dimensions – security, strategic, trade and foreign policy are seamlessly entwined. The paper analyses whether an overwhelmingly ethnic space – Northeast – can be accommodated in the policy solely by economic imperatives of trade and commerce with its immediate neighbours?

THE HISTORY OF PARTITION IN INDIA

In an Introduction to the Special Issue on 'Nation-Making in Partitioned India', *Economic and Political Weekly*, LIII:4, 2018, pp 40-43, Anwasha Sengupta (jointly with Ishan Mukherjee) identifies three major phases of partition studies. While the earliest works on the partition focused on the causes of the great divide, the ordinary peoples' experiences became important in the second phase. The third, and the most recent, strand closely analyses how partition shaped the governmentality and the political-economy of post-colonial India and Pakistan. Joya Chatterji's work on the impact of partition on the political landscape of West Bengal, Sekhar Bandyopadhyay's writings on how partition shaped Dalit politics of West Bengal, Tai Yong Tan and Gyanesh Kudaisiya's research on the ways in which partition shaped urban spaces and the 'institutions that governed both people and places', or Vazira Zamindar's book that

talks about how partition took effect through bureaucratic discourses and practices are some of the important examples of this third strand. The historiographical discussion was followed by summaries of the articles that were included in the special issue. All these articles in many ways complemented and complicated the third strand of scholarship that studies the impact of partition in making of the post-colonial polity, economy, society and governance. In conclusion, the gaps in the existing scholarship in general and in the issue in particular, were flagged.

In 'Unthreading Partition: The Politics of Jute Sharing between two Bengals', *Economic and Political Weekly*, LIII:4, 2018, pp 43-49, Anwasha Sengupta has studied the impact of partition on the jute industry of Bengal. The new international border separating India and East Pakistan put the jute producing areas and the jute mills in two separate countries. Though both the governments initially agreed to cooperate with each other in matters of jute cultivation and marketing, in reality jute diplomacy was complex and conflict-ridden. To become self-sufficient in jute economy, Pakistan invested in jute mills and began to develop Chittagong Port to export raw jute. India, on the other hand, encouraged jute cultivation. Both the countries set up customs and check posts in the border to curb jute-smuggling. Thus, the untangling of Bengal's jute economy was integrally linked with nation-building initiatives. Moreover, the Indo-Pakistan jute diplomacy encouraged the worldwide shift from jute to jute-substitutes in 1950s.

In the chapter 'Moveable Migrants, Laboring Lives: Making Refugees 'Useful' in Post-Colonial India', in *Work Out of Place, Work in Global and Historical Perspective Series*, Oldenburg: De Gruyter, 2017, edited by Mahua Sarkar, Anwasha Sengupta has discussed the policy of dispersing the Bengali Hindu refugees from East Pakistan to places like Andaman and Dandakaranya in 1950s and 1960s. The purpose of this policy was to reduce the population pressure from West Bengal as well as to supply cheap labor in these scarcely populated, yet natural resource – rich, areas. The policy of dispersal was in sync with Nehruvian India's emphasis on development. However, in this scheme of things there



was no scope for the opinion of the refugees. Neither they could choose their destination, nor did they have any right to return. In many ways, their condition was comparable to bonded laborers. In this, Nehru's India was very similar to that of the colonial regime. The paper elaborated the forms of labour that the refugees provided, their conditions of works, the remunerations they got and the nature of contract that they had with the state.

In 'Partition and Dalit Politics in Bengal: The Figure of Jogendra Nath' in *Looking Back: The 1947 Partition of India 70 Years On*, Orient BlackSwan, New Delhi, 2017, edited by Rakshanda Jalil, Tarun Saint and Debjani Sengupta, Anwesh Sengupta has looked into the figure of Jogendra Nath Mandal, a dalit leader from Barishal (presently in Bangladesh) who was an ally of the Muslim League. His party Scheduled Castes Federation (S.C.F.) supported the League demand for united Bengal within Pakistan and when Bengal was divided, Mandal joined the Pakistan cabinet as the minister of Labour and Law, and strongly discouraged the low caste people against migration. However, he himself left Pakistan and migrated to West Bengal in October, 1950 as a mark of protest against the gruesome riots that had happened earlier that year. While in West Bengal, he attempted to mobilize dalit refugees for rehabilitation movements but could never become significant in the high politics of the province or the country. The purpose of this paper was to understand the scope of caste politics in Bengal during the 'partitioned times'.

METHODOLOGY AND KNOWLEDGE

In an article 'Transcendental Institutionalism and Public Policy', published in the volume *In Pursuit of Inclusive Development: Essays for Manabi Majumdar*, Purbalok Publication, 2017, edited by Dayabati Roy and Sreemoyee Ghosh, Achin Chakraborty points out that Amartya Sen (2009) puts forward the position that it is more important to clarify how different realizations of justice could be compared and evaluated rather than trying to identify the perfectly just social arrangements. However, most of the mainstream theories of justice, according to Sen, are concerned with the latter, and he calls them 'transcendental' theories. From an

epistemological point of view, the empirical research that aims at capturing different kinds of injustices in India, especially the injustices which are directly or indirectly related to distribution of transferable economic goods, seems to be in conformity with Sen's advocacy of comparative assessment. Yet, transcendental thinking pervades our discussions on institutional alternatives, the most commonplace of them are those around the issue of market versus the state. He argues in this paper for an adequate understanding of the nature of the political in the context of normatively derived policy suggestions. Using three concrete cases of policy trajectories from India he shows how a comparative institutional perspective that gives primacy to the political can help us understand the evolving and embedded nature of certain policies.

In 'The emergence of a hybrid mode of knowledge production in the Generation Challenge Programme Rice Research Network (GCP-RRN) in India: Exploring the concept of Commons-Based Peer Production (CBPP)', *Geoforum* 84: 107-116, Soutrik Basu (jointly with J. Jongerden & G. Ruivenkamp) argues that the Generation Challenge Programme (GCP) was an international agrarian knowledge-production programme created in 2003 by the CGIAR. GCP aims at developing drought tolerant varieties by reconciling upstream biotechnology based advanced research with the downstream development at the farmer's field. The objective of this paper is to apply the theory of Commons Based Peer Production (CBPP) to analyse the knowledge production process of GCP, especially the case of drought tolerant rice research network in Indian context (GCP-RRN). CBPP represents the theorisation of a mode of production that can be distinguished from market (private) and state (public) knowledge-production systems that was developed by observing the phenomena of Free and Open Source Software (FOSS). Socio-economically, this form of production is based on cooperation, collaboration and collective action rather than property, contract and managerial hierarchies. This paper argues that GCP-RRN knowledge production is basically a hybridised one in which there are certain inclinations towards CBPP within certain larger context, and there are other attributes too that do not fall within CBPP



theorisation. Further, this paper elaborates on the implications of this hybridised model for agrarian knowledge production discourse and institutions.

In 'Beyond the dichotomy of instrumentality and non-instrumentality of knowledge production: The case of generation challenge programme', *Science and Public Policy* 44(4): 583-597, Soutrik Basu discusses that a change in the discourse on knowledge production as a shift from the non-instrumentality to the instrumentality approach has been identified and, moreover, generally been regarded as an inevitable, unilinear transition. He questions this assumption by questioning some of the key features of the instrumentality paradigm, particularly in relation to a specific organisation geared towards

international agrarian knowledge production, the Generation Challenge Programme (GCP). We first provide an account of the non-instrumentality approach to knowledge production and of the gradual shift towards instrumentality. Then, different theories of instrumental knowledge production are analysed for patterns that holistically indicate the essence of instrumental knowledge production. Finally, by providing a descriptive analysis of the GCP, he argues against the idea of a unilinear transition towards the instrumental paradigm insofar as, within GCP, several non-instrumental patterns are emerging that seem to go beyond the dichotomous (instrumental versus non-instrumental) understanding of knowledge production discourse.

3

Research Projects

A. Documents on Economic History during British Rule in India, Northern and Western India in the Late Nineteenth Century: Quality of Life

The project jointly sponsored by the ICHR and IDSK commenced in March 2013 with Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi as General Editor and Professor Arun Kumar Bandyopadhyay as Associate Editor and Dr. Ramkrishna Chatterjee as Coordinator. The project is now going on its last phase.

In 2017-18, as per suggestion of the Editorial meeting of the ICHR Advisory Committee held in April 2016, the work on *Western India in the Late Nineteenth Century Part I: 1860s-1870s* in the same old way by focusing on various aspects of the economic conditions of the people and the quality of life during the period has been carried out.

As regards Western India, several sections have been chosen, along with their requisite documents, as a path to move forward, viz., Administrative Report, Education Report, Settlement Report, Jail Reports, Vaccination and Sanitary Reports, and Forest Report. In this volume, particular attention has been given on Trade Reports, Cotton Department Reports and Banking Report, as they specially fit for the region. So far the work has mainly been done in the National Library (NL) Kolkata and National Archives of India (NAI), New Delhi but in 2017-18. Further work will be done in the Maharashtra State Archives (MSA), Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics (GIPE), and Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Archives, Pune. The progress of the work is now ready for presentation before the Advisory Committee for the ICHR, for the meeting of which a request has been by the General Editor Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi to the Chairman of the ICHR in March 2018. Once the suggestions of the Advisory Committee are received, the final draft of *Western India in the Late*



Nineteenth Century, Part I will be completed and the work on its Part II covering the period 1880s-1890s will begin.

In the meanwhile, *Southern India in the Late Nineteenth Century, Part II: 1880s-1890s* has been published (2017) in two sections called A & B, and the volume on *Northern India in the Late Nineteenth Century, Part I: 1860s-1870s* and *Part II: 1880s-1890s* have been sent to press.

B. Assessing Equity in Maternal and Child Health Outcomes for a Renewed Health System Response in Assam and Odisha

Sponsored by World Health Organization (WHO), the project commenced in November 2016 with Saswata Ghosh as coordinator of the project. In both the states utilization of maternal health care services such as receipt of full ANC, PNC from government sources and assistance from skilled birth attendant is likely to be higher among poor women compared to the affluent section of the population. Additionally, likelihood of uptake of ANC and PNC and full immunization from government sources is higher for non-literate respondents. It seems that likelihood of using private sources for obtaining MCH care increases with increased education and affluence. In the study districts of both the states, probability of utilization of immunization (full) service is lower compared to child healthcare. Evidently, housewives in Assam are more likely to uptake ANC and PNC which is significantly higher among employed ones in Odhisa. It is interesting to note that the trend to obtain full ANC, institutional delivery and PNC from public sources among women belonging to Muslim minority community is significantly higher in some of the places where in case of Hindu community it fluctuates along the indicators. Likelihood of child healthcare uptake is increasing among non-literate, poor households and minorities. As evident, social unacceptability to seek maternal as well as child healthcare from any source compared to traditional healers is very low among minorities in select districts requires focused intervention on social and behavior change communication programme. Nature of livelihood hinders the service uptake as majority of them belongs to poor families and opportunity cost of service uptake is higher for them.

However, to reduce inequity further, geographical accessibility is to be strengthened. In case of OOPE, it significantly increased with increase in women's educational attainment, economic status and it is found to be higher among Hindu community in both the states. In both the study areas, reasons for not going to government facilities is mainly framed by their family decisions following the perception of better quality at private sources. Sometimes as their previous experiences in government facilities were not good so they are willing go to the private facilities for their next parity. Therefore it calls for action on improving the quality of care covering attitudes of human resource, smooth functioning of equipments across facilities and ensuring of job security of them. From the mean Gaps in performance with respect to degree of knowledge level, trainings taken, absence, job satisfaction and salary it can be seen that the training of frontline workers and increase in job security increases performance significantly but the time involved in service delivery outweighs the impact of job security. Service delivery of ASHA workers fair better compared to others reflecting the need for strong M&E system to monitor other FLWs. Community awareness regarding VHND and other anganwadi services is low. In addition to this further, human resource in disputed districts need assurance of security to improve their service delivery.

C. Re-Conceptualizing Domestic Violence: Shifting Discourse within the Women's Movement in India

Sponsored by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), the project started in April 2016 with Nandini Ghosh and Supurna Banerjee of IDSK along with Ruchira Goswami of NUJS as Principal Investigators. The project aims to trace the development of the discourse on domestic violence in the decade 2005-2015 since the implementation of the PWDVA, in the light of the two major actors in this discourse – the state and the autonomous women's movement. Data from the Office of the Protection Officers have been collected from seven districts of Howrah, Kolkata, South 24 Parganas and North 24 Parganas (high incidence), Bankura (predominantly tribal), Murshidabad (predominantly minority) and Darjeeling as an outlier case, as the number



of Domestic Incident Report (DIRs) filed in this district were remarkably low compared to other districts. The process of data collection was completed by December 2016 and has been processed and analysed and a quantitative report is being presently compiled and written. Qualitative data has been collected from survivors of domestic violence from 6 districts of West Bengal along with interviews with stakeholders and from leaders of the feminist movement to ensure the fulfilment of the objectives of the research. Data is being processed and the report prepared at this stage. We have received an extension of three months from ICSSR till June 2018 for the completion of the project report. Tanurima Mitra from JNU and Rohini Mitra from TISS worked as intern for the project.

D. Life, Livelihood and Exclusion: The Char Dwellers in the Brahmaputra Valley in Assam

This ICSSR-sponsored study in collaboration with Omeo Kumar Das Institute of Social Change and Development (OKDISCD), Guwahati focuses on the areas of conflicts and contestations as well as the process of conciliation related to the settling/allocation of rights over emerged lands in the *char* areas of the River Brahmaputra. The legislative provisions related to land in the *char* areas are less than adequate and due to their location which are cut off from the 'mainland' and 'mainstream', the prevalence of the writ of the state also bears a question mark? Under these circumstances, how do the *char* dwellers deal with such a scenario related to land? What are the communitarian responses? What are the similarities and overlaps of such a communitarian response vis-à-vis modern jurisprudential practices? Does this process of settlement reflect the power relations in the *char* areas? How are aggrieved persons dealt with under such a situation? Moreover, how the community deals with the dynamics of impermanent land also becomes an important area of enquiry of this study. No existing literature concerning the *char* areas of Assam has dealt with these aspects related to land and thereby the study acquires a great significance in social science research. Gorky Chakraborty of IDSK along with Professor Bhupen Sarmah and Rikil Chyrmang of OKDISCD are the Principal Investigators of the project.

E. Reaching Rural Resilience: Unravelling the Case of Sagar Island of Bengal Delta, India

Sagar Island is the largest deltaic complex of Sundarban comprised of 43 villages, and having a population of 160,000. Sagar Island is having a total geographic area of 272 square kilometres, and the length of the island is 30 km in N-S direction and 12 km in E-W direction respectively. It is surrounded by the river Hugli in its northern and western side, by Muri Ganga River in its eastern side, and by Bay of Bengal in its southern side. The sedimentation of the island is controlled by the river Hugli and Muri Ganga River respectively. The climate of this Island is tropical monsoon type. Transportation to this island is through ferry services across the Muri Ganga River. Livelihood options available to the inhabitants of this island are: agriculture, fishing, honey collection, tourism, transport services, and business. These livelihood options are largely depended on natural resources and climate. However, in recent times, ostensibly due to the adverse effect of climate change, occurrence of incidents such as the risk of flooding, erosion, cyclones, and tidal surges have been considerably increased. With the increasing advent of such incidents, the vulnerability of the population increased substantially, and it jeopardizes livelihood options at a startling rate.

The main objective of the research is to study the struggles that revolve around the livelihoods of vulnerable populations, and how the struggles shape the aspiration of reaching rural resilience? The research will try to contribute at several dimensions: firstly, the research will enrich the theoretical underpinnings of resilience building of rural communities living on the risk prone areas of Deltas. Secondly, it will reconcile the loose ends of the concepts: vulnerability, livelihood, and resilience. Thirdly, the research will depict a picture of the story of Indian side in Bengal delta that is largely missing in the literature. Fourth, the research will give concrete policy recommendations for governments and international institutes on framing of policies pertaining to the climate change and delta crisis.

The central analytical concept for this research will be



resilience building or resilient communities. However, the concept of resilience building will be elaborated in the context of vulnerabilities of livelihood of the people living with uncertainties in the risk prone areas of a Delta. On one hand, livelihood is defined as the capabilities, assets, and activities that are essential for a means of living; on the other hand, refers either to the propensity to suffer some degree of loss such as human lives, assets, and economic activities or to the degree to which a system is supposed to be affected due to any hazard, disaster, shock, or disturbances – while the concept of resilience refers the capacity of a system to maintain itself despite disturbances, and this theorization was having a root in the theory of complex adaptive system. This research will employ a qualitative case study method. Soutrik Basu and Bidhan Kanti are the Principal Investigators of this ICSSR sponsored project.

F. From Conflicts to Co-production: A Multi-stakeholder Analysis in Preserving the East Kolkata Wetlands

This project is sponsored by Forum for Policy Dialogue on Water Conflicts in India, Pune. This study coordinated by Gorky Chakraborty focused on the different stake holders involved in the EKW. *Bheris* (wetlands) of different tenure rights have been surveyed in order to understand what role tenure has in the management and preservation of the *bheris* in EKW. What are the conflicts and contradictions involved in the production process of the *bheris*? What are the issues related with conciliation? The study analyses through field experience the debate concerning the conversion-conservation in EKW.

G. Understanding Development Process: A case of 'Denotified' Tribe in West Bengal

This study sponsored by Asiatic Society and coordinated by Bidhan Kanti Das will attempt to trace the process of development through development inputs and its outcome in different socio economic and ecological conditions of a denotified community and perceptions of

'self' vis-a-vis 'other' from the perspective of de-notified community in West Bengal. The specific objectives are : i) to map measures/policies undertaken by the central and /state government to 'accommodate' the community; ii) to examine whether programmes actually helped in improving livelihood of the communities: If not, what are the possible constraints ; iii) To capture 'felt' experiences of the community about the state , its apparatus and functioning ; and iv) to examine the perception of 'other' like nearby settled communities towards the community and the perception of the community about the 'self' and 'other' like settled communities and state apparatus.

The ongoing study has been undertaken among the Lodhas, who are identified as 'denotified' tribe, of different parts of Jhargram /PaschimMedinipur/ Purulia districts to understand whether effectiveness of interventions vary in different socio-ecological zones . If vary, an attempt will be made to trace reasons for variations. That means, the present study attempts to explore where development inputs helps to improve socioeconomic condition and where it fails to improve condition of Lodhas in different socio-ecological areas and thereby attempt to identify critical factors for success or failure. Further, it tries to understand the state and community relations as well as inter-community social relations from development perspective.

H. Revisiting the Utopia: Moulana Bhasani and the Char Areas of Assam

This study sponsored by Asiatic Society and coordinated by Gorky Chakraborty deals with the historicity of the utopia associated with the mobilisation in the name of land to the tiller by Moulana Bhasani, belonging to the provincial Muslim League (Assam) during the late colonial period in Assam and then attempts to contextualise the utopia in terms of state, community, religion and nationality in contemporary Assam through primary survey in the districts of Lower Assam and available secondary literature and archival material.

4

Collaborations

1. Collaboration with the University of Calcutta

In 2006, IDSK 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 conferred by the University of Calcutta. Now the collaboration is between the Economics Department, University of Calcutta and the IDSK. The teaching faculty mainly consists of the IDSK faculty and the University faculty.

2. Collaboration with School of Public Affairs, Zhejiang University, China

The IDSK has entered into active collaboration with the School of Public Affairs, Zhejiang University, China in January 2016 for four years. This joint collaborative programme will mainly be carried out in respect of *China-India Dialogue on Public Administration* while reviewing the other possible areas of cooperation in a variety of research and academic projects.

5

Conferences / Workshops / Lectures

FRONTIERS OF RESEARCH IN INDIAN ECONOMY: EMERGING ISSUES, THEORETICAL APPROACHES, DATA AND METHODS

IDSK in collaboration with Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai, organized a week-long workshop on *Frontiers of Research in Indian Economy: Emerging Issues, Theoretical Approaches, Data and Methods* from 19-23 June 2017 to build research capacity among young scholars working on Indian economic issues. About 40 scholars from colleges, universities and institutes across India participated in the workshop. The speakers in the workshop included Abhiroop Mukhopadhyay from ISI, New Delhi, Rajendra Vaidya, S Chandrasekhar and C Veeramani from IGIDR, Mumbai and Achin Chakraborty, Simantini Mukhopadhyay, Saswata Ghosh and Subrata Mukherjee from IDSK.

TOWARDS A PUBLIC REPORT ON PRIMARY EDUCATION IN WEST BENGAL

IDSK organized a workshop on 'Towards a Public Report on Primary Education in West Bengal' in association with Siksha Alochona and Pratichi Institute on 29-30 July 2017.

QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS IN SOCIAL SCIENCES

IDSK organized a five-day workshop on *Qualitative Research Methods in Social Sciences* was held from 15 to 19 January 2018. The week long workshop focused on epistemological foundation of Qualitative social research and the principal qualitative research methods which the paradigms dictate. These include ethnography, case study, discourse analysis, visual methods, autobiographies, oral histories, use of archives and focus group discussions.



CAPITAL IN THE EAST

To commemorate the 150th year of the first publication of Marx's *Das Capital, Volume I*, a two-day international conference on *Capital in the East* was organised jointly by Calcutta Research Group, Institute of Development Studies Kolkata, Jadavpur University, Presidency University and University of Calcutta on 30-31 January, 2018.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND THE RIGHT TO THE CITY

A two-day workshop on *Infrastructure and Right to the City* organized by IDSK in collaboration with ICSSR was held on 15 and 16 February 2018. The coordinators were Dr. Anwesha Sengupta and Dr. Supurna Banerjee. There were 18 paper presenters and the keynote was delivered by Dr. Priya Sangameswaran (CSSSC, Kolkata). The workshop critically engaged with various forms of urban infrastructure in Indian cities, and how they fashioned colonial and post-colonial urbanism and urban life in the subcontinent. Infrastructure does not only mean the built environment or the physical artifacts; it also includes the way these material entities shape or sought to shape people's conduct in the city. Building of roads, sewerage, bridges, monuments have been a staple of urban history for a long time now. Numerous studies have discussed the ideas and thinking of the planners and the government in creating the city. They have laid bare the political exigencies, financial constraints and various ideological imperatives that governed the state and its planners in shaping the city. Likewise, scholars have focused on the ways in which people negotiate, challenge or subvert the

expected uses of these artifacts. Conflicts and negotiations between the planners' vision and people's reality are part of any urban system. We tried to bring these two strands in conversation by focusing on the politics of infrastructural programme of a city which helps certain groups, while at the same time makes life difficult for some other groups. The following questions were important: What are the considerations of the planners when they conceive a particular project? Which groups of population benefit? How do people bend norms and structures to shape their own city? In short, how do they articulate their right to the city?

RETHINKING THE ROLE OF BUSINESS GROUPS IN CONTEMPORARY INDIA: ANALYSES, REVIEWS AND REFLECTIONS

A two-day conference on *Rethinking the Role of Business Groups in Contemporary India: Analyses, Reviews and Reflections* was held on 28 and 29 March 2018. The speakers in the conference included Amit Bhaduri (Former Professor, JNU), Dennis Rajakumar (Director, EPW Research Foundation), Chirashree Dasgupta (Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, JNU), Rohit Azad and Surajit Mazumdar (CESP, JNU), Ekta Selarka (Madras School of Economics), Paranjay Guha Thakurta (Former Editor, EPW), Arindam Mondal (Shiv Nadar University, Greater Noida), Indrani Chakraborty (IDSK) and Jhuma Mukhopadhyay (Department of Business Management, University of Calcutta). The sessions were chaired by Professors Amiya Kumar Bagchi, Dipankor Coondoo, Achin Chakraborty, Dennis Rajakumar and Subhanil Chowdhury.

LECTURES BY VISITING SCHOLARS

Date	Speaker	Title
16 June 2017	Deepita Chakravarty Associate Professor, Ambedkar University, Delhi	<i>Why Does Child Marriage Persist in West Bengal</i>
7 July 2017	Sejuti Dasgupta Assistant Professor of Political Science, James Madison College, Michigan University, USA	<i>Political Settlement and Discontinuous Agrarian Policy since 90s: Case of Gujarat and Chattisgarh</i>



Date	Speaker	Title
14 July 2017	Soma Chaudhuri Associate Professor of Sociology Michigan State University, USA	<i>Building Empowerment, Resisting Patriarchy: Understanding Empowered Intervention Against Domestic Violence Among Grassroots Women in Gujarat, India</i>
28 July 2017	József Böröcz Professor of Sociology Rutgers University, USA	<i>The Global Middle: History, Socialisms and the Future</i>
16 August 2017 (Foundation Day Lecture)	Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak University Professor in the Humanities, Columbia University, USA	<i>W.E. B. Du Bois: Pan-Africanism or Post-colonialism?</i>
25 August 2017	Prasenjit Bose Economist & Rohit Azad Assistant Professor, CESP/ JNU Formerly Visiting Fellow, New School & Columbia University, New York	<i>Riskless Capitalism in India: Bank Credit and Economic Activity</i> <i>Riskless Capitalism in India: A Macro-Theoretic Analysis</i>
15 September 2017	S Chandrasekhar (Professor, IGIDR, Mumbai) and Karthikeya Naraparaju (IIM, Indore)	<i>Income Generation and Inequality in India's Agricultural Sector</i>
13 October 2017	Manabesh Sarkar (Senior Research Associate, Pratichi Institute)	<i>Unqualified Medical Practitioners Unavoidable for the Health Care of Rural People</i>
21 November 2017	Miqdad Asaria (Research Fellow, Centre For Health Economics, York University)	<i>That's NICE but will it Work in India? Challenges and Opportunities for Using Cost- Effectiveness Analysis in Healthcare Resource Allocation in India</i>
5 January 2018	Mahua Sarkar (Associate Professor, Department of Sociology Binghamton University New York, USA)	<i>When Maternity is Paid Work: Commercial Gestational Surrogacy as a New Transnational Industry</i>



Date	Speaker	Title
9 January 2018	Zakaria Siddiqui (Fellow, Institute for Economics and Peace, Sydney)	<i>Looking Past the Indian Calorie Debate : What is Happening to Nutrition Transition in India</i>
24 January 2018	Avishek Ray (Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, National Institute of Technology, Silchar)	<i>Of Vagrants and Migrants : On the Discursive Limit of Development</i>
7 March 2018	Marika Vicziany (Director, National Centre for South Asian Studies, Monash University, Melbourne)	<i>Food from Sewage: The Benefits and Risks of Eating the Produce of the East Kolkata Wetlands</i>

SEMINARS BY IDSK FACULTY

10 November 2017	Achin Chakraborty	<i>Foundational Arguments for Non-coercive Paternalism: From Amartya Sen to Richard Thaler</i>
18 October 2017	Anwesha Sengupta	<i>Unthreading Partition: The Politics of Jute Sharing Between Two Bengals, 1947-52</i>
22 September 2017	Soutrik Basu	<i>Understanding the Concept of Commons as Production Systems: The Case of Development of Sahbhagi Dhan – A Drought Tolerant Variety</i>
10 January 2018	Nandini Ghosh (jointly with Bhaswati Ganguli Professor, Department of Statistics University of Calcutta)	<i>Livelihoods and Prison Inmates: A Study of 3 Correctional Institutions in Kolkata</i>

6

Academic Programmes

PHD IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

As a 'sister institute' of the University of Calcutta, IDSK has been recently allowed to conduct the PhD programme in Development Studies under the auspices of the University of Calcutta. The programme is to be monitored by a committee set up by the Vice Chancellor of CU, comprising Professors Samir Das (University of Calcutta), Amaresh Dubey (Jawaharlal Nehru University), Hari Vasudevan (University of Calcutta), Pradip Bose (formerly of Centre for Studies in Social Sciences Calcutta), and Achin Chakraborty (IDSK). The first batch of fifteen students enrolled on 29 December 2016 and the second batch of six students enrolled on 20 December 2017.

M PHIL IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

The MPhil 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 coursework and writing dissertation. The degree is conferred by the University of Calcutta and the programme conforms to the pattern of the existing M.Phil programmes offered by the University. The overall administration of the



programme is run under the joint auspices of the IDSK and the Department of Economics, University of Calcutta as per the Memorandum of Understanding between the University of Calcutta and IDSK. The teaching faculty

mainly consists of the IDSK faculty and the University faculty. Eminent academicians from other institutions are also invited as guest faculty. The details are shown below:

Paper	Title of the Paper	Groups	Instructors
I	<i>Perspectives on Development Studies</i> Module 1.1	A : Development Economics	Achin Chakraborty Subhanil Chowdhury Supurna Banerjee
		B: Perspectives on Economic Development in other Social Sciences	Nandini Ghosh Soutrik Basu Supurna Banerjee
II	Module 1.2 <i>Research Methodology</i>	A : Methodological Approaches in Development Research	Bidhan Kanti Das Nandini Ghosh Anwasha Sengupta Supurna Banerjee
		B: Quantitative Methods	Subrata Mukherjee Simantini Mukhopadhyay
II	Specialization Papers (Subjectwise) (Economics, History, Political Science, Regional Development, Sociology)		Yet to be assigned

7

Student Dissertations

ON-GOING M.PHIL DISSERTATIONS (2016-18)

Name of Student	Title of Dissertation	Supervisor(s)
Avirup Ranjan Bar	<i>Understanding Agrarian Transition from Rice Farming to Fishery : A Case Study from Magrahat Block-II, South 24 Parganas, West Bengal</i>	Soutrik Basu
Baishali Bose	<i>Gender and Labour in Tribal Households: A Study in Jhargram District, West Bengal</i>	Nandini Ghosh
Debashree Paul	<i>Understanding Marriage in Rural West Bengal : A Study in Birbhum District</i>	Simantini Mukhopadhyay
Joy Mondal	<i>Traditional Boat-building in Balagarh: Historicizing the Contemporary</i>	Gorky Chakraborty
Matiur Rahman	<i>Ownership of Land in Select Chars of the River Ganga : A Study of Manikchak Block, Malda District, West Bengal</i>	Gorky Chakraborty
Mohona Maitra	<i>A Study of the Political Orientations of University Students in Kolkata</i>	Bidhan Kanti Das Nandini Ghosh
Moumita Maitra	<i>Foreign Portfolio Investment : Its Determinants and Effects on Firm Performance</i>	Indrani Chakraborty
Piyali Majumdar	<i>Out-Migration from Assam : A Secondary Data Analysis</i>	Gorky Chakraborty
Pradipta Saha	<i>"Correcting" the "Criminals": Policies and Practices of Prison Reforms in West Bengal</i>	Anwasha Sengupta



Name of Student	Title of Dissertation	Supervisor(s)
Ronojoy Banerjee	<i>The Politics of Land in the Context of Transport Infrastructure Development</i>	Achin Chakraborty Subhanil Chowdhury
Sathi Naik	<i>Intriguing Identities : A Study of Transgender Persons in Kolkata, West Bengal</i>	Nandini Ghosh
Sheelita Das	<i>Behaviour Change Communication in Maternal Health: A Study of Rural Birbhum, West Bengal</i>	Bidhan Kanti Das
Shibthakur Hembram	<i>Livelihood and Health Status of the Workers Living in Stone Quarry and Crusher Industrial Area : A Study of Tribal Workers in Mohammad Bazar Block, Birbhum District, West Bengal</i>	Subrata Mukherjee Bidhan Kanti Das
Siddhartha Mitra	<i>Inequality and Wage Share in India : A Study of the Post-Reform Period</i>	Subhanil Chowdhury
Tania Das	<i>Role of Networks in Migration : A Case Study of Construction Workers in Kolkata</i>	Achin Chakraborty
Tousali Raina	<i>Invisibilizing Exclusion : Caste and Politics in West Bengal</i>	Supurna Banerjee
Usha Karmakar	<i>Living Conditions and Occupational Health Hazards of Construction Workers : A Study of Siliguri Area in West Bengal</i>	Subrata Mukherjee

ON-GOING PHD DISSERTATIONS UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF IDSK FACULTY

Following students are enrolled in the PhD programme under the supervision/co-supervision of IDSK faculty members:

Sl.No.	Name	Research Topic	Institute/ University	Supervisor(s)
1.	Amitava Gupta	<i>Some Aspects of Jawaharlal Nehru's Idea of Distributive Justice</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Achin Chakraborty
2.	Dibyendu Biswas	<i>Aspects of Efficiency and Equity in Urbanisation</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Achin Chakraborty Simantini Mukhopadhyay
3.	Gareth Wall	<i>Reflecting Local Priorities for Human Development</i>	University of Birmingham	Achin Chakraborty
4.	Pragna Paramita Mondal	<i>Market and Women's Agency in Commercial Surrogacy in India</i>	University of Calcutta	Achin Chakraborty
5.	Manas Bhowmik	<i>Alternative Governance Structures: The Case of Handloom Cooperatives in West Bengal</i>	University of Calcutta	Achin Chakraborty



Sl.No.	Name	Research Topic	Institute/ University	Supervisor(s)
6.	Rivu Basu	<i>Causes of Poor Adherence to Long Term Therapies: The Case of Anti-Tubercular Drugs</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Achin Chakraborty
7.	Hari Krishna Dwivedi	<i>Effectiveness of Sub-national Public Financial Management and Tax Reform: With Special Reference to West Bengal</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Achin Chakraborty
8.	Pallavi Mondal	<i>Public Policy and State Capacity</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Achin Chakraborty
9.	Abhinab Ghosh	<i>Corporate Financing, Ownership and Firm Behaviour: A Study of Textile Industry in India in the Post-Reform Period</i>	University of Calcutta	Indrani Chakraborty
10.	Aruna Pain	<i>Innovation, Competition and Firm Performance: An Analysis of Indian Pharmaceutical Industry in the Post-reform Period</i>	University of Calcutta	Indrani Chakraborty
11.	Sohini Sarkar	<i>Mergers and Acquisitions in Manufacturing Firms and its Effects on the Economy : An Analysis of India in the post-Reform Period</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Indrani Chakraborty
12.	Sukhdeep Singh	<i>Growth of Firms and Innovation Activities</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Indrani Chakraborty
13.	Amrapali Mukherjee	<i>Belief and Practices Around Menstruation Across Different Social Groups in West Bengal, India</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Bidhan Kanti Das
14.	Nandini Kar	<i>From 'Local' to 'Global' : Exploring Understanding of Ecological and Livelihood Uncertainties and Mitigation Mechanism from Indigenous and Global Perspectives</i>	University of Calcutta	Bidhan Kanti Das
15.	Biswanath Saha	<i>Spatiality and Identity in a Borderland: Understanding the Gorkhaland Movement</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Gorky Chakraborty



Sl.No.	Name	Research Topic	Institute/ University	Supervisor(s)
16.	Himangshu Prasad	<i>Economics of Farm Viability and Income Diversity: A Case Study of the Farm Households in Southern Assam</i>	National Institute of Technology, Silchar	Gorky Chakraborty Gurudas Das NIT. Silchar
17.	Naorem Pushparani Chanu	<i>Labour Migration : A Study of Out-Migrants from North-East India to Delhi</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Gorky Chakraborty
18.	Kakoli Das	<i>Understanding Contemporary Fertility Transition in Rural West Bengal, India</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Saswata Ghosh Utpal Roy, Dept. of Geography, University of Calcutta
19.	Mir Kalam Azad	<i>An Anthropological Demographic Study on Khotta Muslim Population of Malda, West Bengal</i>	University of Calcutta	Saswata Ghosh Subhas Ray University of Calcutta
20.	Saptamita Pal	<i>Socio-economic Concomitants of Changing Patterns of Fertility Behaviour: A Micro-Level Study on Bengali Speaking Community in Kolkata, West Bengal</i>	University of Calcutta	Saswata Ghosh Subhas Ray University of Calcutta
21.	Priyanka Dasgupta	<i>Disease Burden, Govt. Health Expenditure and Household Vulnerability : A Study of Indian States</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Subrata Mukherjee
22.	Monalisha Chakraborty	<i>Migration and its Impacts on Health and Education of the Children</i>	IDSK-University Calcutta	Subrata Mukherjee
23.	Rimjhim Bhattacharjee	<i>Exploring the Representations of Sexuality of Disabled Persons in Indian Writings in English</i>	University of Calcutta	Nandini Ghosh
24.	Nisharuddin Khan	<i>Muslims in West Bengal since Partition</i>	University of Calcutta	Anwesha Sengupta
25.	Pintu Kabiraj	<i>Aspects of Crime in India</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Simantini Mukhopadhyay Achin Chakraborty



Sl.No.	Name	Research Topic	Institute/ University	Supervisor(s)
26.	Sekhar Mondal	<i>Understanding the Evolution and Transformational Process of Floriculture in West Bengal: The Case of National Horticulture Mission (NHM)</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Soutrik Basu
27.	Abdul Motin Ostarar	<i>Financial Inclusion and Informal Financial Sources: A Study of Perspective and Preferences of Banking and Finance Among the Rural People of West Bengal</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Subhanil Chowdhury
28.	Priyanka Roy	<i>Gendered Negotiations: A Study of Female Entrepreneurs in West Bengal</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Subhanil Chowdhury
29.	Dhiraj Barman	<i>Gentrification and Changing Urban Space: A Case Study of Siliguri</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Subhanil Chowdhury
30.	Nur Alam	<i>Understanding Labour Migration in West Bengal : A Study of Malda District Towards a Technographic Process</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Soutrik Basu

8

Faculty Activities

PARTICIPATION IN SEMINARS / CONFERENCES / WORKSHOPS / DISCUSSIONS/ INVITED LECTURES

Achin Chakraborty

Made a presentation on 'The Insurance Route to Universal Health Care' at a workshop organised by Centre for Multi-disciplinary Development Research (CMDR), Dharwad, 31 March 2018.

Invited lecture on 'Unequal Inequalities in India during the Rapid Growth Process', at the seminar on *Inclusive Growth: Measurement and Policy Choices in Social Sector*, organized by Planning and Development Unit of NITI Aayog and Jadavpur University, 26 March, 2018.

Two lectures on 'Inequality and Inequity' at the research scholars' workshop at Dibrugarh University, 19 March, 2018.

Invited paper on 'Growing Inequalities in India' at the conference on Development Challenges of India after Twenty Five Years of Economic Reform, Department of Economics, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, 16-18 March, 2018.

Two lectures on 'Market, State and Institutions in Public Policy' at the Orientation Programme at UGC Human Resource Development Centre, University of Burdwan, 10 March, 2018.

Lecture on 'Understanding Public-Private Mix in Education', at the Orientation Programme for college and university teachers, at Department of Education, University of Calcutta, 09 March, 2018.

Paper (jointly with Manas Ranjan Bhowmick) titled 'Class Process and Cooperatives: A Developing Country Perspective' presented at the conference on *Capital in the East*, organised by Calcutta Research Group, Institute of



Development Studies Kolkata, Jadavpur University, Presidency University and University of Calcutta, 30-31 January, 2018.

Two lectures on 'Inequality and Inequity in India in the Post-Reform Period: An Interpretative Review' at the Refresher Course on *Social Sciences, Social Inequalities and Public Policy: Reflections on Contemporary India*, Department of Sociology, Jadavpur University, 11 January, 2018.

Guest Speaker at *Young Economist Students' Meet 2018* at Jadavpur University, 8 January, 2018.

Special Lecture titled 'Models of Health-Seeking Behaviour: Insights from Behavioural Economics' at the Sixth Conference of Indian Health Economics and Policy Association, Pondicherry University, 4-5 January, 2018.

Invited paper titled 'Institutions for Distributive Justice: Between Transcendental and Comparative', presented at the IEA-IGIDR Conference on *Social Sector Development in India: Emerging Issues and Policy Perspectives*, IGIDR, Mumbai, October 6-7, 2017.

Presentation on 'Health inequalities in India and Switzerland: Measurement and distribution of well-being and vulnerability' at the 4th Joint Seminar under Indo-Swiss Joint Research Programme in Social Sciences, Basel, Switzerland, 4-6 September, 2017.

Invited public lecture on 'Land' as part of The Words for India Distinguished Lecture series at Australia India Institute of the University of Melbourne, Australia, 20 July, 2017.

Two lectures on *Equity and Inequality in Health and Health Care* at the summer school jointly organised by the Indian Health Economics and Policy Association (IHEPA) and Azim Premji University (APU) held at APU, Bengaluru, June 26-30, 2017.

Lecture at Administrative Training Institute (ATI), Government of West Bengal on *Status of Economic Development, Human Development & Poverty in West Bengal*, 14 June, 2017.

Invited paper titled 'Structural Limits to Equitable Urbanisation' presented at the conference on *Governing Urbanizing India: Citizenship, Policy and Politics*,

organised by the Centre for Development and the Environment of the University of Oslo, Norway, 8-9 June, 2017.

Lecture at Administrative Training Institute (ATI), Government of West Bengal, on *Minorities in India*, 23 May, 2017.

Conducted two sessions on 'Analytical Approaches to Social Science Research' and 'How to write an academic research paper with an interdisciplinary perspective' at the Research Methodology Workshop at Sardar Patel Institute of Economic and Social Research, Ahmedabad, 02 May, 2017.

Anwasha Sengupta

Presented a paper 'Refugees in Calcutta: 1950s-1960s', 'Infrastructure and the Right to the City' at a two-day workshop at IDSK, 15-16 February, 2018.

Presented a paper 'Caste, Language and Politics of Partition: East Pakistan, 1950s' at *Commemorations: A two-day International Seminar*, Department of History, Jadavpur University, 1-2 February, 2018.

Presented a paper 'Moveable Migrants, Laboring Lives: Refugees in the Andaman Islands in the 1950s', in the conference *Mobile Bodies: A Long View of the Peoples and Communities of Maritime Asia*, at Binghamton University, New York, 10-11 November 2017.

Delivered a lecture 'Unthreading Partition: The Politics of Jute Sharing Between two Bengals, 1947-1952', IDSK, 18 October 2017.

Presented a paper 'Refugees and the City: Calcutta in the 1950s', in Sixth Critical Studies Conference on *Refugees, Migrant, Violence and the Transformation of Cities* organised by Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group (CRG), 23-25 August 2017.

Presented a paper 'The Babus and the Bureaucrats: The Administrative Consequences of Partition', in the conference *Partition in Bengal: Looking Back after 70 Years*, jointly organised by Victoria Memorial Hall and Indian Museum, Kolkata and New Zealand India Research Institute, Victoria University of Wellington, 17-18 August 2017.



Bidhan Kanti Das

Invited lecture on 'Preserving Bio-resources in India : Need to Understand Conservation as Socio-political Process at the National Seminar on *Bio-cultural Heritage of Eastern India : Theoria, Praxis and Poiesis*, organised by the Department of Anthropology , University of Calcutta, 28-29 March 2018.

Presented a paper 'Is the State Really Interested in Securing Livelihood of Forest Communities? Findings from Implementation Process of Historic Legislation in Independent India' in the international conference on *Indigenous People, Human Security and Sustainable Development: Emerging Challenges in the Present Global Context* organized by Commission on Human Rights, International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences (IUAES) and Department of Anthropology, West Bengal State University held at West Bengal State University, 19-21 January 2018.

Presented a paper 'Creating 'Diversity' while addressing "historical injustices": How New 'Institutional Design' used for Denial of Rights to Forest Dwelling Communities' in the National Seminar *Discourses on Diversity, Identity & Integrity: Multidisciplinary Approaches towards Indian Society* organized by the Eastern Regional Centre of the Anthropological Survey of India, 6-8 December 2017.

Gorky Chakraborty

Panelist in the Panel Discussion on a day long Colloquium *Sixth Schedule in North East India*, Asiatic Society, Kolkata, 31 March 2018.

Presented a paper 'Understanding Partition and its Perpetual Angst in the Emerging National Order' at National Seminar on *Partition of India: Contemporary Perspectives* at Jadavpur University, 22-23 March 2018.

Presented a paper 'In the Name of Welfare State: Understanding The Experiences of the Char Dwellers of the River Brahmaputra, Assam' at International Conference on *Indigenous People, Human Security and Sustainable Development : Emerging Challenges in the Present Global*, West Bengal State University, Barasat, 19-21 January 2018.

Presented a paper 'Flowing Resources in Fluid Spaces' at International Conference on *Locating Northeast India: Human Mobility, Resource Flows and Spatial Linkages in Northeast India*, Tezpur University, 10-12 January 2018.

Presented a paper 'Living with Risks: Life in the Chars of Brahmaputra' at Regional Co-operation on Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation in Brahmaputra River Basin, Guwahati, 10-11 November 2017.

Panelist in the Panel Discussion on *Water Conflicts in Northeast India* at Regional Co-operation on Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation in Brahmaputra River Basin, Guwahati, 10-11 November 2017

Presented a paper 'The 'Embeddedness' of Partition in the Floating Enclaves of the Brahmaputra' at International Seminar on *Revisiting and Remembering Partition: Issues Related to Eastern and Northeastern India*, Diamond Harbour Womens' University, 21-22 August 2017.

Delivered two Special Lectures on 'Understanding Recent Development Issues through a Spatial Lens' at 107th Orientation Programme, Burdwan University, 9 August 2017.

Presented a paper (jointly with Dr R. Hmingmawii) titled *Analysing the Policy: State, Capital and Communities in the Mizoram-Myanmar Borderlands*, at Workshop on Research Agenda in Northeast India, Guwahati, 23-24 June 2017.

Delivered two Special Lectures on 'Recent Spatial Understanding and Social Sciences' and 'Situating the Thoughts of Mahatma Gandhi through Contemporary Spatial Analysis in Social Sciences' at Refresher Course on Gandhian Philosophy and Rural Development, Tripura University, 28 April-18 May 2017.

Presented a paper 'Community Land and Customary Rights: A Select Analysis From The Hills of Northeast India' (jointly with Biswanath Saha) , *India Land Conference*, Land Policy Cell, NITI Ayog, New Delhi, 5-6 April 2017.



Indrani Chakraborty

Delivered a lecture at the Refresher Course in Economics on 'Corporate Firms, Financing Behaviour and Agency Relationship: An Overview of Indian Firms in the Post Reform Period' at the Department of Economics, University of North Bengal, 20 December 2017.

Delivered Prof K K Francis Memorial Lecture on 'How do Financial Structures Affect Firms? An Analysis of Post-reform India' at St. Berchmans College, Changanassery, Kerala, 15 December 2017.

Nandini Ghosh

Presented a paper 'Power, Rights and Welfare: Examining the debates during the framing of the RPD Act' at the UGC-SAP National Seminar on *State, Society and Disability Law in India: Challenges for Rights-based Approach* organised by the Department of Sociology, University of Hyderabad, 31 January – 1 February, 2018.

Co-organised *Qualitative Research Methods* Workshop, 15 – 19 January 2018.

Lecture on 'Enabling the Disabled? Reflections on Public Policy in India', Refresher Course conducted at Jadavpur University Kolkata, 13 January 2018.

Key note address at release programme of the book *Perception and Portrayal of Women with Disabilities: Remapping their Identity*, 19 December 2017 at Loreto College, Kolkata.

Resource person at consultation for M.Phil Programme in Disability Studies at Ambedkar University, New Delhi organised by Prof. Anita Ghai, 11* October 2017.

Presented a paper 'Implicating Violence against Women with Disabilities: Some Conceptual Issues' at national consultation with critical stakeholders for a Centre for Women's Development Studies project *Violence against Women and Girls with Physical Disabilities in India: Understanding the Issues and Promoting Legal Empowerment*, 14 September 2017.

Resource person at the national level consultation organised by Shanta Memorial Rehabilitation Centre for preparing *Shadow Report on Article 6 of UNCRPD*, 17 and 18 July 2017.

(Co-authored with Saswata Ghosh) Presented a paper 'Debating son preference through Hindu-Muslim fertility differentials in 'ultra-low' fertility situation in Kolkata, India in the Annual Meeting Program of Population Association of America, Chicago, USA, 27-29 April 2017.

Prabhat Datta

Two invited lectures in the workshop on *Training of Trainers (TOT) on Urban Development and Management* organised by Rammonohar Lohia Avadh University, Faizabad and sponsored by Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development, 20-22 February 2018.

Invited lecture on 'Primary Education in India' in a programme organized by Education Foundation Trust, Bali, Howrah, 20 December 2017.

Presented a paper 'Rural Governance in West Bengal' in the National Seminar on 25 years of Panchayati Raj organized by Department of Civics and Politics, University of Mumbai in collaboration with State Election Commission, Maharashtra, 2-3 November 2017.

Presented a paper 'Women in Panchayats in West Bengal : Challenges and Possibilities' in the seminar on *Panchayats in West Bengal* organized by West Bengal Panchayat Parishad, 19 August 2017.

Saswata Ghosh

Presented a paper 'Son Preference and Hindu-Muslim Fertility Differentials in 'ultra-low' Fertility Context in Kolkata, India', at the Population Association of America's 82nd Annual Meeting Programme in Chicago, USA, 27- 29 April 2017.

Simantini Mukhopadhyay

Invited talk 'How Misleading is Self-reported Morbidity? Revisiting Sen's 'positional objectivity'' (jointly with Achin Chakraborty) at the Population Studies Unit, ISI Kolkata, February 2018.

Presented a paper 'Caste-Gender Intersectionalities and the Curious Case of Child Nutrition in India: A Methodological Exposition' (jointly with Achin Chakraborty), at the IEA-IGIDR Conference on 'Social



Sector Development in India: Emerging Issues and Policy Perspectives', IGIDR, 6-7 October 2017.

A paper 'Group Inequality and Intersectional Inequality in Child Nutrition: Evidence from a HDSS Site in West Bengal' accepted for presentation at the 2017 Conference of the Human Development and Capability Association on *Challenging Inequalities: Human Development and Social Change*, University of Cape Town, 6-8 September 2017.

A paper 'Sex Inequality and Intersectional Inequality in Child Nutrition: Evidence from an HDSS Site in West Bengal' accepted for presentation at the International Health Conference at Oxford University, 29 June – 1 July 2017.

Delivered a lecture 'Inequality in India: Dimensions, Measures, Decomposition' (jointly with Achin Chakraborty) at the Workshop on *Frontiers of Research in Indian Economy: Emerging Issues, Theoretical Approaches, Data and Methods* at IDSK, 19-23 June, 2017.

Soutrik Basu

Presented a paper 'Challenges in Scaling-up of the Concept of Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) in Global Context' at the international conference on *South Asian Sociology & Beyond*, Department of Sociology, University of Dhaka, Dhaka, Bangladesh. 19-20 January 2018.

Delivered lecture on 'Understanding the Concept of Commons as Production Systems: The Case of Development of Sahbhagi Dhan – A Drought Tolerant Variety', Institute of Development Studies Kolkata (IDSK), 22 September 2017.

Subhanil Chowdhury

Chaired a session at the conference on *Rethinking the Role of Business Groups in Contemporary India: Analyses, Reviews and Reflections*, organised by the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata, 28th–29th March, 2018.

Presented a paper, 'Inequality in India: A Political Economy Perspective', at the National Conference on

Issues in Economic Development, organised by Department of Economics, University of Kalyani, 15th–16th March, 2018.

Speaker at a seminar on Budget 2018 organised by Department of Economics, Ramkrishna Mission Vidyamandira, Belur, 6th March, 2018.

Presented a paper, 'Trade Unions and Working Class Politics in Contemporary West Bengal', at the International Conference in memory of Prof. Sam Moyo, on *Land and Labour Questions in the Global South*, organised by the Centre for Informal Sector and Labour Studies, JNU, New Delhi, 21st–23rd February, 2018.

Presented a paper 'Inequality in India: A Marxist Perspective', at the international conference on *Capital in the East: Marx's Capital After 150 Years*, organised by Calcutta Research Group, IDSK, Jadavpur University, Presidency University and Department of Economics, University of Calcutta, 30–31 January, 2018.

Resource person for Refresher Course on 'Social Sciences, Social Inequalities and Public Policy: Reflections on Contemporary India', Department of Sociology, Jadavpur University. Topic: "Inequality, Economic Policy and Growth: Debates on Indian Economy", January 13th, 2018.

Keynote address on 'Budget and Deciphering the Fine Print', at the Orientation Program on Business Journalism, organised by CII and Press Club, Calcutta, 10th October 2017.

Resource person at a workshop on 'Rural Labour: Issues and Concerns', organised by the National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Hyderabad, 27–28 July, 2017.

Participated in the international workshop on 'Governing Urbanising India', at Oslo, Norway, on 8-9 June, 2017, organised by Centre for Development and the Environment, University of Oslo.

Subrata Mukherjee

Made a presentation 'Can Ayushman Bharat National Health Protection Mission protect India's poor and vulnerable' at a workshop organised by Centre for Multi-



disciplinary Development Research, Dharwad, 31 March 2018.

Presented a paper 'Quality of Ageing and Death: An Exploration of National Sample Survey Data' at the National Conference on *Health Inequities in India: Transformative Research for Action* organised by Achutha Menon Centre for Health Science Studies, Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum, Kerala, 8-11 January 2018.

Presented a paper 'Underemployment in India: Measurement and Analysis' (co-authored by Prof Indrani Chakraborty and Prof Dipankor Coondoo) at the Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Labour Economics held at Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation, Trivandrum, 16-18 December 2017.

Delivered one lecture on 'Count Data Regression Techniques' and handled one practical session on 'measurement of health inequality using NSS data' at a summer school jointly organised by the Indian Health Economics and Policy Association and Azim Premji University (APU) held at APU, Bengaluru, June 26-30, 2017.

Delivered two lectures on 'Count Data Regression Techniques' at the Workshop on *Frontiers of Research in Indian Economy: Emerging Issues, Theoretical Approaches, Data and Methods* at IDSK, 19-23 June, 2017.

Supurna Banerjee

Presented a paper 'Constructing Infrastructure, making labour: Mapping Kolkata through its Labour Haats' in National Conference on *Infrastructure and Right to the City: Perspectives from Contemporary India*, IDSK, 15-16 February 2018.

Co-convenor for ICSSR sponsored National Conference on *Infrastructure and Right to the City: Perspectives from Contemporary India* in IDSK, 15-16 February 2018.

Presented a paper 'A Day in the Life of the Plantation Workers: Understanding Working Day and its Limits through a Reading of Capital Vol. I' in the conference *Capital in the East*, Kolkata, January 2018.

Presented a paper 'Leisure in work': Understanding the Perceptions of Work-day of Tea plantations Workers of Dooars, India in International Workshop *Time and Money: Themes in Labour Relations*, in Centre for Modern Indian Studies, Georg-August-University, Göttingen, Germany, December 2017.

Presented a paper 'How Long Can We Keep Quiet While We See our Children Going Hungry': Understanding the Everyday Activism of Women Tea Plantation Workers in Dooars', India in National Seminar on *Condition of Plantation Labour in North Bengal Tea Zone* in North Bengal University, August 2017.

Presented a paper 'Making Cities Making Labour: Understanding Kolkata through the Perception of the Construction Workers' in 6th Critical Studies Conference: *Separation, Mobility, and the Ordinary City: On Migrants' Subjection and Subjectivity*, August 2017 in Kolkata.

Presented a paper 'While it is Glamorous on the Outside, It is Actually Hard Work: Narratives of Migrant Workers in Beauty Industry in India' in 3rd *World Conference on Women's Studies Building Resilience: Dialogue, Collaboration and Partnerships across Our Differences* in Colombo, Sri Lanka in May 2017.

Research Projects

Achin Chakraborty

Completed research project 'Health Inequalities in India and Switzerland: Measurement and Distribution of Well-Being and Vulnerability' (jointly with Simantini Mukhopadhyay, Claudine Burton-Jeangros and Stephane Cullati) under Indo-Swiss Joint Research Programme in Social Sciences funded by ICSSR and Swiss Government.

Amiya Kumar Bagchi

Engaged as General Editor of the ICHR sponsored five-year project 'Economic History of British Rule in India, Northern and Western in the Late Nineteenth Century: Quality of Life'.



Bidhan Kanti Das

Engaged in an ICSSR sponsored project 'Reaching Rural Resilience: Unraveling the case of Sagar Island of Bengal Delta, India' (jointly with Soutrik Basu)

Engaged in an Asiatic Society sponsored project 'Understanding Development Process: A Case of 'Denotified' Tribe in West Bengal'.

Gorky Chakraborty

Engaged in an ICSSR sponsored project 'Life, Livelihood and Exclusion: The Char Dwellers in the Brahmaputra Valley of Assam' jointly with Omeo Kumar Das Institute of Social Change and Development (OKDISCD), Guwahati.

Engaged in a project 'From Conflicts to Co-production: A Multi-stakeholder Analysis in Preserving the East Kolkata Wetlands' sponsored by Forum for Policy Dialogue on Water Conflicts in India, Pune.

Engaged in a project 'Revisiting the Utopia: Moulana Bhasani and the Char Areas of Assam' sponsored by Asiatic Society, Kolkata.

Nandini Ghosh

Engaged in a project 'Re-Conceptualizing Domestic Violence: Shifting Discourse within the Women's Movement in India' (jointly with Supurna Banerjee) sponsored by Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi.

Saswata Ghosh

Completed the project 'Assessing Equity in Maternal and Child Health Outcomes for a Renewed Health System Response in Assam and Odhisa' sponsored by World Health Organization, India Country Office, New Delhi.

Simantini Mukhopadhyay

Completed a research project 'Health Inequalities in India and Switzerland: Measurement and Distribution of Well-Being and Vulnerability' (jointly with Achin Chakraborty, Claudine Burton-Jeangros and Stephane Cullati) under Indo-Swiss Joint Research Programme in Social Sciences. funded by ICSSR and Swiss Government.

Soutrik Basu

Engaged in an ICSSR sponsored project 'Reaching Rural Resilience: unraveling the case of Sagar Island of Bengal Delta, India'(jointly with Bidhan Kanti Das)

Subrata Mukherjee

Engaged in a project 'Time and Work Study of Gram Panchayats in India (Tripura state)', sponsored by National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj.

Supurna Banerjee

Engaged in a project 'Re-Conceptualizing Domestic Violence: Shifting Discourse within the Women's Movement in India' (jointly with Nandini Ghosh) sponsored by Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi.

Engaged in a research project on 'Inequality, Injustice and Exploitation: The different blends in Assam Tea', supported by Morrell Trust Fund, York University, UK from June 2017.

Association with other Institutions / Membership of Organizations /Miscellaneous

Achin Chakraborty

Member, Board of Studies in Economics, Presidency University.

Member, Board of Studies in Economics and Politics, Visva Bharati University

Member, Board of Studies for MPH, West Bengal University of Health Sciences

Member, Board of Studies for Management, Aliah University.

Adviser, Pratichi Institute of Pratichi (India) Trust.

CICOPS Fellow, University of Pavia, Italy.

Examiner of PhD and MPhil theses of various universities

Member of the Faculty Selection Committee, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta.



Member of the Faculty Selection Committee, Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta

Member, Governing Council, Indian Health Economics and Policy Association (IHEPA)

Reviewer of Manuscripts for Oxford University Press, Routledge.

PhD Supervision

(Jointly with Philip Amis) Gareth Wall (University of Birmingham): *Reflecting Local Priorities for Human Development*

Pragna Paramita Mondal (University of Calcutta): *Market and Women's Agency in Commercial Surrogacy in India.*

Manas R Bhowmik (University of Calcutta): *Alternative Governance Structures: The Case of Handloom Cooperatives in West Bengal.*

Amitava Gupta (IDSK): *Some Aspects of Jawaharlal Nehru's Idea of Distributive Justice*

(Jointly with Simantini Mukhopadhyay) Dibyendu Biswas (IDSK): *Aspects of Efficiency and Equity in Urbanization*

Rivu Basu (IDSK): *Causes of Poor Adherence to Long Term Therapies: The Case of Anti-Tubercular Drugs*

(Jointly with Simantini Mukhopadhyay) Pintu Kabiraj (IDSK): *Aspects of Crime in India*

Hari Krishna Dwivedi (IDSK): *Effectiveness of Sub-national Public Financial Management and Tax Reform: With Special Reference to West Bengal (Tentative).*

Pallavi Mondal (IDSK): *Public Policy and State Capacity (Tentative).*

Mphil Supervision

Ronojoy Banerjee (IDSK, 2016-18): *The Politics of Land in the Context of Transport Infrastructure Development*

Tania Das (IDSK, 2016-18): *Role of Networks in Migration : A Case Study of Construction Workers in Kolkata*

Anwasha Sengupta

Guest Lecturer, Department of History, West Bengal

State University, January – May, 2017 and January – May 2018.

PhD Supervision

Nisharuddin Khan (IDSK): *Muslims in West Bengal since Partition (Tentative).*

Mphil Supervision

Pradipta Saha (IDSK, 2016-18): *"Correcting" the "Criminals" : Policies and Practices of Prison Reforms in West Bengal.*

Bidhan Kanti Das

PhD Supervisor, Department of Anthropology, University of Calcutta

Examiner, Post Graduate Department of Anthropology, University of Calcutta and Sidho Kanho Birsa University, Purulia

Member , IUAES Commission on Environment and Development

Member, Indian Confederation of Academy of Anthropologists

Member, Indian Anthropological Society, Kolkata

Member, Asiatic Society, Kolkata

PhD Supervision

Amrapali Mukherjee (IDSK): *Belief and Practices Around Menstruation Across Different Social Groups in West Bengal, India*

Nandini Kar (University of Calcutta): *From 'Local' to 'Global': Exploring Understanding of Ecological and Livelihood Uncertainties and Mitigation Mechanism from Indigenous and Global Perspectives.*

(Jointly with Arnab Das) Priti Bhowmick (University of Calcutta) *Local Governance of Water and Sanitation in the Metropolitan Area of West Bengal: An Ethnographic Inquiry.*

Kundan Ghosh, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Mahashadal Girl's College, East Midnapore, *An Ethnographic Study of the Culture Industry of Sholapith Craft in West Bengal.*



(Jointly with Arnab Das) Suman Dasgupta (University of Calcutta), *A Study of the Marginalised Tribal Communities in the Bordering Areas of the Three States of Eastern India.*

Mphil Supervision

(Jointly with Nandini Ghosh) Mohona Maitra (IDSK, 2016-18): *A Study of the Political Orientations of University Students in Kolkata*

(Jointly with Subrata Mukherjee) Shibthakur Hembram (IDSK, 2016-18): *Livelihood and Health Status of the Workers Living in Stone Quarry and Crusher Industrial Area : A Study of Tribal Workers in Mohammad Bazar Block, Birbhum District, West Bengal*

Sheelita Das (IDSK, 2014-16): *Behaviour Change Communication in Maternal Health: A Study of Rural Birbhum, West Bengal*

Gorky Chakraborty

PhD Supervision

(Jointly with Professor Gurudas Das) Himangshu Prasad (National Institute of Technology, Silchar): *Economics of Farm Viability and Income Diversity: A Case Study of the Farm Households in Southern Assam.*

Biswanath Saha (IDSK): *Spatiality and Identity in a Borderland: Understanding the Gorkhaland Movement.*

Naorem Pushparani Chanu (IDSK): *Labour Migration: A Study of Out-migrants from North-east India to Delhi.*

Mphil Supervision

Joy Mondal (IDSK, 2016-18): *Traditional Boat Building in Balagarh: Historicising the Contemporary.*

Matiur Rahman (IDSK, 2016-18): *Ownership of Land in Select Chars of the River Ganga : A Study of Manikchak Block, Malda District, West Bengal.*

Piyali Majumdar (IDSK, 2016-18): *Out-Migration from Assam : A Secondary Data Analysis.*

Indrani Chakraborty

Member, Econometric Society

Life Member, Indian Econometric Society

PhD Supervision

Abhinab Ghosh (University of Calcutta): *Corporate Financing, Ownership and Firm Behaviour: A Study of Textile Industry in India in the Post-Reform Period.*

Aruna Pain (University of Calcutta): *Innovation, Competition and Firm Performance: An Analysis of Indian Pharmaceutical Industry in the Post-reform Period*

Jhuma Mukhopadhyay (University of Calcutta): *Economic Reforms and Corporate Firms' Performance in India: 2000-01- 2012-13 (Under Evaluation).*

Sohini Sarkar (IDSK): *Mergers and Acquisitions in Manufacturing Firms and its Effects on the Economy: An Analysis of India in the Post-reform Period.*

Sukhdeep Singh (IDSK): *Growth of Firms and Innovation Activities (Tentative).*

Mphil Supervision

Moumita Maitra (IDSK, 2016-18): *Foreign Portfolio Investment : Its Determinants and Effects on Firm Performance*

Nandini Ghosh

Taught 'Feminist Research Methods' and 'Methods for Researching Marginalised Groups' as part of the coursework on Research Methodology for PhD students at the National University of Juridical Sciences .

External Expert, M Phil admission interviews at Women's Studies Centre Jadavpur University

Faculty, Diploma Course on Dance Movement Therapy, Tata Institute for Social Sciences, Mumbai

Guest Editor (along with Shilpaa Anand of MANUU), *Café Dissensus*, an alternative magazine dealing in art, culture, literature, and politics, based in New York City, USA, September 2017.

Executive Committee Member, Disability Activists Forum West Bengal

PhD Supervision

Rimjhim Bhattacharjee (IDSK): *Exploring the Representations of Sexuality of Disabled Persons in Indian Writings in English.*



Mphil Supervision

Baishali Bose (IDSK, 2016-18): *Gender and Labour in Tribal Households: A Study in Jhargram District, West Bengal.*

(Jointly with Bidhan Kanti Das) Mohona Maitra (IDSK, 2016-18): *A Study of the Political Orientations of University Students in Kolkata.*

Sathi Naik (IDSK, 2016-18) *Intriguing Identities : A Study of Transgender Persons in Kolkata, West Bengal*

Prabhat Datta

Adjunct Professor, Institute of China Rural Studies, Central China Normal University, Wuhan, China

Guest Professor, University of Engineering and Management, Kolkata

Guest Professor, Civil Service Study Centre, Government of West Bengal

Member, Board of Studies Women's Research Centre, Mizoram Central University

Member, Editorial Board, *Journal of Asian Rural Studies*, Indonesia

Member, Board of Directors, *Asian Association of Public Administration*, Korea

Member, Editorial Advisory Board *Institute of Institute and Management Review*, Kolkata

Examiner of the Ph D theses, Mizoram Central University

Saswata Ghosh

PhD Supervision

(Jointly with Professor Subhas Ray) Saptamita Pal (University of Calcutta): *Socio-economic Concomitants of Changing Patterns of Fertility Behaviour: A Micro-Level Study on Bengali Speaking Community in Kolkata, West Bengal.*

(Jointly with Professor Subhas Ray) Mir Kalam Azad (University of Calcutta): *An Anthropological Demographic Study on Khotta Muslim Population of Malda, West Bengal* (Tentative).

(Jointly with Dr. Utpal Roy) Kakoli Das (IDSK): *Understanding Contemporary Fertility Transition in Rural West Bengal, India.*

Simantini Mukhopadhyay

Worked as a Guest Lecturer in Economics of the Course MBA, First Semester at IEST, Shibpur.

PhD Supervision

(Jointly with Achin Chakraborty) Pintu Kabiraj (IDSK): *Aspects of Crime in India.*

(Jointly with Achin Chakraborty) Dibyendu Biswas (IDSK): *Aspects of Efficiency and Equity in Urbanization.*

Mphil Supervision

Debashree Paul (IDSK, 2016-18): *Understanding Marriage in Rural West Bengal : A Study in Birbhum District.*

Soutrik Basu

PhD Supervision

Sekhar Mondal (IDSK): *Understanding the Evolution and Transformational Process of Floriculture in West Bengal: The Case of National Horticulture Mission (NHM).*

Mphil Supervision

Avirup Ranjan Bar (IDSK, 2016-18): *Understanding Agrarian Transition from Rice Farming to Fishery : A Case Study from Magrahat Block-II, South 24 Parganas, West Bengal*

Subhanil Chowdhury

Guest Faculty, Department of Economics, University of Calcutta. Course taught: Political Economy of Development (MA 4th Semester), jointly with Prof. Anjan Chakrabarti.

Guest Faculty, Department of Economics, University of Kalyani. Course taught: Money, Banking and Finance (MA 4th Semester), jointly with Prof. Byasdeb Dasgupta.

External Examiner of MPhil Dissertation, Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, School of Social Sciences, JNU.



External Examiner, Department of Geography,
Presidency University

Moderator, Department of Social Work, St. Xavier's
University, Kolkata

Reviewer for Routledge Publications

External Consultant, Indian Council for Research on
International Economic Relations (ICRIER), New Delhi.

PhD Supervision

Abdul Motin Ostagar (IDSK): *Financial Inclusion and
Informal Financial Sources: A Study of Perspective and
Preferences of Banking and Finance Among the Rural
People of West Bengal*

Priyanka Roy (IDSK): *Gendered Negotiations: A Study of
Female Entrepreneurs in West Bengal.*

Dhiraj Barman (IDSK): *Gentrification and Changing
Urban Space: A Case Study of Siliguri* (Tentative).

Mphil Supervision

(jointly with Achin Chakraborty) Ronojoy Banerjee
(IDSK, 2016-18): *The Politics of Land in the Context of
Transport Infrastructure Development.*

Siddhartha Mitra (IDSK, 2016-18): *Inequality and Wage
Share in India : A Study of the Post-Reform Period.*

Subrata Mukherjee

Joint Secretary, Indian Health Economics and Policy
Association.

PhD Supervision

Priyanka Dasgupta (IDSK): *Disease Burden, Govt. Health
Expenditure and Household Vulnerability : A Study of
Indian States.*

Monalisha Chakraborty (IDSK): *Migration and its Impacts
on Health and Education of the Children* (Tentative).

Mphil Supervision

(Jointly with Bidhan Kanti Das) Shibthakur Hembram
(IDSK, 2016-18): *Livelihood and Health Status of the
Workers Living in Stone Quarry and Crusher Industrial
Area : A Study of Tribal Workers in Mohammad Bazar
Block, Birbhum District, West Bengal.*

Usha Karmakar (IDSK, 2016-18): *Muslim Women in
Rural Local governance: A Case Study of a Panchayat
Samiti in Malda District, West Bengal.*

Supurna Banerjee

Guest Lecturer, Department of Political Science,
University of Calcutta

PhD Supervision

Nur Alam (IDSK): *Understanding Labour Migration in
West Bengal: A Study of Malda District.*

Mphil Supervision

Tousali Raina (IDSK, 2016-18) *Invisibilizing Exclusion :
Caste and Politics in West Bengal.*

9

Rabindranath Tagore Centre for Human Development Studies

Participation in Seminars/ Conferences/ Research Work with Travel Grants

Dr. Supurna Banerjee, Assistant Professor, Institute of Development Studies Kolkata presented a paper *While it is Glamorous on the Outside, It is Actually Hard Work: Narratives of Migrant Workers in Beauty Industry in India* in the 3rd World Conference on Women's Studies Building Resilience: Dialogue, Collaboration and Partnerships across Our Differences in Colombo, Sri Lanka in May 2017.

Lecture delivered by RTCHDS Fellows at IDSK

11 August 2017	Sanghamitra Kanjilal Bhaduri	<i>Paid Unpaid Work within the Interactions of Social Hierarchy : A Study of Rural India</i>
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10

Support from ICSSR

IDSK has been recognized by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) under the 'New Category of ICSSR recognized Institutes' in 2014. ICSSR agreed to provide the following benefits from 2015:

1. To sponsor 5 Doctoral, 2 Post-doctoral and 2 Senior Fellowships.

At present, Professor Arun Kumar Bandyopadhyay, Senior Fellow and Dr. Poulomi Lahiri, Post-doctoral Fellow are receiving fellowships from ICSSR. The fellowships have been granted for two years. The title of research of Professor Bandyopadhyay is *The Engineering Education in Bengal in the Light of an Institutional History: BE College, 1856-2001*. The research topic of Dr. Poulomi Lahiri is *The Relationship between Ownership Structure and Dividend Payout Policy in India in the Post Reform Period*.

2. To organize joint seminars and conferences with ICSSR.
IDSK have organized several seminars and conferences jointly with ICSSR.
3. Salary protection of faculty of the Institute in post-doctoral and senior fellowships programme.
4. To provide facility of databases/e-resources viz. JSTOR, Econlit FULL Text, INDIASTAT & PROWESS.

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS**Achin Chakraborty***Edited Book*

The Land Question in India: State, Dispossession and Capitalist Transition, (jointly with Anthony P. D'Costa), Oxford University Press, 2017.

Peer Reviewed Article

'Decomposing Nutritional Inequality by Caste and Class: A Quantitative Approach to Reckon Intersectionality' [with Simantini Mukhopadhyay], *Economics Bulletin*, Vol 37(2), 2017.

Book Chapter

'Structural Limits to Equitable Urbanization' in Jenia Mukherjee (ed) *Sustainable Urbanization in India*, Springer, 2018.

'Transcendental Institutionalism and Public Policy', in Dayabati Roy and Sreemoyee Ghosh (eds) *In Pursuit of Inclusive Development: Essays for Manabi Majumdar*, Purbalok Publication, 2017.

Occasional Paper

(Jointly with Simantini Mukhopadhyay) *Caste-Gender Intersectionalities and the Curious Case of Child Nutrition: A Methodological Exposition*, IDSK, February 2018.

Other Publications

'Private Interests and Public Resistance', *Frontline*, 21 August 2017.



Amiya Kumar Bagchi

Article in Edited Book

'Latin America and Imperialism', in Sunanda Sen and Cristina Marcuzzo (eds.): *The Changing Face of Imperialism: Colonialism to Contemporary Capitalism*, London: Routledge, pp.160-170, December 2017.

Peer Reviewed Article

(Jointly with Panchanan Das) 'Agricultural Fluctuations and Demographic Crisis in British India (1820-1870): A Case Study', *Journal of Quantitative Economics*, November 2017.

Other Publications

'Leadership was Key in the Making of the Russian Revolution', *The Wire*, 17 November 2017.

Anwasha Sengupta

Book Chapters

'Moveable Migrants, Laboring Lives: Making Refugees 'Useful' in Post-Colonial India', in Mahua Sarkar (ed.), *Work Out of Place*, Work in Global and Historical Perspective Series, Oldenburg: De Gruyter, 2017.

'Partition and Dalit Politics in Bengal: The Figure of Jogendra Nath' in Rakshanda Jalil, Tarun Saint and Debjani Sengupta (eds), *Looking Back: The 1947 Partition of India 70 Years On*, Orient BlackSwan, New Delhi, 2017.

Peer Reviewed Articles

(Jointly with Ishan Mukherjee) Introduction to the Special Issue on 'Nation-Making in Partitioned India', *Economic and Political Weekly*, LIII:4, pp 40-43, 2018.

'Unthreading Partition: The Politics of Jute Sharing between two Bengals', *Economic and Political Weekly*, LIII:4, pp 43-49, 2018.

Other Publications

(in Bānglā) '1950-er Doshoke Kolkatae Gana Andoloner Duti Muhurto: Tram Bhara Briddhi Andolon O Shikshak Andolon', *Anustup*, Prak-Sharad Gano-Andolon Bishesh Sankhya, 2017.

[Jointly with Sanjukta Dasgupta] *Bharater Uttar Purba Simante Samrajyer Gorapattan* [Bengali Translation of Gunnell Cederloff's monograph, *Founding an Empire on India's North Eastern Frontiers, 1790-1840*, OUP, New Delhi, 2014], OUP, Kolkata, January, 2018.

Gorky Chakraborty

Book Edited

(Jointly edited with K.J. Joy, Partha Das, Chandan Mahanta, Suhas Paranjape, Shruti Vispute) *Water Conflicts in Northeast India*, Routledge, 2017.

Articles in Edited Books

'Look East Policy and Northeast India: Is it a Conjectured Vision' in Atul Sarma and Saswati Choudhury (eds.) *Mainstreaming the Northeast in India's Look and Act Policy East*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2018.

'Wasteland as a Colonial Construct: Was it Waste at all!' in Sajal Nag and Ishrat Alam (eds.) *Blending Region Into Nation: Essays in Honour of Late Amalendu Guha*, Primus, 2018.

(Jointly with Asok Kumar Ray) 'Land and Dispossession: The Criticalities in the Hills of Northeast India' in D' Costa, P and Chakraborty, Achin (eds.) *Land Question in India: State, Dispossession and Capitalist Transition*, Oxford University Press, 2017.

'The Char Dwellers of Assam: Flowing River, Floating People' in Joy, K.J., Das, Partha et.al. (eds.) *Water Conflicts in Northeast India*, Routledge, 2017.

Other Publications

(with Biswanath Saha) 'Understanding the Demand for Self Rule in Darjeeling Hills' in *The Wire*, 5th June 2017

Reading Proof as 'Proofs' in <https://PangSau.com>

(with Biswanath Saha) 'The Struggle for Gorkhaland' in *Eclectic Northeast*, Vol. V, No. 10, 2017

The Search for Elusive Bangladesehi in Assam in *Eclectic Northeast*, Vol. VI, No. 3, 2018

(with Suraj Gogoi and Parag Das) 'Assam Against Itself: A Reply to Prof Sanjib Baruah' in <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/southasia/2018/03/21/assam-against-itself-a-reply-to->



sanjib-baruah/

Review of Marcus Franke's book War and Nationalism in South Asia: The Indian State and the Nagas: Routledge, *Journal of The Asiatic Society*, Vol. LVIII:4, 2016 (published in 2017).

Indrani Chakraborty

Occasional Paper

(Jointly with Dipankor Coondoo and Subrata Mukherjee) *Underemployment in India: Measurement and Analysis*, IDSK, November 2017.

Peer Reviewed Article

'Effects of Ownership Structure on Capital Structure of Indian Listed Firms: Role of Business Groups vis-à-vis Stand-alone Firms', *Emerging Markets Finance and Trade*, Taylor and Francis, 26 January 2018. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/1540496X.2018.1434071>.

Nandini Ghosh

Article in Edited Book

'Socialised into (Dis)Ability: Experiences of Disabled Children in India' in Sanjay Prasad, Deepa Sonpal and Suman Vaishnav(eds.) *Empowering Children with Disabilities*, Ocean Books 2017.

Peer Reviewed Article

(Jointly with Supurna Banerjee) 'Too Much or Too Little: Paradoxes of Disability and Care Work in India', *Review of Disability Studies*, September 2017.

Prabhat Kumar Datta

Peer Reviewed Article

(Jointly with Pan Suk Kim) 'The Development of Modern Public Administration in India' in *Asian Review of Public Administration*, Vol.27, No.1 & 2, 2017.

(Co-author) 'Land Reforms Administration in an Indian State : Lessons from the Experiences of Implementation', *Journal of Asian Rural Studies*, Vo.1(2), 2017.

'Left Front Government, Rural Development and Governance in India's West Bengal: Lessons from a New Experiment', *Asian Review of Public Administration*, Vol.27, 2017.

Other Publications

(in Bānglā) 'Gramin Swanirbhar Gosthi O Khudra Rin', *Sharadiya Ganabarta*, 2017.

Saswata Ghosh

Peer Reviewed Articles

(Jointly with S. Chakraborty and S. Chowdhury) 'Urbanization among Muslim Community in India – A Metaphor of Development? Evidence from West Bengal and Kerala', *Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs*, 38(1): 1-16, 2018.

(Jointly with A. Chattopadhyay) 'Religion, Contraceptive Method Mix and Son Preference among Bengali-Speaking Community in the Indian Subcontinent', *Population Research and Policy Review*, 36(6): 929-959, 2017.

Report

(Jointly with M. Mukherjee, K. Das and N. Ganguly) 'Assessing Equity in Maternal and Child Health Outcomes for a Renewed Health System Response: Assam and Odhisa', Kolkata: IDSK, 2017.

Simantini Mukhopadhyay

Peer Reviewed Article

(Jointly with Achin Chakraborty) 'Decomposing Nutritional Inequality by Caste and Class: A Quantitative Approach to Reckon Intersectionality', *Economics Bulletin*, Volume 37, Issue 2, pp. 1339-1350.

Other Publications

(in Bānglā) 'Raktālpotār Sahaj Oshudh' (jointly with Achin Chakraborty), *Anandabazar Patrika*, 24 March 2018.

Soutrik Basu

Peer Reviewed Article

(Jointly with J. Jongerden and G. Ruivenkamp) 'The Emergence of a Hybrid Mode of Knowledge Production in the Generation Challenge Programme Rice Research Network (GCP-RRN) in India: Exploring the concept of Commons-Based Peer Production (CBPP)', *Geoforum*,



84: 107-116, 2017. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geoforum.2017.06.008>

(Jointly with J. Jongerden and G. Ruivenkamp) 'Beyond the dichotomy of instrumentality and non-instrumentality of knowledge production: The case of generation challenge programme', *Science and Public Policy* 44(4): pp. 583-597, 2017. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/scipol/scx008>

Subhanil Chowdhury

Article in Edited Book

'Is Imperialism a Relevant Concept in Today's World?', in Sunanda Sen and Maria Cristina Marcuzzo (eds.) *The Changing Face of Imperialism: Colonies to Contemporary Capitalism*, Routledge, January 2018.

Peer Reviewed Articles

(Jointly with Sourav Chakraborty and Saswata Ghosh) 'Urbanization of Muslim Community in India—A Metaphor for Development? Evidences from States of West Bengal and Kerala', *Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs*, Taylor and Francis, 2018, DOI: 10.1080/13602004.2018.1432147

(Jointly with Sourav Chakraborty, Utpal Roy and Kakoli Das) 'Declassification of Census Towns in West Bengal', *Economic and Political Weekly* Vol. 52, No. 25-26, June 2017.

Other Publications

(Jointly with Subrata Mukherjee) 'Hardly a Game Change', *The Hindu*, (on the proposed National Health Insurance Scheme announced in Budget 2018).

'Note Ban Failed to Achieve its Purpose', *Asian Age*, 8 November 2017.

(in Bānglā) 'Panagariya ba Anya Keu: Neeti Badlabbe Ki?' (On the resignation of Arvind Panagariya from Niti Ayog), *Ei Samay*, 22 August 2017.

(in Bānglā) 'Kon Lakhshyapuran Holo Janaben Modiji?' (On RBI's Annual Report and the Proposed Gains from Demonetisation), *Ei Samay*, 7 September 2017.

Subrata Mukherjee

Peer Reviewed Article

(Jointly with David Loutfi and Jean-Frederic Levesque) 'Impact of the elderly on household health expenditure in Bihar and Kerala, India', *Journal of Health Management*, 20(1), pp.1-14, 2018

Other Publications

(Jointly with Subhanil Chowdhury) 'Hardly a Game Change' (on the proposed National Health Insurance Scheme announced in Budget), *The Hindu*, 12 February 2018.

(Jointly with Dr Abhik Sinha): (in Bānglā) 'Din To Gelo, Sandhya Holo, Briddhashram-i Sesh Ashray? *Ei Samay*, 12 January 2018.

Occasional Paper

(Jointly with Indrani Chakraborty and Dipankor Coondoo) *Underemployment in India: Measurement and Analysis*, IDSK, November 2017.

Supurna Banerjee

Book

Activism and Agency in India: Nurturing Resistance in Tea Plantations, London: Routledge Edinburgh South Asia Series, May 2017.

Peer Reviewed Article

(Jointly with Nandini Ghosh) 'Too Much or Too Little? Paradoxes of Disability and Care Work in India', in *Review of Disability Studies*, 13(4), September 2017.

INSTITUTIONAL PUBLICATIONS

Occasional Papers

No.58 *Underemployment in India: Measurement and Analysis*, Subrata Mukherjee, Dipankor Coondoo and Indrani Chakraborty, November 2017.

No.59 *Caste-Gender Intersectionalities and the Curious Case of Child Nutrition: A Methodological Exposition*, Simantini Mukhopadhyay and Achin Chakraborty, February 2018.

12

Knowledge Resource Centre (Library)

The IDSK Knowledge Resource Centre or the Library is an ideal place for knowledge enhancement of academic as well as research professionals. It began functioning from December 2002 at 5th floor of Alipore Campus of Calcutta University. It has moved to its present own campus at Salt Lake in 2010. The Library occupies two floors (2nd and 3rd floor, 1700 sq. ft. each) of southern block of the building.

The Library houses an impressive number of knowledge resources focussing on various research areas in Development Studies, Economics, Sociology, Demography, Education, Public Health, Political Science, Gender Studies, Anthropology, Ethnography, Environmental Studies, Regional Development, Human Sciences and Globalization. It has a total collection of 20140 processed documents including books, bound journals and other processed documents of which IDSK's collection is 9923, Rabindranath Tagore Centre for Human Development Studies' collection is 4102 and the rest 6140 are gifted collections.

Till 31st March 2018, the library has accessioned 182 books, 18 thesis/dissertations and 20 CDs. The Library subscribes 25 journals (print), 61 journals (online) of Oxford publication, 23 journals (print & online) of Sage publication, *EPW* (print + online), *Journal of Development Studies* (online), *New York Review of Books* (online), *Journal of American Economic Association* (Online), *Development and Change* (Online) and *The Economic Journal* (online). The library has procured JSTOR DNAI Package (More than 2000 Journals).

The Library possesses tools for processing documents. They include Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) 22nd and 23rd edition, Anglo American Cataloguing Rules (AACR-2R), Sears list of subject headings 17th and 20th



edition, C.A. Cutter's 3- figure Author table fully revised edition, American Library Association (ALA) filing rules.

The Library has access to Indiatat.com, ProWess, EconLit, sponsored by ICSSR.

The Library is using SOUL version 1 (Software for University Libraries) for its on-going automation activities. Till March 2018, the library has entered and processed 16231 documents in SOUL. Book charging and discharging is done with the help of SOUL software and barcode technology. From December 2017 the library has started its automation functions in Koha. The library has got more prominent look through its newly created web pages.

The Library boasts of 974 total users of which 605 are internal registered users which include members of Academic Council, members of Governing Council, Staff, Research Scholars and M.Phil students. The internal users enjoy library lending, document delivery and reading facilities. IDSK Library also provides reading facility to external scholars. Total number of registered external scholars is 348 since its inception.

The library provides following services to its members:

1. *Circulation Services*: Internal members have availed the lending facility as regular members of the library.
2. *Reading and References Services*: During the period, many users have visited the library physically for reading and references purpose.
3. *Web OPAC Services*: Users also accessed the Web OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue) service in and outside the Library.
4. *Document Delivery Services*:
 - a. Reprographic Services
 - b. Electronic Document Delivery Services
 - c. Document Scan Service.
5. *Inter Library Loan Services*: The Library is an institutional member of National Library, University of Calcutta, Indian Statistical Institute Kolkata, DELNET and American Information Resource Centre Kolkata.

13

Computer Infrastructure

Computer infrastructure of IDSK consists of compatible computer hardware and the latest networking equipment and software. Round the clock Internet access is available on campus to students, faculty and staff. All the computers on campus are connected through Ethernet-based LAN. 9 MBPS leased line is used for Internet connection throughout the campus.

Computer Lab

IDSK has a computer lab with 19 desktop PCs connected to the Internet and available for use by students and research staff. Network laser printers and HP colour scanners are available for printing and scanning purposes. The OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue) of our library can also be accessed from the PCs in the computer lab.

Operating Systems and Softwares

The servers are powered LINUX and Server 2008. Other than the regular Windows 7 and Windows 8 operating systems, MS Office and Adobe Professional packages for individual desktops, IDSK provides its faculty, research staff, and students with the latest software for statistical and econometrics purposes. These include:

- o Stata
- o Eviews
- o CSPro
- o Win Rats
- o Win Cats

The databases maintained at IDSK are Prowess and Capita Lines.

Faculty and Areas of Interest

Director and Professor of Economics

Achin Chakraborty

*Welfare Economics, Human Development,
Methodology*

Emeritus Professor

Amiya Kumar Bagchi

*Economics)
Political Economy, Economic History,
International Finance*

Professor

Indrani Chakraborty

*(Economics)
Corporate Finance, International Finance,
Econometrics, Development Economics*

Associate Professors

Bidhan Kanti Das

*(Anthropology)
Tribal Studies, Social Ecology,
Local Forest Management*

Gorky Chakraborty

*(Economics)
Development Related Issues
in North-east India*



Saswata Ghosh (on lien)
(Demography)
*Epidemiology and Public Health,
Mortality and Morbidity*

Subrata Mukherjee
(Economics)
*Health Economics, Applied
Microeconometrics, Quantitative Methods*

Assistant Professors

Anwasha Sengupta
(History)
*Decolonization in South Asia,
Forced Migration Studies, Border Studies*

Nandini Ghosh
(Sociology)
Gender Studies, Disability Studies

Simantini Mukhopadhyay
(Economics)
*Health Economics, Child Health and Nutrition,
Measurement of Poverty and Inequality,
Microeconometrics*

Soutrik Basu
(Development Sociology)
*Agricultural Extension, Market-led
Agricultural Reforms, Innovation Systems
Natural Resource Management*

Subhanil Chowdhury
(Economics)
*Macroeconomics, Development
Economics, Globalization*

Supurna Banerjee
(Political Science)
*Gender, Women, Labour, Migration,
Social Space, Activism*

Visiting / Adjunct Faculty Honorary Visiting Professors

Asis Kumar Banerjee
*Development Economics, Development
Finance, Measurement of Inequality and
Poverty*

Prabhat Datta
*Political Science, Decentralization and Public
Administration*

Dipankor Coondoo
*Econometrics, Finance and Monetary
Economics*

Prasanta Ray
*Occupational Sociology, Social Power Sector,
Conflict and Social Movement*

ICSSR Senior Fellows

Arun Kumar Bandyopadhyay
*Economic and Social History of Modern India,
and History of Science & Environment*

Debdas Banerjee
*Economics of Education, Late Industrialization &
Colonialism, Human Development and
Labour Economics*

Pinaki Chakraborti
*Fiscal Federalism, Public Economics, Environmental
and Ecological Economics, and Development
Economics*

Abhijit Guha
*History of Anthropology in India, Nationalist
Anthropology, Development caused Forced
Displacement and Rehabilitation*

Maitreyee Bardhan Roy
*Women's Issues, Social Problems, Disability, Public
Policy Issues and Human Rights*

Manimay Sengupta
*Social Choice Theory, Welfare Theory, The
Measurement of Unemployment and Poverty,
Mathematical Economics, General Equilibrium
Analysis*

Ranjan Basu
*Environmental Geography, Population Geography,
Soil Geography and Land Use*

15

Administrative, Library and Technical Staff

Administration

Soumendra Kanta Lahiri Choudhuri	Accounts Officer
Ashok Kumar Ghosh	Office Superintendent
Sanchari Guha Samanta	P.A. to the Director
Biswajit Nandy	Accountant-cum-cashier
Kakali De	Office Assistant
Kaustav Tarafdar	Office Assistant
Gautam Bera	Accounts Clerk
Avirup Mitra	Electrician
Ashok Kumar Patra	Office Attendant
Bijoy Das	Office Attendant
Biswanath Das	Office Attendant
Sk. Rahaman Ali	Office Attendant

Library

Ashok Pal	Assistant Librarian
Sanjoy Kar	Assistant Librarian
Sovan Sardar	Library Assistant
Sharat Biswas	Library Assistant

Computer Lab

Sanjit Kumar Bandyopadhyay	Computer Laboratory Assistant
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- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| 1. Professor Sabyasachi Bhattacharya
<i>(Former Vice-Chancellor, Visva Bharati and
Chairman, ICHR, New Delhi)</i> | President |
| 2. Professor Nirmala Banerjee
<i>(Former Professor, Centre for Studies in
Social Sciences, Calcutta)</i> | Vice-
President |
| 3. Professor Achin Chakraborty
<i>(Professor of Economics, IDSK)</i> | Director |
| 4. Professor Anjan Chakrabarti
<i>(Professor of Economics, University of Calcutta)</i> | Secretary |
| 5. Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi
<i>(Emeritus Professor of Economics and
Founder Director, IDSK)</i> | Member |
| 6. Professor Rajat Acharyya
<i>(Professor of Economics, Jadavpur University)</i> | Member |
| 7. Professor Sobhanlal Datta Gupta
<i>(Former Professor of Political Science, University of Calcutta)</i> | Member |
| 8. Professor Debashis Gangopadhyay
<i>(Professor of Physics, Ramakrishna Mission
Vivekananda University, Belur)</i> | Member |
| 9. Professor Abhijit Chakrabarti
<i>(Professor, Dept. of Electrical Engineering, IEST, Shibpur)</i> | Member |
| 10. Dr. R.S. Shukla, IAS
<i>(Additional Chief Secretary, Higher Education, Science
and Technology and Biotechnology, Govt of West Bengal)</i> | Member |
| 11. Mr. H.K. Dwivedi, IAS
<i>(Principal Secretary, Finance,
Government of West Bengal)</i> | Member |
| 12. Professor Indrani Chakraborty
<i>(Representative of Academic Staff, IDSK)</i> | Member |
| 13. Dr. Saswata Ghosh
<i>(Representative of Academic Staff, IDSK)</i> | Member |
| 14. Ms. Sanchari Guha Samanta
<i>(Representative of Administrative & Technical Staff, IDSK)</i> | Member |

Financial Statement

Details of Receipts and Payments during the year 2017 - 2018 are indicated below:

I. Receipts

	Rs. in Thousand	Rs. in Thousand
a) Grant from Government of West Bengal	27,882.00	
b) Fees received from students of M.Phil courses	84.00	
c) Fund Received From projects	4,244.00	
d) Interest on bank deposits	794.00	
e) Miscellaneous receipts	1,511.00	
Total Receipts (I)		34,515.00

II. Payments

	Rs. in Thousand	Rs. in Thousand
A Payments of Revenue Expenditure		
i) Salary	17,041.00	
ii) Maintenance expenditure	13,469.00	
iii) Outstanding expenditure	3,564.00	
		34,074.00
B Payments of Capital Expenditure		
i) Office machinery & Other Equipments	844.00	
ii) Books & journals	1,514.00	
		2,358.00
TOTAL PAYMENTS (A + B)		36,432.00
C Difference of Opening & Closing Balance of Cash, Bank & Investment		-1,917.00
TOTAL II (A + B + C)		34,515.00
TOTAL I = TOTAL II		34,515.00