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INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES KOLKATA

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INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES KOLKATA

DD-27/D, Sector-I, Salt Lake, Kolkata - 700 064, Phone : + 91 33 2321-3120/21/99

Fax : +91 33 2321 3119, E-mail : idsk@idskmail.com

Website : www.idsk.edu.in

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Introduction

The **Institute of Development Studies Kolkata (IDSK)** 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 eighteen 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 Professor Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury as the President after the untimely demise of our former President, Professor Hari Sankar Vasudevan on 10 May 2020.

IDSK is devoted to advanced academic research and informed policy advice in the areas of education, health, gender, 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, 2021)	11
PhD awardees under IDSK faculty supervision till date	29
PhD scholars being supervised by IDSK faculty	41
MPhil Awardees till date	155
MPhil students writing dissertation	13
Completed sponsored projects	32
Ongoing Projects	9
Occasional Papers	72
Working Papers	5
Special Lecture Series	7

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Research Output

HEALTH, DISABILITY AND DEMOGRAPHY

As in the previous years, a substantial volume of research has been conducted - in these three interrelated fields. In 'Self-Reported Morbidity and Self-Rated Health among the Elderly in India: Revisiting the Puzzles' (*Journal of Population Ageing*, published online, 2020), **Simantini Mukhopadhyay** and **Achin Chakraborty**, with Stéphane Cullati, Stefan Sieber and Claudine Burton-Jeangros, point out that both self-reported morbidity (SRM) and self-rated health (SRH) have been questioned on the grounds of reliability and validity, particularly in the context of developing countries such as India. It has been argued that indicators of self-perceived health often do not move in tandem with objective indicators of health and are not reflective of socioeconomic inequalities. The paper attempts to systematically examine the validity of SRH and SRM, analysing data for the aged population from the last two health rounds of the Indian National Sample Survey. They consider two indicators of SRM: chronic and acute, and test their association with different positional parameters such as economic condition, educational attainment and availability of healthcare facilities, using multivariable logistic regressions. They also test the association of SRH with these parameters and SRM, using ordered probit regression. In an alternative specification, they replace the general indicators of acute and chronic morbidity with the presence of specific diseases and health conditions, and examine the validity of SRH. Though SRM is typically lower for people who are disadvantaged in terms of different socioeconomic parameters, the latter are more likely to report worse SRH. Self-reported presence of specific illnesses and health conditions also significantly increase the likelihood of giving worse ratings for SRH among the aged in India. Their findings suggest that while SRH is a valid



health indicator among the aged in India, one cannot be entirely dismissive of SRM, particularly with regard to its predictive validity for SRH. This paper is an outcome of the project on 'Health inequalities in India and Switzerland: Measurement and Distribution of Well-Being and Vulnerability', under the Indo-Swiss Joint Research Programme in the Social Sciences.

In 'Distress Financing for Out-of-Pocket Hospitalization Expenses in India: An Analysis of Pooled National Sample Survey Data' (IDSK Occasional Paper 71, 2020), **Subrata Mukherjee** and **Priyanka Dasgupta** highlight that resorting to means of distress financing such as selling of physical assets, borrowings or seeking contribution from friends/relatives by households for financing out-of-pocket hospitalization expenses is a matter of concern in a developing country like India where a large part of the population is not covered by any health insurance. The paper analyses changes in the incidence and correlates of distress financing for meeting hospitalization expenses between 2014 and 2017-18 — a period when the government-sponsored Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) was the major contributor of insurance coverage for the poor population. It uses two rounds of National Sample Survey data (71st: 2014 and 75th: 2017-18), separately and pooling them together. It is found that incidence of distress financing due to hospitalization episodes fell from 26.04 per cent in 2014 to 16.83 per cent in 2017-18. However, for both years, the burden of distress financing disproportionately falls on socially backward groups, those suffering from chronic ailments, having multiple hospitalization episodes and covered with government funded insurance programs. The 71st round (2014) and pooled data show higher incidence of distress financing among the poor having government sponsored insurance coverage as opposed to those having other insurance coverage. This clearly highlights the limitation of government sponsored schemes to financially protect the vulnerable households and calls for a redesigning of the government health insurance system for efficient targeting and better coverage.

Nandini Ghosh contributed a chapter titled 'Outside the Frame: Disabled women in Urban Spaces' in a volume titled *State, Community, Citizenship: Rewriting histories of gender* in the Book Series *Contemporary Issues in Social Science Research*, UGC-HRDC, Jadavpur University, in collaboration with Routledge India. She argues that the concept of citizenship has been highly contested, with debates highlighting criteria for membership and the enjoyment of civil, political and social rights. The state, in its welfare role, usually framed policies to promote and protect rights of all citizens. Yet, such policy has always benefited the male, upper caste, upper class healthy citizen, while ignoring the concerns of multiply marginalised groups. Women with disabilities are at the furthest margins of society, being completely antithetical to the prototype of the ideal citizen. Policies promoting urban development have focused on building infrastructure and promoting practices that privilege the prototypical citizen, brushing aside or ignoring the requirements of different groups. For women with disabilities, this has meant constraints on urban social life, based on restrictive built urban spaces, public amenities, discriminatory attitudes and barriers to accessing much required resources. This paper argues that invisibilisation of women with disabilities in Kolkata metropolis is achieved through infrastructural constraints – of roads, transport systems, housing, educational institutions, public amenities and spaces, which is the result of socio-cultural ideologies and concomitant policies that inhibit their access to different resources and end up in denial of rights. The paper uses case studies to illustrate disabled women's access to public spaces which affects their mobility, their limited and problematic access to higher education and the everyday discrimination that they face within urban, middle class families which affects their self and social development.

In 'Disparities in Childhood Stunting in an Underdeveloped State in India: An Investigation Applying Unconditional Quantile Regression Method' (*BMC Public Health*: 20, 1549: 1-21), **Saswata Ghosh**



(jointly with S.K. Sharma and D. Bhattacharya) discuss that unacceptably high rate of childhood stunting for decades remained a puzzle in the eastern Indian state of Bihar. Despite various programmatic interventions, nearly half of the under-five children (numerically about 10 million) are still stunted in this resource-constrained state. Using four successive rounds of National Family Health Survey (NFHS) data spread over more than two decades and by employing unconditional quantile regressions and counterfactual decomposition (QR-CD), the present study aims to assess effects of various endowments as well as returns to those endowments in disparities in childhood stunting over the period. The results show that although the child's height-for-age Z-scores (HAZ) disparity largely accounted for differing levels of endowments during the earlier decades, in the later periods, inadequate access to the benefits from various development programmes was also found responsible for HAZ disparities. Moreover, effects of endowments and their returns varied across quantiles. They argue that apart from equalizing endowments, ensuring adequate access to different nutrition-centric programmes is essential to lessen the burden of childhood stunting. The state must focus on intersectoral convergence of different schemes in the form of state nutrition mission, and, strengthen nutrition-centric policy processes and their political underpinnings to harness better dividend.

In 'Prevalence and Determinants of Consanguineous Marriage and its Types in India: Evidences from National Family Health Survey, 2015-16', (*Journal of Biosocial Science*, published online, 2020: 1-11), **Saswata Ghosh**, (jointly with his coauthors S.K. Sharma, M.A. Kalam and S. Ray) estimates the prevalence and examines the determinants of consanguineous marriage types in India. Data for 456,646 ever-married women aged 15–49 years were analysed from the National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-4 conducted in 2015–16. The overall prevalence of consanguineous marriage was 9.9%; the South region (23%) and North-East region (3.1%) showed the highest

and lowest prevalence, respectively. Muslims had a higher prevalence (15%) than Hindus (9%). The prevalence of first cousin marriage (8.7%) was more than that of second cousin (0.7%) and of uncle–niece marriages (0.6%). Women living in urban areas and in nuclear families, having a higher level of education and belonging to affluent families were less likely to marry their cousins ($p < 0.01$). Women living in the South region of the country were more likely to marry their cousins, as well as uncles ($p < 0.001$). Close scrutiny of the trends in the results (odds ratios) revealed no clear relationship between socioeconomic condition and consanguineous marriage. The study results suggest that religion and north–south regional dichotomy in culture largely determine consanguineous marriage rather than socioeconomic condition in India.

In "Change in the prevalence and determinants of consanguineous marriages in India between National Family Health Surveys of 1992-93 and 2015-2016" (*Human Biology*, 92 (2): 23-43), **Saswata Ghosh** (jointly with M.A. Kalam, S.K. Sharma, and S. Ray) aims to determine the changing prevalence of consanguineous marriage in India between two national-level surveys. The primary hypothesis was whether region of residence and religious affiliation continue to play a significant role in determining consanguineous marriage even after controlling other potentially significant confounding variables. Data from the 81,781 and 85,851 evermarried women during the National Family and Health Surveys (NFHS) survey periods 1992–1993 (NFHS-1) and 2015–2016 (NFHS-4), respectively, were used in the analysis. Multinomial and binary logistic regression analyses examined determinants of consanguineous marriage types and of paternal and maternal first-cousin marriages, respectively. In both analyses a systematic model-building procedure was adopted. Altogether, four models were estimated. In the final model (model 4) of both the analyses, all respondent background characteristics (region of residence, religious affiliation, sociodemographic, household wealth) and years of



survey were included. Although the overall prevalence of consanguineous marriage in India declined significantly (16%), it was not uniform across respondent background characteristics. They conclude that, despite significant development in the socioeconomic condition of India during the post-globalization era (beginning in 1992–1993), region of residence and religious affiliation continue to play significant role in determining consanguineous marriage.

In “Rural-urban fertility convergence, differential stopping behaviour and contraceptive-method-mix in West Bengal, India: A Spatiotemporal analysis” (*Journal of Family History*, 46(2): 211-235), **Saswata Ghosh** (with K. Das) attempts to understand how the interplay between differential stopping behaviour and contraceptive use dynamics may have resulted in the convergence of rural-urban fertility in West Bengal, India. Using data from the National Family Health Surveys and employing sequential logit regressions, they were able to confirm that differential stopping behaviour, particularly among the rural women—by adopting contraception at first parity after having a boy, or choosing modern methods over natural methods at second parity after having two successive boys—may be one of the factors that led to the rural-urban convergence of fertility.

In the edited book *Population Dynamics in Eastern India and Bangladesh: Demography, Health and Developmental Issues* (Springer Nature: Singapore 2020), **Saswata Ghosh** discusses with Aparajita Chattopadhyay that existing literature on demographic transition in Bangladesh and West Bengal is largely ahistorical and is generally afflicted with its narrow focus on isolated or immediate causes rather than taking an over-arching view of long-term changes. After all, language, religion and political history have been important determinants for shaping societies undergoing the transition. This book is unique in its approach, in culling research papers based on the two Bengals or generally based on the Bengali-speaking population, and

thereby throwing light on the historical and current demographic and development issues. This book highlights historical perspectives and current population issues of Bengali-speaking states of India (i.e. West Bengal, Tripura, Assam or eastern India) and Bangladesh. Earlier, this region as a whole was referred to as the Bengal province with parallel language, culture, behaviour and ideology. Such binding parameters still remain strong, cutting across the international border. This 'Bengali' space which is quite distinctive in its demographic and gender aspects is less explored by population scientists within any comparative analytical frame. Thus, the book explains the core population dynamics (fertility, mortality–morbidity, migration and development) of 'Greater Bengal', using latest data, case studies and experimental data of small areas. The aim of this book is to help reshaping and framing social, developmental and health policies and encouraging original research in general. This book encompasses historical demography, fertility, mortality, contraception, son preference, development and inequality, health and morbidity, nutrition, gender issues, migration, urbanization and environment of eastern India and Bangladesh. It can help understanding several issues that are less researched and have thus remained unanswered. The contributors of the chapters are mostly from India and Bangladesh. Some are well-known professionals of high repute; some are actively engaged in health practice, while others are budding researchers with new ideas and visions.

The volume contains a paper “Son Preference and Hindu-Muslim Fertility Differentials in 'ultra-low' Fertility Situation in Kolkata, India” (pp. 163-182) by **Saswata Ghosh** and **Nandini Ghosh**, in which they investigate son preference among Hindus and Muslims in the context of 'ultra-low' fertility by using of a small-scale survey in Kolkata, India. Higher son preference and lower daughter aversion among Muslims compared to the Hindus result in higher fertility among Muslims even in 'ultra-low' fertility situation at the aggregate level. The study also



found that among the Hindus, the son preference remains masked and co-opted through the acceptance of the daughter in the family, while in case of Muslims, the stated preference for sons is supported by a tolerance of the girl child, leading to larger families with greater numbers of daughters and sons. The paper further argues that fertility differentials according to religion (stemming from religious beliefs) could be due to differences in norms, values and attitudes towards fertility and could be contextually dependent.

Saswata Ghosh (jointly with S. K. Sharma, N. Das and A. Chattopadhyay) has contributed another paper to the volume, "Religion, Son Preference and Contraceptive Method-mix among Bengalis: A long view" (pp. 183-207). This paper attempts to throw light on communal notions of fertility and contraception. It highlights the use of contraceptive usage variation and differences among religious and regional groups. The issue of son preference is closely examined in the context of cross-border cultural flow. The cultural and linguistic similarity and geographical proximity of the two Bengals has resulted in son preference irrespective of religion and region. Such a preference, while mainly attitudinal, has persisted across time but has brought about changes in contraceptive behaviour. The findings of this study support the hypothesis posited earlier that minority status indeed influences fertility and contraceptive behaviour.

In 'Abused but 'Not Insulted': Understanding Intersectionality in Symbolic Violence in India' (IDSK Occasional Paper 72, 2020), **Simantini Mukhopadhyay** (jointly with Trisha Chanda) uses the fourth Round of the Indian National Family Health Survey to show that more than one-fourth of the women in India who have experienced spousal bodily violence say that they never felt insulted by the action of their husbands. The paper hypothesizes that this absence of the feeling of insult despite facing bodily violence indicates the presence of symbolic violence, which manifests through symbolic channels and cannot be realized without the complicity

of the victim. Feminist writing in India has argued that gender needs to be considered at its intersection with class and caste to understand how the control of female sexuality relates to the organization of production, sanctioned and legitimized by ideologies. Running instrumental variable probit regression, the paper finds that once the experience of bodily violence is controlled for, women from non-poor upper caste households are significantly less likely to have felt insulted, as compared to women from other social groups.

INDUSTRY, LABOUR, POLITICAL ECONOMY

In "Growth of the Firms and Investments in Innovations: An Empirical Investigation of the Indian Manufacturing Industry" (*Journal of Quantitative Economics*, published online 2020) **Indrani Chakraborty** (jointly with Sukhdeep Singh) investigate the effect of the growth in R&D on firms' growth (measured by growth in sales) in the Indian manufacturing industry during 1995–2017. As R&D strategy and outcomes of the firms may be different in developing countries than the developed ones, a study of developing economy should be an important addition to the literature which has earlier focussed mainly on developed countries. Panel ARDL model has been used to empirically test the relationship between growth and R&D investments. It helps to identify the short-run as well as the long-run association between growth in R&D and sales. For testing the robustness of their findings, they have also applied the Panel VAR method. Panel VAR provides the empirical evidence without assuming a priori direction of causality between the growth of R&D and sales. The overall results from both the econometric techniques point out that the growth of investment in innovations has a positive yet weak/limited effect on the growth of firms in the Indian manufacturing industry. However, a separate analysis of the manufacturing sub-sectors indicates that the association between the two variables is relatively stronger in case of the sub-sectors which have experienced rising R&D intensity than those where it has remained stagnant. Another important



finding is that there exists two-way causality among R&D growth and sales growth in the overall manufacturing industry, as well as in the sub-sectors with rising R&D intensity. Nevertheless, among the sub-sectors with stagnant R&D intensity, R&D growth does not Granger-cause sales growth, whereas sales growth leads to the growth of R&D investments.

Supurna Banerjee's paper 'State in Industrial Relations: Neoliberal Interventions or Intervening in Neoliberalism' (*The Indian Journal of Labour Economics*, published online, 2020) argues that the literature on industrial relations highlights the gradual subordination of nation-specific IR system under conditions of globalisation. The literature, however, pays scant attention to the role of the state in IR framework, an important omission in the context of transitional economies with a legacy of state intervention. This paper examines the changing role of the state and through this seeks to theoretically conceptualise state behaviour in IR. Based on the five planks of wage determination, work and employment condition, collective bargaining, dispute resolution and welfare provision, she critically examines the role of the state and locate it in the spectrum from statist to neoliberal. The case study is based on the study of post-liberalization West Bengal, a left governed sub-national state of India. The role of the state has multiple dimensions and cannot be subject to a singular categorisation.

In 'Solidarities in and through resistance: Rethinking Alliance-building through protests in plantations in India' (*Moving the Social: Journal of Social History and the history of social movements* 63. SI: Cross Movement Mobilisation-Perspectives from the global north and south, 2020), **Supurna Banerjee** points out that the tea plantations of Dooars in West Bengal, India are among the primary tea growing belts in the country. The 2000s saw a crisis in the plantation sector with the closing down of some of the plantations and curtailed operation in others coupled with traditionally low wages in the sector.

The paper uses this moment of crisis of both livelihood to interrogate resistance and solidarity. Focussing on three protests — one organised by trade unions, another by social movement organisation and the third by the women workers of the plantation, the paper looks to understand the divergences and convergences between the three. It asks, how are intersectional alliances formed and what part of one's identity is foregrounded in such alliances? Who owns protest movements? How does language of protests differ across such protests? How does the neo-liberal state interact with such challenges to its authority? Social movement literature tends to focus on how professional activists create coalitions to strengthen movements. Through the ethnography of the three protests, this article suggests ways in which activists are also produced by movements. It asks can collective actions energized through affective bonds achieve ends which institutional social arrangements are constrained from striving for?

In 'Intergroup Disparities in Growing Economies: India among the BRICS' in B.P. Abraham and P. Ray (Eds) *BRICS: The Quest for Inclusive Growth* (Volume 1 of the Series 'The Political Economy of the BRICS Countries'), World Scientific, 2020, **Achin Chakraborty** and **Simantini Mukhopadhyay** argue that in spite of the renewed interest in the problem of inequality across the world in recent years, discussions on inequalities based on ethnic, racial or caste groups have been less visible than general or inter-personal inequality. On the contrary, there has been a growing scholarly interest in assessing inequalities between the social groups (Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and others) in India in the past two decades or so. Even though a common characteristic of all the BRICS countries now is that the degree of inequality in interpersonal income distribution is rather high, Brazil stands out as it has experienced a decline in inequality in the past two decades unlike others. In this paper their focus is on inequality between groups, rather than interpersonal inequality as the former is less discussed in the context of BRICS. While the



interrelationship between economic development and economic inequality has long been explored by economists, and the earlier belief in an inverted U-shape between the two has been questioned in the light of extensive cross-country data for longer periods, there is very little analytical exploration into what might happen to intergroup inequality in course of rapid economic development. In this paper, they first assess changes in measured inequalities between social groups in India in both income and non-income dimensions. In the process they re-examine some of the issues in measurement of inter-group inequality, which helps them relook into inter-group disparities in other BRICS countries as well. Finally, they try to relate changing inter-personal and inter-group inequality to the fact that some of these countries have been growing at a much faster rate compared to others in the developed world.

GEOPOLITICS, RIGHTS

In 'Geopolitical Imperatives in Eastern Himalayas: Situating the Hills of Darjeeling' (*Millennial Asia*, Vol.XII, No.1, 2021), **Gorky Chakraborty** (jointly with Biswanath Saha) argues that scholarly discourses involving the peripheral regions often look through the binary lenses of 'identity' and 'development', which are then ascribed as the root causes, leading to the emergence of political movements in these regions. Analogies emanating from such visions entrapped solely on development deficit fall short in dealing with the interplay and intersections of history, geography and politics related to such regions. The analysis concerning the Gorkhaland Movement also seems to be trapped within such an explanatory binary of 'identity' and 'development'. This article attempts to situate the hills of Darjeeling, where the movement is located, into a less discussed framework of geopolitics that not only politicizes the geographies of the Eastern Himalayas but also historicizes the communities and their aspirations as a response to the manoeuvrings by the concerned states. Within such a framework, the discussion revolves around how the colonial geopolitics

of migration, has been succinctly carried forward by the post-colonial state in shaping its notions related to the hills of Darjeeling.

Gorky Chakraborty writes on 'The Changing 'Continuities': Understanding Northeast India under Globalisation' (in V. Srinivas Rao (ed.) *Tribal Integration in India: Northeast and Beyond*, Rawat Publication, 2021). He argues that regions, as the primary units of development, have continued to draw attention of scholars, in both liberal and neo liberal era albeit with varying perspectives. While under liberalism, it has been bounded by the nation state paradigm, the neo-liberal times have facilitated an interpretation largely pivoted on the imperatives of capital, thereby aspiring to move beyond the boundedness of the liberal era. Regions, as a result, are imagined as supra-national entities. This somehow have aspired people, communities and population groups, who had 'lost' their touch and connectivity with their lived or imagined past and people, due to the interplay of several factors during the liberal period, to reconnect themselves. The paper situates such a framework within the context of Northeast India, a region where a number of population groups have experienced 'ruptures' with their ethnic self and aspire to reconnect as the state liberalises to showcase globalisation. The likelihood under such an emerging scenario is discussed in this paper. In such a process it also highlights the epistemological gaps in interpretation between the state and capital on one hand, and the communities on the other, on resources, land, territoriality and the 'region' in its historical continuity.

THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

IDSK organized a series of lectures on various dimensions of the COVID-19 pandemic. Some of these were published online as a Special Series on COVID-19, available on the website of the institute. Faculty members also wrote extensively on different aspects of the pandemic in various other platforms.



The paper 'Revisiting Gender Inequalities in India in Times of a Pandemic' (IDSK, May 2020) by **Simantini Mukhopadhyay** and **Supurna Banerjee** interrogates the understanding of COVID-19 as a great leveller. While there has been much packaging of the higher susceptibility of men to the virus, the paper seeks to dig deeper than mortality figures to understand the gendered impacts of the pandemic in India. Using secondary data and reports available the paper explores five key areas to predict the costs to be borne by different groups from the crisis. First, the economic impact of the crisis is likely to be more severe for women, who will be subjected to greater poverty and insecurities of employment and lesser incomes and savings. Second, due to reorientation of health policy, women are likely to suffer from sub-optimal allocation of funds for reproductive and sexual health. Third, women have to face the disproportionate burden of unpaid carework and housework during the pandemic, particularly with lockdowns being enforced. Fourth, there have been reports of increased gender-based violence from different parts of the country during the current pandemic. Help-seeking may be particularly difficult for the women with restricted mobility and with the abuser staying at home. Fifth, all these effects mutually reinforce each other in fragile and conflict-ridden settings facing emergencies and pose further challenges to the realization of women's rights. The gendered fallout of the pandemic calls for an urgent need for graded gendered response of policies which recognize the unequal cost that women bear in such pandemics. Further, such policies also need to be intersectional in acknowledging specific ways in which class, caste, religion among other things effect the ways in which the pandemic plays out in people's lives.

In 'Vulnerability of Major Indian States Due to COVID 19-Spread and Lockdown' (IDSK, June 2020), **Subrata Mukherjee**, Priyanka Dasgupta, Monalisha Chakraborty, Gopal Biswas and Soumi Mukherjee argue that 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 state governments 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. The major Indian states found to be with higher volume of risky population are Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Telangana, Odisha and Punjab. The states which would probably face relatively greater challenges in dealing with large hospitalisation cases if the disease is spread to its risky population are Odisha and Madhya Pradesh if their current institutional medical capacity is not improved significantly. When they 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.

In 'Impact of Covid-19 on stock market, foreign capital inflows and firms with special reference to MSME sector in India' (IDSK, July 2020) **Indrani Chakraborty** reflects on the current state of affairs in the stock market, inflows



of FDI and the MSME sector in India, following the outbreak of COVID-19. Following the declaration of COVID-19 as a 'pandemic' on March 11, 2020 by WHO, the Indian stock market crashed heavily on the next day. This was primarily due to net outflows of foreign institutional investment (FII). While most of the sectors would go through adverse experience due to COVID-19, there are sectors where the negative impact could be low due to low negative demand shock or a strong balance sheet of firms. She contends that the direction of sector-wise movement in FII flows signals which sectors will grow or shrink in the coming years. Analysing daily data from March 2, 2020 to May 22, 2020, she observes that FII flows 'Granger causes' stock market performance, measured by closing price and market capitalization. She also observes from the analysis of Impulse Response Functions that the effect of external shock on FII has destabilizing impact on the closing price of BSE Sensex till the next 10 days. She also discusses the possibility of 'herding' by the foreign institutional investors following the current volatility in the stock market. Another concern relates to the arbitrage activity in the stock market which is likely to increase due to the heavy downfall in the stock market. As a result, the short selling by arbitrageurs will increase which may destabilize the stock market further. In India, as stocks experienced sharp falls in the wake of the COVID-19 outbreak, SEBI imposed a ban on short selling since March 23 in an attempt to stabilise the market and maintain investor confidence. However, the effectiveness of the ban on short-selling remains a contested issue. Next, she shows that the inflows of FDI would have been negatively affected due to the outbreak of COVID-19 as well as the changes in the FDI policy on April 17, 2020. Many Indian companies, especially the Indian start-up companies would be adversely affected due to these changes in FDI policies, which are mainly dependent on Chinese FDI. Finally, she focuses on the impact of COVID-19 on the MSME sector. India's exports are directly or indirectly dependent on MSME sector and the sector is likely to be severely affected if the pandemic continues for a longer period. MSMEs are dependent on

the banks and financial institutions in order to meet their financing needs. The relationship between the banks and MSMEs involves asymmetric information and lack of adequate information leads to credit rationing. The most important challenge that the banks face is to acquire information about the credit risk of MSMEs. Following the German system of promoting small and medium enterprises (SMEs), she has proposed a framework to set up a credit guarantee scheme to finance the MSMEs through banks, during the period of current crisis following the pandemic. Her analyses would help the government and policy makers to take actions for the long-term recovery of the economy from the crisis.

In 'Optimum Testing Strategy for COVID-19 and Its Effect on Health Expenditure in India: An Experience of the Initial 155 Days of the Pandemic' (*The Indian Economic Journal*, published online 2020), **Saswata Ghosh** (with A.K. Das and A. Yadav) pointed out that India gradually increased its testing capacity of COVID-19 by mid-September 2020. However, the level of testing was substantially low in comparison with many high- and middle-income countries. Evidently, the pandemic in India was likely to be prolonged and affect millions in comparison to other countries, due to its huge population size. They discussed that the possibility of a sudden upsurge of infections might turn overwhelming, jeopardising the health system, if an appropriate testing policy was not immediately adopted, given that the public health expenditure capacity of India had remained at a suboptimal level. Against this backdrop, a descriptive analysis was carried out using the published data of the number of infections, tests and daily COVID-19 cases and public health expenditure data published by different sources and available in the public domain. The analysis suggested that a differential strategy was required to deal with the situation, which varied across states and depended upon the health spending capacity of individual states and their population size, among other factors. The specific strategy recommendations were as follows. First, the testing rate should not be too high or too



low, and this could be assessed using a marker: marginal return on testing. Second, India should follow the upper-middle-income-country standard in assessing the testing rate. Third, as a long-term strategy, there was a need to strengthen the public health system to avert a future catastrophe in the form of such pandemic.

Saswata Ghosh (with Z. Husain and A.K. Das) asks, “Did the National Lockdown Lock COVID-19 Down in India, and Reduce Pressure on Health Infrastructure?”, medRxiv (<https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.05.27.20115329v1>). He argues that the spread of COVID-19 in India has posed a major challenge for policy makers. Policy response in form of imposition of a prolonged national lockdown has imposed substantial costs on the entire population. But the extent to which it has contained the spread of the epidemic needs to be assessed. We use an Interrupted Time Series model to assess the success of lockdowns in containing COVID-19. In the second step, we use four variants of the SIR models to develop a counterfactual—what would have happened without the lockdown. These results are compared with actual data. The analysis is undertaken for India, and Maharashtra, Gujarat, Delhi, and Tamil Nadu. Lockdown has reduced the number of COVID-19 cases by 23.65 to 337.73 lakh in Class I cities and towns, where COVID has mainly spread. It has averted about 0.01 to 0.10 lakh deaths. At the regional level, however, lockdown has averted a health crisis as existing ICU and ventilator facilities for critically ill patients would have been inadequate. Overall, the results for three of the four models reveal that lockdown has a modest impact on spread of COVID-19; the health infrastructure at the national level is not overstrained, even at the peak. At the regional level, on the other hand, lockdowns may have been justified. However, given that identification of new cases is limited by levels of daily testing that are low even by Asian standards, analysis based upon official data may have limitations and result in flawed decisions.

Nandini Ghosh writes on 'Fragmented Realities of the

Pandemic: the multiple marginalities of Disabled People in India' (in Rohit Dasgupta, Paul Boyce and Niharika Banerjee (Eds) *COVID Assemblages: Queer and Feminist ethnographies from South Asia*, Routledge India 2020). The paper points out that the corona pandemic, with implications for widespread disease and death, has necessitated country wide lockdowns. The public health messaging around the pandemic has stirred strong emotions like fear and anxiety among all people, along with stress and depression as a consequence of forced social isolation. For people already living at different levels of social isolation due to age and/or disability, the pandemic and perceptions of risk, and the lockdown with the phased limitations within communities, signified both anxiety and stress due to the constraints of social isolation and the imperatives of social distancing. This paper attempts to explore everyday lived experiences of persons with disabilities during the pandemic and subsequent lockdown, by privileging the voices of marginalized individuals. Using the broader framework of feminist ethnography, the paper illuminates the ways in which intersectional marginal identities, constructed on the basis of 'othered' bodies, experience and survive the pandemic, in an increasingly politicized ableist culture. While the fear of contagion invades communities and countries, the paper shows the ways in which disabled people from intersectional identities engage in daily life activities, manoeuvre care and caregivers, families and community relationships. Within this, the variation within the category of disability lends itself to differences of experiences, and implicates both within and cross category hierarchies.

Gorky Chakraborty discusses (with Abraham Samuel and K.J. Joy) 'Emerging Governmentality and Biopolitics of Covid 19 in India' (*Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 55, No. 37 2020). He argues that the novel coronavirus, popularly known as COVID-19, first observed in Wuhan, China in December 2019, spread swiftly throughout the world, affecting life and society in an unprecedented manner. Although the virus has infested only a fraction of



the human population, both globally and within India, the pandemic can be ascribed as a “total social fact” due to its influence both at individual and collective levels. However, most of the consequences appear not as a direct outcome of the pandemic itself, but shaped more by the response of nations and governments. In other words, it emerges from the governmentality associated with the pandemic, which thereby becomes an important area for analysis. Measures like disciplining and quarantining are associated with the governments' extraordinary powers during unprecedented times. In this context, the biopolitics of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic is discussed. When the steps taken by the government to contain the spread of coronavirus are failing, we need new imageries to tackle the challenges that lie ahead of us.

In 'A Novel Virus, a New Racial Slur' in (*India and the Pandemic: The First Year, Essays from the India Forum*, Orient Black Swan, Hyderabad 2020) **Gorky Chakraborty** (with Naorem Pushparani Chanu) argues that epidemics, otherwise biological processes, carries cultural overtones too, often generating racial prejudices by constructing the perceived carrier individuals and communities as the 'other' who are then sought to be excluded from 'sanitised' spaces. Othering, thereby becomes a potent tool during pandemics in calibrating relations amongst individuals and communities within a society. The paper looks into such a process during the ongoing pandemic in relation to the North East outmigrants who inhabit in various parts of India. As they migrate to new destinations in 'mainland' India, they are exposed to newer social spaces. Consequently, adjustment and adaptation becomes buzz words for co-existence, a complex process dependent on both the migrants and locals in these host societies. Now, as the migrants are culturally and racially distinct, they are more exposed to social challenges in terms of language, food habits, attire and life styles vis-à-vis others in the host

societies. These differences along with their Mongoloid phenotypes attract unwanted gaze, often leading to prejudices, stereotypes, and presumptions about their personalities. Moreover, lack of cultural understanding among a major section of the India's 'mainland-mainstream' societies makes them interpret any differences through a racial lens. It creates unseen borders, which are more felt than visualised, often embedded in racial undertones. The paper discusses the experiences of the NEI outmigrants at different places in India during the COVID-19.

Supurna Banerjee looks into 'Skill, Informality and Work in Pandemic Times: Insights from India' (in A. Eckert and F Hentschke (ed.) *Corona and Work around the Globe*, De Gruyter, 2020). She discusses how at the sudden announcement of lockdown in March 2020 in the wake of the pandemic, the informal workers unprotected by any social security measures fell into destitution. Many had to try their hand in other kinds of work in which they had no training. Through follow up interviews with such informal workers across sectors, the chapter traces what this further deskilling meant for the already precariat and burgeoning informal work in India. In a second paper, 'Community spaces in India: Constructing solidarity in pandemic times' (in G. Pleyers and B. Bringel (eds.) *Social Movements and Politics in a Global Pandemic: Crisis, Solidarity and Change*, Bristol University Press 2020), Supurna Banerjee argues that the pandemic and the resultant need for isolation has posed several obstacles on organising resistance. This short chapter looks at such challenges to solidarity building. Instead of focussing on big movements, the chapter trains its eyes on several local grassroots initiatives across India which are aimed not just at relief but in creating an alternate space of solidarity and resistance against an insensitive state system. It also looks at how historically pandemics have been seen to provide challenges to despotic and undemocratic governance.

3

Sponsored Research Projects

A. Assessment of Informal Economy Workers' and Economic Units' Behaviour Regarding Health Care Insurance

This ILO-sponsored project in collaboration with Institute of Human Development (IHD), New Delhi aims to analyze the potential of upscaling ESIS services for health insurance inclusion of economic units and workers in the informal sector for mitigating the health burden on households. For this, the objective of the study is to understand the needs and behaviour of informal workers and informal economic units with regard to health insurance. The focus is on those who are currently eligible for ESIS (but not covered) as well as those who are not eligible but has the capacity to contribute, while keeping in mind gender needs and differences in health vulnerabilities and outcomes. The study is being conducted in four states, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Kerala and West Bengal.

The study in West Bengal is conducted by the Institute of Development Studies (IDSK) in collaboration with Institute of Human Development (IHD), New Delhi. The survey began in the beginning of 2020, but had to be abandoned after completion of the survey in Kolkata, due to Covid and lockdown. Subsequently, telephonic interviews were conducted among the respondents of the earlier survey, the results of which were submitted to the ILO as an interim report. Subsequently, as lockdown eased, the survey in the remaining districts of Bardhaman, Hooghly and Howrah was completed in March 2021. In these districts certain Census Enumeration Blocks (CEBs) were chosen based on the number of enterprises in these blocks. Within these enumeration blocks enterprises and workers who are not covered under ESIS are surveyed. Additionally, qualitative data in terms of Case Studies and Focused Group Discussions are also being collected. The data collection has been completed.



The data is being analyzed for submission to ILO and subsequent publication of papers.

B. Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in the Primary Health Care System

The ICSSR funded project coordinated by Dr. Nandini Ghosh will try to understand the different ways in which disabled people are included within the primary health care system at the block level, and the benefits that disabled people are able to access for both their general health needs as well as their impairment related requirements. This project aims to cover one district in three eastern states of India. Till date completed desk review of the literature and data and have started establishing connections for data collection in the 3 states have been completed.

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

Sponsored by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), the project started in April 2018 with Bidhan Kanti Das and Soutrik Basu of IDSK as Coordinators. 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 is in progress, which started initially with studying various documents such as various reports, policy documents, policy briefs that are published by the government of India and government of West Bengal to know in detail various aspects of Sagar Island. Using Remote Sensing and Geographic Information System (RS & GIS) and Census data an Environmental Vulnerability Map (EVM) has been created. We are also in the process of creating a Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) for which primary data collection has been carried out in several villages. Two rounds of field work were carried out in August 2018 and in September 2018 in two Sagar islands – Dhablat and Sibpur. These two villages are adjacent to each other and located in the south-east of the island. The field work in other two villages where people are mostly engaged in fishing has already been completed. The basic idea is to get an idea of livelihood strategies among the people of diverse socioeconomic background in climate induced disaster. What are the resilient behaviours people adopt and how? Who succeed and who don't, and why? Some tasks like in-depth interviews and focus group discussion remain to be conducted. The report is expected to be completed by July 2020.

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

This study sponsored by Asiatic Society and coordinated by Bidhan Kanti Das traces 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. It tries to explore whether development inputs facilitate integration or it promotes exclusion. This work may provide fresh recipe for 'exclusion and inclusion' debate. The analysis of development inputs has already been processed following the analytical framework of Sam Hickey and du Toit's 'Adverse incorporation and social exclusion' (2007) in explaining persistent poverty. It also focuses on power dynamics among the PVTGs and adjoining tribal communities in terms development intervention and social relations. An understanding of the dynamics and consequences of development intervention can help in formulating sensible policies that can help poor and structurally marginalized people.

The field level data collection on the experiences of getting development inputs and 'felt' experiences and perception of the Lodha community as well as perception of other communities in addition to other household issues, has already been done in some selected villages of Jhargram, Binpur I, Binpur II and Nayagram blocks of Jhargram district and Midnapore sadar and Narayanganr blocks of Midnapore district. Some open-ended questions to the concerned administrative authorities were framed to understand state responses about the community. Focus group discussions were planned among the identified groups to get idea about the meaning of development, development inputs, perceptions about their own community and other neighbouring communities. However, this part of the field work could not be completed due to COVID pandemic since March 2020. Transcription of some in-depth interviews and case studies has already been completed. Analysis of household level data is in progress.

E. Can Peer and Neighbourhood Effects Improve Maternal Health Outcomes in Rural Bihar? : Assessing the Role of Formal and Informal Networks

This project is sponsored by the International Growth

Centre (IGC), London School of Economics and Political Science. Dr. Saswata Ghosh of IDSK along with Professors Mousumi Dutta and Zakir Husain are the investigators of the project.

Bihar is a state with a long history of poor maternal health indicators. At the onset of the National Rural Health Mission (subsequently expanded to cover urban areas and renamed as National Health Mission) in 2005, Bihar was listed as one of the High Focus states, and special attention was paid on improving health indicators. Data from the latest round of Demographic Health Survey indicates that such attempts have not been successful. Policy intervention is hampered by low levels of education and awareness, low empowerment levels of women, and a caste-based frissures within society. Consequently, efforts to improve the maternal health outcomes in Bihar have not been very successful. This policy need motivated the proposed study.

Recent studies in public health have stressed the role of networks in modifying health care seeking behaviour by disseminating information. Studies have established that social relationships can have a significant positive impact on physical and mental health outcomes. Peer and neighbourhood effects can amplify the impact and outreach of existing intervention strategies. In particular, social networks can play a crucial role among poor households in developing countries, for whom the adoption of health products and services often remains sub-optimally low, as peers, kin and neighbours often represent the only source of information on which decision making is based. The proposed study starts with the presumption that social networks can be utilised to disseminate information about good practices, thereby encouraging optimal maternal health seeking behaviour and improving maternal health outcomes. The research questions are: (1) What are the attributes of social networks that encourage health outcomes? (2) What is the mechanism through which social networks modify decision-making and behaviour? (3) Do networks play a more important role in families where the male members



are absent due to migrationfi

The study will employ mixed methods — that is, an effective mix of quantitative and qualitative research. The quantitative data will be collected on the basis of a primary survey to be undertaken in Bihar. In the qualitative part of our survey, we will undertake one focus group discussion (FGD) in each block. In addition, we will visualize networks and analyze their nature. We will disseminate our findings after completion of analysis. Meetings will be held in Patna, with state-level officials and local think tanks. In addition, we will also hold meetings in each district headquarters with local level officials and SHG/MFI members. The objective will be to disseminate results, obtain feedback from all stakeholders, and seek to improve service delivery mechanism by embedding lessons from the survey into existing service delivery models.

F. Herself, and Her Child: How Worse Off are They? Impact of COVID-19 in Rural Bihar

This is an IGC funded survey on maternal and child health outcomes in six districts of rural Bihar commenced during January-March 2020. Dr. Saswata Ghosh of IDSK along with Professors Mousumi Dutta and Zakir Husain,

Presidency University are the investigators of the project. The survey had collected information on the socio-economic characteristics of women with children aged below 36 months, and also on the dietary practices of the women and her children. After the lockdown was withdrawn, a re-survey was made on a sub-sample of these women (1148 respondents, spreading around six districts in Bihar) in October-November 2020 over the telephone, seeking information on dietary practices during the lockdown. Information on the frequency of consumption of eight major food groups for women, and their youngest child was also gathered.

G. "Intersectional Inequalities in Agriculture-Nutrition Pathways in India"

Simantini Mukhopadhyay received the SPANDAN Grant funded by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and awarded by IGIDR, India. This study intends to look into the role of agriculture in improving nutritional outcomes of women and children throughout the social spectrum, focusing on the intersections of different axes of social power such as class and caste. Interim workshop to be held in April 2021, book chapter to be submitted by September 2021.

4

Collaborations

1. 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 continues to be conferred by the University of Calcutta (CU), but the nodal department from the CU side is now the Department of Economics. The Advisory Committee comprises the faculty representatives of IDSK and different departments of CU.

2. Institute of Human Development (IHD), New Delhi

IDSK has collaborated with IHD to conduct a study on Assessment of Informal Economy Workers' and Economic Units' Behaviour Regarding Health Care Insurance, the details of which have been given in the section on Research Projects. Subhanil Chowdhury is coordinating the study.

3. Collaboration with researchers from other institutions

IDSK faculty	Collaborated with	Affiliation
Achin Chakraborty	Claudine Burton-Jeangros, Stéphane Cullati, Stefan Sieber	Department of Sociology, University of Geneva
Saswata Ghosh	Zakir Husain, Mousumi Dutta	Department of Economics, Presidency University
	Subho Roy	Dept of Anthropology, University of Calcutta



IDSK faculty	Collaborated with	Affiliation
Simantini Mukhopadhyay	Claudine Burton-Jeangros, Stéphane Cullati, Stefan Sieber	Department of Sociology, University of Geneva
Subrata Mukherjee	Jean-Fredric Levesque	Agency for Clinical Innovation, New South Wales Government, Australia
Supurna Banerjee	Lauren Wilks	School of Social and Political Science, University of Edinburgh

5

Conferences / Workshops / Seminars

Examining Gendered Violence in India

The three-day virtual conference held from 24 to 26 February 2021 was organised to examine questions around gendered violence in India both at the domestic and the more public sites. In India violence is in fact constitutive of gendered relations of institutional patriarchy naturalizing assumptions of toxic masculinity, women as property of men, division of labour naturalizing and invisibilizing women's unpaid work and the inequality between men and women within such settings. Figures on violence against women in India, both in the domestic and the non-domestic spaces have not moved in tandem with other indicators of gender parity, such as female literacy and maternal mortality in India. The conference began with a keynote address by Prof Tanika Sarkar who speak on the practice of sati and the role of laws, conventions and public opinion around this practice illustrating the structurally embedded nature of violence within Indian society and polity. The special lecture by Prof Ashwini Deshpande highlighted how the pandemic had impacted a variety of spheres including not just questions of violence but also paid and unpaid work. The third special lecture by Professor Padmini Swaminathan revisited violence in questions of development from a gender lens. The other presentations ranged over a variety of aspects of violence from violence and trauma of partition to crimes against women based on NCRB data. There were discussions around intersectionality in questions of domestic violence too both in its understanding by survivors of violence and of its absence in the law which then left out marginalized communities from its field. The conference ended with a panel discussion on examining gendered violence in public spaces which covered issues of trafficking, social bias in India's response to rape as well as forms of gendered violence in the North-



East). The virtual conference was coordinated by Simantini Mukhopadhyay and Supurna Banerjee.

Workshop on Quantitative Methods using R & Python

IDSK organized a five-day workshop on 'Quantitative Methods for Development Studies using R & Python' during 1-5 March 2021. The week-long workshop, coordinated by Subrata Mukherjee and Subhanil Chowdhury was intended for the researchers in Development Studies and other branches of social sciences (Economics, Political Science, Sociology,

Anthropology etc) having a strong quantitative component in their ongoing research work and interested in improving their skills in Quantitative Methods using R and Python. Apart from six faculty members from IDSK, three experts from outside IDSK (Dr William Joe from Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi, Dr Md Zakaria Siddiqui from Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation, Thiruvananthapuram and Dr Ishan Anand from Jindal Global Law School, OP Jindal Global University, Sonipat) participated as resource persons in the workshop.

Webinars by IDSK Faculty & Visiting Scholars

Date	Speaker	Title
23 May 2020	Simantini Mukhopadhyay and Supurna Banerjee Assistant Professors, IDSK	<i>Revisiting Gender Inequalities in India in Times of a Pandemic</i>
5 June 2020	Subrata Mukherjee Associate Professor, IDSK	<i>Vulnerability of Major Indian States due to Covid 19 Spread and Lockdown</i>
12 June 2020	Zakir Husain , Professor, Economics Department, Presidency University, Arup Kumar Das , Deputy Director, Research, M&E and Learning, LEHS WISH Foundation and Saswata Ghosh , Associate Professor, IDSK	<i>Did the National Lockdown Lock COVID-19 down in India, and Reduce Pressure on Health Infrastructure</i>
19 June 2020	Nandini Ghosh Assistant Professor, IDSK	<i>Covid 19 Pandemic and Persons with Disabilities in India</i>
26 June 2020	Subhanil Chowdhury Assistant Professor, IDSK	<i>Pandemic and the Indian Economy: Analyzing the Policy Responses</i>
3 July 2020	Indrani Chakraborty Professor, IDSK	<i>Impact of Covid-19 on Stock Market, Foreign Capital Inflows and Firms with Special Reference to MSME Sector in India</i>
17 July 2020	Gorky Chakraborty Associate Professor, IDSK and Naorem Pushparani Chanu , PhD fellow, IDSK	<i>'Corona': Virus as Identity!</i>



Date	Speaker	Title
24 July 2020	Mallarika Sarkar Das Faculty, Department of Sociology, University of Calcutta	<i>The Vulnerability of Elderly People During the Covid-19 Pandemic: Going Beyond Medical Risk</i>
31 July 2020	Soumyajit Chakraborty Research Scholar, Economics, University of New Mexico, USA	<i>Learning Disruption, Digital Divide, and COVID-19 Measures in India</i>
14 August 2020	Ritajyoti Bandyopadhyay Assistant Professor, IISER, Mohali	<i>Economic Informality and Democracy at the Time of Covid-19</i>
21 August 2020	Avipsu Halder, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Calcutta	<i>State, Market and Globalization of Indian Cricket</i>
4 September 2020	Pinaki Chakraborty Chief, Social Policy, UNICEF, Chennai and Professor (on leave), NIPFP	<i>Centre State Fiscal Relations in Covid Context: Some Observations</i>
11 September 2020	Anwesha Sengupta Assistant Professor, IDSK	<i>Implementing Partition in India and Pakistan: Assets, Infrastructures and Population</i>
18 September 2020	Zico Dasgupta Post-doctoral Fellow, Azim Premji University	<i>Income Distribution and Effective Demand in the Indian Economy</i>
25 September 2020	Rajib Sutradhar Assistant Professor, Economics, Christ University	<i>Farmers Bill: A Roadblock to an Inclusive and Sustainable Agri-food Value Chain</i>
16 October 2020	K.R. Shyam Sundar Professor, HRM Area, XLRI Jamshedpur	<i>Labour Codes and Other Reforms in India: Aggressive Labour Flexibility Takes Formal Shape</i>
20 October 2020	Nanak Kakwani Visiting Professor, Economics, China Institute for Income Distribution, Beijing Normal University, China	<i>The Linkage between Shared Prosperity, Labour Markets and Social Programs Explained</i>
29 January 2021	Debolina Biswas Assistant Professor, Economics, Gurudas College	<i>Political Economy of Inequality of Rural Bengal in Post Reform Period: Development or Proletarianization?</i>
5 February 2021	Nikita Sud Associate Professor, Development Studies, University of Oxford	<i>People, Land and Politics in an Agrarian Struggle</i>
19 February 2021	L.N. Venkataraman Asst. Professor, TERI School of Advanced Studies	<i>The Social Construction of Capabilities in a Tamil Village</i>
26 March 2021	Nandini Oza President, Oral History Association of India	<i>Oral Histories of the Narmada Struggle: Experiences and Insights</i>

6

Academic Programmes

PHD IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

As a 'sister institute' of the University of Calcutta, IDSK has been 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 Research Advisory Committee set up by the Vice Chancellor of CU, comprising Professors Rachana Chakraborty (University of Calcutta) as Convenor, Manabi Majumder (formerly of Centre for Studies in Social Sciences), Anjan Chakrabarti (University of Calcutta), Rajarshi Majumdar (University of Burdwan), and Achin Chakraborty (IDSK). Currently 26 students are enrolled in the programme who are at various stages of completion of their research.

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. Following the directive of the University Grants Commission, MPhil in Development Studies will not continue after completion of the 2020-21 programme in December 2021.

7

Student Dissertations

ON-GOING M.PHIL DISSERTATIONS (2020-21)

Name of Student	Title of Dissertation	Supervisor(s)
Atriya Dey	<i>Urban Restructuring and the Spatial Organisation of Social Relations in Post reform India: A Case Study of Rajarhat New Town</i>	Achin Chakraborty
Chanadana Singh	<i>Access to School Education and Dropout Among Tribal Girls in West Bengal: A Case Study of Oraon Tribe of Alipurduar District</i>	Subrata Mukherjee
Dipak Chakraborty	<i>Tarashankar Bandyopadhyay: The Making of a Literary-Intellectual Life and the Twentieth Century</i>	Anwesha Sengupta
Manotosh Gayen	<i>Understanding Forest-based livelihood system: A case study of Sundarban Biosphere Reserve, West Bengal</i>	Bidhan Kanti Das
Rajinder Singh	<i>Land and Agrarian Relations in Punjab</i>	Subhanil Chowdhury
Raktim Majumder	<i>Barred Zones and Licenses: An Enquiry into the Institutionalisation of Spaces in Sundarban</i>	Gorky Chakraborty
Reza Kaushar	<i>Nutritional Status Among Adult Women in India: Evidence from NFHS (2,3,4) Round Data</i>	Saswata Ghosh
Said Mamun	<i>Barriers to Post-Secondary Science Education – A Study of West Bengal</i>	Achin Chakraborty
Somasree Biswas	<i>Dynamics of Dalit-Muslim Discourse: Relevance of Jogendranath Mandal's Ideology in Contemporary Politics in India</i>	Achin Chakraborty Anwesha Sengupta



Name of Student	Title of Dissertation	Supervisor(s)
Somik Roy Chowdhury	<i>Analysing the Narratives on Citizenship in India: Situating the Outsider' in India</i>	Gorky Chakraborty
Suchandra Bhaduri	<i>Creating Disability as a Category in India: A historical Review</i>	Nandini Ghosh
Swaraj Guria	<i>Exploring Work Experiences of Persons with Disability; A Case Study in 24 Parganas (s)</i>	Nandini Ghosh Bidhan Kanti Das
Payel Bandyopadhyay (2019-20)	<i>Exploring the Construction of Childhood in West Bengal: Representations in Puja Literature</i>	Bidhan Kanti Das Nandini Ghosh

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
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>Mesurement of Fiscal and Debt Sustainability of the Indian States: An Alternative Approach</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Achin Chakraborty
8.	Pallavi Mondal	<i>Political Economy of Public Policy in Select States of India</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Achin Chakraborty



Sl.No.	Name	Research Topic	Institute/ University	Supervisor(s)
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>The Economics of Firm Innovation and Role of Competition: A Few Essays on Indian Manufacturing Industry</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Indrani Chakraborty
13.	Ujjayini Roy	<i>Product Market Competition and Firm Behaviour</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Indrani Chakraborty
14.	Zinnia Mitra Bose	<i>Diversification and its Impact on Indian Corporate Firms</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Indrani Chakraborty
15.	Amrapali Mukherjee	<i>Belief and Practices Around Menstruation Across Different Social Groups in West Bengal, India</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Bidhan Kanti Das Nandini Ghosh
16.	Kundan Ghosh	<i>An Ethnographic Study of the Culture Industry of Sholapith Craft in West Bengal</i>	University of Calcutta	Bidhan Kanti Das Arnab Das
17.	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
18.	Priti Bhowmick	<i>Local Governance of Water and Sanitation in the Metropolitan Area of West Bengal: An Ethnographic Inquiry</i>	University of Calcutta	Bidhan Kanti Das Arnab Das
19.	Srija Mandal	<i>Living on the Streets: An Ethnography of 'Homelessness' in Kolkata</i>	University of Calcutta	Bidhan Kanti Das Arnab Das



Sl.No.	Name	Research Topic	Institute/ University	Supervisor(s)
20.	Suman Dasgupta	<i>A Study of the Marginalised Tribal Communities in the Bordering Areas of the Three States of Eastern India</i>	University of Calcutta	Bidhan Kanti Das Arnab Das
21.	Biswanath Saha	<i>Spatiality and Identity in a Borderland: Understanding the Gorkhaland Movement</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Gorky Chakraborty
22.	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
23.	Naorem Pushparani Chanu	<i>Labour Migration : A Study of Out-Migrants from North-East India to Delhi</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Gorky Chakraborty
24.	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
25.	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
26.	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
27.	Gopal Biswas	<i>Economic Growth and Population Health: A District Level Analysis of India</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Subrata Mukherjee
28.	Priyanka Dasgupta	<i>Disease Burden, Govt. Health Expenditure and Household Vulnerability : A Study of Indian States</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Subrata Mukherjee
29.	Monalisha Chakraborty	<i>Parental Migration and Child Well being</i>	IDSK-University Calcutta	Subrata Mukherjee



Sl.No.	Name	Research Topic	Institute/ University	Supervisor(s)
30.	Soumi Mukherjee	<i>Understanding the Interface Between External Determinants and Effectiveness of a Conditional Cash Transfer Programme in Education</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Subrata Mukherjee Supurna Banerjee
31.	Rimjhim Bhattacharjee	<i>The Representation of the Sexualities of Disabled People in Indian Writing in English</i>	University of Calcutta	Nandini Ghosh
32.	Nisharuddin Khan	<i>The Impact of Partition on Muslims of West Bengal: 1947-1964</i>	University of Calcutta	Anwesha Sengupta
33.	Sk. Aslam Ahmed	<i>The Political World of Railway Workers : Kharagpur</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Anwesha Sengupta
34.	Sagnik Kar	<i>The Making of an 'Ideal' Woman in Late Colonial and Early Post-colonial Bengal (Tentative)</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Anwesha Sengupta
35.	Pintu Kabiraj	<i>Aspects of Crime in India</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Simantini Mukhopadhyay Achin Chakraborty
36.	Sekhar Mondal	<i>Understanding the Evolution and Transformational Process of Floriculture in West Bengal: Towards a Technographic Process</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Soutrik Basu
37.	Abdul Motin Ostagar	<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
38.	Priyanka Roy	<i>Gendered Negotiations: A Study of Female Entrepreneurs in West Bengal</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Subhanil Chowdhury
39.	Dhiraj Barman	<i>Urban Transformation in the Medium Sized Cities in India: A Case Study of Siliguri</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Subhanil Chowdhury
40.	Ronojoy Banerjee	<i>Urban Land and Populist Politics: A Case Study of Kolkata</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Subhanil Chowdhury
41.	Nur Alam	<i>Understanding Labour Migration in West Bengal : A Study of Malda District</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Supurna Banerjee

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

Achin Chakraborty

Invited Special Lecture at the webinar on Economic Survey 2020-21 and Union Budget 2021-22 jointly organized by the Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation (GIFT), Department of Economics University College and Women's College, Thiruvananthapuram, February 05, 2021.

Online public lecture on 'Theories of Justice: From John Rawls to Amartya Sen', Department of Political Science, Presidency University, January 27, 2021.

Invited lecture 'On the distinction between equality of opportunity and capability equality', Sikkim University, January 08, 2021.

Presented webinar on 'Market Failures and the Role of Government Interventions during Public Health Crisis', Indian Health Economics and Policy Association (IHEPA), August 23, 2020.

Participated in panel discussion on 'COVID-19 pandemic and health system responses in LMICs', IGDC, University of York, UK, 04 November, 2020.

Conducted a session on 'Philosophy of Social Science: Foundations of Positivist and Interpretative Traditions' at Online Workshop On Research Methodology, Madras Institute of Development Studies (MIDS) and ICSSR, February 15, 2021

Conducted two sessions on 'Analytical Approaches to Social Science Research' and 'How to Write an Academic Research Paper with an Interdisciplinary Approach', Sardar Patel Institute of Economic and Social Research (SPIESR) and ICSSR, 22 and 23 December, 2020.



Delivered a lecture series titled 'On Sen: Welfare, Social Choice, and Distributive Justice', Department of Economics and Politics, Visva Bharati University, November-December, 2020.

Lecture on 'Economic Development, Human Development, and Poverty in West Bengal' for WBCS Officers' Induction Training at Administrative Training Institute, 09 December, 2020.

Anwesha Sengupta

Presented a paper, 'Partition Dynamics in India', Centre for Modern Indian Studies, Ramkrishna Sarada Mission College, January 8, 2021.

Presented a paper 'Reading Dalit and Other Subaltern Autobiographies to Understand Partition Migration in South Asia' as a part of two-day workshop on *Migration and Forced Migration Studies*, organised by MCRG, 21-22 December 2020.

Evaluator, Fifth Annual Research & Orientation Workshop in Global Protection of Migrants and Refugees, organised by Calcutta Research Group, Kolkata, 16 November – 21 November 2020.

Presented a paper, 'Implementing Partition in India and Pakistan: Assets, Infrastructures and Population', at a webinar organized by IDSK, September 11, 2020.

Resource Person, 'Four-day Web Based Workshop for Young Scholars', 26-29 August, 2020, Bankura University.

Bidhan Kanti Das

Special Lecture on 'Professor Deba Prasad Mukherjee and the Essence of Bio-cultural Perspective in Anthropology in India' at a webinar in memory of memory of Professor Deba Prasad Mukherjee, former Professor of Anthropology, Department of Anthropology, University of Calcutta to mark 100 years of teaching Anthropology in India, organized by Dinbandhu Mahavidyalaya, Bangaon in association with Indian Anthropological Society, August 22, 2020.

Gorky Chakraborty

Special Lecture on 'Northeast India: Is it a Policy Quagmire!', School of Public Policy and Governance, TISS Hyderabad, March 30, 2021.

(Jointly with Naorem Pushparani Chanu) Presented a paper 'Corona: Virus as Identity!' at a webinar organised by IDSK, July 17, 2020.

Special Lecture on 'Politics of Ethnicity and Nationality in Northeast India', CKB College, Teok, Assam, July 12, 2020.

Special Lecture on 'On Borderlands and Northeast India', Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh, May 4, 2020.

Indrani Chakraborty

Presented a paper 'Impact of Covid-19 on Stock Market, Foreign Capital Inflows and Firms with Special Reference to MSME Sector in India' at a webinar organised by IDSK, July 3, 2020.

Nandini Ghosh

Special Lecture on 'Disability and Gender-Sexualities', organised by Sappho for Equality, March 20, 2021.

Special Lecture on 'Emancipatory Research in Disability', organized by IQAC, Kirori Mal College, University of Delhi, in collaboration with Saksham as part of their Certificate Course in Disability Studies, March 6, 2021.

(Jointly with Supurna Banerjee) Presented a paper 'Mapping Marginalities in Domestic Violence Laws' in the three-day virtual conference on *Examining Gendered Violence in India* organised by Institute of Development Studies Kolkata, February 25, 2021.

Special Lecture on 'Disability and the Law', organised by School of Public Policy and Governance TISS Hyderabad, February 2, 2021.

Special Lecture on the 'Need for Interdisciplinary Research in Disability Studies' at the Winter Workshop on *Fostering Research in Disability: Accidents*,



Emergencies, Disasters and Disability, organised by NALSAR and BITS Hyderabad, December 19, 2020.

Presented a paper 'Disability Rights and RPWD Act', at a State Level Meeting organised by the HRLN, Kolkata, December 13, 2020.

Special Lecture on 'Addressing Domestic Violence: Pathways to Empowerment of Women', Department of Management, J D Birla Institute, November 21, 2020.

Presented a paper 'Fragmented Realities of the Pandemic: the multiple marginalities of Disabled People in India' at the ESRC Festival of Social Science, University of Sussex on COVID 19 Assemblages: Queer and Feminist Perspectives from South Asia, November 12, 2020.

Delivered a talk 'NEP and Education for Disabled People' as part of a talk series on *Conversations: Issues of Equity and Inclusion in NEP 2020*, organized by TISS-Azim Premji School of Education, October 9, 2020.

Presented a paper 'Atmanirvar Bharat and Women with Disabilities' at a webinar *Atmanirvar Bharat in Perspective of Divyangjan*, organized by CRC SRE Tripura, August 13, 2020.

Webinar: 'Covid 19 Pandemic and Persons with Disabilities in India', IDSK, June 19, 2020.

Presented a paper 'Researching Life at the Margins', organized by Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, NIT Durgapur, June 15, 2020.

Presented a paper 'Gender Based Violence and Social Protection in India at a webinar Reducing Risk for Women with Disabilities: Way Forward for the Covid 19 Response' organised by USAID, June 9, 2020.

Paper 'Debating Academia and Activism' in a book discussion on Nilika Mehrotra (Eds) *Disability Studies in India: Interdisciplinary Perspectives*, organised by Dept. of Humanities and Social Sciences, BITS Pilani - Hyderabad Campus, June 3, 2020.

Saswata Ghosh

Delivered two lectures on 'Categorical data analysis of qualitative data' at the online workshop *Quantitative Methods using R and Python* organised IDSK during March 1-5, 2021.

Participated as a panellist in the panel 'Gender and Health – Issues, Evidence and Policy Response' in the workshop *Women Empowerment - Issues, Evidence and Policy Response* held in Patna, organized by the International Growth Centre (IGC) and Women and Child Development Corporation (WCD), Government of Bihar, March 8, 2021.

Delivered a lecture on 'Covid-19 and National Lockdown: Some Socio-economic Dimensions' in national webinar organized by Kharagpur College, August 26, 2020.

Delivered a lecture on 'Population Goals in SDGs: In the light of COVID-19 Pandemic' in national webinar organized by the Indian Public Health Association (IPHA), July 11, 2020.

Simantini Mukhopadhyay

Delivered two lectures on 'Exploring Data through Summary Statistics and Graphical Tools' at the online workshop on Quantitative Methods using R and Python organised IDSK during March 1-5, 2021.

(Jointly with Supurna Banerjee) Co-ordinated a Three-day online conference *Examining Gendered Violence in India*, organised by Institute of Development Studies Kolkata during February 24-26, 2021.

Presented a paper 'Abused but 'Not Insulted': Understanding Intersectionality in Symbolic Violence in India' at the three-day virtual conference on *Examining Gendered Violence in India*, organised by IDSK during February 24-26, 2021.

Delivered two virtual lectures on 'Secondary Data Analysis' for PhD Commerce and Ph.D. Mass Communication Scholars of St. Xavier's University, January 23, 2021 and March 6, 2021.

(Jointly with Supurna Banerjee) Delivered a lecture at a webinar on 'Revisiting Sex Inequalities in India in Times of a Pandemic' organized by J. K. College, Purulia, October 18, 2020.



(Jointly with Supurna Banerjee) Delivered a lecture at a webinar on 'Scanning COVID-19 Pandemic through Gender Lens', organized by Garhbeta College, July 20, 2020.

(Jointly with Supurna Banerjee) Delivered an online lecture for the virtual lecture series on 'Social and Economic impact of the Pandemic', organized by KnIDS Kolkata.

(Jointly with Supurna Banerjee) Presented a paper 'Revisiting Sex Inequalities in India in Times of a Pandemic' at a webinar organised by IDSK, May 29, 2020.

Subhanil Chowdhury

Resource Person for a workshop on 'Statistical Software for Data Analysis: STATA, Rstudio', organised by Atma Ram Sanatan Dharma College, University of Delhi, March 6-7, 2021.

Delivered two lectures on 'Quantitative Methods Using R' at the workshop on *Quantitative Methods for Development Studies Using R and Python*, organised by IDSK, March 1-5, 2021.

(Jointly with Dr. Subrata Mukherjee) Coordinated a virtual workshop 'Quantitative Methods for Development Studies Using R and Python', at IDSK, March 1-5, 2021.

Panelist in a panel discussion 'Discerning Dissent: Farmers' Protest in Contemporary India', organised by Department of Political Science, Presidency University, December 22, 2020.

Presented a paper 'Economic Policy, Economic Knowledge and Politics: Interrelations and Contradictions' at the conference *Interaction of Knowledge, Power and Ignorance*, organized by IDSK, December 19, 2020.

Delivered a special lecture 'Pandemic and the Indian Economy: Story of Two Curves', at a national webinar on 'Indian Economy at Crossroads: Some Insights from the Lockdown Phase', organised by Department of Economics, Sister Nibedita Government General Degree

College for Girls, University of Calcutta, September 25, 2020.

Panelist in a panel discussion 'Growth and Sectoral Concerns in the Indian Economy', at a webinar organised by Department of Economics, Sri Venkateshwara College, University of Delhi, September 24, 2020.

Presented a paper 'Twin Crisis of Covid and Economy: State and Labour in India', at national webinar organised by Department of Economics, Saheed Anurup Chandra Mahavidyalaya, University of Calcutta, June 23, 2020.

Subrata Mukherjee

(Jointly with Dr. Subhanil Chowdhury) Coordinated a virtual workshop '*Quantitative Methods for Development Studies Using R and Python*', at IDSK, March 1-5, 2021.

Resource person in an ICSSR sponsored Research Methodology Course for Social Science research scholars organized by Sardar Patel Institute of Economic and Social Studies, December 14-23, 2020.

Presented a paper 'Vulnerability of Major Indian States Due to COVID-19 Spread and Lockdown' at a webinar organised by IDSK, July 3, 2020.

Supurna Banerjee

Presented a paper '(Dis)connections in Labour: Examining trajectories of labour migration from tea plantations to urban informal labour in India' at a virtual workshop organised by Hamburg University on Industrial Labour and Uneven Development, March 2021.

(Jointly with Nandini Ghosh) Presented a paper 'Mapping Marginalities in Domestic Violence Laws' in the three-day virtual conference on *Examining Gendered Violence in India* organised by Institute of Development Studies Kolkata, February 25, 2021.

Presented a paper 'A reflection on the condition of migrant/commuting domestic workers in India through the lens of COVID-19' in a virtual conference on *Paid*



Domestic Work as 'Decent Work': Interdisciplinary Conversations in the Indian Context organised by King's College London, August 2020.

(Jointly with Simantini Mukhopadhyay) Delivered a lecture at a webinar on 'Revisiting Sex Inequalities in India in Times of a Pandemic' organized by J. K. College, Purulia, October 18, 2020.

(Jointly with Simantini Mukhopadhyay) Delivered a lecture at a webinar on 'Scanning COVID-19 Pandemic through Gender Lens', organized by Garhbeta College, July 20, 2020.

(Jointly with Simantini Mukhopadhyay) Delivered an online lecture for the virtual lecture series on 'Social and Economic Impact of the Pandemic', organized by KnIDS Kolkata.

(Jointly with Simantini Mukhopadhyay) Presented a paper 'Revisiting Sex Inequalities in India in Times of a Pandemic' at a webinar organised by IDSK, May 29, 2020.

Presented a paper 'Changing Solidarities and Collective Action in Times of Pandemic' at a webinar organized by Dezim Institute and RC 47 International Sociological Association, April 2020.

Research Projects

Anwesha Sengupta

Research Advisor for the documentary film titled *Ek Parijayii Shahorer Itikatha* (a educational film made as a part of CRG's research on migration and forced migration studies, in collaboration with Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung and Institute of Human Sciences, Vienna).

(Jointly with Supurna Banerjee and Sanjoy Kar) To undertake a study 'Salt Lake: A 50 year history' funded by IDSK.

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'.

Nandini Ghosh

(Jointly with Supurna Banerjee) To be engaged in a British Academy funded collaborative research project 'Surviving Violence: Everyday Resilience and Gender Justice in Rural-urban India' with Queen Mary University London, The Prajnya Trust (Tamil Nadu) and IIT Bombay.

Saswata Ghosh

Engaged in a project 'Can Peer and Neighbourhood Effects Improve Maternal Health Outcomes in Rural Bihar: Assessing the Role of Formal and Informal Networks' sponsored by International Growth Centre (IGC), London School of Economics and Political Science.

Engaged in a project 'Herself, and Her Child: How Worse Off are They? Impact of COVID-19 in Rural Bihar' sponsored by International Growth Centre (IGC), London School of Economics and Political Science.

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).

Simantini Mukhopadhyay

Engaged in a short study on "Intersectional Inequalities in Agriculture-Nutrition Pathways in India" under the SPANDAN Grant funded by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Subhanil Chowdhury

Engaged in a short study on "Intersectional Inequalities in Agriculture-Nutrition Pathways in India" under the SPANDAN Grant funded by Bill and Melinda Gates



Foundation.

Supurna Banerjee

(Jointly with Nandini Ghosh) To be engaged in a British Academy funded collaborative research project 'Surviving Violence: Everyday Resilience and Gender Justice in Rural-urban India' with Queen Mary University London, The Prajnya Trust (Tamil Nadu) and IIT Bombay.

(Jointly with Anwesha Sengupta and Sanjoy Kar) To undertake a study 'Salt Lake: A 50 year history' funded by IDSK.

Association with other Institutions / Membership of Organizations / Miscellaneous

Achin Chakraborty

Member, Editorial Board, *SN Business and Economics*, Springer

Member, Editorial Board of the Book Series *Dynamics of Asian Development*, Springer

Member, Board of Studies in Economics, Presidency University.

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

Adviser, Pratichi Institute of Pratichi (India) Trust.

Examiner of PhD and MPhil theses of various universities

CICOPS Fellow, University of Pavia, Italy.

Vice President, Indian Health Economics and Policy Association (IHEPA)

Reviewed Manuscripts for Springer, Oxford University Press, Cambridge 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*

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

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

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

Hari Krishna Dwivedi (IDSK): *Measurement of Fiscal and Debt Sustainability of Indian States – An Alternative Approach*

Pallavi Mondal (IDSK): *Public Policy and State Capacity Mphil Supervision*

Atriya Dey (IDSK, 2020-21): *Urban Restructuring and the Spatial Organisation of Social Relations in Post reforms India: A Case Study of Rajarhat New Town*

(Jointly with Anwesha Sengupta) Somasree Biswas (IDSK, 2020-21): *Dynamics of Dalit-Muslim Discourse: Relevance of Jogendranath Mandal's Political Ideology in Contemporary Politics in India*

Said Mamun (IDSK, 2020-21): *Barriers to Post-Secondary Science Education – A Study of West Bengal*

Anwesha Sengupta

Guest Faculty, Department of History, West Bengal State University, Barasat, (January 2021 – July 2021).

External Expert of Sumadha Bose's M.A. thesis, to be submitted to School of Habitat Studies, TISS, Mumbai.

PhD Supervision

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

Sk. Aslam Ahmed (IDSK): *The Political World of Railway Workers : Kharagpur*



Sagnik Kar (IDSK, Started in January 2020 and left in December 2020): *The Making of an 'Ideal' Woman in Late Colonial and Early Post-colonial Bengal* (Tentative)

MPhil Supervision

Dipak Chakraborty (IDSK, 2020-21): *Tarashankar Bandyopadhyay: The Making of a Literary-Intellectual Life and the Twentieth Century*

(Jointly with Achin Chakraborty) Somasree Biswas (IDSK, 2020-21): *Dynamics of Dalit-Muslim Discourse: Relevance of Jogendranath Mandal's Political Ideology in Contemporary Politics in India*

Ritriban Chakraborty (IDSK, 2019-21): *Interrogating the Construction and Evolution of Bangal Ghoti Identity* [Degree Awarded]

Bidhan Kanti Das

PhD Supervisor, Department of Anthropology, University of Calcutta

Examiner, Post Graduate Department of Anthropology, University of Calcutta and Sidho Kanho Birsu University, Purulia and PG Department of Social Work, St. Xavier's University

Member, IUAES Commission on Environment and Development

Life Member, Indian National Confederation and Academy of Anthropologists (INCAA)

Council Member, Indian Anthropological Society, Kolkata

Member, Asiatic Society, Kolkata

Member, Editorial Board, Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities, St. Xavier's University, Kolkata

PhD Supervision

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

(Jointly with Nandini Kar University of Calcutta): *Understanding Livelihood Uncertainties and*

Mechanisms for coping with Environmental Stress and Shocks in Two Ecological Zones of West Bengal.

(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, Mahishadal Girl's College, East Midnapore, *An Ethnographic Study of the Culture Industry of Sholapith Craft in West Bengal.*

(Jointly with Arnab Das) Srija Mandal, Department of Anthropology (University of Calcutta), *Living on Streets: An Ethnography of 'Homelessness' in Kolkata*

(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

Manotosh Gayen (IDSK, 2020-21): *Understanding Forest-based livelihood system: A case study of Sundarban Biosphere Reserve, West Bengal.*

(Jointly with Nandini Ghosh) Swaraj Guria (IDSK, 2020-21): *Exploring Work Experiences of Persons with Disability; A Case Study in 24 Parganas(s).*

(Jointly with Nandini Ghosh) Payel Bandyopadhyay (IDSK, 2019-20): *Exploring the Construction of Childhood in West Bengal: Representations in Puja Literature.*

Sanup Mandal (2019-20): *Some Aspects of Implementation Process of Integrated Watershed Management in Drought Prone Region: A Case Study of Bankura, West Bengal* [Degree Awarded]

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

Raktim Majumder (IDSK,2020-21): *Barred Zones and Licenses: An Enquiry into the Institutionalisation of Spaces in Sundarban.*

Somik Roy Chowdhury (IDSK,2020-21): *Analysing the narratives on Citizenship in India: Situating the Outsider' in India.*

Hassan Momin (IDSK,2019-20): *River Dynamics and 'Uncertainties': A Case Study of Kaliachak-II Block in Malda District.* [Degree Awarded]

Chandrakala Tamang (IDSK,2019-20): *Autonomy and Development: A Study of Development Boards in Darjeeling Hills'.* [Degree Awarded]

Indrani Chakraborty

Member, Econometric Society

Life Member, Indian Econometric Society

Member, American Finance Association

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*

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): *The Economics of Firm Innovation and Role of Competition: A Few Essays on Indian Manufacturing Industry* (Tentative).

Zinnia Mitra Bose (IDSK): *Diversification and its Impact on Indian Corporate Firms.*

Ujjayini Roy (IDSK): *Product Market Competition and Firm Behaviour* (Tentative).

MPhil Supervision

Tanveer Ahmad Khan (IDSK,2019-20): *Performance of Indian Textile and Clothing Industry: An Analysis of Pre and Post-MFA Period*

Nandini Ghosh

Taught 'Qualitative Research Methods', Department of Economics, Presidency University

Conducted a session on 'Disability & Gender-Sexuality' at the Sexuality Academy organized by Sappho for Equality, 6 March 2020

Consulted with two leading networks *Parivaar Bengal* and *Disability Activists Forum West Bengal* to develop *Guidelines for promoting Safety* in different institutions working for and with persons with disabilities. The document has been presented to the Disability Commissioner West Bengal and Minister Social Justice and Empowerment Government of West Bengal for adoption across the state.

Member, Indian Delegation to the UNCRPD Committee, Geneva to represent the status of persons with disabilities and specifically women with disabilities in India.

Member, PhD Committee, Department of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University

PhD Supervision

Rimjhim Bhattacharjee (IDSK): *The Representation of the Sexualities of Disabled People in Indian Writing in English*

(Jointly with Bidhan Kanti Das) Amrapali Mukherjee (IDSK): *Belief and Practices Around Menstruation Across Different Social Groups in West Bengal, India.*

MPhil Supervision

Suchandra Bhaduri (IDSK, 2020-21): *Creating Disability as a Category in India: A Historical Review.*

(Jointly with Bidhan Kanti Das) Swaraj Guria (IDSK, 2020-21): *Exploring Work Experiences of Persons with Disability: A Case Study in 24 Pargana(s).*



(Jointly with Bidhan Kanti Das) Payel Bandyopadhyay (IDSK, 2019-20): *Exploring the Construction of Childhood in West Bengal: Representations in Puja Literature*.

Sharannyo Banerjee (IDSK, 2019-20): *States of Addiction and Drug Policy: An Enquiry into the Genealogy of Drug and Addiction Problem in India* [Degree Awarded]

Saswata Ghosh

Visiting Faculty, Department of Economics, Presidency University, Kolkata

Honorary Consultant of Society for Health & Demographic Surveillance (SHDS), Suri, Birbhum.

Member, International Advisory Board, Asian Population Studies (Routledge; Taylor & Francis)

PhD Supervision

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

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

MPhil Supervision

Reza Kaushar (IDSK, 2020-21): *Nutritional Status Among Adult Women in India: Evidence from NFHS (2,3,4) Round Data*.

Dipmalya Karmakar (IDSK, 2019-20): *Factors Affecting Mental Health among Adolescents: A Study Based on UDAYA Survey, 2015-16*. [Degree Awarded]

Sushanta Sen: *Factors Affecting Early Marriage among Females in Eastern India: A Study Based on Successive Rounds of National Family Health Survey*.

Simantini Mukhopadhyay

Member, International Health Economics Association

Member, Human Development and Capability Association

Selected as a mentee under the mentorship programme of International Health Economics Association, with Libertad González of University of Barcelona as mentor

Examined the MPhil dissertation of Amrita Sikdar of CSSSC

Reviewer: *International Journal of Rural Management, Economics Bulletin*

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

(Jointly with Subrata Mukherjee) Sanchali Das Poddar (IDSK, 2019-20): *Location, Amenities and Living Standards: A Study of Indian Slums*. [Degree Awarded]

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)*.

Subhanil Chowdhury

External Examiner of MPhil Dissertation, Department of Economics, University of Calcutta

PhD Supervision

Abdul Motin Ostagar (IDSK): *Analysis of Financial Exclusion: Evidence from Rural West Bengal*

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

Dhiraj Barman (IDSK): *Urban Transformation in the Medium Sized Cities in India: A Case Study of Siliguri*.



Ronojoy Banerjee (IDSK): *Urban Land and Populist Politics: A Case Study of Kolkata* (Tentative)

MPhil Supervision

Rajinder Singh (IDSK, 2020-21): *Land and Agrarian Relations in Punjab*.

Subrata Mukherjee

Joint Secretary, Indian Health Economics and Policy Association.

Reviewer, for the journals: *Commonwealth Journal of Local Governance, Social Science and Medicine, Anvesak*.

PhD Supervision

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

Monalisha Chakraborty (IDSK): *Parental Migration and Child Wellbeing*.

Gopal Biswas (IDSK): *Economic Growth , Inequality and Population Health in India* (Tentative)

(Jointly with Supurna Banerjee) Soumi Mukherjee (IDSK): *A Study of Kanyashree Prakalpa in West Bengal and Bangaru Talli Scheme in Andhra Pradesh* (Tentative)

MPhil Supervision

Chandana Singh (IDSK, 2020-21): *Access to School Education and Dropout Among Tribal Girls in West Bengal: A Case Study of Oraon Tribe of Alipurduar District*.

(Jointly with Simantini Mukhopadhyay) Sanchali Das Podder (IDSK, 2019-20): *Location, Amenities and Living Standards: A Study of Indian Slums* [Degree Awarded]

Anjali Debnath (IDSK, 2019-20): *Disparity in Access to Drinking and Non-drinking Water in West Bengal* [Degree Awarded]

Supurna Banerjee

Associated with Queen Mary University, London for research collaboration.

PhD Supervision

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

(Jointly with Subrata Mukherjee) Soumi Mukherjee (IDSK): *A Study of Kanyashree Prakalpa in West Bengal and Bangaru Talli Scheme in Andhra Pradesh* (Tentative)

Monalisa Patra (2019-20): *Gender, Life Course and Livelihood Mapping Perceptions of Women in Bankura, West Bengal* [Degree Awarded]

9

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 support from 2015:

1. To sponsor 5 Doctoral, 2 Post-doctoral and 2 Senior Fellowships. Doctoral Fellowships have since been brought down to 2.
2. To organize joint seminars and conferences with ICSSR. IDSK has so far organized a number seminars and conferences with support from ICSSR.
3. To provide facility of databases/e-resources viz. JSTOR, Econlit FULL Text, INDIASTAT & PROWESS. At present ICSSR is not providing this facility.

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS**Achin Chakraborty**Peer Reviewed Article

(Jointly with Stéphane Cullati, Stefan Sieber, Achin Chakraborty and Claudine Burton-Jeangros) 'Self-Reported Morbidity and Self-Rated Health among the Elderly in India: Revisiting the Puzzles', *Journal of Population Ageing* (Springer), <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12062-020-09301-7>, 2020

'In Search of "Gandhian Economics"', *Journal of the Asiatic Society*, Vol LXI, No 3, 2019.

Article in Book Volume

'Inter-group Disparities in Growing Economies: India Among the BRICS' [with Simantini Mukhopadhyay], in Biju Paul Abraham, Partha Ray and Soo Yeon Kim (eds) *BRICS: The Quest for Inclusive Growth*, Volume 1 of *The Political Economy of the BRICS Countries*, World Scientific, 2020.

Other Publications

'Labour and Perspectives on the Indian State' in *Anveshi Broadsheet*, March 2021.

'Recovery May be Staggered', *BW Business World*, 22 December-05 January, 20-21.

'Nobel in Economics 2020', *Science and Culture*, Vol 86, No. 11-12, Nov-Dec, 2020.

Reviews

'Capturing the 'Essential' Ideas of Amartya Sen', review of How to Read Amartya Sen by Lawrence Hamilton (Penguin India), *The Wire*, 04 November, 2020.



Amiya Kumar Bagchi

Edited Volumes

(Edited jointly with Arun Bandopadhyay) *Northern India in the Late Nineteenth Century, Vol.I, Part IA: 1860s-1870s*, New Delhi: Manohar, ICHR, 2020.

(Edited jointly with Arun Bandopadhyay) *Northern India in the Late Nineteenth Century, Vol.I, Part IB: 1860s-1870s*, New Delhi: Manohar, ICHR, 2020.

(Edited jointly with Arun Bandopadhyay) *Northern India in the Late Nineteenth Century, Vol.I, Part IC: 1860s-1870s*, New Delhi: Manohar, ICHR, 2020.

Articles in Edited Book

'Enemies of Cohesive Development', in Sunil Ray, Neetu Choudhary and Rajeev K. Kumar.eds.*Theorizing Cohesive Development: An Alternative Paradigm*, London: Routledge, pp.34-43,2020.

'Some Public health issues in India', in R. Maria Saleth, S. Galab and E. Revathi. eds. *Issues and Challenges of Inclusive Development: Essays in Honour of Prof. R. Radhakrishna*, New Delhi: Springer, pp. 175-184, 2020.

Peer Reviewed Articles

(Jointly with S. Masrani and Carlo Morelli) 'The Rise of Indian Business in the Global Context in the Twentieth Century: a Review and Introduction', *Business History*, 63(1): 1-17, 2020.

'Engels and Ireland, Nationalism and the Peasant Question', *Social Scientist*, 48(11-12): 46-58, 2020.

'Engels und die Frauen Indien', *Zeitschrift Marxistische Erneuerung*, no.122, Juni 2020, pp.107-118, 2020.

Anwesha Sengupta

Other Publication

'Is Urdu a 'Pakistani' Language? No. Here's why I chose to learn it', *The Quint*, 28 November, 2020.

'Mahamari O Dosharop', *Banglalive.com*, 7 May 2020.

Gorky Chakraborty

Book

(Jointly edited with Prasun Barman) *Char Chapori: Obolokon-Punarobolokon*, Bandhab Publishers,

Guwahati, 2020 (in Assamese).

Article in Edited Book

'The Changing 'Continuities': Understanding Northeast India under Globalisation' in V. Srinivas Rao (ed.) *Tribal Integration in India: Northeast and Beyond*, Rawat Publication.

Peer Reviewed Article

(Jointly with Biswanath Saha) 'Geopolitical Imperatives in Eastern Himalayas: Situating the Hills of Darjeeling' in *Millennial Asia*, Vol.XII, No.1, 2021.

(Jointly with with Abraham Samuel and K.J. Joy) 'Emerging Governmentality and Biopolitics of Covid 19 in India' in *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 55, No. 37, September 2020.

Other Publications

(Jointly with Naorem Pushparani Chanu) 'A Novel Virus, a New Racial Slur' in *India and the Pandemic: The First Year*, Essays from the India Forum, Orient Black Swan, Hyderabad.

Abdul Hamid Khan Bhasani aru Oponibesik Axom r Bhumi Rajniti' in *Char Chapori: Obolokon-Punarobolokon*, Bandhab Publishers, Guwahati, 2020 (Assamese)

Book Review

'Hydraulic City: Water and Infrastructures of Citizenship in Mumbai' in Urbanities: *Journal of Urban Ethnography*, Vol. X, No.2, 2020.

Indrani Chakraborty

Peer Reviewed Article

(Jointly with Sukhdeep Singh) 'Growth of the Firms and Investments in Innovations: An Empirical Investigation of the Indian Manufacturing Industry' *Journal of Quantitative Economics*, Springer, doi: 10.1007/s40953-020-00218-8, September, 2020.

IDSK, Special Series on COVID-19

Impact of Covid-19 on Stock Market, Foreign Capital Inflows and Firms with special reference to MSME sector in India', IDSK Special Series on COVID-19, No. 3, July 2020.



Nandini Ghosh

Book Chapter

Contributed a chapter 'Outside the Frame: Disabled women in Urban Spaces' in a volume *State, Community, Citizenship: Rewriting Histories of Gender* in the Book Series entitled Contemporary Issues in Social Science Research, in association with UGC-HRDC, Jadavpur University, in collaboration with Routledge India, Taylor & Francis Group.

Contributed a chapter 'Fragmented Realities of the Pandemic: the multiple marginalities of Disabled People in India' in Rohit Dasgupta, Paul Boyce and Niharika Banerjea (eds) *COVID Assemblages: Queer and Feminist Ethnographies from South Asia*, Routledge India.

Other Publications

'Factoring in Disabilities', *The Hindu Open Page*, 31 May 2020. <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/open-page/factoring-in-disabilities/article31710301.ece>

'Disability and Care During Pandemic', *Medium.com*, 11 May 2020 https://medium.com/@nandinighosh_66239/disability-and-care-during-pandemic-ef728967ff91

'Government Betrays Regressive Bent of Mind in Pitching Disability Rights Against Doing Ease of Business', *Varta Blog* Issue 79: Policy Matters

'Fearing Corona: State Proposes, Public Abides', *Medium.com*, 21 April 2020. https://medium.com/@nandinighosh_66239/fearing-corona-state-proposes-public-abides-ed5ff5c3b240.

Saswata Ghosh

Book

(Jointly with A. Chattopadhyay) Co-edited a book *Population Dynamics in Eastern India and Bangladesh: Demography, Health and Developmental Issues*, (2020), Springer Nature: Singapore. ISBN: 978-981-15-3044-9; ISBN 978-981-15-3045-6 (eBook) (<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-981-15-3045-6>); (<http://sticerd.lse.ac.uk/india/publications/default.asp>)

Article in Edited Book

(Jointly with N. Ghosh) 'Son Preference and Hindu-

Muslim Fertility Differentials in 'ultra-low' Fertility Situation in Kolkata, India' in A. Chattopadhyay and S. Ghosh (eds) *Population Dynamics in Eastern India and Bangladesh: Demography, Health and Developmental Issues*. Springer Nature: Singapore. ISBN: 978-981-15-3044-9; ISBN 978-981-15-3045-6 (eBook): 163-182, 2020.

(Jointly with S.K. Sharma, N. Das and A. Chattopadhyay) 'Religion, Son Preference and Contraceptive Method-mix Among Bengalis: A Long View' in A. Chattopadhyay and S. Ghosh (eds) *Population Dynamics in Eastern India and Bangladesh: Demography, Health and Developmental Issues*. Springer Nature: Singapore. ISBN: 978-981-15-3044-9; ISBN 978-981-15-3045-6 (eBook): 183-207, 2020.

Peer Reviewed Articles

(Jointly with K. Das) 'Rural-urban Fertility Convergence, Differential Stopping Behaviour and Contraceptive-method-mix in West Bengal, India: A Spatiotemporal Analysis', *Journal of Family History*, 46(2): 211-235, 2021.

(Jointly with S.K. Sharma and D. Bhattacharya) 'Disparities in Childhood Stunting in an Underdeveloped State in India: An Investigation Applying Unconditional Quantile Regression Method', *BMC Public Health*: 20 1549: 1-21, 2020.

(Jointly with S.K. Sharma, M.A. Kalam and S. Ray) 'Change in the Prevalence and Determinants of Consanguineous Marriages in India between National Family Health Surveys of 1992-93 and 2015-2016', *Human Biology*, 92 (2): 23-43, 2020.

(Jointly with Z. Husain and A.K. Das) 'Did the National Lockdown Lock COVID-19 Down in India Can Reduce Pressure on Health Infrastructure?', *medRxiv* <https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.05.27.20115329v1>

Other Publications

(Jointly with A. Mitra) 'Trends of COVID-19: Understanding Facets of 13 months of the Pandemic', *Monthly Bulletin of Asiatic Society Kolkata*, L (3), March, 2021: 46-54.

(Jointly with Subhanil Chowdhury) 'Myths about



Muslims in Bengal', *The Frontline*, 12 March, 2021, pp – 58-62.

(Jointly with A. Das and K. Das) 'Implication of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Future Population Growth in India', *Monthly Bulletin of Asiatic Society Kolkata*, XLIS (8), August, 2020: 15-19, 2020.

Simantini Mukhopadhyay

Peer Reviewed Article

(Jointly with Stéphane Cullati, Stefan Sieber, Achin Chakraborty and Claudine Burton-Jeangros) 'Self-Reported Morbidity and Self-Rated Health among the Elderly in India: Revisiting the Puzzles', *Journal of Population Ageing* (Springer), <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12062-020-09301-7>, 2020

Article in a Book Volume

'Intergroup Disparities in Growing Economies: India among the BRICS' (jointly with Achin Chakraborty), in B.P. Abraham and P. Ray (Eds) *BRICS: The Quest for Inclusive Growth* (Volume 1 of the Series 'The Political Economy of the BRICS Countries'), World Scientific, 2020.

IDSK Special Series on COVID-19

(Jointly with Supurna Banerjee) 'Revisiting Gender Inequalities in India in Times of a Pandemic', IDSK Special Series on COVID-19, No. 1, May 2020.

Occasional Paper

(Jointly with Trisha Chanda), 'Abused but 'Not Insulted': Understanding Intersectionality in Symbolic Violence in India', IDSK Occasional Paper 72, March 2021.

Book Review

Review of the book *Where India Goes: Abandoned Toilets, Stunted Development and the Costs of Caste* by Diane Coffey and Dean Spears, *Journal of Human Development and Capabilities*, 20(4), 2020.

Other Publications

(in Bāṅglā) 'Arthanitir lingoboishomyo: Robinson theke Duflo' (In Bangla), *Banglalive*, 8 March 2021

(in Bāṅglā) 'Manager chhilen, ekhan mojur', (In Bangla), *Anandabazar Patrika*, 20 October 2020

(in Bāṅglā) 'Shudhu tatwa noy, nilamer unnatatawro prokriyao abishkar korechhen ei juti' (In Bangla), *Guruchandali*, 18 October, 2020

(in Bāṅglā) 'Patriarchy kare koy, se ki keboli purushmoy?' (In Bangla), *Ei Samay*, 15 September 2020.

(in Bāṅglā) 'Ma, buri jhi mane ki? Classe bujhte parini' (In Bangla), *Ei Samay*, 14 July 2020.

(in Bāṅglā) 'Grihokajer bojha thelar day ajo meyeder' (In Bangla), *Ei Samay*, 22 April 2020.

(in Bāṅglā) 'Bhadrolok' hole antisanti, goriberbela dantkopati', *Ei Samay*, Rabibaroari, 5 April 2020.

Subhanil Chowdhury

Other Publications

'Myths about Muslims in Bengal', *Frontline*, March 12, 2021

(in Bāṅglā) 'Sikhya Swastho Karmo-Sanksthan: Rajye Sabetei Pichiye Musalman-ra', *Anandabazar Patrika*, 20 January 2021 (On the Condition of Muslims in West Bengal).

(in Bāṅglā) 'Sramiker Adhikār Kere Nilei Shilpa Asbe Naa', *Anandabazar Patrika*, 19 May 2020 (On Proposed Changes in Labour Laws in Some States).

(in Bāṅglā) 'Sakaler Unnayon Cheye kono Bikalpa Andoloner Janma Hobe ki?', *Anandabazar Patrika* (web edition), 29 April 2020 (On Covid and the Indian Economy).

Subrata Mukherjee

IDSK, Special Series on COVID-19

(Jointly with Priyanka Dasgupta, Monalisha Chakraborty, Gopal Biswas and Soumi Mukherjee) 'Vulnerability of Major Indian States Due to COVID-19 Spread and Lockdown', IDSK, Special Series on COVID-19, No. 2, June 2020.

Occasional Papers

(Jointly with Priyanka Dasgupta) 'Distress Financing for Out-of-Pocket Hospitalization Expenses in India: An Analysis of Pooled National Sample Survey Data', IDSK Occasional Paper 71, March 2021.



Other Publications

(Jointly with Jean-Frederic Levesque) 'Towards an Equitable Response', *Millennium Post*, 28 July, 2020.

(Jointly with Monalisha Chakraborty) 'Bengali Migrant Workers During Pandemic and Lockdown', *Monthly Bulletin of The Asiatic Society*, 49(9), 73-75, September 2020.

(Jointly with Monalisha Chakraborty) 'A Losing Situation', *Millennium Post*, 24 August, 2020.

(Jointly with Monalisha Chakraborty) 'They Come to Bengaluru for a Life in Rag Picking'. *Deccan Herald*, 29 July, 2020.

(Jointly with Priyanka Dasgupta) 'Challenges Around Chronic Healthcare Amid the Lockdown', *The New Leam*, 2020.

(in Bānglā) (Jointly with Monalisha Chakraborty) 'Kerālāy Kaaj Pāchhi Thiki Kintu Bārīr Ki Hobe?' *Ei Samay*, 15 July 2020.

(in Bānglā) (Jointly with Monalisha Chakraborty) 'Porijāyī Sromikder Durdoshār Iti Dekhā Jaachhe Ki?', *Ei Samay*, 1 June 2020.

Supurna Banerjee

Book Chapters

'Community Spaces in India: Constructing Solidarity in Pandemic Times' in G. Pleyers and B. Bringel (eds.) *Social Movements and Politics in a Global Pandemic: Crisis, Solidarity and Change*, Bristol University Press.

'Skill, Informality and Work in Pandemic Times: Insights from India' in A. Eckert and F. Hentschke (ed.) *Corona and Work Around the Globe*, De Gruyter.

Peer Reviewed Articles

'State in Industrial Relations: Neoliberal Interventions or Intervening in Neoliberalism', *Indian Journal of Labour Economics*, 2020.

'Solidarities in and Through Resistance: Rethinking Alliance-building Through Protests in Plantations in India', *Moving the Social: Journal of Social History and the History of Social Movements* 63.

IDSK Special Series on COVID-19

(Jointly with Simantini Mukhopadhyay) 'Revisiting Gender Inequalities in India in Times of a Pandemic', IDSK Special Series on COVID-19, No. 1, May 2020.

Other Publications

'Community Spaces in India: Constructing Solidarity in Pandemic Times', *Open Democracy* <https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/author/supurna-banerjee/>, April 2020.

Book Review

Review of Nitin Sinha and Nitin Varma (ed.) *Servants' Pasts. Late-Eighteenth to Twentieth-Century South Asia* – Vol. 2, Orient Blackswan in H-Soz-Kult < www.hsozkult.de/publicationreview/id/reb-29026, August 2020.

Institutional Publications

Special Series on COVID-19

1. *Revisiting Gender Inequalities in India in Times of a Pandemic*, Simantini Mukhopadhyay and Supurna Banerjee, May 2020.
2. *Vulnerability of Major Indian States Due to COVID-19 Spread and Lockdown*, Subrata Mukherjee, Priyanka Dasgupta, Monalisha Chakraborty, Gopal Biswas, and Soumi Mukherjee, June 2020.
3. *Impact of Covid-19 on Stock Market, Foreign Capital Inflows and Firms with Special Reference to MSME sector in India*, Indrani Chakraborty, July 2020.

Occasional Papers

71. *Distress Financing for Out-of-Pocket Hospitalization Expenses in India: An Analysis of Pooled National Sample Survey Data*, Subrata Mukherjee and Priyanka Dasgupta, March 2021.
72. *Abused But 'Not Insulted': Understanding Intersectionality in Symbolic Violence in India*, Simantini Mukhopadhyay and Trisha Chanda, March 2021.

11

Knowledge Resource Centre (Library)

The IDSK Library is an ideal place for knowledge enhancement of academics 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) 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 20595 processed documents including books, bound journals and other processed documents of which IDSK's collection is 10263, Rabindranath Tagore Centre for Human Development Studies' collection is 4102 and the rest 6267 are gifted collections.

From April 1, 2020 to 31st March 2021, the library has accessioned 51 books and 10 MPhil dissertations. The Library subscribes 18 journals (print), 24 journals (online) of Sage publication, New York Review of Books (online), EPW (print + online), The Economist (print + online) and Review of Agrarian Studies (print + online). The library has procured JSTOR Developing Nations Collection Package (More than 2000 Journals). The Library procures Prowess IQ database and Indiastat database.

The Library possesses tools for processing documents. These 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 earlier used 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. Since April 2018 SOUL software is not used in full fledged form. From December 2017 the library has started its automation functions in Koha.

The Library provides services to different types of potential users who are the Students (M.Phil), Research Scholars (PhD), members of Academic Council, members of Governing Council, Postdoctoral Fellows, Senior Research Fellows and Staff of this institution. The internal users enjoy library lending, document delivery and reading facilities. IDSK Library also provides reading facility to external scholars.

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 Indian Statistical Institute Kolkata, DELNET and American Information Resource Centre Kolkata.

12

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 18 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 CPro
- o Win Rats
- o Win Cats
- o NVivo 12

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**

(Demography)

*Epidemiology and Public Health,
Mortality and Morbidity***Subrata Mukherjee**

(Economics)

*Health Economics, Applied
Microeconometrics, Quantitative Methods***Assistant Professors****Anwesha 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 (on lien)**

(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***ICSSR Senior Fellows****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***Uttam Bhattacharya***Machine Tool Industry in the Context of
"Making of India": An Assessment of its
Potential Contribution Towards Manufacturing
Output and Employment***Visiting Scholar****Sandra Barnreuther***Senior Researcher and Lecturer
Institut für Sozialanthropologie und
Empirische Kulturwissenschaft (ISEK)
Universität Zürich*

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-cum-caretaker
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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Governing Council

1.	Professor Sabyasachi Basu Raychaudhury (Vice-Chancellor, Rabindra Bharati University)	President
2.	Professor Achin Chakraborty (Professor of Economics, IDSK)	Director
3.	Professor Anindya Jyoti Majumdar (Professor of International Relations, Jadavpur University)	Secretary
4.	Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi (Emeritus Professor of Economics and Founder Director, IDSK)	Member
5.	Professor Abhirup Sarkar (Professor of Economics, ISI, Kolkata)	Member
6.	Professor Amitava Raychaudhuri (Professor of Physics, University of Calcutta)	Member
7.	Professor Himadri Banerjee (Former Professor of History, Jadavpur University)	Member
8.	Professor Pujan Kumar Sen (Professor of Sociology, University of Kalyani)	Member
9.	Professor Sanchari Roy Mukherjee (Professor of Economics, University of North Bengal)	Member
10.	Professor Syamal Roy	Member
11.	Mr. Manish Jain, IAS (Principal Secretary, Higher Education, Govt of West Bengal)	Member
12.	Mr. Manoj Pant, IAS (Principal Secretary, Finance, Govt of West Bengal)	Member
13.	Professor Indrani Chakraborty (Representative of Academic Staff, IDSK)	Member
14.	Dr. Bidhan Kanti Das (Representative of Academic Staff, IDSK)	Member
15.	Mr. Kaustav Tarafdar (Representative of Administrative & Technical Staff, IDSK)	Member

Financial Statement

Details of Receipts and Payments during the year 2020 - 2021 are indicated below:

I. Receipts

	Rs. in Thousand	Rs. in Thousand
a) Grant from Government of West Bengal	23,581.10	
c) Fund Received From projects	1,498.59	
d) Interest on bank deposits	448.54	
e) Miscellaneous receipts	991.10	
Total Receipts (I)		26,519.33

II. Payments

	Rs. in Thousand	Rs. in Thousand
A Payments of Revenue Expenditure		
I) Salary	28,861.68	
ii) Maintenance expenditure	2,121.40	
iii) Outstanding expenditure	2,840.77	
		33,823.85
B Payments of Capital Expenditure		
i) Office machinery & Other Equipments	-	
ii) Books & journals	644.99	
		644.99
TOTAL PAYMENTS (A + B)		34,468.84
C Difference of Opening & Closing Balance of Cash, Bank & Investment		-7949.51
TOTAL II (A + B + C)		26,519.33
TOTAL I = TOTAL II		26,519.33