



# INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES KOLKATA

(A Centre of Excellence in Social Sciences funded by the Government of West Bengal)

SALT LAKE CAMPUS • DD 27/D, SECTOR 1, SALT LAKE, KOLKATA 700 064

## Seminar Notice

### Professor Syamal Roy

J.C. Bose National Fellow  
Dept. of Science & Technology, Govt. of India  
& Dean, National Institute of Pharmaceutical  
Education & Research

will deliver a talk on

### Art Meets Science: Infectious Diseases as Metaphor to Understand Creativity

Date: April 12, 2019 (Friday)

Time: 3.15PM

Venue: IDSK Seminar Room, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
(IDSK Building, Salt Lake)

All are Welcome

#### Abstract

Scientific development in the 19<sup>th</sup> century had a major impact on understanding health and diseases. There are 6 major infectious diseases that have impacted human civilization and out of which tuberculosis has a unique place in the realm of literature. TB was the most common cause of death during the Romantic period. The literary portrayal of tuberculosis from the early 19<sup>th</sup> to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, which is often romanticized, contrasts with the scientific reality of the disease. For centuries, tuberculosis was a disease that was believed to be linked with special poetic and aesthetic qualities, and these beliefs were reflected not just in literature, but in medicine as well. As science progressed, so did the literature on infectious diseases. Thus diseases (as metaphor) offer mythical understanding of life and many hidden traits surface in the form of creative enterprise during sufferings.

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