



Dr. Subrata Mukherjee, Associate Professor, IDSK will present a paper on:

Vulnerability of Major Indian States Due to COVID 19-Spread and Lockdown

Date: 5 June 2020 (Friday)

Time: 5 PM

Abstract

Both the spread of COVID-19 and lockdown announced by the governments to contain the spread have put an immense challenge to India's economy, society and health care system. However, the situation is not uniform across the states of India as they vary enormously from one another in terms of risk of the disease spread, size of the population vulnerable to COVID-19, capacity to deal with medical emergency, size of the population economically vulnerable to lockdown and financial capacity of the government (state-level) to take care of the vulnerable population in the absence of adequate assistance from the central government. This study, first attempts to assess the vulnerability of the population due to the possible disease spread; and then tries to assess four different dimensions of vulnerability caused by nation-wide lockdown. The four dimensions that have been considered are (i) poverty, (ii) possible disruption of access to health care for chronic ailments (iii) possible disruption in students' access to school education and mid-day meals; and (iv) ills caused by alcoholism and domestic violence. When we consider all four dimensions of vulnerability, the major states which seem to be more vulnerable due to lockdown are Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, West Bengal and Chhattisgarh as they show higher index values of three or more dimensions of vulnerability out of the total four dimensions. These five major states may require concerted efforts by central as well as state governments to address their problems. The study makes a number of suggestions to deal with the current crisis and similar crisis in future.

This paper is jointly written with Priyanka Dasgupta, Monalisha Chakraborty, Gopal Biswas and Soumi Mukherjee (PhD Scholars, IDSK)

The Webinar will be via Zoom. All those who are interested to join can please fill the google form on or before 4 June 2020, so that invitations can be sent to you.

Link to Google Form: <https://forms.gle/i3UNoybs4iNQKGqR9>

**Sd/-
Subhanil Chowdhury,
Convenor, Seminar Committee, IDSK**