

INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES KOLKATA

Annual Report

2009-10



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Introduction

The Institute of Development Studies Kolkata (IDSK) has been promoted by the Government of West Bengal as an autonomous centre of excellence in social sciences. It was founded in 2002 as a society with an autonomous governing body, with one of the most eminent historians in India, Professor Irfan Habib as President, Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi as Director and with a Governing Council on which are represented the current or former Vice-Chancellors of two leading Universities in West Bengal, namely Calcutta University and Jadavpur University. The Governing Council also includes such eminent academics as Professor Nirmal Chandra, Professor Atis Dasgupta, Professor Subimal Sen, Professor V.K. Ramachandran and Professor Malini Bhattacharya as its members.

The IDSK is devoted to advanced academic research and informed policy advice in the areas of literacy, education, health, gender issues, employment, technology, communication, human sciences and economic development. Other programmes include training of research scholars in the social sciences working towards a Ph.D. The Institute is committed to the dissemination of its research findings through workshops, seminars, publications in the media, and other public counselling and education programmes. In the area of teaching its flagship programme is the multidisciplinary M.Phil course in Development Studies, in collaboration with the Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities, University of Calcutta. The course is in its fourth year. Two batches of students have already obtained degree. Students of the third batch are completing their dissertations and those of the fourth batch are completing their coursework.

The IDSK is now in the eighth year of its existence. During the eight years of its existence, it has made its mark in the world of research in social sciences and humanities in West Bengal and Eastern India. It has actively collaborated with the departments of history, economics, political science, philosophy, business management, the Science College, and the Centre for Urban Economic Studies and Women's Studies Research Centre, and most frequently, with the Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities, of Calcutta University. The Institute has also

organized a number of training and research programmes, generally in collaboration with other academic institutions, the details of which have been given in the body of the report.

The foundation stone of the building of the IDSK was laid by Shri Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee, Honourable Chief Minister of Government of West Bengal on 15 February 2008 at 27/D, DD Block, Salt Lake. The building at the site is near completion and the IDSK is expected to shift to its new premises very soon.

The University Grants Commission(UGC) has sponsored the setting up of the Rabindranath Tagore Centre for Human Development Studies(RN Tagore CHDS) under the auspices of the IDSK through the University of Calcutta. An Advisory Committee has been constituted with the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Calcutta as Chairman, the Director of IDSK as Vice-Chairman and with other representatives from the IDSK and the University of Calcutta. The Committee has formulated certain guidelines for the functioning of the (RNTCHDS). The academic scheme of the Centre includes a programme for Ph.D students, post doctoral fellows and visiting academics at various levels. During the first year of its existence, five visiting professors joined the Centre. They are Dr. Ajit Banerjee, President, Centre for Ecological Culture and member of Biodiversity Board, West Bengal, Professor Ashwani Saith of Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, The Netherlands, Professor Buroshiva Dasgupta, former Director of Manipal Institute of Communication, Professor Sudhir Chakravarti, noted expert on Bengali folk music and culture and Professor Ranabir Chakravarti of Jawaharlal Nehru University. Two post-doctoral fellows Dr. Debarati Bandyopadhyay, on leave from Visva Bharati University and Dr. Subhasri Ghosh have joined the Centre. Foreign travel grants were awarded to four faculty members of the IDSK and two from the University of Calcutta for participation in international conferences.

In 2009, the RNTCHDS organized an international seminar on *China and India: Innovation, transformation, displacement and growth* between 21 and 23 December. Professor Sir James Mirrlees, Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge and Nobel Laureate in Economics, 1996 delivered the inaugural address on *India and China: Economy class versus business class?* The participants in the seminar included Professor Anthony D'Costa of Copenhagen

Business School, Denmark, Professor Ashwani Saith of Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, Netherlands, Professor Carl Riskin of Columbia University, USA, Dr. Fung Kwan of University of Macau, Taipa, Professor Ho-fung Hung of Indiana University, USA, Dr. Shailaja Fennell of University of Cambridge, UK, Dr. Robert Weil of California, USA, Dr. Ajit Banerjee of RNTCHDS, Professor Ashwini Deshpande of Delhi School of Economics, Dr. Bikramjit Sinha and Professor Parthasarathi Banerjee of NISTADS, New Delhi, Professor Ishita Mukhopadhyay of University of Calcutta, Professor Nirmal Kumar Chandra of Indian Institute of Management Calcutta and IDSK, Professor R. Nagaraj of Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai, Professor Sunil Mani of Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram and Professor Sunanda Sen, formerly of Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

The RNTCHDS, in collaboration with the International Standing Conference for the History of Education (ISCHE), organized an international workshop on *Learning in the Past, Research Agendas for the Future: Connecting Histories of Education 1700-2000* from 3-5 February 2010. The participants in the workshop included Professor Kate Roumaniere, Miami University, Ohio, USA, Dr. Tim Allender, University of Sydney, Australia, Professor Alicia Civera of El Colegio Mexiquense, Mexico, Professor Clare Midgley of Sheffield Hallam University, UK, Professor Daniel Lindmark of Umea University, Sweden, Dr. David Ludvigsson, Uppsala University, Sweden, Dr. Eckardt Fuchs of Georg Eckert Institute of International Textbook Research, Germany, Dr. Barnita Bagchi, Utrecht University, Netherlands, Mr. Hakim Ikhlef, European University Institute, Italy, Dr. Jana Tschurennev, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Switzerland, Professor Marc Depapepe, Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium, Professor Mary Hilton, University of Cambridge, UK, Dr. Masako Shibata, Tsukuba University, Japan, Ms. Simone Holzwarth, Humboldt University, Berlin, Professor Sabyasachi Bhattacharya, Chairman, Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi, Dr. Parimala Rao and Mr. R.S. Vineeth of Jawaharlal Nehru University, Professor Arun Bandopadhyay of University of Calcutta.

To celebrate the 150th birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore, the RNTCHDS has constituted a Sub-committee comprising Professor Sankha Ghosh, the eminent poet and recognized authority on studies of Rabindra Nath Tagore, as the Chairman and Professor Sudhir Chakravarti, the noted expert on Bengali music composed by Tagore and other great song writers, and on folk religions and folk music, Professor Bhaskar Chakraborty, Department of History, University of Calcutta, Professor Syamal Chakrabarti, scientist with a wide interest in cultural issues, Professor Karuna Sindhu Das, Vice-Chancellor, Rabindra Bharati University, Professor Udaya Narayana Singh, Director, Culture and Cultural Relations, Visva Bharati University and Professor Indra Nath Choudhuri, former Secretary of Sahitya Akademi and Academic Director, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, New Delhi, as members and Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi as Convenor to advise the Academic Committee of the Centre. While the detailed plans will await the deliberations of the Committee, it has already been decided that Shri Aveek Sen, an academic and journalist who taught in Oxford for a number of years will produce an annotated translation of Tagore's *Chhinnapatrabali*. It has also been decided that the reception of Tagore's works in his multi-dimensional spectrum in the languages and culture of Southern India and in the region of the north-east including Assam and Tripura as well as several other north-eastern states will be deliberated upon by the experts in the respective languages and culture.

II Research Programmes

A. The programme on 'Gender, Empowerment and the State' funded by the Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, Berlin

The project on **Gender, empowerment and the state** sponsored by the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, Berlin and implemented by the scholars of IDSK in 2009 focussed on the role of the state in providing employment to women in West Bengal. To what extent this employment has promoted empowerment among women was also examined in detail. The scholars guided by Dr. Zakir Husain evaluated Group Based Poverty Alleviation

Programmes, examined the question, ‘Do Self Help Group really empower women?’ and concentrated on the nature and utility of state sponsored development programmes. As the emphasis was on the role and functioning of the Self Help Groups, the research listed a number of measures in the conclusion which could improve the overall situation. Some such measures are (a) guarantee for marketing the products (b) pre-financing of unit purchase (c) quality management through appropriate injection of human and physical capital and (d) branding to provide assurance of product quality. The project report was submitted in December 2009.

After the successful completion of the project **Gender, empowerment and the state** the IDSK is at present engaged in the project **Improving health status of women in rural West Bengal** sponsored by the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, Berlin.

B. The project on ‘Documents on the Economic History of British Rule in India 1858-1947’

The Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) has appointed Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi General Editor of the project of compiling the basic documents on the economic history of India under British rule and Professor Arun Bandyopadhyay, Nurul Hasan Professor of History, Calcutta University, Associate Editor of the project. It is a huge project because among other things, economic history is taken in the widest possible meaning of the term, covering data and developments judged significant for the economic, social, legal and ecological history of the country. Under the joint direction of the General and Associate Editors and the work of a team of research assistants of the project, the documents for Eastern India covering the period 1860s-1870s have been collected in a volume that was published by Manohar and released at IDSK on 31 March 2009. A second volume containing documents related to Eastern India during the 1880s and 1890s will be published by the middle of May 2010. The third volume, containing documents relating to Madras Presidency under British Rule during the 860s and 1870s is expected to be sent to the ICHR by the end of March 2010.

Dr Bhubanes Misra had compiled four volumes of railway documents pertaining to the period and these had been published by the ICHR. Under the revived project, Dr Misra was appointed as Editor in charge of the further volumes of railway documents, working under the guidance of the General Editor. The fourth volume of the railway construction in India during 1858-1947 has been published in October 2009 and at present collection of documents for the forthcoming volumes from different archives and libraries is going on.

C. MDG-based Poverty Reduction Strategy for West Bengal

To help the planning processes in the states, UNDP, through the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai, as the nodal agency, commissioned MDG-based poverty reduction strategy papers for different Indian states. The present paper on West Bengal, prepared by Professor Achin Chakraborty and Dr. Subrata Mukherjee of IDSK, was submitted to IGIDR, and IGIDR shared it with the Department of Planning and Development, Government of West Bengal. The paper examines the poverty and deprivation situation in West Bengal in a multidimensional framework and explores possible strategies towards reduction of poverty in the state, keeping in view the Millenium Development Goals(MDGs). The MDGs consist of eight objectives within which there are specific targets to be achieved by 2015, covering income poverty, hunger, primary education, gender equality, child and maternal mortality, HIV/AIDS and other diseases, and environment sustainability. The MDG-based poverty reduction strategy therefore encompasses multiple dimensions of deprivation which include income poverty as only one of the dimensions of deprivation which include income poverty as only one of the dimensions. Based on the analysis of recent trends in various indicators of poverty, food adequacy, health and health care, education and rural employment generation, a number of policy suggestions have been made.

D. Possibilities of closer economic ties between India and Australia in capital goods Industries in the WTO regime

The Institute has taken up a project on **Possibilities of closer economic ties between India and Australia in capital goods industries in the WTO regime** sponsored by Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia. Dr. Uttam Bhattacharya of IDSK is coordinating the project

along with other researchers in India. Dr. Pundarik Mukhopadhyay of Macquarie University and Dr. P.K. Basu from the Charles Stuart University are in charge of the project at the Australian end. The objective of the project is to analyze the existing trade and industrial scenario of India and Australia since 1991. The possibilities of further economic collaborations in manufacturing areas between India and Australia have also been pointed out. This study has also tried to focus on the attitude of the manufacturers and traders towards foreign collaboration with special focus on Australia. As a part of the study the data and other information have been collected from manufacturers and traders working in and around Kolkata, West Bengal, Delhi, Mumbai, Maharashtra, Bangalore, Karnataka, Chennai, and Tamilnadu. The final report will be submitted by March 2010. There is a possibility of extending the project on bilateral economic relations.

E. A Study Report on Mid Term Appraisal of the 11th Five Year Plan of West Bengal

The Planning Commission, Government of India assigned to the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata the task of preparing a Report on the performance of monitorable targets and flagship programmes for Mid Term Appraisal of the 11th Five Year Plan of West Bengal. Dr. Panchanan Das has prepared the report under the guidance of Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi. The report comprises two studies. The first one, consisting of three chapters deals with the trends in monitorable indicators of West Bengal since the 9th Plan period and the second study, consisting of six chapter analyses the performance of flagship programmes in West Bengal. The report has been sent to Planning Commission in the first week of March 2010.

F. A Study Report on Mid Term Appraisal of the 11th Five Year Plan of Tripura

The Planning Commission, Government of India assigned to the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata the task of preparing a Report on the performance of monitorable targets and flagship programmes for Mid Term Appraisal of the 11th Five Year Plan of Tripura. The study report has two parts. The first part traces the growth in the State Domestic Product and its various components in the recent years, analyses the progress that different sectors of the economy have made, and identify the problems they face. Besides the performance of the

economy, the study also specifically deals with the health and education sectors. The second part analyses the progress in implementation of various central and centrally sponsored programmes.

III Collaborations

a. Collaboration with the University of Calcutta

In 2006, IDSK launched a multidisciplinary M.Phil programme in Development Studies, in collaboration with the Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities (CSSH), University of Calcutta. The M.Phil degree is conferred by the University of Calcutta. The first and second batch of M.Phil students (2006-08 and 2007-09) successfully completed their course and obtained their degrees. The third batch is busy in completing their dissertations and the fourth batch will complete their coursework very soon. The teaching faculty mainly consists of the IDSK faculty and the University faculty associated with CSSH. The details of the M.Phil programme are provided in the next section.

b. Collaboration with South Asia Institute (SAI), University of Heidelberg, Germany

A collaborative agreement has been made between IDSK and SAI, University of Heidelberg under which cooperation shall be carried out in exchanging faculty members, academic materials and other information, participating in seminars and academic meetings and holding interdisciplinary and result-oriented joint research activities. An international seminar was held in 2008 under this programme.

c. Collaboration with Monash Asia Institute, Monash University, Australia

The IDSK has entered into active collaboration with Monash Asia Institute in areas of public health and environmental studies with particular reference to climate change. A team consisting of Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi, Director, IDSK, Professor Dhrubajyoti Chatterjee, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic), University of Calcutta, Professor Anjan Dasgupta, Professor of Biochemistry, University of Calcutta and Professor Achin Chakraborty, Professor of Economics, IDSK, visited the Monash University during 23-28 August 2009 and went around the locations where the rural health components of Monash

medical college and Community Health programmes were being implemented. In January 2010 Professor Gordon Whyte and Dr. Kerry Whyte visited IDSK and went to Birbhum and Bankura districts, along with Professor Achin Chakraborty, to look at the functioning of the rural health system in areas with a high concentration of socio-economically disadvantaged population. The team took note of the work being carried out by the Liver Foundation led by Dr. Abhijit Chowdhury, in close collaboration with the district health service doctors, in improving the services provided by the so-called rural medical practitioners. In Bankura, the Monash-IDSK team visited two villages inhabited by the poor and marginalized groups and saw the work being done in the area of public health, especially on detection of anaemia among women of these communities, by a grass roots organization called Friends of Poor and Socially Abandoned, led by Dr. Prabir Lahiri, a scientist who works with Calcutta Medical College and University Science College. It is expected that an active collaboration in this field will be made in the near future. In the area of climate change, Monash Asia Institute has identified IDSK as a partner and will proceed for a plan where the research scholars of IDSK will carry out a study in the near future.

- d. Memorandum of Understanding has also been signed with the Faculty of Economics, University of Siena, Italy and with the Institute of International Relations, University of Warsaw, Poland.

IV Teaching and Research Guidance

M.Phil in Development Studies

The M.Phil. Programme in Development Studies is multi-disciplinary in nature, and designed to provide an understanding of various perspectives on development issues, through a rigorous course work and guided research. The perspectives are drawn from different disciplines, with a strong emphasis on the classics in social sciences and humanities. The curriculum emphasizes a heterodox perspective on social science paradigms and the methodological underpinnings of social science research. The strength of the course

particularly lies in the balance it maintains between theory and hands-on training on tools of analysis – both quantitative and qualitative.

The duration of the entire programme is two years – equally divided between course work and writing dissertation. The first year of course work is further divided into two halves. The first half deals with the core courses, which all the students have to go through, and the second deals with the specialization courses distinguished by a few select disciplines. On completion of the first semester of course work, each student is to specialize in one of the following disciplinary areas: literature and cultural studies, economics, sociology, history and political science. The specialization courses, irrespective of the disciplinary area, will have a strong emphasis on development-oriented topics. By the end of the first year, students will choose their dissertation topics and start working under the close supervision of the faculty.

The fourth M.Phil course in Development Studies for the session 2009 – 2011 in collaboration with the University of Calcutta was started in July 2009. The dissertations of M. Phil students for the session 2008-10 are in final phase.

V Conferences, Seminars and Workshops

A. Conferences and seminars

A national conference on **Gender, Empowerment and the State** was held on 10 and 11 December 2009. This conference was a part of the project completed by the IDSK on the same subject and sponsored by the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, Berlin. Research scholars and academics from Jaipur, Delhi, Thiruvananthapuram, Calicut, Patna, Hyderabad and Kolkata presented their papers at the conference. The participants included Professors Kanchan Mathur and Shobita Rajagopal of Institute of Development Studies, Jaipur, Dr. Chirashree Dasgupta of Asian Development Research Institute, Dr. Pratyusna Patnaik of Council for Social Development, Hyderabad, Dr. Sonali Mukherjee of University of Delhi, Binita Thampi and others of University of Sheffield, Dr. Azra Abidi and S.M. Sharq Abbas

of University of Jamia Millia Islamia, Dr. Nilabja Ghosh of Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi, Dr. Phanindra Goyari, University of Hyderabad, Dr. G. Ramathirthan of Pondicherry University, Professor Diganta Mukherjee, Usha Martin Academy, Dr. Mousumi Dutta of Presidency College and Dr. Zakir Husain and Dr. Bidhan Kanti Das of IDSK.

B. Workshops

The IDSK organized a two-day workshop on ‘Structural equation modeling’ in collaboration with the department of economics, University of Calcutta on 20 and 21 July 2009. It was organized for those engaged in quantitative research in social and behavioural sciences.

The IDSK has collaborated with Pratichi Trust (India) under the academic leadership of Professor Amartya Sen, and organized a workshop on 15 February 2010, on ‘Syllabus of primary education of West Bengal’. Professor Amartya Sen, Professor Partha Dey, Honorary Minister of School Education, Government of West Bengal, Mr. A.J. Philip, Director, Pratichi Trust, Shri Gautam Ghosh, Chairman, District Primary School’s Council of Birbhum, Dr. Mamata Ray, President, West Bengal School of Secondary Education, Shri Vikram Sen, Principal Secretary, School Education, Shri Debarshi Mandal, Secretary, West Bengal Board of Primary Education and other experts on and teachers of school education participated in the workshop.

C. Lectures delivered by visiting scholars

On 3 August 2009, Dr. Shailaja Fennell of Jesus College, Cambridge, UK gave a talk on ‘Development studies in Cambridge’.

On 9 September 2009, Professor Jan Breman, Professor of University of Amsterdam, Netherlands delivered a talk on ‘Great transformation in Asia’.

On 18 November 2009, Dr. Gordon Johnson, President, Wolfson College, University of Cambridge, UK delivered a lecture on ‘Universities and society’, organized by the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata in collaboration with Cambridge University Press.

On 4 December 2009, Dr. David Washbrook, St. Antony’s College, Oxford and Trinity College, Cambridge, UK gave a talk on ‘Excavating modernity: Conflicts and contradictions in colonialism’.

On 18 December 2009, Professor Ashwani Saith, Dean and Professor of Rural Economics of Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, The Netherlands and Professor of Development Studies, London School of Economics delivered the **Second Michael Sprinker Lecture** on 'Inequality: Reflections on a silent pandemic'.

On 29 December 2009, Dr. Golam S. Khan, School of Social Sciences, University of Western Sydney, Australia delivered a talk on 'Cultural distinctiveness between East and West Bengal Hindus following partition-migration during and after 1946-47'.

VI Library

The **Library**, which began functioning from December 2002, already houses an impressive number of books, journals and magazines and primary documents focusing on various development research like Education, Public Health, Economics, Sociology, Political Sciences, Gender Studies, Human Sciences and Globalization. It has a total collection of 8094 (processed) books till 23 February 2009. The library also subscribes to 42 foreign and 35 Indian journals, 712 government and 134 non-government reports. It has 231 digital documents. The library also contains the archives of Rosa Luxemburg projects which include reports, booklets, posters, pats or scroll paintings, CDs, DVDs, audio cassettes, catalogues, transparencies and fact sheets. The library also acquired 891 books and 5 foreign journals for Rabindranath Tagore Centre for Human Development Studies.

The Library has established network connections with DELNET, Prowess and is a member of Calcutta University's E-Journals under UGC INFONET Programme, Indiatat.com, Oxford e-bundle journals in economics, EPW online and Sage online for selected journals. The library is using SOUL (Software for University Libraries) for its ongoing automation activities. Currently the library has entered and processed 6207 documents in SOUL.

The Institute has been gifted with very valuable collections, that of the late Michael Sprinker, a leading radical literary theorist, Shri Gopal Krishna Gandhi, Governor of West Bengal, and also a collection of about 1900 books from Shri Parimal Dasgupta, a leading journalist. These two gifts have been designated as the **Michael Sprinker** and **Parimal Dasgupta Collections** respectively.

VII Academic activities of faculty members

Amiya Kumar Bagchi

Presented a paper on ‘Actually existing capitalism and a more human future’, at an international conference in Madrid, Spain organized by Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina held during 25-29 May 2009.

Visited Monash University, Australia as a visiting academic in the School of Rural Health from 23 to 28 August 2009.

Chaired a technical session of the national conference on ‘resurgence of state owned enterprises: The Kerala experience’, organized by the Kerala Ministry for industries, Government of Kerala on 16 November 2009.

Participated in a workshop on ‘Re-thinking economic ideas in the context of the current global crisis organized by Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Advanced Study Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi on 27 November 2009.

Attended the *Pathways to Reconciliation Summit* hosted by HRH Prince Hassan of Jordan and organized by Melbourne’s RMIT and Monash University on 14 and 15 December 2009.

Presented a paper on ‘New pathways to oligarchy (Towards a theory of oligarchic democracy), at the Muttukadu conference organized by IDEAs, Chennai on 27 January 2010.

Gave lectures in the 1st semester of the IDSK-CU M.Phil course in Development Studies for the session 2009-11.

Debdas Banerjee

Delivered an invited lecture on ‘Critique of capitalism’ in the training for programme staff of ActionAid India held in Kolkata during 1-5 June 2009.

Acted as a panelist in a session on ‘Employment and skills’ in the international consultation on ‘Human development in India: Emerging issues and policy paradigms’, organized by the Institute for Human Development and supported by the ICSSR and the World Bank held in New Delhi during 5-6 February 2010.

Continued to work in the International Editorial Board, Working USA: *The Journal of Labour and Society* (Blackwell Publishing).

Continued to work in the Board of Associate and Advisory Editors for the 8-volume reference 'International Encyclopedia of Revolution and Protest, 1500 to the Present', Blackwell Publishing.

Uttam Bhattacharya

Participated in a national level conference on 'Current institutional issues of development economics: Third world perspective' organized by Presidency College, Kolkata on 6 September 2009.

Participated as a resource person and gave a lecture on 'Child labour and their education in India' in the refresher course on 'Inclusive growth: The role of education' organized by the University Grants Commission Academic Staff College, University of Calcutta on 14 November 2009.

Delivered a lecture on 'Traditional versus modern approaches to sweets and desserts making arts and technology in India' in the international workshop organized by the South Asian Studies Group, University of Sydney, Australia during 10-12 December 2009.

Participated as a discussant in the symposium on 'Economic integration in East Asia: Emerging landscape' organized by the Research and Information System for Developing Countries, New Delhi and Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia(ERIA), Jakarta, Indonesia.

Participated in a national seminar on 'Health and education: Efficiency versus social inclusion', organized by the Department of Economics, University of Calcutta on 11 and 12 February 2010.

Supervised the M.Phil dissertation of Haimanti Banerjee and Panchali Bhattacharjee of 2007-09 batch of IDSK. The title of Haimanti was 'Oil price behaviour: Impact on the performance of oil companies and the economy of India, a study from 1991-2008' and the title of Panchali was 'Microfinance and women: Access, choice and control over resources in a selected region of West Bengal'.

Supervising the dissertations of two M.Phil students of 2008-10 batch of IDSK. The titles of their dissertations are 'Patents in India, 2001-09: A study with reference to selected subjects' and 'Agricultural insurance in West Bengal: A study with reference to some villages'.

Engaged in a project on 'Possibilities of closer economic ties between India and Australia in capital goods industries in the WTO regime'.

Working for a project on 'Mainstreaming migration into development policy agenda', in collaboration with EPLF, Switzerland. Final project proposal will be submitted by May 2010.

Achin Chakraborty

Participated and presented a paper on 'Inequality in non-income dimensions' in the conference in honour of Professor Azizur Rahman Khan organized by the University of Massachusetts at Amherst on 27 and 28 March 2009.

Visited Monash University, Australia between 23 and 29 August 2009.

Invited as a resource person to the workshop on 'District Human Development Reports for Bihar' held at Patna on 9 November 2009.

Gave lecture as a resource person at the *Young Scholars Programme* at the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai held during 10-22 November, 2009.

Participated in the Australia India Research Dialogue held at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai during 20-21 November 2009.

Delivered an invited lecture on 'Empowerment and development' at Kidderpore college on 12 December 2009.

Invited as a resource person to the workshop on 'District Human Development Reports for Jharkhand' held at Ranchi on 4 February 2010.

Participated in the meeting of the Kolkata Group at Kolkata organized by Global Equity Initiative of Harvard University, UNICEF and Pratichi(India) Trust on 15 and 16 February 2010.

Engaged in the project 'A Study Report on Mid Term Appraisal of the 11th Five Year Plan of Tripura' sponsored by the Planning Commission, Government of India.

Involved in the planning and implementation of intervention programme in three districts Murshidabad, Birbhum and Nadia under Sarva Siksha Abhiyan.

Acting as the Coordinator of the CU-IDSK M.Phil Programme in Development Studies.

Examined two Ph.D theses of Jadavpur University.

Editing a book (jointly with others) on *Women, Work and Education*.

Indrani Chakraborty

Presented a paper on 'Female work participation and gender differential in earning in West Bengal' (joint author) at the international conference on 'Policy modeling-Ecomod 2009'-held at the University of Ottawa, Canada during 24-26 June 2009.

Presented a seminar on 'Capital structure in an emerging stock market: The case of India' at IDSK on 24 November 2009.

Supervising the M.Phil dissertation of one student of IDSK of 2008-10 batch.

Subhoranjan Dasgupta

Participated in a conference on 'Climate changes and the present day World' in New Delhi on 24 and 25 September 2009.

Participated in a seminar and workshop organized by the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation from 24 September to 2 October 2009.

Participated in a television discussion on Bishnu Dey at Doordarshan on 24 November 2009.

Participated in a national conference on 'Women's employment, empowerment and the state' on 10 and 11 December 2009.

Supervising the M.Phil dissertation of Aditi Guha Thakurta of IDSK. The title of her thesis is 'Partition and the creativity of Sadat Hasan Manto'.

Completed successfully the project on 'Gender, empowerment and the state' in December 2009 sponsored by Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, Stiftung.

Bidhan Kanti Das

Presented two papers on 'Participation in eco development activities in a national park environment in India: Nature and consequences' and 'Good strategies or intentions are not enough for development interventions: Some experiences under India eco development project at Buxa tiger reserve, West Bengal, India' respectively at the 16th World Congress of the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences at Kunming, China, organized by Chinese Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences from 27 to 31 July 2009.

Presented a paper on 'Creating belongingness through cost sharing in eco development investments in an national park environment: How forest villagers' responded?' in the Indian Anthropological Congress of Indian National Confederation and Academy of Anthropologists (INCAA) held at Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalay at Bhopal from 21 to 23 February 2010.

Supervising the dissertations of two M.Phil students of IDSK of the 2008-10 batch. The title of their dissertations are 'Land acquisition and its effect on education in neighbouring areas' and 'Role of ICDS in urban slum area'.

Supervised the fieldwork of first year M.Phil students of IDSK of 2009-2011 session on ‘Rural elderly population in West Bengal in some GPs of Nadia district during November 2009.

Working as an instructor of core paper and sociology special paper of the M.Phil students for the session 2009-2011.

Working on the theme ‘Sex linked versus autosomal inbreeding coefficients in close consanguineous marriages: Methodological innovations’ for possible publication.

Panchanan Das

Presented a paper on ‘Regional growth differentials and manufacturing industries in India: Testing Kaldor’s theory’ in the EACS workshop on ‘The economic development of China and India: determinants, features and consequences’ in the EACS workshop organized by the University of Perugia, Perugia (Italy), on 26 June 2009.

Presented a paper on ‘Economic growth, poverty and inequality: Indian experience of reforms and development’, at the inaugural of Courant Research Center on ‘Poverty, equity and growth in developing and transition countries: Statistical methods, empirical analyses and policy issues’ at the University of Göttingen, Germany on July 1-3, 2009.

Gave a lecture and presented a paper on ‘The dynamics of inflation in India: Cointegration and causality in the annual conference of Indian Association for Research in National Income and Wealth, at the Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum, Kerala on 8-9 January 2010.

Presented a paper on ‘The relationship between money and price in India: A cointegration analysis’ in the annual conference of The Indian Econometric Society at Jammu University on 4-6 March 2010.

Submitted the study report on Mid Term Appraisal of the XIth Plan of West Bengal: Performance of Monitorable Targets and Implementation of Flagship Programmes.

Prabhat Datta

Delivered Panchayat Parishad Endowment lecture organized by the Palli Charcha Kendra of Visva Bharati University on 9 March 2009.

Presented a paper on ‘The role of community development societies in slum development in West Bengal’ organized by the Institute of Local Government and Urban Studies, Government of West Bengal on 28 May 2009.

Delivered a talk before the members of Bangladesh Rural Development Board organized by the State Institute of Panchayats and Rural Development, Government of West Bengal on 9 July 2009.

Acted as a resource person in the capacity building programme of the councillors organized by the Institute of Local Government and Urban Studies, Government of West Bengal on 11 August and 4 September 2009.

Participated in an international workshop on 'Citizen Leadership and accountability' at the invitation of PRIA in New Delhi on 1 and 2 December 2009.

Working on a research project (jointly with Payel Sen) on 'Urban poverty in West Bengal: Impact of the KUSP intervention' sponsored by the Municipal Affairs department, Government of West Bengal.

Working on a research project (jointly with Payel Sen) on 'The working of the Gram Unnayan Samitis in West Bengal', sponsored by the Municipal Affairs department, Government of West Bengal.

Saswata Ghosh

Presented a paper on 'Trends and patterns of marriages and divorces among Qatari' at an international workshop on 'Importance of social statistics in the middle-east' organized by UNESCO and Qatar Statistics Authority from 29-30 August 2009.

Presently engaged in a project on 'Improving health status of women in rural West Bengal' sponsored by the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, Berlin.

Co-supervisor of the M.Phil dissertation of Ms. Enakhi Sarkar of IDSK of 2007-09 batch who has been awarded the M.Phil degree. The title of her dissertation was 'Understanding Psychological aspects: A reflection from the elderly of Kolkata.

Prasanta Ray

Delivered a lecture on 'Interdisciplinarity' at the Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune on 17 July 2009.

Gave a talk on 'Corporate micro-culture', at the orientation course of M.N. Dastur Company on 18 August 2009.

Presented a paper on 'Taking the social sciences to the people', in the Second People's Education Congress, Homi Bhava Centre for Science Education, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, and the Indian Social Science Association on 8 October 2009.

Presented a paper on 'The changing face of the media in India' in the National Press Day celebration by the Press Club, Kolkata on 16 November 2009.

Presented a paper on 'How inclusive is our education system', in the celebration of International Child's Right Day organized by Child Right and You (CRY) on 21 November 2009.

Gave a lecture on 'Asking questions and finding answers' in the seventh winter course on 'Forced migration' organized by the Calcutta Research Group on 7 December 2009.

Delivered a talk on 'Graftscape: Political economy of greed in post—colonial India' in a national seminar on 'India: the country and the State', at Raja Peary Mohan College on 5 February 2010.

Presented a paper on 'On deafness and silence: for a political sociology of insensitivity', in a national seminar on 'Alternative politics, other worlds', Belur Vidyamandir, 19 February 2010.

Supervised the M.Phil dissertation of Ms. Barnali Ray of 2007-09 batch who has been awarded the M.Phil degree. The title of her dissertation was 'Emergent changes in leisure activities of urban youth as a fallout of internet use'.

Dipankar Sinha

Delivered a lecture on 'e-Governance and Democratic Decentralization in India: (Ir)relevance' at a seminar on 'Democratic Decentralization in India' organized by the Council for Political Studies/Presidency College, Kolkata on 3 April, 2009.

Gave a talk on 'Political Scenario in West Bengal' at the Orientation Course for IAS Probationers, Administrative Training Institute, Government of West Bengal on 12 June, 2009.

Presented a paper on 'Media and Globalization: Indian Context' at the Department of Political Science, Gurudas College on 15 September, 2009.

Gave a lecture on 'Media Agenda and Human Rights', at the Administrative Training Institute, Kolkata on 5 November, 2009.

Presented a paper on 'Radio as Social Power: Communication for Development' at the School of Media Communication Culture, Jadavpur University on 23 November, 2009.

Delivered a talk on 'Mediated Democracy: The Indian Scenario', at Gokhale Memorial Girls' College, Kolkata on 9 December, 2009.

Participated as a discussant in the international workshop on 'Embedding poor people's voices in local governance: Participation and political empowerment in India' organized by Sheffield University (UK) and Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata on 11 December, 2009.

Gave a lecture on 'Information society in globalizing India: Myth or reality?', at a Refresher Course on 'Global change and contemporary India' organized by School of International Relations and Strategic Studies, Jadavpur University, 5 January, 2010.

Gave a talk on 'Human Rights and media agenda' at School of International Relations and Strategic Studies, Jadavpur University on 25 January, 2010.

Delivered a lecture on 'Right to communicate: Third generation Human Right' organized by School of International Relations and Strategic Studies, Jadavpur University on 27 January, 2010.

Presented a paper on 'Democratic decentralization and e-Governance in India: Tale of a divorce' in a State-Level Seminar on 'Making democratic decentralization work' organized by the Department of Political Science, West Bengal State University, Barasat on 9 February, 2010.

Gave a lecture on 'Adivasi marginalization with(out) development: Reflections on 'convergence', at the Annual Seminar of the Centre for Refugee Studies, Jadavpur University on 18 February, 2010.

Presented a paper on 'Global Village/Another World: The Communicative Dimensions of 'Alternative Politics', at a UGC National Seminar on 'Alternative politics: Another world, other voices', organized by the Department of Political Science, Ramakrishna Mission Vidyamandira, Belur on 20 February, 2010.

Engaged in a collaborative project on 'Awareness generation and field implementation study of solar disinfection of water (SODIS)' of The Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology, Duebendorf, and Women's Studies Research Centre, Calcutta University.

Krishna Soman

Participated in a seminar on 'Herbal drug research: Present and future prospects', organized by JSS College of Pharmacy, Ooty, Tamil Nadu on 4-5 December 2009.

Presented a paper on 'Dais of Bengal: tradition in time and space' at Asiatic Society, Kolkata on 7 December 2009.

Participated in a national seminar on 'Towards a national pharmaceutical policy in India in the changed perspective' organized by the Jana Swasthya Abhiyan and Community Development of Medicinal Unit, Kolkata during 19 and 20 February 2010.

Supervised the M.Phil dissertations of Parama Ukil and Jaydeep Sengupta of IDSK of 2006-08 batch and Asish Kumar Mandal of 2007-09 batch. The title of the thesis of Asish was 'Use of drugs: An exploration through prescription analysis in Malda district of West Bengal'.

Supervised the M.Phil dissertation of Shalini Gupta of Jadavpur University in 2009. Her title of the dissertation was 'Social determinants of women's health: An exploration among college teachers in Kolkata'.

Evaluated the Ph.D dissertation of a student of Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. The title of her thesis was 'A social history of disease and prostitution in Bengal: From syphilis to AIDS'.

Engaged in the projects on 'Destination Keralam ayurveda calling: Facets of 'Integration' in public health care', 'Dais of Bengal: Tradition in time and space' and 'Women's health and right to health in India: Concepts and issues of concern'.

VIII Publications

A. Publications of IDSK

a. Book:

Indian Railway Acts and Rules 1849-1895: Railway Construction in India : Selected Documents (1832-1900), ed. Bhubanes Misra (General Editor: Amiya Kumar Bagchi) Vol. IV, Indian Council of Historical Research, 2009.

b. Occasional Papers:

- No.17 *The Field Strikes Back: Decoding Narratives of Development* by Dipankar Sinha, March 2009
- No.18 *Female Work Participation and Gender Differential in Earning in West Bengal* by Indrani Chakraborty and Achin Chakraborty, April 2009
- No.19 *Rosa Luxemburg's Critique of Creativity and Culture* by Subhoranjan Dasgupta, May 2009.
- No.20 *MDG-Based Poverty Reduction Strategy for West Bengal* by Achin Chakraborty and Subrata Mukherjee, October 2009.
- No.21 *The Dialectical Core in Rosa Luxemburg's Vision of Democracy* by Subhoranjan Dasgupta, January 2010.

c. Working Paper:

No.4 *Maternal Anthropometry and Birth Outcome Among Bengalis in Kolkata* by Samiran Bisai, April 2009.

d. Report:

Gender, Empowerment and the State prepared by Zakir Husain, Mousumi Dutta, Bidhan Kanti Das, Diganta Mukherjee and Subhoranjan Dasgupta, 2009.

West Bengal Development Report sponsored by the Planning Commission, Government of India and published by Academic Foundation, 2010.

B. Publications of individual faculty members

Amiya Kumar Bagchi

Articles:

‘Money under capitalism: Domestic universal’, *Social Scientist*, Vol.37, nos. 7 and 8, July-August 2009.

‘Missed opportunities: Finance Minister under pressure from mega financiers and speculators’, *The Statesman*, 12 July 2009.

‘The capability approach and the political economy of human development’, in K. Basu and R. Kanbur (eds): *Arguments for a Better World: Essays in Honor of Amartya Sen*, Vol. 2, New York, Oxford University Press, pp. 31-47, 2009.

‘Posner, Michael Vivian (1931-2006)’, *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* (online edition: URL: <http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/97802>, accessed 26.2.2010).

In Bāṅlā

‘Gaddolikā : Rajsekhar Basu’, *Serā Bāṅlā Boi, Nandan*, 45 (1), 4 January 2010.

Reviews:

‘Treatises on economy: essays that make a substantial theoretical contribution to the history of economic ideas in India’, Review of Alakananda Patel (ed.) **The Collected Works of A.K. Dasgupta** (3 vol.s), *The Hindu*, 8 September 2009.

‘Capabilities, informational bases and global justice’, Review of Amartya Sen’s **The Idea of Justice**, *The Sunday Statesman*, 11 October 2009.

‘Doctrine of Friedman’, Review of K. Puttaswamaiah(ed.) **Milton Friedman – Nobel Monetray Economist**, *The Hindu*, 24 November 2009.

Debdas Banerjee

Books:

Labour, Globalization and the State: Workers, Women and Migrants Confront Neoliberalism, London and New York, Routledge, 2009.

Economic and Human Development in Contemporary India: Cronyism and Fragility, London and New York, Routledge, 2010.

Reviews:

Review of Sunanda Sen and Byasdeb Dasgupta’s book **Unfreedom and Waged Work: Labour in India’s Manufacturing Industry**, (Sage,2009), *The Hindu*, 30 June 2009.

Review of Marcel van der Linden and Prabhu P. Mohapatra (eds.) **Labour Matters: Towards Global Histories – Studies in Honour of Sabyasachi Bhattacharya**(Tulika, 2009), *The Hindu*, 22 December 2009.

Uttam Bhattacharya

Paper:

‘Transformation through urban rural linkages: Indian economy under globalization’ (jointly with K K Datta), *Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics*, Vol.64, No.3, July – September 2009.

Achin Chakraborty

Articles:

‘Some normatively relevant aspects of inter-state and intra-state disparities’, *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol.XLIV (26&27), 2009, pp.179-184.

‘Reckoning inequality in education in India’, in *Development, Equity and Poverty: Essays in Honour of Azizur Rahman Khan*, Macmillan, 2010.

Subhoranjan Dasgupta

Book:

(Co-edited with Jasodhara Bagchi) *The Trauma and the Triumph: Gender and partition in Eastern India*, Vol.II

Review:

Review of Harsh Mander's book **Fear and Forgiveness – The Aftermath of Massacre**, *Anandabazar Patrika*, 20 June 2009.

Bidhan Kanti Das

Article:

(Jointly with Saswata Ghosh) 'Correlates of child malnutrition and the role of ICDS: An exploratory analysis from India', *Journal of Asiatic Society*, Vol: L1, No.4, 2009.

Prabhat Datta

Books:

(Co-author) *Good Governance and Development*, Kolkata, Progressive Publishers, 2009.

(Co-author) *Engendering Urban Governance in West Bengal*, Kolkata, DasGupta & Co., 2009.

Urban Governance and Development, Kolkata, DasGupta & Co., 2010.

Article:

(Co-author) 'Empowerment of women through participation: Women in urban local bodies', *ICFAI Journal of Public Policy and Governance*, 2009.

Monograph:

'Governing urban West Bengal', Institute of Local Government and Urban Studies, Government of West Bengal, 2009.

Paper:

'Democratic decentralisation through Panchayati Raj in Contemporary India: Changes and challenges', published by the University of Heidelberg, September 2009.

Saswata Ghosh

Articles:

(Jointly with) 'Correlates of child malnutrition and the role of ICDS: An exploratory analysis from India', *Journal of Asiatic Society*, Vol: L1, No.4, 2009.

'Exploring socioeconomic vulnerabilities of anaemia among women of eastern Indian states', *Journal of Biosocial Science*, Vol.41, pp.763-787, 2009.

(Jointly with Zakir Husain and Bijoya Roy) "Top-heavy' systems and quality of health care: A survey of select departments in R.G.Kar Medical College and Hospital', *Social Medicine*, Vol.4, No.2, pp.90-97, 2009.

Prasanta Ray

Review:

'Unish satake bangalir tanaporener itihās', Review of Pradip Bose's **Saamoiki: Purono Saamoik Patrer Prabandha Sankalan**, *Desh*, 2 July 2009.

Dipankar Sinha

Articles:

'Restyling democracy?: Mainstream media and public space vis-à-vis television in M. Manisha and S. M. Dev eds., *Indian Democracy: Problems and Prospects*, London, Anthem Press, 2009.

'Communication: The challenges of globalization, information society, identity and development in Yogendra Singh ed., *Social Sciences: Communication, Anthropology and Sociology* Vol.14, Part 2 of the Series on *The Project of History of Indian Science, Philosophy and Culture, Globalization*, New Delhi, Centre for Studies in Civilizations/Pearson Longman, 2010.

'Communicate-terminate-communicate: The new challenge of terror communication in R. Chakrabarti and I.K. Lahiri eds., *The Challenge of Terrorism*, Delhi, Academic Excellence Publishers/Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, 2009.

Review:

Review of Henrik P. Bang and Anders Esmark (eds), **New Publics with/out Democracy**, Samfundslitteratur Press/NORDICOM, Frederiksberg, Denmark, 2008, *Media International Australia*, September, 2009.

Krishna Soman

Article:

‘Women in family and women in prostitution: The changing context’, in Ritu Priya and Shalini Mehta (eds.), Dialogues on AIDS: Perspectives for the Indian Context, New Delhi, Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam Publication(P) Limited, pp.467-68, 2009.

IX Members of faculty

Director

Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi

Professors

Debdas Banerjee

Achin Chakraborty

Subhoranjan Dasgupta

Associate Professors

Barnita Bagchi

Uttam Bhattacharya

Indrani Chakraborty

Krishna Soman

On Deputation (from the Government of West Bengal)

Panchanan Das

Lecturers

Bidhan Kanti Das

Saswata Ghosh

Subrata Mukherjee

ICSSR Senior Fellow

Dr. Manali Chakrabarti

Honorary Faculty Members

Professor Abhijit Vinayak Banerjee, Honorary Professor

Professor Asis Banerjee, Honorary Professor

Professor Dipankar Sinha, Honorary Professor

Professor Sir James A. Mirrlees, Honorary Professor

Professor Himani Bannerji, Honorary Professor

Professor Malini Bhattacharya, Honorary Professor

Professor Prabhat Datta, Honorary Professor

Professor Marika Vicziany, Honorary Professor

Professor Martha Nussbaum, Honorary Professor

Professor Prasanta Ray, Honorary Professor

Dr. Dilip Mahalanabis, Honorary Senior Fellow
