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INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES KOLKATA

Annual Report 2022-23



INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES KOLKATA

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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 twenty one 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.

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 included training of research scholars in the social sciences working towards MPhil or PhD degrees. IDSK conducts 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 Chairperson, the Director of IDSK as Vice-Chairperson 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 took an initiative to set up an archive on the history of Salt Lake in celebration of the fiftieth year of the township in the past year. The generous donation of rupees one lakh that IDSK received from Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi, Founder-Director and Emeritus Professor of IDSK, is being utilised for the purpose. The archive is dedicated to the memory of Professor Jasodhara Bagchi.

IDSK at a Glance

Established in	2002
Members of faculty (as on March 31, 2023)	11
PhD awardees under IDSK faculty supervision till date	29
PhD scholars being supervised by IDSK faculty	42
MPhil Awardees till date	168
Completed sponsored projects	60
Ongoing Projects	17
Occasional Papers	78
Working Papers	5
Special Lecture Series	7

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Research Output

DEVELOPMENT STUDIES THROUGH INTERDISCIPLINARY LENS

In an invited article titled “Developing Countries: The Legacy of Keynes and Post-Keynesian Economists” published in *The Economic and Labour Relations Review* (2023) **Amiya Kumar Bagchi** undertook a critical and comprehensive review of the work of Keynes and post-Keynesians, some of whom were involved intellectually or practically in the economics of developing economies. Keynes, remaining an imperialist as far as India was concerned, nevertheless produced a corpus which has been immensely helpful in understanding developing economies and prescribing policy solutions for them. First, Keynes created the modern macroeconomics discipline and refined the concept of national income, allowing methods of collecting and organising economic and social data enabling assessment of intersectoral impacts. Second, still relevant today is his idea of an International Clearing Union, disciplining countries with excessive balance of payments surpluses or deficits, even though American opposition at Bretton Woods prevented its adoption. Third, although an economist of the short run, Keynes took up issues of vital concern for the development of an underdeveloped economy, departing from his long-held fears about excessive population growth and contributing to policies for stabilising commodity prices. While Keynes remained a Eurocentric imperialist, his dreams for Europe in general and Britain in particular proved relevant for many developing countries today. He supported public investment and state involvement in solving problems of unemployment and industrial restructuring. His analysis of the instability of stock markets and dangers of financialisation remains highly relevant in a world experiencing major stock market crashes in almost every decade since the 1970s.



In his article “P.J. Thomas an anti-imperialist economic historian and a pioneering development economist”, published in *Review of Agrarian Studies*, 12(2), July-December 2022, **Amiya Kumar Bagchi** notes that P. J. Thomas (1895-1965) wrote one of the earliest accounts of mercantilism shaped English policies from the seventeenth to the eighteenth century and the impact they had on the Indian cotton textile industry. Thomas anticipated Prebisch and Singer in demonstrating that the existing rules of international trade condemned poor, agrarian economies to remain drawers of water and hewers of wood. From the late 1920s, Thomas wrote on the problems of Indian peasants, the superiority of peasant proprietorship to landlordism, and the ways of providing cheap credit to peasants by establishing a central bank, linking peasant credit and agricultural marketing through country-wide cooperative societies and making peasant credit fungible by developing a bill market in cooperative society loans. From 1930 to 1941, Thomas wrote a series of papers on how to bring about the development of a poor economy like that of colonial India. He laid to rest the bogey of overpopulation by linking development to the freeing of peasants from the burden of landlordism, which would at one and the same time improve the incentive of peasants and their capacity to produce. His development trajectory lay along the development of the home market, eschewing any recourse to external assistance. His recommended policies would also loosen the agricultural constraint that had often bedeviled development programmes of underdeveloped countries. As a development economist he not only preceded such acclaimed pioneers as Paul Rosenstein-Rodan and Ragnar Nurkse but was far ahead of them in prescribing appropriate policies. His stress on peasant proprietorship as the sine qua non of development policies is vindicated by the fact that the only non-European countries which have got out of the under-development trap are the East Asian countries, China, South Korea, Taiwan – and Japan – and they had all carried out pro-peasant land reforms. The paper is divided into three sections. The first section deals with

Thomas's contribution to economic history. The second section is devoted to his work as a pioneering development economist. The third section deals with his work on problems of Indian agriculture and Indian peasants. We end with a short discussion of how far Thomas's vision was realized in his birth region, Kerala.

On the occasion of “Celebrating 100 years of Teaching in Anthropology in India” organised by the Indian Anthropological Society in 2022, **Bidhan Kanti Das** delivered a special lecture on Professor Deba Prasad Mukherjee, a distinguished teacher and researcher in Anthropology who immensely contributed to the growth of Indian Anthropology. The lecture has later been included as “Professor Deba Prasad Mukherjee and the essence of bio-cultural approach in Anthropology in India” in Biswas, S. Mukhopadhyaya, B. and Das, R. K. (eds) *Writings on Indian Anthropology and Anthropologists*, 2023. Professor Mukherjee's research in examining and explaining the process of human variation and conceptualisation of population structure as future directions in anthropological research and human development under bio-cultural framework, should be considered as a milestone in Anthropology in India, as bio-cultural approaches are today gaining momentum globally. He was a strong supporter of cultural diversity unique to India, and believed that anthropology can retain its uniqueness among the disciplines if researchers undertake studies under bio-cultural framework on socially relevant issues that threaten human survival. He always adhered to the realization that anthropology is well-positioned in understanding human beings at cross-cultural level. This article argues for work on persistent problems of malnutrition, infectious diseases, chronic diseases, population displacement and environmental disruptions that threaten human survival, through bio-cultural lens to make anthropology relevant. Some of the issues of contemporary relevance for anthropological research using bio-cultural framework have been identified.



HEALTH DEMOGRAPHY, DISABILITY

A good number of published research papers by the faculty of IDSK during the year fall in this area. In "Changes in Mental Health Status during the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Longitudinal Study of Residents of Indian Metropolitan Cities", published in *Journal of Mental Health* (published online 9th March, 2023) **Saswata Ghosh** and his co-authors Zakir Husain, Mousumi Dutta and S S Dutta examine changes in mental health among adult residents of metropolitan cities of India, a middle-income country reporting the second-highest COVID cases and third-highest fatalities, during the pandemic. Initial studies have reported an increase in the incidence of mental health problems during the early months of COVID-19. Longitudinal studies of changes in mental health undertaken in Low and Middle Income countries during the pandemic remain an under-researched area. Data was collected, based on a telephonic survey using the internationally accepted abridged Depression Anxiety Stress schedule (DASS-21), in August and September 2020 and July and August 2021. The sample size is 994. The data was analysed using an ordered logit model. At the onset of the pandemic, high levels of anxiety, stress and depression prevailed; their levels reduced after one year. Respondents who have experienced a decline in economic fortunes, have family members with pre-existing co-morbidity or had COVID in the family are significantly less likely to report improvement in mental health; less-educated respondents are also vulnerable. Specific sub-groups, identified as at risk, need monitoring and continued provisioning of tailor-made mental health services addressing their specific needs. Relief measures targeting economically affected households are also required.

In "Does public intervention in dealing with problems of mosquitoes/flies in India crowd out private initiatives?", published in *Applied Economics Letters*, **Subrata Mukherjee** and his co-authors Md Zakaria Siddiqui and Ronald Donato utilise two nationally representative datasets (2018 and 2012) to determine if action

undertaken by state/local government(s) in India in tackling the problems of mosquitoes/flies is associated with a crowding out of private efforts in addressing the problem; or instead is associated with greater private action. Study findings reveal that local/state government action is associated with an increase in household effort in dealing with the problem of mosquitoes/flies. Action by state/local governments in India may convey information to households which may alter their decision-making calculus regarding returns on investments triggering an increase in private effort complementing the public effort. Accordingly, simple government-sponsored advertising campaigns may not be efficacious in promulgating desired behavioural responses. The study finds that direct government action aimed at mitigating the transmission of vector-borne diseases, together with investment in education, social infrastructure and health system interaction may provide positive information signals to households thus enhancing private investment in health-related activity.

COVID-19 has brought to the fore the issue of state preparedness in mitigating health emergencies. In "The pandemic and the state: Interrogating capacity and response to COVID-19 in West Bengal", published as a UNU-WIDER (United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research) Working Paper **Achin Chakraborty** and his co-author Zaad Mahmood problematize the received wisdom of greater state capacity in mitigating the severity of the pandemic. Based on a case study of West Bengal, a subnational state of India, it shows that measures of state capacity do not map onto the pandemic response and outcomes very clearly. The three components of state capacity, namely authority, capacity, and legitimacy, show significant variation during the pandemic response. The West Bengal case shows varying government effectiveness in testing and containment due to policy interventions and infrastructural limitations, and increased state legitimacy during the initial phase of the pandemic which is subsequently undermined by populist pressures and



limited fiscal and institutional capacity that interacts with centralized decision processes. Yet, the state managed to avert the worst consequences when compared to similarly-positioned subnational states of India.

In “Citizenship, Rights and Persons with Disabilities in India”, published in *Samaj* (Vol 28, 2022) **Nandini Ghosh** argues that the neo-liberal discourse of rights focuses on rights-based legislations and empowers citizens to place claims on the state. The push toward a rights-based approach in India by disability activists sought to shift the underlying power dynamic between citizens and the state through legislation. However, such rights-based discourses underplay or negate intra-group power politics that influence claims to rights and entitlements. The paper explores the ways in which disability groups in India engaged with the concept of citizenship in the debates prior to the passage of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016. As citizenship creates whole categories of people who are subject to the government's authority, an attempt will be made to see how actors within the rights movements interacted among themselves and with the state, to ensure welfare provisions as well as citizenship rights for different groups of people from different impairment categories.

FOOD AND NUTRITION

In “Assessing the Nutritional Status of Rural Labour: The Rising Burden of Overweight”, published in *Economic and Political Weekly*, 57(42), 2022, **Simantini Mukhopadhyay** starts from the observation that recent studies have shown that a nutrition transition is underway in urban and rural India, as evident from the declining undernutrition and rapidly increasing overweight. She argues that using the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) data to supplement the analysis of Nupur Kataria (“An Assessment of the Nutritional Status of India's Rural Labour since the Early 1980s,” *EPW*, 11 December 2021) has two distinct advantages. It helps assess the nutritional changes in the recent years that the National Sample Survey Office data does not cover. It allows one to move

beyond intakes and use data on nutritional status, measured by anthropometric indicators. An analysis of the third and fourth rounds of the NFHS data points towards evidence of nutrition transition among rural labour in India between 2005–06 and 2015–16.

The study by **Saswata Ghosh**, Zakir Husain and Mousumi Dutta, titled “Cash Transfers versus Food Subsidies during COVID-19: Dietary Practices of Rural Women in Bihar, India”, published in *Development in Practice* (online on 25th November, 2022) examines the coverage and effect of cash transfers and food subsidies in India during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is based on a primary survey of rural women in the state of Bihar – a lagging state with poor public delivery systems – undertaken in January–March and September–November 2020. Although the coverage of cash transfers was wider than that of food subsidies, respondents receiving cereals and pulses under the Public Distribution System reported a lower probability of suffering from food insecurity vis-à-vis cash subsidies. The study suggests that food subsidies may be more effective when supply chains break down.

In another study titled “Changes in Dietary Practices of Mother and Child during the COVID-19 Lockdown: Results from a Household Survey in Bihar, India” published in *Food Policy* (online on 13th October, 2022) **Saswata Ghosh** and his co-authors Zakir Husain and Mousumi Dutta examine the change in Dietary Score (number of food groups consumed out of a possible eight) and proportion of respondents complying with Minimum Dietary Diversity norms (consuming at least four food groups) among women aged 15–49 years and their youngest child (aged between 7 and 36 months) during the lockdown. The outbreak of COVID-19, and the national-level lockdown to contain it, were expected to disrupt supply chains, lead to livelihood loss, and reduce household income. Studies anticipated a decline in food security in India, leading to a near famine-like situation. The present study also analyses whether ownership of ration cards and contacts with the party in power locally



helped the household to tide over the crisis. The data was collected through a two-phase primary survey undertaken in January-March 2020 (pre-lockdown period) and October-November 2020 (post-lockdown period). It was undertaken in six districts of Bihar, a state with a history of poor maternal and child health outcomes and dysfunctional delivery of health services. We find that dietary practices of women deteriorated, while that of children remained the same. The deterioration is less among households owning ration cards or having political contacts. The analysis suggests that, during pandemics or similar crisis periods, the need to supplement the supply of staple items through the Public Distribution System with a direct transfer of cash will allow households to maintain diversity in the consumption basket.

FORESTS, ENVIRONMENT

In “How to Make Forest Governance Reform Real? Formal and Informal Institutions During Implementation of the Forest Rights Act 2006 in India”, published in *Environmental Development* (Vol 43, September 2022), **Bidhan Kanti Das** argues that scholars are increasingly paying attention to institutions and processes of institutional change to find ways to improve environmental governance across the globe. The article tests the existing framework of studying the process of institutional change, particularly in the context of valued resources like forests, and argues for broader framework for improved understanding. Based on intensive field work during the implementation process of the Forest Rights Act 2006 in the state of West Bengal in India, this article examines the patterns of institutional reform in the forestry sector. It shows how ambiguities while framing rules under the central Act helped the states to craft a new institutional structure during the implementation, serving their political interests. It also demonstrates how the state agencies are working to disrupt legal institutions and maintain pre-existing institutional structure to continue internal culture of forestry and ideology of the forest department. I argue for a broader perspective that not

only includes political context and institutional characteristics, but also activities of actors who intentionally adopt informal institutions to resist change, and thereby maintain political power and/or reinforce the bureaucratic 'command and control' approach. This approach provides an improved understanding of institutional change and stability, particularly in the context of such a complex, multi-actor and multi-layered federal structure of forest governance as seen in India.

The paper “Who is Gaining, Who is Losing? Examining Benefit-sharing Mechanism (BSM) under REDD+ in India” jointly written by **Bidhan Kanti Das**, Amir Sohail and Farhat Naz, published in *Environmental Science Proceedings*, (22, 17, 2022), critically assesses the institutional structure of the Benefit Sharing Mechanism (BSM) under the Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in the global south, managing forest sustainably to conserve carbon (REDD+) in India. The paper further examines the problems and prospects of livelihood enhancement of the local community. The findings of the study indicate that the intervention of the carbon market promotes the neoliberal capitalist agenda which can adversely impact the livelihood of local communities through forest grabbing. The proposed top-down centralized model of BSM can hinder its effectiveness and increase leakage. At the local level, the existing institution of Joint Forest Management (JFM) in India failed to achieve sustainability and decentralized right-based forest management systems. The paper argues, without safeguarding the rights of local communities and securing basic necessities for local forest-dependent communities, livelihood enhancement would not be possible.

VIOLENCE

As opposed to acute political violence associated with riots and military coups, the problem of chronic and persistent political violence prevalent in less developed economies needs scrutiny. In the paper titled “Clientelism and Violence: Politics of Informal Economy”, published



in *Economic Modelling* (May, 2022), **Abhirup Sarkar** and Abhinandan Sinha argue that, in such economies, a significant part of the population is engaged in the informal sector where property rights are not well-defined and where political protection of rights is necessary for survival. To attract informal sector voters, political parties indulge in violence which signal their strengths to protect ill-defined rights. The paper shows that (a) a larger informal sector leads to more violence; (b) an increase in the relative size of the informal sector increases the winning probability of the worse performing party; (c) both worse performing and better performing parties indulge into same level of violence provided they have the same cost of causing violence. A high correlation between informal employment and political crimes among the Indian states empirically supports their argument.

In 2005, after considerable campaigning by women's groups, the Indian government brought in an important new law, the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act (PWDVA). A civil law, the PWDVA was meant to combat violence against women in familial and intimate spaces. The book *The Violent Domestic: Law, Its Practice, and Strategies of Survival*, written by **Supurna Banerjee, Nandini Ghosh**, Madhurima Mukhopadhyay, and Ruchira Goswami (Zubaan Books), evaluates the extent to which the law has been effective in addressing DV. The book uses data from seven districts of West Bengal to elaborate through the testimonies of survivors, whether the law reshapes the domestic, or whether the embeddedness of violence in the domestic is so complete that change through law must necessarily be partial and imperfect. As the law has primarily been used by married women, the book questions the heteronormative approach, to include the voices of lesbian and transgender women, as well as women with physical and psycho-social disabilities.

In "Abused but 'Not Insulted': Understanding Intersectionality in Symbolic Violence", published in the

Indian Journal of Human Development, 16(1), 2022, **Simantini Mukhopadhyay** and Trisha Chanda, note that the fourth round of the Indian National Family Health Survey shows that the proportion of women who felt that wife-beating was justified exceeded the proportion of men who felt so in India. They find 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 authors hypothesise that this absence of the feeling of insult despite facing physical violence indicates the presence of symbolic violence. This form of violence manifests through symbolic channels and cannot take place 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 organisation of production, sanctioned and legitimised by ideologies. They run instrumental variable probit regression of the likelihood of having felt insulted on the woman's economic class and social group affiliation, and find that once the experience of facing spousal physical violence and other background characteristics are controlled for, women from non-poor households are significantly less likely to have felt insulted, as compared to poor women. Furthermore, compared to women from most other social groups along the intersections of class and caste, non-poor upper caste women are less likely to report insult.

BORDERS, CITIZENSHIP, IDENTITY, RIGHTS

The project report *Life, Livelihood and Exclusion: The Char Dwellers in Brahmaputra Valley of Assam*, submitted in July 2022, was the outcome of a study carried out by **Gorky Chakraborty**, Rikil Chyrmang and Bhupen Sarmah, supported by ICSSR, New Delhi, and OKDISCD, Guwahati. The project sought to explain the socio-economic conditions of the char dwellers of Assam. The history of migration and settlement of these 'people' is over a century old. But what has transpired in their lives during that period is seldom an agenda of research in the region. The life and livelihood, struggle and adaptation,



exclusions and nationality formation of the *char* dwellers in the Brahmaputra valley of Assam are all discussed in the report. *Char* or the river islands of the river Brahmaputra and its tributaries have been under large-scale anthropogenic intervention since the beginning of the 20th century during British rule. These people hailing from densely populated districts of erstwhile East Bengal (presently Bangladesh) were encouraged and facilitated by the British administration to migrate, settle and put under the 'plough' the abundantly available fertile 'wastelands' in the Brahmaputra valley of Assam. This research study based on primary survey in chars spread in various districts of the Brahmaputra valley deals with socio-economic inequalities, land relations, agricultural practices, flood, erosion and issues related to social exclusion. The six different chapters of the Report highlight the contemporary practices, precarities as well as cohabitation of nature and people in the char areas of Assam.

Another project report *Does Identity Politics Subsume Local Governance? A Study of the Darjeeling Hills* is the outcome of a study completed in March 2023 which was supported by Azim Premji University Research Funding Program, 2022-23. In this research project **Gorky Chakraborty** and Biswanath Saha sought to understand why a self-rule struggle, despite being in vogue for more than a century, still stumbles to create the constitutionally guaranteed decentralised governance in the Darjeeling hills. It is widely accepted that the idea of local governance in India, self-rule, in other words, got further prominence through the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendment Acts in 1992. While the 73rd amendment deals with the rural local bodies (Panchayati Raj Institutions – PRIs), the 74th amendment relates to urban local bodies (Municipalities). Spread over two districts and 24 Gram Panchayats, the study seeks to interpret the duality in governance in the plains and hills of the Darjeeling district as well as the inequality between the rural and urban areas in the Darjeeling hills. What has been the scenario in the post-accord structures of

DGHCA and GTA along with the service aspiration of the hill dwellers and their fulfilment or lack of it. The study also looks into the traditional community-based organisations in the rural areas of the Darjeeling hills as well as those prevailing in North Sikkim in order to unearth the historical continuity on these issues in the Eastern Himalayas.

"Development Process: A case of A 'De-notified' Tribe in West Bengal" is a project report completed by **Bidhan Kanti Das** during the year. Sponsored by The Asiatic Society, Kolkata, the study analyses development experiences of Lodhas, based on historical data. It primarily captures the responses and reactions of Lodhas towards mainstream development interventions such as affirmative action and welfare programmes. Contrary to dominant approaches which tend to treat affirmative action (AA) as a *fait accompli*, a set of already implemented policies whose success or failure can be measured statistically, the present exercise attempts to explore how the discourses and practices of real world affirmative action and other welfare measures affect the lives of Lodhas, a 'de-notified' community as well as PVTG. This is an in-depth, historically-situated anthropological study on the consequences of affirmative action and various welfare measures which aim to reduce inequality. Historical antecedents of a community may affect the development process. Since Lodhas were designated as 'criminal tribes' in colonial period and were de-notified post-independence, the project provides a critical scrutiny of historical antecedents affecting development. Though the Lodha came under the Scheduled tribe (ST) category in 1956, most of the Lodhas do not yet possess ST certificate. Interestingly, they failed to realize its importance. Most of them never received the benefits of reservation under ST category in education and job opportunities. They identified a combination of factors ranging from lack of cultivable lands, poor education, and lack of representation in different tiers of the government, to excessive consumption of alcohol. One of the most interesting revelations is that there is a



lack of social cohesion among the Lodha community members, unlike some other communities.

The book titled *Citizenship in Contemporary Times: The Indian Context*, edited by **Gorky Chakraborty** (Routledge, 2023), engages with evolving definitions of borders and citizenship in the public discourse in the South Asia region. The traditional understanding of citizenship and belonging in the Indian context has been fraying in recent decades. The book offers an analysis of discussions on India's contested zones, the anxieties around identity and the implications of and reactions to the National Register of Citizens and the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) in different regions in the country. It interrogates the concepts of belonging, ownership and dissent through an analysis of the anti-CAA protests, the Namasudra movements, the life of Tibetan refugees in India and the precarious lives of many communities in India who are identified as stateless, refugees, migrants or outsiders. Interdisciplinary and topical, this book is expected to be of interest to students and researchers of sociology, political science, law, refugee studies, borderland studies, migration studies, public policy, social policy and development studies.

The chapter titled "Introducing the Text: Locating the Citizen" in the book mentioned in the previous paragraph, authored by **Gorky Chakraborty** and Samik Roy Chowdhury, explains the milieu in which the citizenship debate in India is located. It critiques the traditional understanding of citizenship and membership in the Indian context as they seem to be incomplete in contemporary times. What the events are that have not only initiated the present but also facilitated in metamorphosing the public perception on citizenship and the citizen has been discussed. The role of public intellectuals, academics and researchers who scrambled to understand the contemporary fell short in answering the emerging dilemmas associated with citizenship and their real and imagined angst. The chapter uses a multidisciplinary approach to shed light on certain

unspecified and often ignored spaces of citizenship, which are essential in constructing rituals of citizenship that, in turn, have become essential in understanding the contemporary discourse on citizenship in India.

In the chapter "The Outsider Within: The Emerging Politics of Citizenship in India" in the same edited volume on citizenship in contemporary times, **Gorky Chakraborty** and Samik Roy Chowdhury argue that the definition and the scope of the citizen and citizenship have always hinged on territorialist epistemologies, determined by the state. Accordingly, this identity of the citizen is steeped in deep cartographic and demographic anxieties. In this context, the figure of the 'outsider' emerges as the representation of these anxieties. The chapter highlights the centrality of the outsider in construction of the citizenship discourse in Indian and South Asian context and points out why the centrality of the outsider necessitates the creation of a 'liminal zone of exchange'. The outsider in the discourse of post-colonial nationalism assumes an essential role in the overarching project of nation formation as the credibility of the nation state as a viable social and territorial entity is contingent on its ability to locate and differentiate the outsider. These complications have been particularly acute in borderlands, where the outsider is created in order to teach the nation about the threat that it emanates to the territorial integrity of the state. In this context, the chapter highlights the recent developments in the state of Assam, where a move towards the creation of the newly emerging category of the singular non-citizen seems imminent.

Borders have long been regarded as physical lines of demarcation, which mark the 'other' and group geographical spaces into territories and nation States. However, can borders and borderlands move away from being mere State-defined markers? Can they exist simultaneously as gateways for trade and commerce while persisting as rigid institutions that disallow the movement of people from one part to another? Are some borders seen while others are only felt? The book titled



Negotiating Borders and Borderlands: The Indian Experience, edited by **Gorky Chakraborty** and **Supurna Banerjee** (Orient Blackswan, 2023), analyses Indian land borders as spaces that are both part of a national imagination and physical spaces in themselves. From realpolitik to everyday lived experiences, the volume shows how these ascribed 'in-between' sites have their own stories to tell. Through the approach of the as yet nascent genre of border studies, the chapters move beyond the Statist view of borders and provide an interpretation of borderlands from the perspective of those who inhabit such spaces. The authors show how the impact of Partition still reverberates in the borderlands of postcolonial India, through a study of the interplay of State and communities in separate border areas, located along the land boundaries of Bangladesh, China, Myanmar, and Pakistan. They discuss issues of displacement, citizenship, territoriality, and identity that followed the often arbitrary boundary demarcations during the colonial period; how disputed political borders and cross-border military action affect the everyday lives of people; the socio-cultural practices of minority communities in neighbouring countries; and finally, the crucial role played by symbolic, invisible borders that manifest through collective identities and the creation of the 'self' versus the 'other'.

In the "Introduction" to the book (*Negotiating Borders and Borderlands: The Indian Experience*) **Gorky Chakraborty** and **Supurna Banerjee** argue that contemporary globalisation has reinforced the 'assertion of space in social sciences'. An imagination, otherwise in vogue, off late, has reached a clichéd proportion bearing multiple imaginaries. This 'epoch of space' is an 'epoch of simultaneity' too. It is through simultaneity that globalisation not only transforms space but recreates social constructions associated with such transformations as well. Brenner observes, as social relations get increasingly interconnected at a global scale, it simultaneously problematises the spatial parameters associated with these relations, or the geographical

context in which they occur. Spatiality and social relations, thereby attains a multi-scalar dimension, where both interact, to produce, transform and configure one another. This transformation, therefore, impinges upon the boundaries and borders, of both physical and mental or symbolic categorisations. Analysing space, in contemporary times thereby becomes more challenging compared to an era before, where it was imagined largely in self-enclosed parcels.

In "Analysing Spatiality in a Bordered Space: The Transcendence of the Hills of Darjeeling", a chapter in *Negotiating Borders and Borderlands: The Indian Experience*, **Gorky Chakraborty** and Biswanath Saha argue that the territories of the Darjeeling hills had been in flux across the frontiers of erstwhile kingdoms and principalities in the Eastern Himalayas – Sikkim, Nepal, Bhutan. With the advent of the British, this frontier-space was transformed into several territorially bounded state spaces. This territorialisation also led the then-existing ethnic space to fragment into several state spaces. In this project of territoriality, the Darjeeling hills assumed a geopolitical and strategic significance. In contemporary times, this fragmented ethnic space exhibits the undercurrent of ethno-cultural continuity for its people, while for the state, its territoriality and geostrategic interests remain paramount. Within such a perspective, how borders are both 'seen' and 'felt', as well as visualised, appears to be an interesting area of enquiry. This chapter addresses such perspectives in its historical continuity. Within such a framework, the chapter analyses how ethno-cultural undercurrents influence the mobilisations in the Darjeeling hills situated in a hybrid borderland.

In "Measuring Impermanence: A Community Perspective on Char Land", published in *Ecology, Economy and Society* (January 2023), **Gorky Chakraborty** and Hassan Momin identify the multiple factors associated with rivers, namely, their meandering course, braided nature, slope and incline, and quantum of bed-load and



sedimentload etc., that act together over the course of floods to facilitate the process of char formation. Normally, these chars are irregular in shape and unstable in nature; their size, shape, and location change frequently as well. Under such a scenario of impermanence, the paper discusses how a char is measured and subsequently erstwhile occupancy is determined. Based on fieldwork, it identifies the role of community in the flood plains of the Ganga River in such an exercise, a process from which the state and its agencies usually shy away.

CORPORATE SECTOR, STOCK MARKET, PUBLIC FINANCE

The book entitled *Exploring What Drives Indian Stock Market During Covid-19: Fads or Fundamentals*, published by Springer (January, 2023), grew out of a series of papers **Indrani Chakraborty** wrote on the impact of Covid-19 on the Indian stock market. The emergence of Covid-19 provided an unusual opportunity to study the dynamics of stock markets in India which immediately led to a surge in stock prices. Did this boom in the stock markets help the real economy to recover and grow? Through an analysis of large empirical data, the book identifies and explains possible causes of failure of stock market booms to induce effective economic growth and investment. It shows that substantially high stock valuations in India during Covid-19 period are not guaranteed by economic fundamentals but are rather driven by investors' self-fulfilling irrational exuberance. It identifies the characteristics which would make a firm resilient in respect of stock price reactions to Covid-19 shocks in the long run. It raises issues of instability in the stock markets following the emergence of Covid-19, acknowledging the presence of herding behaviour of the foreign institutional investors in the Indian stock markets. It argues for strict regulations by Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to reduce market inefficiency and speculative investment activities so that financial crisis could be avoided which might arise if the bubbles burst in the stock markets. The study period is from 2010 to 2021,

with special emphasis on the period from February, 2020 to May, 2021, i.e. the period following the emergence of Covid-19. We consider daily, monthly, quarterly and annual data in different chapters, depending on the focus of the concerned chapter.

In the article "Effects of Diversification on Firm Performance: An Analysis of Indian Firms", published in *Indian Economic Review* (2022), **Indrani Chakraborty** and Zinnia Mitra Bose, empirically tested the relationship between diversification and firm performance using balanced panel data on 1759 firms in India. They include firms across all industries in the manufacturing and service sector during the period 2012–2018. The dynamic panel estimation results indicate that diversification measured by count, entropy index, or weighted diversification index, does not have a statistically significant impact on performance measured by Tobin's Q and Return on Assets (ROA). The results hold irrespective of firm size, firm age, and group affiliation. The robustness test, applying 2SLS method, corroborates these findings for ROA but shows a negative relation with Tobin's Q for some measures of diversification.

At a time when the state finances are under an acute stress, it was expected that the Fifteenth Finance Commission would empower the local bodies through higher grants. It did increase the amount of grants, but the stringent conditionalities threaten to reduce allocations to the states as they may not comply with the conditions, argue Hari Krishna Dwivedi, **Achin Chakraborty** and Sudip Kumar Sinha in the paper titled "Central Grants for Local Bodies: A Critique of the Fifteenth Finance Commission", published in *Economic and Political Weekly* (December 3, 2022). The Fifteenth Finance Commission has imposed stringent and rigid performance-linked conditions for the release of grants. Among other conditions, the commission has imposed entry level conditions linking the growth rate of property tax revenue of the ULBs to the GSDP growth rate. The



study shows that no correlation between property tax and GSDP growth rate exists. This might pose difficulties in the fulfillment of such conditions. It can be argued that well-designed conditional transfers can improve the fiscal health of subnational governments by adequate capacity building and ensuring that the grants received are used effectively for specific purposes. Stringent entry-level conditions may impose serious problems of fund shortage

for local bodies, which is essential for local commitment, accountability, and constitutional responsibilities of local governments. A better strategy would be to supplement the resources of local governments through the line ministries of the union government specifically meant for capacity building while providing a larger share of basic unconditional grants dovetailed to a small performance grant.

3

Sponsored Research Projects

A. Surviving Violence: Everyday Resilience and Gender Justice in Rural-Urban India'

The British Academy funded project in collaboration with Queen Mary University London, The Prajnya Trust (Tamil Nadu) and IIT Bombay Dr. Nandini Ghosh with Dr Supurna Banerjee, Institute of Development Studies Kolkata and Ruchira Goswami, National University of Juridical Services, West Bengal (NUJS) in collaboration with Dr Phillipa Williams and Professor Shazia Choudhry (Queen Mary University of London), Girija Godbole, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay and Preeti Karmakar, Nari Samata Mancha Pune; Dr Swarna Rajagopalan, Chaitanya commenced in 2021. It will end in 2023.

This multidisciplinary project explored the gap between law and policy and access to support services and justice for domestic violence victims (DV) in India. Despite legal initiatives to combat DV in the country since 2005, civil society reports little progress in reducing the issue. Women also access informal, non-legal strategies and networks in order to cope, build resilience and seek justice. The project draws on existing civil society-academic partnerships across 3 keys states: Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. In West Bengal this study was undertaken in 3 districts: Darjeeling, Kolkata and 24 Parganas (S).

2 major activities for this project taken up in 2022-23 were

- Completion of Final report and Dissemination
 - District level – there were 2 district level disseminations held, one for Kolkata and South 24 Parganas and one for Darjeeling. In both



programmes the summary of findings were shared with participants primarily from NGOs through whom we accessed the survivors and the survivors themselves.

- National Dissemination was held in January 2023 in IDSK at Kolkata where the report for the 3 states was presented to audience coming from academic and activist backgrounds.

- Advocacy and Activism

- Exhibition of photographs – a 2 days exhibition of 26 photographs taken by Debalina and some reworked by Archee Roy were featured in the exhibition, the central focus of which was survival, resilience and building new lives. The exhibition displayed at the gallery in ICCR elicited response from people from different walks of life who found it innovative and thought provoking as it did not reflect common markers of domestic violence. Rather it highlights the different strategies used by women facing violence to deal with the violence in their everyday lives.
- Awareness programme at Ranu Chaya Mancha in February 2023 where grassroots level organisations performed different acts highlighting issues around domestic violence and survival strategies
- Awareness programme and exhibition in Darjeeling – the programme was attended by different NGO representatives through whom survivors had been contacted for data collection. Select photographs by Debalina were exhibited on the Mall in Darjeeling accompanied by cultural programme and stalls by survivors to spread awareness on the issue.
- Legal Training for community workers in Darjeeling – the training was organised for local community workers on laws around domestic

violence and ways in which these can be used by women to counter, mitigate and resist violence.

B Learning With and From the Global South: Opportunities for Engaging Girls and Young Women with Disabilities Across Southern Spaces

The Social Science and Humanities Research Council, Canada funded project was commenced from January 2022. Nandini Ghosh, IDSK and Xuan Thuy Nguyen, Carleton University, Canada are the principal investigators along with co-investigators Claudia Mitchel, McGill University, Canada, Deborah Stienstra, University of Guelph, Canada and Relebohile Moletsane, University of KwaZulu-Natal South Africa.

This project examines the ways in which girls and young women with disabilities across three post-colonial contexts - Vietnam, India, and South Africa - engage in knowledge production in relation to their experience with different forms of structural, physical, expressive, and institutional violence in relation to their body and security. This study uses decolonial and community-engaged arts-based approaches, including participatory visual methodologies to engage girls with disabilities in each of the sites. The study in West Bengal has recruited 5 girls (aged 10-18) and 15 young women (aged 20-35) through local DPO memberships. The first set of workshops in the first year included participatory arts-based methods like cellphilm (short videos shot with cell phone), and zine productions (arts-based locally-produced magazines) to create awareness among the participants about power relations, issues faced by disabled girls and women in order to foster social change among marginalized communities and individuals. The project has started from January 2022, has created a small network of girls and women with disabilities in 24 Parganas (S) who are highlighting the issues they have faced in their lives in different ways with the relevant authorities. The project will finish in 2024.



C. Revisiting the Craft of History Writing for Children

The Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, South Asia funded project (2022-2023) aims to produce a series of illustrated history books for children of 12–14 years of age that will help them to critically engage with the past. The purpose is to make the young readers curious and interested in India and South Asia's history. Written in an anecdotal style, from an intersectional perspective, the books in this series intend to develop empathy in the minds of the young readers towards the others' experiences of the past. While doing so, the books follow the grammar of history-writing by being factually correct and historiographically informed. Three books have been published in 2022. The subjects covered are – partition, language politics in the Indian subcontinent and postcolonial history of citizenship. Three more books are being written in 2023 which include history of environment, war and consumption. The books are originally written in Bengali and then they are translated into English and Assamese. Scroll-painters are working with the researchers to produce illustrations for the books.

As a part of the project several dissemination initiatives with school teachers, children, parents and activists have been undertaken. Anwesha Sengupta is the principal investigator of this ongoing project.

D. Navigating Precarity: Analysing Multiple Narratives of Citizenship in Assam

The project supported by Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung and Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group, Kolkata investigated a location where the precarities of rights and status become competing articulations of citizenship. For this purpose, a multi stakeholder analysis of citizenship has been used based on the historical and the contemporary political developments in Assam - a location that has faced an influx of displaced population and 'illegal' migrants and thereby understands how the presence of both these categories informs the perspectives on statelessness, belonging and associated

anxieties. The study peeled through the layered perspective on the precariousness associated with citizenship through fieldwork at Brahmaputra and Barak valleys and addressed the role of mobilisation and the agency of different groups and their claims vis-a-vis the state.

To gain a varied perspective on citizenship interviews were conducted through semi structured questionnaires with political/human rights activists, lawyers, journalists and individuals accused of being foreigners. The first theme was related to the long history of mobilisation in the state of Assam against the influx of outsiders and how our participants, who belong to two distinct locations, remember and relate to these movements. The second theme looked at the role of the judicial, quasi-judicial and the policing institutions/agencies involved in the process of validating one's citizenship status from the perspective of the participants. Additionally, given the salience of various government and legal documents, this project also involved extensive content analysis as well. Gorky Chakraborty is the Chief Investigator and Samik Roy Chowdhury is the co-investigator of this project. The Report will be submitted in April 2023.

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

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

It is to be noted that IDSK so far completed the project on Eastern India, Southern India and Northern India almost all of which have been published by the ICHR. These volumes have been much appreciated by distinguished historians of India and abroad.



Now, IDSK is concentrating the research on Western India. Data have been collected and documents have been compiled on Western India from various libraries and archives of Mumbai, Pune, Delhi and Kolkata. The Mumbai collections mostly focus on the Report of native newspapers on the various aspects of public life including the quality of life, of the period from 1860-1880. Several sections have been chosen as a path to move forward viz. Administrative Reports, Education Reports, Settlement Reports, Jail Reports, Vaccination and Sanitary Reports, Forest Reports. This pattern is adopted from the past volumes. But in this volume particular attention will be given on trade reports, Cotton Department Reports, Reports on Cotton Mills and the development of the banking system of Bombay Presidency.

In May 2022, the meeting of the Joint Project Committee was convened where the progress of work till date was presented. At present the final draft of the volume on Western India in the Late Nineteenth Century Part I (1860 – 1880) is ready for presentation before the Editorial Committee of the Project at a mutually convenient date between ICHR and IDSK

F. Does Identity Politics Subsume Local Governance! A Study of the Darjeeling Hills

This study is supported by Azim Premji University Research Funding Programme. Dr. Gorky Chakraborty is the Chief Investigator and Biswanath Saha is the co-investigator of this project.

It is widely accepted that the idea of local governance in India, self-rule, in other words, got further prominence through the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendment Acts in 1992. While the 73rd amendment deals with the rural local bodies (Panchayati Raj Institutions – PRIs), the 74th amendment relates to urban local bodies (Municipalities). Interestingly, this study seeks to understand why a self-rule struggle, despite being in

vogue for more than a century, still stumbles to create the constitutionally guaranteed decentralised governance in the Darjeeling hills. Spread over two districts and 24 Gram Panchayats, the study seeks to interpret the duality in governance in the plains and hills of the Darjeeling district as well as the inequality between the rural and urban areas in the Darjeeling hills. What has been the scenario in the postaccord structures of DGHCA and GTA along with the service aspiration of the hill dwellers and their fulfilment or lack of it. The study also looks into the traditional community-based organisations in the rural areas of the Darjeeling hills as well as those prevailing in North Sikkim in order to unearth the historical continuity on these issues in the Eastern Himalayas. This project has been completed in March 2023.

G. An Evaluation of the Impact of Intervention by Udayan on Children and Families from Leprosy Colonies in West Bengal and the Way Forward

The non-government organisation Udayan is known for its important work with the children from the leprosy-affected families. The intervention it has been making over the past fifty years of its existence is based on the need for breaking the chain of intergenerational transmission of infection-poverty-squalor in one of the most marginalised groups in society. The focus, therefore, has been on providing educational opportunities to the children in those families. To fine tune its activities to the changing needs of the communities in the colonies, Udayan approached IDSK to conduct a rigorous evaluation study on the impact of its intervention and identify the needs. The study, conducted by the team comprising Achin Chakraborty, Subrata Mukherjee, Saswata Ghosh and Rivu Basu, looks into the outcome, process and structural/organisational aspects. While the outcome indicators include health indicators like anthropometric measures of nutrition, indicators of learning achievement, indicators of success in earning income for livelihood, and so on, the process aspect



includes the operational side of service delivery, the structural aspect will be captured by the availability of resources – physical and human. Samples of households have been drawn from a select number of colonies/settlements where leprosy affected people reside. Detailed and separate questionnaires have been used to collect data from the two age groups – school-going and those who have passed that age and are in the job market. Qualitative analysis of individual success stories of Udayan children has also been done. The report was submitted in June, 2022.

H. Dropout Trends Before and During Covid Pandemic in West Bengal (with special reference to Girls' Dropout)

The project, sponsored by Paschim Banga Samagra Shiksha Mission, is being conducted in two phases. In the first phase, primary survey has been conducted in select villages in all the blocks of West Bengal. The total number of households surveyed turns out to be 6.43 lakh. The overall percentage of out-of-school children of age group 7-14 years is found to be less than one per cent, and non-attendance among those who are enrolled the age group 7-14 years is also very low. However, among the age group 15-16 years, the percentage of out-of-school boys is 5.35, whereas for girls it is 1.14. Dakshin Dinajpur, Hooghly and Siliguri (school district) are the districts where the percentages of out-of-school children are higher than in others. The gap further widens in the age group 17-18. In this group, 14.64 per cent among the boys and 4.87 per cent girls are out-of-school. However, non-attendance is rather low among those who are enrolled. Muslims and Scheduled Tribes represent disproportionately more among the out-of-school. Concentration of out-of-school children is the highest among the bottom quintile (poorest 20 per cent of the households). A quarter of the boys age 17-18 in the bottom quintile are out-of-school. The most interesting finding perhaps is the relationship between out-of-school

and migration status of the household. In households from which at least one person has migrated, children are more likely to be out-of-school. In all the sub-categories, out-of-school boys always outnumber out-of-school girls. The second phase of the survey of households with detailed questionnaire in five select districts will start in April 2023. The study is being conducted by Achin Chakraborty, Saswata Ghosh and Simantini Mukhopadhyay.

I. Early Marriage among Girls in West Bengal: An Investigation through Triangulation of Available Data

Despite sustained efforts to reduce the incidence of early marriage among girls, the percentage of women age 18-29 who were first married by exact age 18 was the highest in West Bengal among all the Indian states in 2019-21 (NFHS-5). What is more disturbing is that though the rate declined between NFHS-3 and NFHS-4 (also between DLHS-3, 2007-08) and DLHS-4 (2012-13)), it stubbornly remained at 42% between NFHS-4 and NFHS-5. With the lowest TFR (1.4) and relatively better female literacy rate among the Indian states, West Bengal's high under-age marriage statistics are puzzling. The objectives of the study, sponsored by the Department of Women and Child Development and Social Welfare, Government of West Bengal, are (a) to explore the spatial pattern in early marriage of girls in West Bengal and to identify the hotspots; (b) to compare West Bengal with states at similar and poorer levels of human development that have done better in terms of reducing early marriage of girls and identify the factors behind such high figures in West Bengal, (c) to carry out harmonization, triangulation and validation of data from different sources to reconcile the inconsistencies and puzzles with respect to early marriage; (d) to undertake a systematic review of existing research on child marriage; (e) to evaluate how far Kanyashree has been effective in reducing early marriage of girls in West Bengal. The study is being conducted by



Achin Chakraborty, Saswata Ghosh and Simantini Mukhopadhyay.

J. Research Study on Status of Disabled Children in Child Care Institutions in West Bengal

This study is funded by Directorate of Child Rights and Trafficking Government of West Bengal and the duration of the project is from June 2022-March 2023. Nandini Ghosh is the Chief Investigator of this project.

There are a considerable proportion of children with disabilities living in child care institutions in India. One of the main reasons is that persons with disabilities are accorded very poor social value, which means that disabled children are more likely to be abandoned and land up in different residential institutions, run either by the state or private agencies. Children and persons with disabilities require long term rehabilitation support and a range of interventions to enable them to enjoy a better quality of life and become capable of contributing to the growth of the nation. This research has examined the extent to which select CCIs, across 13 districts of West Bengal are inclusive and contribute to the development of persons with disabilities. The disability inclusion objective attempted to examine the different interventions undertaken for the development of persons with disabilities and the extent to which they are able to access a standard quality of life and participate in the larger society. The study is nearing completion and the 3 major outputs from this research till date is the final report on the inclusive status of CCIs, a resource directory that organisations can use to access technical support and manual that can help CCI staff to intervene with children with disabilities at a basic level.

K. The Impact of Male Out-Migration on Women's Financial Autonomy and Child Well-Being in Rural West Bengal

This ICSSR funded project is coordinated by Subrata

Mukherjee. While improved economic circumstances after husband's migration has been noted in a range of studies, the issues of autonomy and decision-making power of the left-behind wives, who takes care of children including parents-in-laws in many cases with the remittance money they receive from their migrant husbands, have been often omitted from many studies on migration in Indian context. The present study attempts to examine the changes in autonomy and empowerment with respect to financial decision-making power the married women experience and encounter as a result of out-migration of their husbands. The study also investigated how the changed autonomy and empowerment affect resource allocation for their children's health and education. A part of the study is based on data from a primary survey which was conducted in five districts in the state of West Bengal, namely Jalpaiguri, Murshidabad, Birbhum, Nadia and South 24 Parganas. A total of 20 villages were selected for survey in the select districts. In each select village, house listing was done and a sample size of 37 or 38 households was allotted to each village alternatively. A total of 750 married women (302 belonging to non-migrant households, 145 from returned migrant households and 303 with current migrant husband) were interviewed. For conducting the quantitative survey, structured questionnaires were prepared on household- and child-related issues. The primary survey took place in August and September 2022. The analysis of primary survey data is mainly focusing on the following empirical issues: (1) women's work participation; (2) decision making power and freedom of mobility; (3) women's exposure to digital media; and (4) freedom of spending money and resource allocation.

L. Life, Livelihood and Exclusion: The Char Dwellers in Brahmaputra Valley of Assam

This project funded by ICSSR, New Delhi and OKDISCD, Guwahati, and carried out by Gorky Chakraborty, Rikil



Chyrmang and Bhupen Sarmah, seeks to explain the socio-economic conditions of the char dwellers of Assam. The history of migration and settlement of these 'people' are over a century old. But what has transpired in their lives during that period is seldom an agenda of research in the region. We want to discuss here the life and livelihood, struggle and adaptation, exclusions and nationality formation of the char dwellers in the Brahmaputra valley of Assam. Char or the river islands of the river Brahmaputra and its tributaries have been under large-scale anthropogenic intervention since the beginning of the 20th century during British rule. These people hailing from densely populated districts of erstwhile East Bengal (presently Bangladesh) were encouraged and facilitated by the British administration to migrate, settle and put under the 'plough' the abundantly available fertile 'wastelands' in the Brahmaputra valley of Assam. Since then, it has been over a hundred years now but there is a lack of any comprehensive study on the economic and social issues confronting the lives of these people except for a few limited ones. This research study based on primary survey in chars spread in various districts of the Brahmaputra valley deals with socio-economic inequalities, land relations, agricultural practices, flood, erosion and issues related to social exclusion. The six different chapters of the Report highlight the contemporary practices, precarities as well as cohabitation of nature and people in the char areas of Assam.

M. Salt Lake: Exploring a 50 Years' History

This IDSK funded project is coordinated by Anwesha Sengupta, Supurna Banerjee and Sanjoy Kar. Salt Lake also known as Bidhannagar, located in the eastern fringes of Kolkata is probably the most completely planned township around Kolkata. While the township in its present form is still quite new completing 50 years in 2022, this area had been under consideration for various administrative purpose from late eighteenth century

when these were marshlands. Overshadowed by Kolkata, Salt Lake remains almost entirely absent in academic research. The historians of the cities of the Global South have largely focused on colonial urbanism. For the urban geographers, sociologists and anthropologists, the contemporary smart towns have been the main draw. Salt Lake, conceived and developed in the early postcolonial era, has remained invisible to both groups. It is in many ways similar to the Nehruvian modernist cities like Chandigarh. The 1950s and '60s was a very significant moment in the history of urban development in the Global South when building cities in 'greenfield sites' became synonymous with modernist development. Cities like Salt Lake, like Chandigarh, attracted foreign experts and funding and emerged as symbols of modern development. This is a moment that requires rigorous scholarly intervention and here Salt Lake can be an important case study. In the last 50 years Salt Lake has gained locational, administrative and political importance. Built by reclaiming a portion of East Kolkata Wetlands, on which thousands had depended for their livelihood and which had been crucial to the sewerage network of Kolkata, Salt Lake is an important site for studying political ecology, wetland management and environmental consequences of urbanization. There has hardly been any systematic scholarly work on Salt Lake focusing on any of these aspects. An archive of primary and secondary sources and oral history interviews for researchers has been created at IDSK to facilitate academic research that will be the central source material for any such kind of exploration. The newspapers, oral interviews, photographs and other collected items provide rich material on Salt Lake's politics, culture, history, society and ecology. Along with the local histories, they are therefore, of great importance for any scholarly work. Archiving Salt Lake then is important for preserving local history and making it available for the community and scholarship alike. An exhibition was organised to highlight the collection of the archives.



N. 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 report writing is under process. The research initially started 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 about various aspects of Sagar Island. Using Remote Sensing and Geographic Information System (RS & GIS) and Census data the following 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. However, two rounds of field work have been carried out in August 2018 and in September 2018 in two Sagar island – 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 who are 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? Ultimately, we try to understand who are successful, who are not and why. The project report will be submitted by the end of April 2023.

O. Understanding Development Process: A Case of 'Denotified' Tribes 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 perspective on the '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. Focus group discussions about the meaning of development, development inputs, perceptions about their own community and other neighbouring communities among the household members of selected Lodha villages of studied blocks of Jhargram and West Midnapore have been completed. Some in-depth interviews of key members of Lodha Sabar Kalyan Samity of Jhargram and West Midnapore as well as members of Lodha Development Cell of Backward Class Welfare Dept of West Bengal about Lodha as community and constraints of improving livelihoods in the region. Interviews of concerned administrative authorities at block and Panchayat level as well as Panchayat functionaries are under process to understand responses of state and political representatives of other communities about the community and experiences about them. Transcription of some focus group interviews and in-depth interviews is already completed. Archival works on Lodha-Sabar debate and their criminality are under process.



P. Mapping Science and Technology Needs in West Bengal

The Department of Science & Technology, Government of India (DST, GoI) had come up with a plan to map the Science & Technology (S&T henceforth) needs in different sectors to aid socio-economic development in the country. The purpose of the plan was to identify the immediate needs of common people on ground in the context of possible S&T intervention (i.e. people's needs related to life and livelihood which can be catered to by S&T), on the bases of which various institutions in the field of Science & Technology can act to mitigate. For the uniform implementation of this plan, DST had urged all the State Councils of Science & Technology to undertake this project. This study was commissioned by the West Bengal State Council of Science and Technology (WBSCST), a wing under the Department of Science, Technology and Biotechnology (DSTBT), Govt. of West

Bengal. The importance of this study lies in its very structure and intent; it moves beyond the normalized position of S&T as abstract pinnacles of knowledge to ground it in the concrete social conditions of common human lives. This report produces knowledge about S&T needs from within social conditions with the intentions of mitigating those needs, also amidst social conditions. This project thus opens up a rare space of interaction between material science and social science in this world dominated by specialized knowledge within disciplinary clutches, the importance of which in the policy domain can hardly be exaggerated. The study made use of diverse materials available on the subject and extensive interviews with various stakeholders. Achin Chakraborty and Subrata Mukherjee coordinated the project, and Prithwiraj Saha and Aryaman Ray, associates of the project, substantially contributed to it. The report was submitted in November, 2022.

4

Collaborations

1. The University of Calcutta

In 2016, IDSK launched PhD programme in Development Studies, in collaboration with the University of Calcutta. The PhD degree continues to be conferred by the University of Calcutta (CU). The Research Advisory Committee comprises the faculty representatives of IDSK, different departments of CU, and eminent professors from other institutions/universities as external members.

2. Finance Department, Government of West Bengal

The Finance Department, Government of West Bengal entered into a collaboration with IDSK to receive research support in the areas of state finances including revenue analysis, expenditure analysis, debt analysis as well as other areas of mutual interest. IDSK is also expected to deliver relevant and customized training programmes based on invitation from Finance Department for the participants identified by Finance Department and other key stakeholders.

3. Asian Development Research Institute (ADRI)

IDSK has entered into active collaboration with the Asian Development Research Institute (ADRI), Patna in 2021. This joint collaborative programme may include joint research studies, providing logistic support to scholars from IDSK and ADRI, undertaking studies on Bihar, exchange of faculties and joint organisation of seminars or short training programmes for research scholars.



4. Collaboration with researchers from other institutions

IDSK faculty	Collaborated with	Affiliation
Indrani Chakraborty	Paul Kattuman	Judge Business School, University of Cambridge
Achin Chakraborty	Zaad Mahmood	Presidency University
Saswata Ghosh	Zakir Husain, Mausumi Dutta	Presidency University
Subrata Mukherjee	Md Zakaria Siddiqui Ronald Donato	Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation, Kerala University of South Australia, Australia
Nandini Ghosh	Xuan Thuy Nguyen; Claudia Mitchel; Deborah Stienstra; Relebohile Moletsane	Social Science and Humanities Research Council, Canada
Nandini Ghosh and Supurna Banerjee	Queen Mary University London, The Prajnya Trust (Tamil Nadu) and IIT Bombay	British Academy
Simantini Mukhopadhyay	Enrica Chiappero Martinetti	University of Pavia, Italy

5. Collaborative Programmes

Book discussion on 'The Violence on Domestic Spaces and Experiences of Negotiation' on the book *The Violent Domestic : Law, Its Practice and Strategies of Survival*, Zubaan 2022, 23 December 2022

A national seminar on 'Exploring Aspects of Everyday Life' in collaboration with Indian Sociological Society, 27 & 28 June 2022.

Two-Day Eastern Regional Conference on 'Inequality and Distress: Women's Lives in Eastern India' organised by Indian Association for Women's Studies (IAWS) in collaboration with IDSK, 17-18 November, 2022.

A workshop in collaboration with Calcutta Research Group and Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung on 'Global Protection of Refugees and Migrants: Climate Change, Informal Labour and Worldwide Protection Mechanism', 3 June 2022.

5

Conferences / Workshops / Seminars

Information Infrastructure of Social Science Research in India

A two-day international conference on *Information Infrastructure of Social Science Research* in India organized by IDSK in collaboration with ICSSR was held on 02-03 March 2023, coordinated by Sanjoy Kar and Ashok Pal. The conference aimed to explore the challenges and opportunities related to information infrastructure of social science research in India. In the last few decades, we have experienced a substantial increase in the volume of scientific literature related to social science research and a trend is expected to continue. This opens up fundamental challenges including information infrastructure and representation of scientific knowledge, thereby making those scholarly resources accessible to social scientists. Eminent academics, scholars and information professionals from India and abroad participated in this offline conference. There were 37 papers presented and keynote address was delivered by Amiya Kumar Bagchi, Emeritus Professor of IDSK. The conference provided an excellent opportunity for researchers, academics and practitioners to exchange ideas and knowledge on social science research infrastructure and related topics. The plenary, technical and parallel sessions covered a range of themes, offering new insights and approaches to data curation and stewardship, access to information resources and services, democratization of knowledge, digital landscape, and sustainable research ecosystem. The participants discussed the challenges of digitization, data quality assurance, and the digital divide in education and society. The conference also explored the opportunities and challenges of interdisciplinary research in the age of big data. The technical sessions provided an opportunity for researchers to present their research and engage in discussions with other scholars.



Scholars from IDSK, IIT Bhubaneswar, IIT Madras, University of Hyderabad, University of Kerala, Mahatma Gandhi University (Kerala), Madurai Kamaraj University (Tamil Nadu), British Council Kolkata, IIM Calcutta, ISI Kolkata, University of Kalyani, Vidyasagar University, University of North Bengal, and from University of Calcutta presented, and actively participated in the discussion.

The speakers in the conference included J. Dennis Rajakumar (EPW Research Foundation, Mumbai), Saibal Kar (Centre for Studies in Social Sciences Calcutta, India), A.R.D. Prasad (Indian Statistical Institute, Bengaluru, India), Mary K Shenk (Pennsylvania State University, USA), Dorothea Stricker (Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany), Parthasarathi Mukhopadhyay (University of Kalyani), Durga Sankar Rath (Vidyasagar University), Sabuj K. Chaudhuri, (University of Calcutta), Amiya Kumar Bagchi, Achin Chakraborty, Saswata Ghosh, Subrata Mukherjee, and Monalisha Chakraborty (IDSK).

One of the highlights of the conference was the panel discussion on "Issues in Scholarly Communication" held on March 03, 2023. The discussion was moderated by Achin Chakraborty (IDSK). The session included panelists from renowned institutions in India and the USA who explored various challenges facing the scholarly communication landscape, such as IPR, monopolization of the publishing industry, predatory publications, scientific misconducts, and artificial intelligence (AI) in scientific writing and its implications for the future of research and communication. The discussion also explored possible solutions, including open access and open publishing models, and emerging trends such as "one nation, one subscription" for accessing scholarly literature. One can watch it in full at the link provided - <https://youtu.be/yIAQWAUKknw>

Surviving Violence: Gender Justice and Everyday Resilience in Rural-urban India

The national dissemination programme of the British Academy funded project was organised by Nandini

Ghosh and Supurna Banerjee organized on 30 January 2023. Attended by other research partners, namely, IIT (Bombay), Nari Samata Manch (Pune), Chaitanya Consultancy (Tamil Nadu), Oxford University (UK) and Queen Mary University London (UK) the dissemination event aimed at policy level intervention as well as raising public awareness. On the first day the launch of the National Report was held along with presentation of research findings by all the three states. The event was attended by government officials, academics and activists.

On the next day an Advocacy Awareness programme was held in Ranu Chhyaya mancha which involved small plays by activist groups aimed at raising awareness around domestic violence. The event saw a high footfall.

The three participating sites had all commissioned a photographer to take photos around issues of domestic violence. These photos would be open access and usable by anyone working on issues around gender-based violence. On the third day we organised the launch event of the photography project along with a panel discussion with the photographers and artist.

The last event of the programme was a dissemination programme in Darjeeling. The key findings of research were presented to women's organisations working on issues of gender-based violence. This was followed by a meeting about possible collaborations with these organisations to more effectively address issues of gender-based violence.

Photo exhibition on 'Gender Justice and Everyday Resilience: Surviving Domestic Violence in West Bengal'

Given the deficit of images in public spaces that present complex everyday realities of domestic violence, the British Academy funded project 'Surviving Violence: Gender Justice and Everyday Resilience in rural-urban India' commissioned three photographers to produce



images around issues of domestic violence and resilience. We worked with photographer Debalina and artist Archee Ray to produce 26 images depicting the key findings from the research project such as everydayness of domestic violence, livelihood, resilience, friendship etc. The selection of photos were exhibited at the Abanindranath Tagore Gallery, Rabindranath Tagore Centre, Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) on 7th and 8th December, 2022. Nandini Ghosh and Supurna Banerjee organized this exhibition.

Archives and the Production of New Forms of Knowledge

A two-day international conference on Archives and the Production of New Forms of Knowledge organized by IDSK in collaboration with ICSSR was held on 10-11 August 2022. Anwesha Sengupta, Supurna Banerjee and Sanjoy Kar coordinated the conference. The state, as the custodian of government records, has, through practices of appraisal, cataloguing, usage and limited access to selected people mediate and construct what is largely recognized as official sources of knowledge. In the last few decades, however, there has been much reflection and critique on the embeddedness of institutionalised archives as the central/only source of authentic

knowledge. Consequently, archiving initiatives by individuals and communities—as modes of solidarity, resistance and memory keeping—have challenged the hegemony of the state in the production of knowledge. Such initiatives have radically challenged the statist versions of a nation's history. Presentations were invited which talked about such forms of archives. The presenters spoke of not just alternative sites of archives but also spoke of methods of archiving beyond the traditional. Documentation of abandoned factory through a photo project was not just the tale of specific but a documentation of the tale of neo-liberalism and worker disenfranchisement. Presentations reflected on how sensory archives document urban history with its hierarchies, violence and labour or the processes of archiving local music. Yet others engaged critically with institutional archives and the complexities in silences and definiteness of these sites as well as engaging with the politics of multiple forms of archiving. Speakers also reflected on initiatives of archiving as activism for a marginalized population rendered invisible in the mainstream archives. The conference ended with a panel discussion on the local history of Salt Lake and emphasised the need to archive this space.

Webinars by IDSK Faculty & Visiting Scholars

Date	Speaker	Title
1 April 2022	Dipankar Sinha Professor of Political Science University of Calcutta	<i>Pandemic, Governance and Communication: The Curious Case of Covid-19</i>
1 June 2022	Sadeka Halim Professor of Sociology University of Dhaka	<i>Indigenous Communities in Bangladesh</i>
2 September 2022	Sandra Barnreuther Assistant Professor University of Lucerne	<i>The Medical Gaze in a Digital Age: Datafying the Primary Sector in India</i>



Date	Speaker	Title
9 September 2022	Anjan Mitra Architect & Independent Researcher	<i>Temporal Spaces and Urban Transformation – Its Role, Process and Manifestation: An Understanding of the Durga Pujo of Kolkata</i>
14 October 2022	Tiyasha Sengupta Assistant Professor Institute of Engineering & Management, Kolkata	<i>In Support and Solidarity: Exploring Advertisements of Cultural Productions of West Bengal during Bangladesh Liberation War 1971</i>
11 November 2022	Mau Dasgupta Professor, Department of Sanskrit University of Calcutta	<i>The Poetesses of Ṛg-Veda</i>
2 December 2022	Pallavi Banerjee Associate Professor of Sociology University of Calgary, Canada	<i>Beholden to Employers: Gendered and Racialized Dependence</i>
9 December 2022	Pranab Bardhan Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Economics, University of Berkeley, USA	<i>Why Working Classes All Around the World Turning Right, not Left? (Foundation Day Lecture)</i>
24 February 2023	Siddhartha Mitra Professor of Economics Jadavpur University	<i>Robotization and Economic Development</i>
10 March 2023	Somdeep Chatterjee Assistant Professor of Economics, IIMC	<i>Information, Revealed Preferences and Fertility: Evidence from a Family Planning Intervention in India</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 27 students are enrolled in the programme who are at various stages of completion of their research and one candidate received his degree during this academic year.

7

Student Dissertations

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.	Rivu Basu	<i>Causes of Poor Adherence to Long Term Therapies: The Case of Anti-Tubercular Drugs</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Achin Chakraborty
6.	Pallavi Mondal	<i>Political Economy of Public Policy in Select States of India</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Achin Chakraborty
7.	Sharannyo Banerjee	<i>A Social History of Alcohol and other Substances in India.</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Nandini Ghosh Achin Chakraborty



Sl.No.	Name	Research Topic	Institute/ University	Supervisor(s)
8.	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
9.	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
10.	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
11.	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
12.	Ujjayini Roy	<i>Product Market Competition and Firm Behaviour</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Indrani Chakraborty
13.	Zinnia Mitra Bose	<i>Diversification and its Impact on Indian Corporate Firms</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Indrani Chakraborty
14.	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
15.	Kundan Ghosh	<i>An Ethnographic Study of the Culture Industry of Sholapith Craft in West Bengal</i>	University of Calcutta	Bidhan Kanti Das
16.	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 Arnab Das
17.	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



Sl.No.	Name	Research Topic	Institute/ University	Supervisor(s)
18.	Srija Mandal	<i>Living on the Streets: An Ethnography of ' Homelessness' in Kolkata</i>	University of Calcutta	Bidhan Kanti Das Arnab Das
19.	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
20.	Biswanath Saha	<i>Spatiality and Identity in a Borderland: Understanding the Gorkhaland Movement</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Gorky Chakraborty
21.	Himangshu Prasad	<i>Economics of Farm Viability and Income Diversity: A Case Study of the Farm House-holds in Southern Assam</i>	National Institute of Technology, Silchar	Gorky Chakraborty Gurudas Das NIT. Silchar
22.	Naorem Pushparani Chanu	<i>Labour Migration : A Study of Out-Migrants from North-East India to Delhi</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Gorky Chakraborty
23.	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
24.	Kumar Sankar Das	<i>Welfare State, Social Policy and Conflict in India</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Saswata Ghosh Zaad Mahmood Presidency University
25.	Gopal Biswas	<i>Economic Growth and Population Health: A District Level Analysis of India</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Subrata Mukherjee
26.	Priyanka Dasgupta	<i>Disease Burden, Govt. Health Expenditure and Household Vulnerability : A Study of Indian States</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Subrata Mukherjee
27.	Monalisha Chakraborty	<i>Parental Migration and Child Well being</i>	IDSK-University Calcutta	Subrata Mukherjee



Sl.No.	Name	Research Topic	Institute/ University	Supervisor(s)
28.	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
29.	Rimjhim Bhattacharjee	<i>The Representation of the Sexualities of Disabled People in Indian Writing in English</i>	University of Calcutta	Nandini Ghosh
30.	Sanchari Naskar	<i>Exploring Domestic Work: A Sociological Study of Dynamics of the Middle-class Households of Contemporary Kolkata</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Nandini Ghosh
31.	Suchandra Bhaduri	<i>Envisaging Initiatives for the Disabled in Colonial India: A Case Study of the Blind and the Deaf</i>	IDSK- 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.	Sanchari Chakraborty	<i>Food in the Political Landscape of West Bengal: 1947-1967</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Anwesha Sengupta Simantini Mukhopadhyay
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



Sl.No.	Name	Research Topic	Institute/ University	Supervisor(s)
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>Power, Legitimacy and Political Praxis: Understanding Democracy in Contemporary India.</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
42.	Avishek Mistry	<i>Interrogating Dalit Women's Literary Representation, Translation and Publication in the Context of Dalit Life Writings from Bengal</i>	IDSK- University of Calcutta	Supurna Banerjee

8

Faculty Activities

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

Achin Chakraborty

Invited lecture on 'Epistemological Issues in Social Sciences' to participants in a Certificate Course for *Quality Enhancement Workshop: Methodologies of Social Research* organized by Bijoy Krishna Girls' College, Howrah, in collaboration with Muralidhar Girls' College, Kolkata, PN Das College, Palta and Indian Association for Asian and Pacific Studies, under the aegis of NAAC, 29 March, 2023.

Invited special lecture on 'Knowledge for Development' delivered at the three-day seminar on *Indian Knowledge System for LIS and Allied Disciplines* at Netaji Subhas Open University, 24 March, 2023

Special lecture on 'Tacit and codified knowledge in the time of rapid technological development' at the two-day seminar on *Information Infrastructure of Social Science Research in India* at IDSK, March 02-03, 2023.

Panelist in the panel discussion on *Social Sciences in Indian Universities: Debates and Directions* at the Department of Political Science, Presidency University, 22 February, 2023.

Presented invited Adam Smith Memorial Lecture titled 'Market Sceptic Adam Smith and the Contemporary World' at the University of Dhaka, organised by Banglar Pathshala Foundation, 14 February, 2023.

Keynote address titled 'Labour and Welfare Regimes: A Political Economy Perspective', at the National Seminar on Revisiting 75 Years of Indian



Independence at the Department of Political Science, Rabindra Bharati University, 03 February, 2023.

Delivered Keynote Lecture titled 'Digital Divide as a Barrier to Achieving SDGs' at the International Conference on Digital India – A Transformative Platform in Achieving SDGs, at Aliah University, 10 January, 2023.

Delivered Keynote Address at the webinar on *Changing Trajectories of Indian Education Policies: National and Regional Perspectives* jointly organized by UGC Human Resource Development Centre and Department of Education, University of North Bengal, 15 December, 2022.

Panellist in the Panel Discussion on 'Inequality' in the panel series on India: *Marching Towards 100*, organised by the Department of Economics, Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence, Delhi NCR, 10 December, 2022.

Spoke on 'Child Budget: Allocations and Expectations on Child Protection Aspects' at the Media Sensitization Workshop on *Child Protection, Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery*, organised by British Deputy High Commission and CRY, 19 November, 2022.

Spoke on 'Supply-Demand Issues in Education' in the Refresher Course in Economics on the theme *Contemporary Issues in Public Policy* at UGC Human Resource Development Centre, University of Mumbai, 09 November, 2022.

Special Invited Lecture on 'Normative Measurement' at the Department of Economics, Sikkim University, 27 September, 2022.

Delivered lecture on 'West Bengal State Finances' at the Training Workshop on Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) for government officers, as part of Asian Development Bank assisted West Bengal Public Financial Management Reform Program, organised jointly by IDSK and the Finance Department, Government of West Bengal, 22-23 September, 2022.

Delivered Keynote speech at the book-release seminar on the book *Macroeconomic Policy in India since the Global Financial Crisis* authored by Sebastian Morris, organized by Goa Institute of Management, Goa, 05 August, 2022.

Facilitated a session on Poverty, Inequality and Development: Structural Limits to equitable development in the training of WBCS officers at B.R. Ambedkar Institute of Panchayats & Rural Development, Government of West Bengal, 20 June, 2023.

Invited lecture on 'The Rhetoric of Reactions against Populist Public Policies', at Centre for Budget Studies, Cochin University of Science and Technology, 05 May, 2022.

Presented paper on 'Diverse Perspectives on Human Mobility: Between Normative and Political' at the Annual Conference of Indian Society of Labour Economics, IIT Roorkee, 11-13 April, 2022.

Anwesha Sengupta

(Jointly with Debarati Bagchi) Presented a paper, 'Alternative History Books for Children in Bengali: A Reflection on Writing and Reception', 'Perspectives in and about Educational Media' [PERSPEKTIVEN IN UND ÜBER BILDUNGSMEDIENG], Georg Eckert Institute, Braunschweig, Germany, February 23-24, 2023.

(Jointly with Supurna Banerjee and Sanjoy Kar) Organized a conference 'Archives and the Production of New Forms of Knowledge' funded by ICSSR-ERC and IDSK, 10-11 August 2022.

(Jointly with Supurna Banerjee) Presented a paper 'Making of the Salt Lake Archives' at the conference 'Archives and the Production of New Forms of Knowledge' funded by ICSSR-ERC and IDSK, 10-11 August 2022.



Bidhan Kanti Das

Chaired the technical session, in the International Seminar on 'Sustainable Development Goals 2030: Role of Anthropology in Social inclusion and Tribal Development' and 52nd Annual Conference of the Indian Anthropological Society, jointly organised by Centre for Studies of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, Tripura University in collaboration with IGNOU at Tripura University from 22-24 November 2022.

Presented a paper 'Moving Beyond 'Protectionist' Paradigm in Conservation in India: Need to Recognize Local People in Conservation for Sustainable Development' in the International seminar on 'Sustainable Development Goals 2030: Role of Anthropology in Social Inclusion and Tribal Development' and 52nd Annual Conference of the Indian Anthropological Society, jointly organised by Centre for Studies of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, Tripura University in collaboration with IGNOU, at Tripura University from 22-24 November 2022.

Delivered Lecture as Resource person on 'Decentralised Management of Forest Resources' in Doctoral course work programme at Centre for Decentralisation and Development, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore on 21 and 22 June 2022.

Gorky Chakraborty

(Jointly with Samik Roy Choudhury) Presented a paper *Navigating Precarity-Analysing Multiple Narratives of Citizenship in Assam* in Migrant Asias: Refugee, Statelessness and Migrant Labour Regimes, 7th Critical Studies Conference, organised by Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung and Institute for Human Sciences (IWM), Vienna and MCRG, Kolkata, 17-19 November, 2022.

Keynote Address '*Looking into the Haze: The Conundrum of Population, Land, Biodiversity and Climate*' at a National Seminar on 'Human Population, Land Use Biodiversity and Climate Change' at Nazira College, Sibsagar, Assam, 12-13 August 2022.

Indrani Chakraborty

Presented a paper 'The Impact of Mergers and Acquisitions on Performance of Firms: A Pre- and Post-TRIPs Analysis of India's Pharmaceutical Industry' at the Asia Economic Community Forum 2022 on 'Existential Global Threats: Challenges to Asia and the Global Economy', 3-4 November 2022.

Invited lecture on 'The Impact of Mergers and Acquisitions on Performance of Firms: A Pre- and Post-TRIPs Analysis of India's Pharmaceutical Industry' at the School of Social Sciences and the Faculty of Pharmacy at the M.S. Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences, Bangalore, 8 July 2022.

Nandini Ghosh

Presented a paper 'Persons with Disability: Social and Legal Issues' at a seminar on 'Protection of Rights, Full Participation and Equal Opportunity of Specially Abled' organized by NSS Unit & HEPSN, Equal Opportunity Cell of Barasat Government College, 16 February 2023.

Presented a paper 'Domestic Violence and Disabled Women: Reflections from the Field' at a conference 'Rights of Women with Disabilities: A Status Update' organised by Department of Humanities and Social Sciences BITS-Pilani Hyderabad and funded by the National Commission for Women, 15 November 2022.

Presented a paper 'Amioh to Meye: Disabled Women's Lived Experiences' at a symposium 'Lived Bodies: Embodied Realities', School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University, 19 July 2022.

Presented a paper 'International Laws, National Policies and Laws Around Disability' at Disability Sexuality and Rights Institute, organised by CREA, 9 June 2022.

Presented a paper 'Understanding Sexual and Reproductive Rights in the Context of Disability' at Disability Sexuality and Rights Institute, organised by CREA, 8 June 2022.



Presented a paper 'Networks of Solidarity during Pandemic: Stories of Coping and Resilience' at a panel discussion on 'India in the time of Covid 19: A survey of Precarities', at Society for Disability Studies Conference 2022, 12 April 2022.

Saswata Ghosh

Presented a paper 'Availability of Data Repositories in Social Science Research' in the conference 'Information Infrastructure of Social Science Research in India', organized by the IDSK, 2-3 March 2023.

Simantini Mukhopadhyay

Presented a paper 'Unpacking Convergence in Child Undernutrition across the Indian States' at the National Conference on 'Contemporary Issues in Economic Theory and Policy' organized by Jesuit Economic Association of India in Collaboration with Department of Economics, St. Xavier's University Kolkata, 24-25 March 2023.

Chaired a session on 'Food security' at a one-day Annual Economic Summit on "Emerging Challenges & Policy Framework for Developing Countries", organized by the Department of Economics in collaboration with the XAVECOS, St. Xavier's University Kolkata, 23 March 2023.

Chaired a session on 'Empirical Issues' at the Annual Conference of Jadavpur University from 27 to 29 December, 2022.

Presented a paper 'Unpacking Convergence in Child Undernutrition across the Indian States' at the Second Biennial Conference on 'Development: Sustainable Development Goals Amidst Multiple Global Shocks: Progress, Challenges and Way Forward' organized by the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai, 21-23 December, 2022

Chaired a session on 'Agriculture and Nutrition' at the Second Biennial Conference on 'Development:

Sustainable Development Goals Amidst Multiple Global Shocks: Progress, Challenges and Way Forward' organized by the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai, 21-23 December, 2022.

Delivered a lecture on 'Emerging Issues in Social Protection' at a Training Workshop on Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) organised by Institute of Development Studies Kolkata (IDSK) & Finance Department, Government of West Bengal during 22-23 September, 2022.

Presented a paper 'Abused but 'not insulted': Understanding Intersectionality in Symbolic Violence in India' at a seminar jointly organized by the Department of Political and Social Science and the Cooperation and Development Network, Master in Cooperation and Development, University of Pavia, Italy, 25 May 2022.

Moderated the East Asia panel of the conference 'Asia Day: Post-pandemic Socio-political Trajectories in Asia', organized by the Department of Political and Social Science, University of Pavia, Italy, 25 May 2022.

Presented a paper 'Consumption Shocks faced by Migrants and Other Vulnerable Groups in Rural India during the COVID-19 Lockdown' at the 62nd Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Labour Economics (ISLE) organized by IIT Roorkee, 10- 13 April 2022.

Acted as a principal rapporteur at the 62nd Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Labour Economics (ISLE) organized by IIT Roorkee, 10- 13 April 2022.

Subrata Mukherjee

Presented a paper 'Quality of Life and Death of the Elderly in India: Evidence from Pooled National Cross-sectional data (1995-2018)' at the annual seminar of the International Institute of Population Sciences held at Institute of Social and Economic Change, Bengaluru, 23-25 February, 2023.

Presented a paper 'Preservation of Primary Survey Data Generated by Micro Studies: The Evolving Role of



Libraries and Data Centres' at ICSSR Sponsored Two-Day International Conference on 'Information Infrastructure of Social Science Research in India' (IISRI-2023) organised by Institute of Development Studies Kolkata (IDSK), held at IDSK during 2-3 March, 2023.

Took three sessions on (i) 'How to use NSS data and not to Misuse them for Health Research'; (ii) 'Using cross-section data for policy evaluation in a week-long workshop on Health Programmes and Impact Evaluation Methods' jointly organised by the Indian Health Economics and Policy Association and International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS) held at IIPS, 20-24 March, 2023.

Took two sessions on 'Policy Analysis with Applications of Stata and Python' at Mumbai School of Economics and Public Policy, Mumbai, 25 March, 2023.

Supurna Banerjee

Co-organised National dissemination programme 'Surviving Violence: Gender Justice and Everyday Resilience in rural-urban India', 30 January 2023.

(Jointly with Nandini Ghosh, Kolika Mitra and Ruchira Goswami) Co-presented paper on 'Surviving Violence: Gender Justice and Everyday Resilience in Rural-urban India' in IDSK organised dissemination event on British Academy research project, December 2022.

(Jointly with Nandini Ghosh) Organised photo exhibition on 'Gender Justice and Everyday Resilience: Surviving Domestic Violence in West Bengal', at the Abanindranath Tagore Gallery, Rabindranath Tagore Centre, Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) 7-8 December 2022

(Jointly with Nandini Ghosh) Presented a paper 'Help Seeking Experience in West Bengal' in the panel discussion on 'Help Seeking Experiences of Domestic Violence Victim-survivors in three Indian states' in Prajnya organised 16 day campaign against gender violence, November 2022.

Presented a paper 'Understanding Coercion' in Past and Present Writers Workshop organised by Worlds of

Related Coercion in Work (WORCK), Urbino Italy (hybrid-participation online), September 2022.

(Jointly with Anwesha Sengupta) Organised an exhibition on 'Salt Lake Archives', 10-11 August 2022.

(Jointly with Anwesha Sengupta) Presented a paper 'Making of the Salt Lake Archives' at the conference 'Archives and the Production of New Forms of Knowledge' funded by ICSSR-ERC and IDSK, 10-11 August 2022.

(Jointly with Anwesha Sengupta and Sanjoy Kar) Organized a conference 'Archives and the Production of New Forms of Knowledge' funded by ICSSR-ERC and IDSK, 10-11 August 2022.

Research Projects

Achin Chakraborty

(Jointly with Saswata Ghosh and Simantini Mukhopadhyay) 'Dropout Trends Before and During Covid Pandemic in West Bengal with special reference to Girls' Dropout' funded by Pashchim Banga Samagra Shiksha Mission, Government of West Bengal. [ongoing]

(Jointly with Saswata Ghosh and Simantini Mukhopadhyay) 'Early Marriage among Girls in West Bengal: An Investigation through Triangulation of Available Data', funded by the Department of Women & Child Development and Social Welfare, Government of West Bengal. [ongoing]

(Jointly with Saswata Ghosh, Subrata Mukherjee and Rivu Basu) 'An Evaluation of the Impact of Udayan on Children and Families from Leprosy Colonies in West Bengal and the Way Forward'. [completed]

(Jointly with Subrata Mukherjee) 'Mapping Science and Technology Needs in West Bengal', commissioned by the State Council of Science and Technology, Government of West Bengal. [completed]

Anwesha Sengupta

Engaged in a project 'Revisiting the Craft of History Writing for Children (2022-2023)' funded by Rosa



Luxemburg Stiftung South Asia.

(Jointly with Supurna Banerjee and Sanjoy Kar) A Study on 'Salt Lake: Exploring a 50 Years 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'.

Gorky Chakraborty

(Jointly with Samik Roy Chowdhury) Completed a study 'Navigating Precarity: Analysing Multiple Narratives of Citizenship in Assam' supported by Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, Stiftung and Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group, Kolkata.

(Jointly with Dr Rikil Chyrmang, Central University of South Bihar, Prof Bhupen Sarmah, OKDISCD) Completed the study 'Life, Livelihood and Exclusion: The Char Dwellers in Brahmaputra Valley of Assam' supported by ICSSR, New Delhi and OKDISCD, Guwahati in July 2022.

(Jointly with Biswanath Saha) Completed a project 'Does Identity Politics Subsume Local Governance: A Study of Darjeeling Hills' sponsored by Azim Premji University, Bengaluru in March 2023.

Nandini Ghosh

(Jointly with Supurna Banerjee) 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.

Engaged in a Social Science and Humanities Research Council, Canada funded collaborative research project 'Learning with and from the Global South: Opportunities

for Engaging Girls and Young Women with Disabilities across Southern Spaces' with Carleton University,) McGill University, University of Guelph, Canada, and University of KwaZulu-Natal South Africa.

Engaged in a study 'Status of Disabled Children in Child Care Institutions in West Bengal' funded by Directorate of Child Rights and Trafficking Government of West Bengal.

Saswata Ghosh

(Jointly with Achin Chakraborty and Simantini Mukhopadhyay) Engaged in a project 'Dropout Trends Before and During Covid Pandemic in West Bengal with special reference to Girls' Dropout' funded by Pashchim Banga Samagra Shiksha Mission, Government of West Bengal.

(Jointly with Achin Chakraborty and Simantini Mukhopadhyay) Engaged in a project 'Early Marriage among Girls in West Bengal: An Investigation through Triangulation of Available Data' funded by the Department of Women & Child Development and Social Welfare, Government of West Bengal

(Jointly with Achin Chakraborty, Subrata Mukherjee and Rivu Basu) Completed the project 'An Evaluation of the Impact of Udayan on Children and Families from Leprosy Colonies in West Bengal and the Way Forward'.

Simantini Mukhopadhyay

(Jointly with Achin Chakraborty and Saswata Ghosh) Engaged in a project 'Dropout Trends Before and During Covid Pandemic in West Bengal with special reference to Girls' Dropout' funded by Pashchim Banga Samagra Shiksha Mission, Government of West Bengal.

(Jointly with Achin Chakraborty and Saswata Ghosh) Engaged in a project 'Early Marriage among Girls in West Bengal: An Investigation through Triangulation of Available Data' funded by the Department of Women & Child Development and Social Welfare, Government of West Bengal

Signed an Open Access Publishing Agreement with Springer Nature for the publication of a book chapter in



an edited book titled *Achieving zero hunger in India: Challenges and policies* as an outcome of the IGIDR-SPANDAN Grants supported by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Subrata Mukherjee

(Jointly with Achin Chakraborty, Saswata Ghosh and Rivu Basu) Completed the project 'An Evaluation of the Impact of *Udayan* on Children and Families from Leprosy Colonies in West Bengal and the Way Forward.'

Engaged in a project 'The Impact of Male Out-Migration on Women's Financial Autonomy and Child Well-Being in Rural West Bengal', sponsored by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR).

Completed (jointly with Achin Chakraborty) the project 'Mapping Science and Technology Needs in West Bengal' commissioned by the State Council of Science and Technology, Government of West Bengal.

Supurna Banerjee

(Jointly with Nandini Ghosh) 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) Engaged in a project on 'Salt Lake: Exploring a 50 Years History' funded by IDSK.

Association with other Institutions / Membership of Organizations / Miscellaneous

Achin Chakraborty

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

Member, Editorial Advisory Board, *Indian Journal of Human Development*

Member, Board of Studies in Economics, Presidency University.

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

External Member, Research Advisory Committee for Economics, Jadavpur University

'Eminent Speaker', at Netaji Subhas Administrative Training Institute, Government of West Bengal

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*.

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)

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

(Jointly with Nandini Ghosh) Sharannyo Banerjee (IDSK): *A Social History of Alcohol and Other Substances in India*

Anwesha Sengupta

Coordinator Guest Lecturer, Department of History, West Bengal State University, January – May 2023.



PhD Supervision

Nisharuddin Khan (IDSK): *The Impact of Partition on Muslims of Bengal (1947-64)*

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

(Jointly with Simantini Mukhopadhyay) Sanchari Chakraborty (IDSK): *Food in the Political Landscape of West Bengal: 1947-1967* (Tentative).

Bidhan Kanti Das

PhD Supervisor, Department of Anthropology, University of Calcutta

Examiner and paper setter, Post Graduate Department of Anthropology, University of Calcutta and Sidho Kanho Birsa 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)

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 Arnab Das) 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: *An Ethnographic Study of the Culture Industry of Sholapith Craft in West Bengal.*

(Jointly with Arnab Das) Srija Mandal (University of Calcutta), *Living in the 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.*

Gorky Chakraborty

PhD Supervision

(Jointly with 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.* [Submitted]

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

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.* [Submitted]



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

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

Nandini Ghosh

Resource Person on 'Disability and Gender-Sexualities' at the Tenth Sexuality Academy organized by Sappho for Equality on 17 March 2023.

Resource Person for the MPhil course on "Feminist Thoughts and Practices II" and "Research Methodologies" in M Phil course work of School of Women's Studies, JU.

Resource Person of a Gender Training Workshop organised by the School of Women's Studies and supported by the Panchayats and Rural Development Department of the Government of West Bengal (ISGPP II) on 31.08.22 at Purulia.

Research Advisory Committee of scholar Biswajit Ghosh, Department of Sociology, Presidency University.

Member of PhD Research Committee of the School of Women's Studies JU WS RAC

Resource Person for Curriculum in the Syllabus for MA in Journalism & Mass Communication, Jadavpur University at WBSCPCR.

PhD Supervision

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

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

(Jointly with Achin Chakraborty) Sharannyo Banerjee (IDSK): *A Social History of Alcohol and other Substances in India.* [Tentative]

Sanchari Naskar (IDSK): *Exploring Domestic Work: A Sociological Study of Dynamics of the Middle-class Households of Contemporary Kolkata.* [Tentative]

Suchandra Bhaduri (IDSK): *Envisaging Initiatives for the Disabled in Colonial India: A Case Study of the Blind and the Deaf* (Tentative)

Saswata Ghosh

Member, PhD Committee, Department of Geography, Presidency University, West Bengal

Member, Board of Studies (BOS), Department of Geography, Medinipur College (Autonomous), West Bengal.

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

International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP)

Asian Population Association (APA)

Visiting Faculty, Department of Economics, Presidency University

PhD Supervision

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

(Jointly with Zaad Mahmood) Kumar Sankar Das (IDSK): *Welfare State, Social Policy and Conflict in India* [Tentative]

Simantini Mukhopadhyay

Moderator, odd semester examinations, 2022-23, St. Xavier's University Kolkata

Visited University of Pavia, Italy for 12 weeks from 2 May 2022 as a CICOPS Fellow

Examiner of the M.Phil thesis titled: "Micronutrient Deficiency and its Impact on Labour Productivity: Poverty Nutrition Trap in India" by Ms. Ishita Varma, submitted to IGIDR

External advisor in the RAC for the approval of registration of Moupiyali Koley in the PhD programme of the Department of Economics, St. Xavier's University



Reviewer of papers for *International Journal for Equity in Health*, *Child Indicators Research*, *Indian Journal of Human Development*, *Gender, Work and Organization*, *Indian Economic Journal*

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*.

(Jointly with Anwesha Sengupta) Sanchari Chakraborty (IDSK): *Food in the Political Landscape of West Bengal: 1947-1967* (Tentative)

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): *Power, Legitimacy and Political Praxis: Understanding Democracy in Contemporary India*.

Subrata Mukherjee

Secretary, Indian Health Economics and Policy Association.

External Examiner for PhD Thesis: International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai.

Reviewer, for the journals: *Journal of Economic Theory and Practice*, *Ageing International*, *Anvesak*

PhD Supervision

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

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

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

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

Supurna Banerjee

Part of the Research Advisory Committee of Thndup Bhutia, Presidency University Department of Sociology

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*

Avishek Mistry (IDSK): *Interrogating Dalit Women's Literary Representation, Translation and Publication in the Context of Dalit Life Writings from Bengal*.

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, and Post-Doctoral and Senior Fellowships are now centrally decided by ICSSR.
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**Abhirup Sarkar**Peer Reviewed Article

'Clientelism and Violence: Politics of Informal Economy', *Economic Modelling*, May, 2022

Government Report

Completed and submitted (as Chairman) Interim Report of the Fifth State Finance Commission to the Honourable Governor of West Bengal in February, 2023.

Achin ChakrabortyPeer-reviewed Article

(Jointly with Hari Krishna Dwivedi and Sudip Kumar Sinha) 'Central Grants for Local Bodies: A Critique of the Fifteenth Finance Commission', *Economic and Political Weekly*, December 03, 2022.

(Jointly with Zaad Mahmood) 'The pandemic and the state: Interrogating capacity and response to COVID-19 in West Bengal', WIDER Working Paper 89/2022, United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research.

Other Publications

(Jointly with Simantini Mukhopadhyay) 'Global Hunger Index: Misplaced Debate and Ignoring Priorities' in *The India Forum*, November 09, 2022.

(in Bāṅglā) 'Ki Kore Banchbe Lokey...', review of Pranab Bardhan's *A World of Insecurity*, *Anandabazar Patrika*, 03 December, 2022.



(in Bāṅglā) 'Gorib, Tai Uchchota Kawm', *Anandabazar Patrika*, 21 October, 2022.

(in Bāṅglā) 'Pathyokramey Anuposthit Keno?' *Anandabazar Patrika*, 27 July, 2022.

(in Bāṅglā) 'Amra ki Jathesto Bhabchhi?' [a dialogue with Anirban Chattopadhyay] *Anandabazar Patrika*, 17 June, 2022.

(in Bāṅglā) 'Dersho Bachhore Prothom Bilambo', *Anandabazar Patrika*, 24 May, 2022.

Amiya Kumar Bagchi

Peer Reviewed Articles

'Developing Countries: The Legacy of Keynes and Post-Keynesian Economists', (Cambridge University Press), *The Economic and Labour Relations Review*, Vol.34(1) : 1-15, 2023 <https://doi.org/10.1017/elr.2022.8>

'P.J. Thomas: An Anti-imperialist Economic Historian and a Pioneering Development Economist', *Review of Agrarian Studies*, Vol. 12(2), July –December 2022.

Anwesha Sengupta

Peer Reviewed Article

'The Railway Refugees of Bengal Partition: Revisiting Sealdah Station of 1950s – 60s', *South Asia Research*, 42:1, 2022.

Other Publications

(in Bāṅglā) 'Jogendranath Mandal Rajneeti', *Arekrakam*, 1-15 February, 2023.

75 Years of Partition: The Many Migrations of Sirajul Huq', *Daily Star*, November 4, 2022.

(in Bāṅglā) 'Itihashe Hatekhari: Deshbhag', publication as a part of RLS-IDSK project *Revisiting the Craft of History Writing for Children*, September 2022.

Review

Nabaparna Ghosh, *A hygienic city-nation: space, community, and everyday life in colonial Calcutta*, *South Asian History and Culture*, 26 April, 2022, pp 251-253.

Report

[with Debarati Bagchi and Wasin Helal] *Introducing Itihase Hatekhari: Interactions with Children*, IDSK, December 2022. Link - [Introducing Itihase Hatekhari: Interactions with Children | Zenodo](https://zenodo.org/record/6331546)

[with Supurna Banerjee, Sanjoy Kar, Sharanya Banerjee, Shyamantak Chattopadhyay], *Saltlake Archives: A Report*. <https://zenodo.org/record/6331546>

Bidhan Kanti Das

Peer Reviewed Articles

'How to Make Forest Governance Reform Real? Formal and Informal Institutions During Implementation of the Forest Rights Act 2006 in India', *Environmental Development*, Volume 43, September 2022, 100729 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envdev.2022.100729>

(Jointly with Amir Sohel, Farhat Naz) 'Who is Gaining, Who is Losing? Examining Benefit-sharing Mechanism (BSM) under REDD+ in India' *Environmental Science Proceedings*, 2022, 22, 17. <https://doi.org/10.3390/IECF2022-1305>

Articles in Edited Volume

'Professor Deba Prasad Mukherjee and the essence of bio-cultural approach in Anthropology in India', in S. Biswas, B. Mukhopadhyay and R.K. Das (eds) *Writings on Indian Anthropology and Anthropologists*, Concept Publishing Company Pvt Ltd., 2023.

(in Bāṅglā) Jalabayusankat Prashamon: Bananitite Aranyabasider Adhikarer Swikritir Proyojaniyata Prakriti o Paribesh edited by Sushanta Pal, *Abhikhep*, 2022.

Other Publications

(in Bāṅglā) "Banabhumir Mulyo Kobe Bujhbo", *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, 4 June 2022.

(in Bāṅglā) 'Aranya Dhongsho Kore Unnayan', *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, 17 August 2022.



Gorky Chakraborty

Books

Citizenship in Contemporary Times: The Indian Context, Routledge, 2023 (edited).

(Jointly edited with Supurna Banerjee) *Negotiating Borders and Borderlands: The Indian Experience*, Orient Blackswan, 2023.

Book Chapters

(Jointly with Samik Roy Chowdhury) 'Introducing the Text: Locating the Citizen' in Gorky Chakraborty (ed.) *Citizenship in Contemporary Times: The Indian Context*, Routledge, 2023

(Jointly with Abdul Kalam Azad) 'Miya Poetry" Poetics, Politics and Polemics', in Gorky Chakraborty (ed.) *Citizenship in Contemporary Times: The Indian Context*, Routledge, 2023

(Jointly with Samik Roy Chowdhury) 'The Outsider Within: The Emerging Politics of Citizenship in India' in Gorky Chakraborty (ed.) *Citizenship in Contemporary Times: The Indian Context*, Routledge, 2023.

'Introduction' in Gorky Chakraborty and Supurna Banerjee (eds.) *Negotiating Borders and Borderlands: The Indian Experience*, Orient Blackswan, 2023.

(Jointly with Biswanath Saha) 'Analysing Spatiality in a Bordered Space: The Transcendence of the Hills of Darjeeling' in Gorky Chakraborty and Supurna Banerjee (eds.) *Negotiating Borders and Borderlands: The Indian Experience*, Orient Blackswan, 2023.

Other Publications

'Assamese Muslims & IDs: Manufacturing Definitions Is Assam's New Normal' (with Suraj Gogoi) in *The Quint*, 6 May 2022, <https://www.thequint.com/opinion/assamese-muslims-ids-manufacturing-definitions-is-assams-new-normal>

(Jointly with Samik Roy Chowdhury) 'Citizenship: Beyond the Forked Vision' in *Counter Currents*, 27 March 2023, <https://countercurrents.org/2023/03/citizenship-beyond-the-forked-vision/>

Indrani Chakraborty

Book

Exploring What Drives Indian Stock Market During Covid-19: Fads or Fundamentals, Springer, January 2023.

Peer Reviewed Article

(Jointly with Zinnia Mitra Bose) 'Effects of Diversification on Firm Performance: An Analysis of Indian Firms, 2022, *Indian Economic Review*, DOI: 10.1007/s41775-022-00143-y.

Other Publications

(in Bānglā) Kichhu Brihat Gostir Hatei Royechhe Adhikangsho Sampad: Kar Banam Corporate Sadhichha, *Anandabazar Patrika*, 20 January, 2023.

(in Bānglā) Samparkata Kemon Bojha Darkar, *Anandabazar Patika*, 11 August, 2022.

Nandini Ghosh

Book

(Jointly with Supurna Banerjee, Madhurima Mukhopadhyay and Ruchira Goswami) *The Violent Domestic: Law, Its Practice, and Strategies of Survival*, Zubaan Books, March 2023.

Peer Reviewed Articles

'Citizenship, Rights and Persons with Disabilities in India', *Samaj*, Vol 28, 2022

Saswata Ghosh

Peer Reviewed Articles

(Jointly with Z. Husain and M. Dutta) 'Changes in Mental Health Status during the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Longitudinal Study of Residents of Indian Metropolitan Cities', *Journal of Mental Health*, published online, 9 March 2023.

(Jointly with M.Rahaman, S.Sen and J.Rana) 'Is Consanguineous Marriage Related to Spousal Violence



in India? Evidence from the National Family Health Survey, 2015-16', *Journal of Biosocial Science*, published online on 2 December, 2021.

'Cash Transfers versus Food Subsidies during COVID-19: Dietary Practices of Rural Women in Bihar, India', *Development in Practice* published online, 25 November, 2022.

'Changes in Dietary Practices of Mother and Child during the COVID-19 Lockdown: Results from a Household Survey in Bihar, India', *Food Policy*, 112 (2022) 102372 published online, 13 October, 2022.

Other Publications

(in Bānglā) 'Sotto Tothho Bonam Andhabiswas', *Anandabazar Patrika*, 11 January 2023.

(in Bānglā) 'Boyoskoder Kheyal Rakhbe Ke', *Anandabazar Patrika*, 5 August 2022.

(in Bānglā) 'Meyeder Songkhya Barchhe', *Anandabazar Patrika*, 21 December 2022

Simantini Mukhopadhyay

Peer Reviewed Articles

'Assessing the Nutritional Status of Rural Labour: The Rising Burden of Overweight', *Economic and Political Weekly*, 57(42), 2022

(Jointly with Trisha Chandra) 'Abused but 'Not Insulted': Understanding Intersectionality in Symbolic Violence' *Indian Journal of Human Development* (Sage), 16(1), 2022

Other Publications

(Jointly with Achin Chakraborty) 'Global Hunger Index: Misplaced Debate and Ignoring Priorities', *The India Forum*, 9 November 2022

(in Bānglā) (jointly with Anwesha Sengupta) 'Khawa na khawar pala' *Anandabazar Patrika*, 29 April 2022

(in Bānglā) 'Pretjanme Muktir Swad', *Anandabazar Patrika*, 23 October 2022.

(in Bānglā) 'Shishumahal @Lockdown', *Ei Samay*, 13 November 2022

(in Bānglā) 'Unnayaner Baire Janra', *Anandabazar Patrika*, 3 February 2023

(in Bānglā) 'Aj Jakhan Prashno Kora Hoy, 'se jodi tomake ognite fele mare', *Uttarbanga Sambad*, 6 March 2023

Review

Review of the book *How Lives Change: Palanpur, India and Development Economics* by Himanshu, Peter Lanjouw and Nicholas Stern, *Progress in Development Studies*, <https://doi.org/10.1177/14649934221081958>, 2022.

Subrata Mukherjee

Peer Reviewed Article

(Jointly with Md Zakaria Siddiqui and Ronald Donato) 'Does Public Intervention in Dealing with Problems of Mosquitoes/flies in India Crowd Out Private Initiatives?' *Applied Economics Letters*, DOI: 10.1080/13504851.2022.2115967

Supurna Banerjee

Books

(Jointly with Nandini Ghosh, Madhurima Mukhopadhyay and Ruchira Goswami) *The Violent Domestic: Law, Its Practice, and Strategies of Survival*, Zubaan Books, March 2023.

(Jointly edited with Gorky Chakraborty) *Negotiating Borders and Borderlands: The Indian Experience*, Orient Blackswan, 2023.

Peer Reviewed Article

'Violence Against Women And Access To Livelihood: Looking Beyond A Neo-Liberal Consumerist Day', *Feminism in India*, 8 March 2023

Institutional Publications

Occasional Papers

78. *Discontinuity in Uptake of Ante-natal care Services in Rural India: Identifying Local and Global Influences Using Spatial Statistical Techniques*, Saswata Ghosh, Zakir Husain and Mousumi Dutta, February 2023.

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 floor, 1700 sq. ft. each) of southern block of the building.

The Library houses an impressive number of knowledge resources focussing on various research areas in Development Studies, Economics, Sociology, Demography, Education, Public Health, Political Science, Gender Studies, Anthropology, Ethnography, Environmental Studies, Regional Development, Human Sciences and Globalization. It has a total collection of 20788 processed documents including books, bound journals and other processed documents of which IDSK's collection is 10410, Rabindranath Tagore Centre for Human Development Studies' collection is 4102 and the rest 6287 are gifted collections.

From April 1, 2022 to 31st March 2023, the library has accessioned 127 purchased books. The Library subscribes the following print journals: Journal of Indian Anthropological Society, Awards Digest, Review of Agrarian Studies, Biblio: A Review of Books, Science and Culture, The Book Review, The Indian Journal of Labour Economics, Journal of Educational Planning and Administration, Sudhu Sundarban Charcha, Desh, Boier Desh, Social Scientist, Frontline, IASLIC Bulletin, Yojana. Twenty four journals (online) of Sage publication, EPW (online), Down To Earth (online), Grassroots (online) have also been subscribed by the Library. The library has procured JSTOR Developing Nations Collection Package (More than 2000 Journals). The Library procures EPWRF India Time Series and Indiatat databases. The Library purchases four newspapers *The Hindu*, *Business Line*, *Business Standard* and *Labanhrad Sambad*.



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 uses Cutter-Sanborn four figure table of OCLC Dewey Cutter Program v1.10.6 digital version of author table for book number preparation. Before circulation books are attached with barcode labels.

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 has got more prominent look through its newly created website where all types of information regarding the library like about the library, collection, brief history, library committee, web opac, visitor counting, publications of IDSK faculty, notice regarding library etc. are found.

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.

Activities of Library Staff:

Participation in Seminars / Conferences / Workshops / Discussions/ Invited Lectures

Ashok Pal

(Jointly with Sanjoy Kar) Organised an ICSSR sponsored two-day international conference on 'Information Infrastructure of Social Science Research in India (IISRI-2023)', at IDSK, 02-03 March 2023.

Chaired a session on the day two (March 3, 2023, parallel session III) of the ICSSR sponsored two-day international conference on "Information Infrastructure of Social Science Research in India (IISRI-2023)", organized by Institute of Development Studies Kolkata (IDSK)

Sanjoy Kar

Organized an ICSSR sponsored International Conference on Information Infrastructure of Social Science Research in India (IISRI-2023), IDSK, 02-03 March, 2023.

(Jointly with Anwesha Sengupta and Supurna Banerjee) Engaged in a study on 'Salt Lake: Exploring a 50 Years History' funded by the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata (IDSK).

Report on the ICSSR-Sponsored International Conference on Information Infrastructure for Social Science Research in India (IISRI-2023). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7862076>.



(Jointly with Saswata Ghosh) Presented a paper 'Availability of Data Repositories in Social Science Research' in the international conference on Information Infrastructure of Social Science Research in India (IISRI-2023), IDSK, 02-03 March, 2023.

(Jointly with NC Ghosh and Jiban K. Pal) Presented a paper 'Decolonization of Knowledge and the Role of Public Archives in India' in the international conference on Information Infrastructure of Social Science Research in India (IISRI-2023), IDSK, 02-03 March, 2023.

(Jointly with Jiban K. Pal and Dorothea Strecker) Presented a paper 'How FAIR are data-repositories in India?' in the international conference on Information Infrastructure of Social Science Research in India (IISRI-2023), IDSK, 02-03 March, 2023.

Presented papers 'Preserving Our Voices: The Role of Community Information Centres in Safeguarding Endangered Languages in India' in the international seminar on IKS for LIS & Allied Disciplines (IKS-LISAD: 2023), NSOU, 24-26th March, 2023.

Research Projects

Sanjoy Kar

Archiving the Scientific Contribution of Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi

Association with other Institutions / Membership of Organizations/Miscellaneous

Ashok Pal

Life member of Bengal Library Association (BLA)

Life member of Indian Library Association (ILA)

Sanjoy Kar

Member of Association for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T), Silver Spring, Maryland, United States

Member of Research Data Alliance (RDA), New York, United States

Life Member, Council of the Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata

Life Member, Indian Library Association (ILA), New Delhi

Academic Counselor and enlisted guide/supervisor for MLISc dissertation, Netaji Subhas Open University (NSOU), Kolkata.

Publications:

Book

Ashok Pal

(Jointly with Arindam Sarkar) *Human Resource Management in Libraries*, New Delhi: Ess Publications, 2022 (ISBN9789392594496).

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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 30 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:

- Stata
- Eviews
- CSPRO
- Win Rats
- Win Cats
- 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)

*Low Fertility, Son Preference, Social Demography,
Religious Demography***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***Subhanil Chowdhury** (on lien)

(Economics)

*Macroeconomics, Development
Economics, Globalization***Supurna Banerjee**

(Political Science)

*Gender, Women, Labour, Migration,
Social Space, Activism***Honorary Visiting Professor****Abhirup Sarkar***Economic Development, International Trade,
Political Economy***Honorary Visiting Fellow****Debapriya Sen***Professor of Economics**Toronto Metropolitan University**Toronto, Canada***ICSSR Senior Fellows****Manimay Sengupta***'The Time Dimension in the Measurement of Poverty'.***Uttam Bhattacharya***Machine Tool Industry in the Context of**"Making of India": An Assessment of its**Potential Contribution Towards Manufacturing**Output and Employment***ICSSR Post-doctoral Fellow****Sasmita Jena****Visiting Scholar****Sandra Barnreuther***Senior Researcher and Lecturer**Institut für Sozialanthropologie und .**Empirische Kulturwissenschaft (ISEK)**Universität Zürich***US Fullbright-Nehru Senior Scholar****Mary K. Shenk***Associate Professor of Anthropology,**Demography & Asian Studies**The Pennsylvania State University, USA*

Administrative, Library and Technical Staff

Administration

Soumendra Kanta Lahiri Choudhuri	Accounts Officer
Sumit Dutta	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 Pujan Kumar Sen (Professor of Sociology, University of Kalyani)	Treasurer
5. Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi (Emeritus Professor of Economics and Founder Director, IDSK)	Member
6. Professor Abhirup Sarkar (Professor of Economics, ISI, Kolkata)	Member
7. Professor Amitava Raychaudhuri (Professor of Physics, University of Calcutta)	Member
8. Professor Himadri Banerjee (Former Professor of History, Jadavpur University)	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 2022 - 2023 are indicated below:

I. Receipts	Rs in thousand
a) Grant from Government of West Bengal	34,264.13
b) Fund Received From projects	7,685.00
c) Interest on bank deposits	916.68
d) Miscellaneous receipts	2,598.98
Total Receipts (I)	45,465.52
II. Payments	Rs in thousand
A Revenue Expenditure	
a) Salary	27,262.41
b) Maintenance expenditure	13,208.06
c) Outstanding expenditure	2,830.18
Total	43,300.65
B Capital Expenditure	
i) Office machinery & Other Equipments	14.28
ii) Books & journals	845.58
Total	859.86
PAYMENTS (A + B)	44,160.51
C Difference of Opening & Closing Balance of Cash, Bank & Investment	1,305.01
TOTAL PAYMENTS II (A + B + C)	45,465.52
TOTAL I = TOTAL II	45,465.52