



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 Gautam Bose

University of New South Wales, Australia

will present a paper on

Women's Labour Force Participation and Household Technology Adoption

Date: January 17, 2020

Time: 3.30PM

**Venue: IDSK Seminar Room, 5th Floor
(IDSK Building, Salt Lake)**

All are Welcome

Abstract

We examine how women's employment leads to household technology adoption in the context of mid-century United States. We posit that this relationship is strongest for households with low earning capacity whose consumption-leisure trade-off crosses a threshold as women go to work. Using WWII factories to instrument for female labor demand, we find that a standard deviation increase in female labor force participation increases washing machine ownership by 0.44 standard deviations, which is driven primarily by counties in the lowest pre-war education quintile. Changes to household income, as well as the substitution of employed domestic labor with appliances, are important channels.

Subhanil Chowdhury
(Subhanil Chowdhury)

Convenor, Seminar Committee, IDSK
(9830059671)