

ANNUAL REPORT





INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES KOLKATA

Annual Report 2014-15



INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES KOLKATA

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Introduction

The **Institute of Development Studies Kolkata (IDSK)** is now in its thirteenth year. The Institute 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 thirteen years of its existence, IDSK has made its mark in the world of research in social sciences and humanities in India. It has been recognized by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) under the 'New Category of ICSSR recognized Institutes' in 2014.

IDSK is devoted to advanced academic research and informed policy advice in the areas of literacy, education, health, gender issues, employment, technology, communication, governance, human sciences and economic development. Other important programmes include training of research scholars in the social sciences working towards M.Phil or Ph.D degrees. IDSK conducts M.Phil 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 University of Melbourne, Monash University (Australia), University of Edinburgh, Indian Institute of Management Calcutta, Jadavpur University, Omeo Kumar Das Institute of Development and Change (Guwahati), and others.



The University Grants Commission sponsored the setting up of the Rabindranath Tagore Centre for Human Development Studies (RTCHDS) under the auspices of IDSK through the University of Calcutta. The Advisory Committee of RTCHDS is headed by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Calcutta as Chairman, the Director of IDSK as Vice-Chairman and with other representatives from IDSK and the University of Calcutta including the Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic) and Pro Vice Chancellor (Finance). The academic programmes of the Centre include organizing seminars, financially supporting faculty research, supporting doctoral research, hosting post-doctoral fellows and visiting academics at various levels.

There had been some organizational changes during the

year 2013-14 as the fixed term of the members of the General Body and the Governing Council ended during the year. The reconstituted Governing Council is now headed by the eminent historian Professor Sabyasachi Bhattacharya as the President.

During 2014-15 we have lost two members of the IDSK family. Dr. Krishna Soman was an Associate Professor of IDSK for twelve years. She passed away on January 06, 2015. Her colleagues, students and friends got together at IDSK on April 1 to pay tributes to her. Prof Ajit Banerjee, an Honorary Visiting Professor at IDSK, passed away on November, 2014. His pioneering contributions in the field of management of forests and ecosystems are widely recognised.

IDSK at a Glance

Established in	2002
Members of faculty (as on March 31, 2015)	13
PhD awardees under IDSK faculty supervision till date	7
PhD scholars being supervised by IDSK faculty	15
M.Phil Awardees till date	71
M.Phil students pursuing coursework	18
M.Phil students writing dissertation	12
Completed sponsored projects	26
Ongoing Projects	4
Occasional Papers	47
Working Papers	5
Special Lecture Series	7

Research Activities

DEMOGRAPHY, HEALTH AND DISABILITY

These three related areas continue to be IDSK's major research areas with contributions in the form of research reports and published papers in peer reviewed journals. Saswata Ghosh was awarded Sir Ratan Tata Fellowship in 2014-15 to work at the Asia Research Centre (ARC) of London School of Economics and Political Science. During the tenure of the fellowship Saswata carried out the study 'Exploring routes to demographic transition in Kolkata district of West Bengal' based on a primary survey of 600 couples. In his study he examines the relevance of the idea of the so-called 'second demographic transition' in the specific regional context as the total fertility rate in Kolkata has fallen to 1.2 which is the lowest in India.

Subrata Mukherjee drafted the chapter on 'Health and Health Care in India' in *India Development Report 2015* (edited by S Mahendra Dev and published by OUP) which provides a comprehensive account of the health and health care scenario in India drawing extensively on the available data. The focus is particularly on various disparities in the distribution of services as well as outcomes. Achin Chakraborty in his 'Understanding Public-Private Mix (Not 'Partnership') in the Social Sector' (*Indian Economy: A Visionary Perspective*, New Delhi: Regal, 2015) reflects on the organizational/institutional issues in both health care and education. He identifies certain features of the 'system' that need to be taken into account while specific forms of supply side interventions are envisaged, and without which, he argues, certain interventions may lead to unintended consequences. Select empirical features of both health and education sectors in India in the recent period have been highlighted in support of the argument.



The involvement of the IDSK faculty with the Birbhum Population Project from its beginning has yielded a series of papers on health and demographic issues. The Birbhum Population Project is an initiative of the Government of West Bengal through the Society for Health and Demographic Surveillance, the aim of which is to develop a Health and Demographic Surveillance System. The prospective longitudinal cohort approach has been followed to generate longitudinal data by following 54,585 individuals living in 12,557 households. Saswata Ghosh, Subrata Mukherjee and others have published 'Health and demographic Surveillance System Profile: The Birbhum Population Project' (International Journal of Epidemiology) giving the details of the objective, methodology and the specific studies conducted with the data.

In an attempt to study inter-group disparities in a nuanced way, Simantini Mukhopadhyay argues in her paper 'The Intersection of Gender, Caste and Class Inequalities in Child Nutrition in Rural India' (Asian Population Studies) that while studies have investigated inequalities in child nutrition along single axes of social power, such as gender, caste and class, there has not been any study that has examined the intersection of different axes in determining nutritional outcomes of children. She finds that children with disadvantageous group affiliations often find significant compensatory benefits from other beneficial identities. In a related paper titled 'On the Apparent Non-Significance of Sex in Child Undernutrition in India' (Journal of Biosocial Science) she argues that the lack of significance of sex in the determination of child nutrition in India is perplexing given the widely held view of sex bias in India. The paper points out that sex inequality needs to be examined in the context of its intersection with other consequential social identities such as religious membership, economic status and caste group affiliation. Sex disparity in child stunting is found to be prevalent particularly among upper caste Hindus. However, the relative advantage that poor tribal girls enjoy is reversed with improvement in wealth status. Saswata Ghosh's 'Exploring Vulnerability of Undernutrition among Wives: Do Husband's Attributes Matter?' (Journal of Health Management) shifts focus from child undernutrition to undernutrition of adult women. Using data from NFHS-3 he finds that women are generally undernourished irrespective of their husbands' attributes. Nandini Ghosh continues her research on disability and working on the book she is editing (Impaired bodies, Gendered Lives: Everyday Realities of Disabled Women, to be published by Primus Publishers). As a Guest Editor of Café Dissensus (USA) she wrote the editorial 'Debating the Disability Law in India' (Issues 10, 2014).

INDUSTRY, LABOUR, POLITICAL ECONOMY

In his paper titled 'Indian economy and society during World War I' (Social Scientist) Amiya Bagchi argues that the sacrifices imposed on the civilian population in the non-white colonies, in the form of financial tribute and supplies of food grains and materials extracted from them, have hardly figured in the literature on the World War I. He makes an important contribution by highlighting this, using relevant figures for India. Indian wheat played a strategic role in keeping food prices in Allied Countries stable. But this involved not only 'scarcity' in official parlance in most regions of India, but even famines, whose presence has been largely submerged in the lore of the global influenza epidemic of 1918-19. In 'A Comment on the Post-Cope Debate on Labour Aristocracy and Colonialism' (Research in Political Economy) Bagchi argues that the issue of the existence and persistence of a labour aristocracy in advanced capitalist countries is connected with the emergence and persistence of an extremely unequal international economic order. The emergence of that order is the direct result of capitalist colonialism. The colonial resources were used to support and augment the profits of the capitalist class. They also helped increase the incomes of workers in the advanced capitalist countries. However, there are instances in which the ruling class in the USA and UK deliberately used the lure of private property or acquisition of colonies to try and get their support.

In a micro-level case study Uttam Bhattacharya (and Anish Mukherjee) inquire about the decline of the foundry



industry in Howrah since the 1970s. Once known as the so-called "Sheffield" of India for its significant contribution to the engineering sector, the foundry units in Howrah subsequently faced multiple problems which the paper identifies and analyses ('What has happened to the Sheffield of India? A study of the foundry industry in India' in Urban Development in Howrah: Socio-Economic Perspectives, Primus). In another study by Uttam Bhattacharya (with Kumkum Mandal) (India in Innovation Maps: A Study with Reference to Patents, Firms and R&D, 1970-2010)' in Socio Economic and Technological Innovations Mechanism and Institutions, Narosa) the innovation scenario in India has been reviewed. The paper notes that India performed well in innovation in the areas of chemical technology, drug and pharmaceuticals, biotechnology and electronics engineering.

Subrata Mukherjee and S Chakraborty in their forthcoming paper 'Gender wage gap in the Indian labour market: Evidence from the NSS 66th Round data' (*Indian Journal Labour Economics*) find that the wage gap between men and women has declined in the Indian economy between 1993-94 and 2009-10. The decomposition exercise carried out in the paper reveals that a higher average genderbased wage gap for regular workers in the rural sector and for casual wage labourers in urban areas. They also find that an increase in in the share of women workers in a sub-sector or industry-group does not lead to a reduction in women's wages. The estimated gender wage differences for different industries and occupations indicate significant wage disparities' However, education or human capital does the bridging.

In a paper titled 'How long can we keep quiet while we see our children going hungry': Understanding the everyday activism of women tea plantation workers in Dooars, India' (Contributions to Indian Sociology, forthcoming) Supurna Banerjee reports an ethnographic account of everyday activism of the women workers of the tea plantations of Dooars in West Bengal and explores how through this activism the protestors embedded, manipulated and even negated notions of appropriate

gender roles, gender spaces and the gendered body.

FINANCE AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

In her study that culminated in the paper 'The Effect of Business Risk on Capital Structure of Indian Corporate Firms: Business Groups vs. Stand-alone Firms' (Global Economic Review: Perspectives on East Asian Economies and Industries), Indrani Chakraborty estimates the relationship between leverage and business risk for Indian corporate firms by applying semi-parametric regression method for three time-points viz., 2001, 2007 and 2012. She uses three alternative measures of risk and finds different results for different measures of risk. Her finding questions the presumed quadratic relationship. She further observes that the relationship differs between groupaffiliated firms and stand-alone firms, and it changes over time. Thus no generalization is possible, which departs from the claims made by the earlier studies. Many of the large Indian firms are characterized by promoter ownership, a hybrid form of ownership and governance in which the companies' founders or their heirs hold controlling stakes, while inviting external minority shareholders to contribute capital, and outside managers to participate in the day-to-day administration of the companies concerned. Indrani Chakraborty, in her paper 'Promoter Ownership and Performance in Publicly Listed Firms in India: Does Group Affiliation Matter?' (IDSK Occasional Paper 45), analyzed a sample of 360 publicly quoted firms with promoter ownership in India during 2006-2013 and found that in group-affiliated firms, the level of promoter ownership is positively associated with capital market performance, whereas in stand-alone firms there was a U-shaped relationship between promoter ownership and capital market performance. There were only minor performance differences between group-affiliated and stand-alone firms, once other performance determinants are controlled for. Her finding casts doubt on the idea that group affiliation in promoter-owned firms allows promoters to extract value for themselves at the expense of outside shareholders. In 'How Does Corruption Influence Corporate Governance? A Cross-Country Perspective'



(ICRA Bulletin: Money and Finance) Chakraborty examines whether a corrupt country experiences better or worse corporate governance. Using data for 61 countries over the period 2007-2011 and applying the dynamic panel data estimation method she finds that corruption adversely affects corporate governance practice. However, the adverse impact of corruption disappears once the interaction effect between corruption and the country's institutional quality are controlled for. This suggests that strong complementarity exists between corruption and quality of governance as far as corporate governance practice is concerned. She also observes that the results do not change with the inclusion of FDI in the set of explanatory variables.

In 'Global Financial Crisis, Capital Inflows and Policy Trilemma: An Analysis of the Indian Experience' (South Asian Journal of Macroeconomics and Public Finance) Indrani Chakraborty examines how the policy makers in India have dealt with the "policy trilemma" in a regime of liberalised capital inflows. The paper analyses the behaviour of capital inflows in India during 1993.2 to 2012.4 and finds that volatility of capital inflows increased after the global financial crisis. Due to the global financial crisis, there were substantial changes in the relative importance of the factors that explain capital inflows. Although the 'pull factors' played major roles in both before and after the crisis, there were significant changes in their relative importance. In the first sub-period, real effective exchange rate, foreign exchange reserves and current account balance played the most important roles in determining capital inflows whereas in the second subperiod, it was only current account balance. While dealing with the "policy trilemma" we observe that monetary policy independence was maintained in the period before the crisis which has been sacrificed in the later period.

ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY

Based on micro level field data from a national park located in the foothills of Sub-Himalayan West Bengal, the paper 'Ignoring Rights to Rehabilitation: 'Flood Disaster

Displacees' in a National Park of Sub-Himalayan West Bengal' by Bidhan Kanti Das (forthcoming in edited volume Development for the Communities and Country, Progressive) presents the case of 'forest villagers' who were forcefully displaced from their original habitat and relocated to other parts in the forest area due to a flood disaster. Forest villagers are either facing continuous threat of destruction of assets or are being compelled to leave the original settlement causing further impoverishment. While 'forced resettlers' get recognition and assistance from rehabilitation and resettlement policies, the 'flood disaster displacees' do not. In an ongoing project titled Implementation Process of Forest Rights Act 2006: A Comparative Account of Orissa and West Bengal, sponsored by Rabindranath Tagore Centre for Human Development Studies at IDSK, Bidhan Kanti Das tries to find out, among other objectives, how far the legal provisions of the Act have actually been translated into reality in a specific locale.

Urban ecology is an emerging discipline providing opportunities for inclusion, incorporation and integration of methodologies from different disciplines across natural and social sciences. In the paper titled 'Beyond the Urban: Rethinking urban ecology using Kolkata as a case study' (International Journal of Urban Sustainable Development) Jenia Mukherjee revisits the scope of urban ecology and attempts to further widen the purview of the discipline by incorporating the study of rural/peri-urban and urban linkages and their transforming interactions from political ecology and historical perspectives. The Kolkata case study strongly emphasizes the need for this integration to render urban ecology more inclusive. In a related paper on Kolkata titled 'Sustainable flows between Kolkata and its peri-urban interface: Challenges and opportunities' (in the edited volume Untamed Urbanisms, Routledge), Jenia brings out the unequal relationship between the city and its peri-urban interface and studies its implications for not only the urban settlement but also its periphery. The greatest challenges for a developing city – food security, funds to treat waste, unemployment etc. are all tackled



by the peri-urban ecosystem. Yet, it is facing severe challenges from the unplanned east-biased rapid urbanization of Kolkata. The paper takes account of the threats to preservation of the East Kolkata Wetlands.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND DECENTRALISED GOVERNANCE

Crop diversification is considered to be an important strategy to revive agricultural production and generate employment. In a paper focused on West Bengal ('Problem of Crop Diversification in West Bengal' in the edited volume Diversification of Agriculture in Eastern India, Sage) Uttam Bhattacharya and Debisree Banerjee explore the problems faced by a strategy of crop diversification in the specific context of West Bengal. I this context the role that agricultural insurance schemes in the state could play has also been examined. In a related paper titled 'Policy Intervention in West Bengal Agriculture: Role of Diversification' in the same volume, Uttam Bhattacharya and others show how horticulture, livestock and fisheries could be important products to increase income and employment of the small, marginal and landless farmers in West Bengal.

Gorky Chakraborty (in collaboration with Prof Bhupen Sharmah, Director, OKDISCD, Guwahati) has completed the project titled Land as Private Property: Changing Patterns of Land Relations in Tribal Societies in Northeast India, sponsored by ICSSR. The study report deals with the questions, such as: Are the changes I the land relations endogenous to the tribal power structure? Does the continuation of customary laws prohibit bringing about progressive land legislations? How does the socio-cultural construct associated with land changes with a change in land relations?

The study on *Investment requirements for provision of* Core Services and own-resource generation by the Panchayats in West Bengal, sponsored by the Fourth State

Finance Commission, Government of West Bengal, is in the final stage. The aim was to identify a set of core services, the delivery of which is expected to have the maximum impact given the resources. This identification process would take into account both normative and practical concerns, including the people's and PRI functionaries' understanding of the 'need'. Surveys of households and PRI functionaries in sixteen Gram Panchayat areas have been conducted. The variations in people's priorities have been observed and analysed. The study also assessed the potential of the PRIs to generate financial resources locally so that the need can at least partially be met by such resources

THE MARGINALISED

Based on oral history, in the chapter titled 'We are still junglis to them: Institutionalising marginalities among the Adivasis in Dooars' (in *Institutionalising Marginal Actors in South Asia: Processes, Policies, Practices and Pitfalls,* Sage), Supurna Banerjee analysed a micro-movement by the Adivasi workers of tea plantations to get their language recognized by the state government. The chapter traces how the movement in its initial stages made a mark in the local politics of Dooars but as it progressed, it started getting more and more institutionalized. The chapter interrogates the ideas of institutionalization and what that means for marginalized communities.

In A Study of the barriers to re-entry of ex-prisoners into society: Focus on employer attitudes and factors precipitating/protective against recidivism, sponsored by Rabindranath Tagore Centre for Human Development Studies, Nandini Ghosh and B. Ganguly try to find out the perceived barriers to re-entry of ex-prisoners into the mainstream. They compare four cohorts of ex-prisoners formed on the basis of transitional employment experiences and geographical location using a mixed methodology.

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Research Projects

A. DOCUMENTS ON ECONOMIC HISTORY DURING BRITISH RULE IN INDIA, NORTHERN AND WESTERN INDIA IN THE LATE NINETEENTH CENTURY: QUALITY OF LIFE

A four-year project commenced in March 2013 sponsored by the Indian Council of Historical Research with Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi as General Editor and Professor Arun Kumar Bandyopadhyay as Associate Editor and Dr. Ramkrishna Chatterjee as Coordinator. The work is being carried out with the assistance of three research assistants. It was planned that the initial two volumes of the study will be on agriculture related aspects including productivity, land use and irrigation in Northern India in the late nineteenth century. There would be two volumes, one related to the period 1860s-1870s and the other to the 1870s-1880s. A considerable corpus of documents relating to agriculture, irrigation, revenue, forest, police and jails, education, public health, mortality, public works, income -tax, female infanticide, famine and daily life of common people of NWP and Oudh has been collected under the project.

Final draft of the edited volume of the first part of the project (Part I, 1860s-1870s) was submitted to the ICHR in November 2014. The volume is now in press for publication. The first draft of the second part of the project (1880-1890s) was placed before the Project Monitoring Committee in May 2015. Final draft of the second part is expected to be submitted in October 2015.



B. TRADE UNION AND COLLECTIVE BARGAINING IN URBAN LABOUR MARKETS: THE CASE OF WEST BENGAL

Sponsored by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), the project started on 1st April, 2014 with Prof.Achin Chakraborty (Director, IDSK), as Project Director, Dr. Subhanil Chowdhury (Assistant Professor, IDSK) and Dr. Zaad Mahmood (Assistant Professor, Presidency University) as Co-directors. Dr. Amit Sadhukhan and Dr. Supurna Banerjee joined the project as Post-Doctoral Fellows. Subsequently Dr. Banerjee joined IDSK as faculty but continued to work on the project. So far, the project has progressed in three parts: (a) study based on secondary data on industrial and trade union indicators, (b) studying the judicial interventions in industrial disputes using Calcutta High Court judgments (c) conducting field survey, primarily looking at tri-partite agreements across various factories and industries. In first part, the data on industrial indicators, such as output, investment, employment, productivity, wages etc. and the trade union indicators such as number of unions, their memberships, various kinds of industrial disputes and the reasons behind these disputes have been analysed. An article titled "Industries, Trade Unions and Industrial Relations: Shifting Patterns in Post-liberalization West Bengal" has been produced out of it. For the other part, 800 cases of the judgement of industrial disputes passed at the Calcutta High Court in the post-liberalisation period (1996-2014) have been studied. A paper titled "Judicial Intervention and Industrial Relations: Exploring Industrial Disputes Cases in West Bengal" has been prepared, which first traces the broad trends of judicial intervention in West Bengal through High Court judgments, followed by a detailed study of select cases, through which we try to understand the implications of the court's judgments and problematize the core issues of industrial dispute itself such as closure, representation etc. Both the papers were presented at the Annual Conference of Indian Society of Labour Economics (ISLE), at Ranchi, 18th-20th December. 2014. The collective bargaining agreement documents are now being studied to get an insight into the working of the industrial relations in the State. Finally, questionnaire surveys of trade unionists, management and the government officials and analyzing the data will form the final part of the project.

C. LAND AS PRIVATE PROPERTY: LAND RELATIONS IN THE HILL AREAS OF NORTH EAST INDIA

This is an ICSSR funded collaborative project with Omeo Kumar Das Institute of Social Change and Development, Guwahati, which started in January 2013. Dr. Gorky Chakraborty of IDSK is the co-investigator of the project. The concept of land as property is a strange phenomenon to many tribal societies in the world. Understanding and analysing the changes related to such an institution is always a challenging task. How do the property relations emerge in land? What role does the external agency play in influencing such an order? Are the changes in the land relations endogenous to the tribal power structure? Is a different land use pattern a harbinger to a new set of land relations? Does the continuation of the customary laws prohibit bringing about progressive land legislations? How the socio-cultural construct associated with land changes with a change in land relations? A set of similarly interrelated questions emerge when one analyses issues related to land in the tribal societies located in different areas. The report has elaborated on these inter-related questions.

D. THE LOOK EAST POLICY FROM PEOPLE'S PERSPECTIVE: A STUDY ON MIZORAM

This project commenced in February 2015 is funded by National Foundation for India, New Delhi. Dr. Gorky Chakraborty of IDSK is the co-investigator of the project along with Dr. Asok Kumar Ray.

There are enormous commonalities between communities across India and Burma. This can be a great source of social capital and peace-building that could provide a holistic perspective to Look East Policy in building regional cooperation and governance other than creating good trade and infrastructure. Through the study, the researchers want to make Northeast India figure prominently in the policy discourse on development in the Indian state. The



proposed study will focus on LEP through the perspectives of border tribes of Northeast India and in particular locate itself in the state of Mizoram.

The study is undertaken with three research questions:

- 1. What are the perceptual hiatuses between the state and the ethnic communities on one hand and the people within the community in terms of their socioeconomic status and location vis-à-vis the Look East Policy?
- 2. Concomitantly, what are the difference of perception regarding the trade space and the ethnic space in the bordering areas?
- 3. How do the ethnic communities 'foresee' their future in the realm of the Look East Policy?

E. Investment Requirements for Provision of Core SERVICES AND OWN-RESOURCE GENERATIONS BY THE PANCHAYATS IN WEST BENGAL

The State Finance Commissions of West Bengal have so far recommended devolution of funds on the basis of some criteria indicating 'backwardness' of the area. The underlying assumption is that the overall need for fund varies directly with the overall backwardness of a PRI. While as a normative standpoint this seems guite reasonable, it is not clear how the PRIs can set their expenditure priorities given their respective assignment of funds so that the complementarities between different kinds of funds flowing down from the Centre and the State to the local bodies can be fully exploited to the benefit of the people. . The study aims to identify a set of core services taking into account both normative and practical concerns, including the people's and PRI functionaries' understanding of the 'need'. In addition, the study will also assess the potential of the PRIs to generate financial resources locally so that the need can at least partially be met by such resources. In the process, the variety of experiences in other states will also be drawn upon.

F. STUDIES ON LINK BETWEEN MATERIAL EXISTENCE AND Religio-cultural Practices of the Marginalised People LIVING IN THE COASTAL AREAS OF BAY OF BENGAL

The study funded by Indian Council of Social Science Research and commenced in January 2014 explores the nuances of interplay between the mainstream and the marginal, the core and the periphery, the high and the low and enquires into the nature of links between material existence and religio-cultural practices of those living at the margins of the society. It also links material conditions to vulnerability which has become the unavoidable reality for this coastal region. It maps (though not measure) the scale and intensity of vulnerability according to the overall material conditions and also specific stratification and differentiation among various social classes inhabiting some of the most vulnerable blocks of the Indian Sundarbans. Dr. Jenia Mukherjee is the project advisor and technical editor of this study.

Against the macro-context the 'trans-Bay of Bengal' and through an understanding of the links, linkages, flows, exchanges and interactions among landmasses across the Bay, the study penetrates into the deltaic region of Lower Gangetic Bengal and investigates the contemporary microrealities in a rapidly transforming land(water)scape. Thus, along with the metanarrative of historical trajectories from a wide range of secondary literature, it also comes out with primary research findings that provide scope for fresh thinking and theorization.

G. TRANSLOCAL LEARNING FOR WATER JUSTICE: PERI-URBAN PATHWAYS IN INDIA, TANZANIA AND BOLIVIA' (WAT JUST)

This project started in September 2014 and completed in March 2015 is funded by International Social Science Council. Dr. Jenia Mukherjee was the principal network partner of the project. It explores the transformative potential of alternative water supply arrangements—smallscale, low-cost management practices, and new



configurations of water governance—undertaken for and by the peri-urban poor in three urban regions: Kolkata (India), Dar es Salaam (Tanzania) and Cochabamba (Bolivia). The documentation and analysis of these practices aims to build the foundations of an innovative, grounded and in-depth exploration of the extent to which such arrangements can enhance water justice in a context where unmet needs are growing fastest, and where conventional centralised networks are unlikely to become the norm any time soon.

H. ECO-SYSTEM FOR LIFE: A BANGLADESH INDIA INITIATIVE

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) sponsored project started in July 2011 has been completed in December 2014. Dr. Jenia Mukherjee of

IDSK was the principal investigator of the project. It is a joint research project involving India and Bangladesh to identify the ecosystem services in the 'chars' of deltaic Bengal in both the countries and also Assam, and establish its linkage to the livelihood and well-being of the choruas. The project aims to reveal light on ecosystem services in the 'chars', its importance in determining and influencing the livelihood of the people, the current environmental threats in these landscapes and adaptive practices mainly depending upon and drawing from natural resources. The overall objective of the research is to increase understanding of the value of ecosystem services for maintaining environmental security. The field survey in the 'chars' of Malda and Murshidabad was conducted between September and November and the draft report has been submitted by the teams to IUCN.

4

Collaborations

1. 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. Now the collaboration is between the Economics Department, University of Calcutta and the IDSK. The teaching faculty mainly consists of the IDSK faculty and the University faculty.

2. COLLABORATION WITH MONASH UNIVERSITY, AUSTRALIA

The IDSK has entered into active collaboration with Monash University for AAFP in developing a capacity building programme in 2015. Under this agreement collaboration will be made in developing joint research projects/ proposals, in exchanging academic materials, organizing cooperative seminars, workshops and developing scientific paper and publishing those in leading journals.

5

Conferences/Workshops/Lectures

PEOPLE'S HEALTH AND PUBLIC POLICY

The workshop on People's Health and Public Policy organized by the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata (IDSK), Pratichi Institute, Society for Health and Demographic Surveillance and Asian Development Research Institute (Patna) on 17 and 18 July 2014 at IDSK discussed the various aspects of health care in India and the state of West Bengal with special emphasis on public health. The first day of the workshop devoted to the presentations of 11 research papers drawing on extensive primary surveys, and subsequent discussions on the papers. On the second day a panel of distinguished academicians, government representatives and policymakers as well as health activists and practitioners deliberated on a number of problems related to the health sector as well as the ways in which these problems could be remedied. The speakers of the panel discussion included Jean Dréze, Visiting Professor, Department of Economics, Ranchi University, Dilip Ghosh, Former Special Secretary, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of West Bengal, Shashi Panja, Minister of State in charge of Women, Child Development and Social Welfare, Abhirup Sarkar, Professor, ISI and Chairman, State Finance Commission, West Bengal, Punyabrata Gun, Shramajibi Swasthya Udyog, Modhumita Dobe, Professor and Head, All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health, Kolkata. The discussion was chaired by Ashokendu Sengupta, Chairperson, West Bengal Commission for Protection of Child Rights (WBCPCR). The assembly concluded with a lecture by Professor Amartya Sen.

QUANTITATIVE METHODS FOR RESEARCHERS IN DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS

IDSK organised a five-day workshop on Quantitative Methods for Researchers



in Development Economics during 25-29 August 2014. The co-ordinator of the workshop was Professor Indrani Chakraborty. The aim of this workshop was to build research capacity in quantitative techniques among young scholars in Development Economics and other disciplines. Theoretical discussion on different quantitative methods was supplemented by empirical applications of these methods. Moreover, a hands-on training was provided for each lecture by using softwares. The topics covered in the workshop were Econometrics of Categorical Data, Problem of Non-random Sample, Time-series Analysis, Econometrics of Panel Data Analysis, How to deal with missing data problem and Structural Equation Modelling.

QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS IN SOCIAL SCIENCES

A five day workshop organized by IDSK on Qualitative Research Methods in Social Sciences was held from 17 to 21 November 2014. The five day workshop focussed on epistemological foundation of Qualitative social research and the principal qualitative research methods which the paradigms dictate. These included ethnography, case study, focus group interview, visual method, textual analysis, content analysis, personal documents, and use of archives. The workshop was aimed at a wide variety of participants including young researchers engaged in their PhD research, young faculty members in colleges, universities and research institutions, people in nongovernmental organizations who want to use qualitative methods in their research or to gain a further understanding of the practical application of particular methods.

Sustainable Urbanization in India: Challenges and **OPPORTUNITIES**

A two-day conference on Sustainable Urbanization in India: Challenges and Opportunities organized by IDSK was held on 15 and 16 January 2015 in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IITB). It was funded by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR). The co-ordinator of the conference was Dr. Jenia Mukherjee.

Within the Indian context, the conference intended to

debate and discuss the effectiveness of recent urban programmes ('smart city' designs, 'rurbanization,' etc.) that are being prescribed and recommended within the umbrella of 'sustainable urbanization', the post-2015 development agenda of the United Nations. Within a broad space-time scale and considering the exploration of historical trajectories for particular Indian cities as an important methodology, the conference aimed to identify problems and possible measures to be followed as policy and programmatic actions that can be the guidelines for future research.

Around 38 senior Professors, faculty members and research scholars from various universities and research institutes from every part of the country (north, south, east and west) presented papers touching upon almost each and every component relating to urban sustainability. There were case studies across Indian megacities and small towns covering a wide spatial scale. Nine technical sessions (Urban Planning and Governance, Gentrification, Civic Infrastructures, Urban Inequity, Disasters and Resilience, Waste Management, Emissions and Energy Use, Urban-rural/urban-pu linkages and Urban Ecology and Environmentalism) were conducted by eminent chairpersons with expertise in various disciplines of social sciences including economics, sociology, urban planning, history, etc. Professor Darshini Mahadevia, Dean, Centre for Environmental Planning and Technology University, Ahmedabad provided the keynote address focusing on cities as epicentres of violence in recent times drawing on evidences from contemporary events. The keynote address was followed by thematic panel chaired by Professor Adriana Allen, Development and Planning Unit (DPU), University College London (UCL). The panel speakers were Professor O.P. Mathur, distinguished professor of urban economics, National Institute of Urban Affairs, Professor Achin Chakraborty, Director, Institute of Development Studies Kolkata and Professor Annapurna Shaw, Public Policy and Management, Indian Institute of Management Calcutta. On the evening of day one, a special panel was organized on the newly published book entitled Governance of Megacities: Fractured Thinking,



Fragmented Setup (New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2015) by K.C. Sivaramakrishnan.

(En)gendering Migration: Narratives from South Asia and Beyond

A workshop on (En)gendering Migration: Narratives from South Asia and Beyond was organized by IDSK on 20 February 2015 in collaboration with the University of Edinburgh. This collaborative workshop was conceptualised as a platform to bring together senior and junior academics, students sharing a common interest in issues of gender and migration. The audience thus included staff and post-graduate students from different universities, colleges and institutions of West Bengal as well as staff and students from the University of Edinburgh. The workshop had two sessions of paper presentations followed by a roundtable. Various important issues were raised during the course of these discussions which struck at the heart of the gender-migration nexus. The participants

grappled with various issues of migration. Some of the concerns which came up were abandoning of conventional push-pull explanations in favour of the ethnographic study of networks and the intermediaries who connected together the worker and employer, rethinking the economy-migration connection, inclusion of marriage migration as a central part of migration, to pay more attention to the coercive behaviour of the state and elites in civil society who prevent secure employment for migrant workers, the centrality of violence which lies at the heart of forced everyday migration, understanding migration as agential. In sum the discussions were vibrant, interdisciplinary and problematized some of the givens of migration. The workshop also provided informal networking space for the participants to further share their research interests. The workshop concluded with a general agreement of taking this forward through such further collaboration in forms of further workshops or even international collaborative research.

LECTURES BY VISITING SCHOLARS

Date	Speaker	Title
27 March 2015	Jayati Ghosh Professor of Economics, Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi	Emerging Alternatives to Neoliberalism in the Global South
20 March 2015	Amit Bhaduri Emeritus Professor of Economics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi	A Study in Development by Dispossession
19 February 2015	Maitreesh Ghatak Professor of Economics, London School of Economics, UK	Inequality or Poverty?
6 February 2015	Betsy Hertman Professor of Development Studies and Senior Policy Analyst for the Population and Development Programme, Hampshire College, Amherst, USA	Population Politics Today: Gender, Climate and Strategic Demography



Date	Speaker	Title
24 November 2014	Nilanjana Roy	Gains or Pains: Female
	Associate Professor of Economics,	Inheritance Rights in India
	University of Victoria, Canada	and the Health of Young Girls
12 November 2014	Maidul Islam	Two Forms of Protests and Two
	Assistant Professor, Department of	Ethics of Dissent in Our Times
	Political Science, Presidency University	
1 August 2014	Jayati Ghosh	In Search of Indian Bourgeoisie:
	Professor of Economics, Centre for Economic	On the Trail of Michael Sprinker
	Studies and Planning, School of Social Sciences,	Following Proust
	Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi	(Fifth Michael Sprinker Lecture)
25 July 2014	Anupam Das	Does the Origin of Remittance
	Assistant Professor, Department of	Flows Matter for Saving
	Policy Studies,	Behaviour Results from a
	Mount Royal University, Canada	Bangladeshi Household Survey
11 July 2014	Suman Seth	Measuring Destitution in
	Research Officer, Oxford Poverty and Human	Developing Countries: An
	Development Initiative,	Ordinal Approach for
	University of Oxford	Identifying Linked Subset of
		Multidimensionally Poor
4 July 2014	Subhashish Dey	Electoral Politics and Public
	Doctoral Fellow, Department of Economics,	Goods Distribution: Evidence
	University of Manchester	from Village Council Election
	and MG-NREGA Allocation in	West Bengal
26 June 2014	Siddhartha Chattopadhyay	The Inflation Target at the Zero
	Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities	Lower Bound
	and Social Sciences, IIT, Kharagpur	
2 May 2014	Rosinka Chaudhuri	Two Ways of Thinking About
	Professor of Cultural Studies	Criticism
	Centre for Studies in Social Sciences Calcutta	
25 April 2014	Guilhem Fabre	The Lion's Share : What is
	Professor of Chinese Civilization and East Asian	Behind China's Economic
	Economics, University of Le Havre, France	Slowdown
LECTURES BY IDSK FA	CULTY & FELLOWS	
17 October 2014	Supurna Banerjee	We are not Animals: Activism in
-	Post-Doctoral Fellow	the Everyday Life of the Women
		of Tea Plantations in Dooars
22 August 2014	Zakaria Siddiqui	Overweight-Obesity in India:
/ 100000 2011	Honorary Adjunct Fellow	Relevance of Geography,
	,,	Gender and SES
20 June 2014	Subhanil Chowdhury	Imperialism in the Current Era
20 June 2017	Assistant Professor	impenansin in the Current Lia
	ASSISTANT LIGHTSON	

6

Teaching

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 coursework and writing dissertation. The degree is conferred by the University of Calcutta and the programme conforms to the pattern of the existing M.Phil programmes offered by the University. The overall administration of the programme is run under the joint auspices of the IDSK and the Department of Economics, University of Calcutta as per the Memorandum of Understanding between the University of Calcutta and IDSK. The teaching faculty mainly consists of the IDSK faculty and the University faculty. Eminent academicians from other institutions are also invited as guest faculty. The details are shown below:

Pape	er Title of the Paper	Groups	Instructors
I	Perspectives on Development Studies	A: Development Economics	Amiya Kumar Bagchi Achin Chakraborty
		B: Perspectives on Economic Deve- lopment in other Social Sciences	Prasanta Ray



Paper	Title of the Paper	Groups	Instructors
II	Research Methodology	A : Methodological Approaches in Development Research	Prasanta Ray Bidhan Kanti Das Nandini Ghosh Jenia Mukherjee
		B: Quantitative Methods	Achin Chakraborty Saswata Ghosh Subrata Mukherjee
Specialization	on Papers (Subjectwise	e)	
Subject	Paper	Groups	Instructors
Economics	III	A: Industry, Institutions, and Labour	Uttam Bhattacharya Subhanil Chowdhury
		B: Globalization and Finance	Indrani Chakraborty Subhanil Chowdhury
	IV	A: Inequality, Poverty, and Human Development	Asis Banerjee Achin Chakraborty Simantini Mukhopadhyay
		B: Econometrics	Indrani Chakraborty Saswata Ghosh Subrata Mukherjee
History	III	A : History of Health and Medicine in Modern India	
		B: Gender and History in Modern India	Nandini Ghosh Subhasri Ghosh
	IV	A: Global History in the Twentieth Century	Amiya Kumar Bagchi Jenia Mukherjee
		B: Environment and Development in Contemporary India	Bidhan Kanti Das Jenia Mukherjee
Political Science	III	A: State, Public Sphere and Civil Society	Kaberi Chakrabarti (Department of Political Science University of Calcutta) Supurna Banerjee
		B: Governance, Democracy and Development	Rajasri Basu (Department of Political Science and Women's Studies Centre Rabindra Bharati University) Supurna Banerjee



Subject	Paper	Groups	Instructors
	IV	A: Local Government and Democratic Decentralization: Indian Experience	Prabhat Datta Subrata Mukherjee
		B: Politics of Communication: Media, Technology and Development	Dipankar Sinha (Department of Political Science University of Calcutta) Supurna Banerjee
Regional Development	III	A: Migration, Displacement and Diaspora	Bidhan Kanti Das
		B: Political Economy of Regional Development in India	Gorky Chakraborty Subhanil Chowdhury
	IV	A: Spatial Convergence and Divergence	Achin Chakraborty Saswata Ghosh Subrata Mukherjee
		B: Environment and Development in Contemporary India	Achin Chakraborty Bidhan Kanti Das Jenia Mukherjee
Sociology	III	A: Migration, Displacement and Diaspora	Prasanta Ray Bidhan Kanti Das
		B: Ethnicity, Tribal Development and Globalization	Bidhan Kanti Das Gorky Chakraborty Rajat Kanti Das (Anthropology Department Vidyasagar University)
	IV	A: Culture and Public Policy	Prasanta Ray Nandini Ghosh
		B: Civil Society and Collective Action	Prasanta Ray Nandini Ghosh

As a part of the coursework of the MPhil Programme, the first year students conducted a detailed field survey on People's awareness on select health, education, political issues, government schemes and citizen rights: A study of four villages in Panduah block, Hooghly district.

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Student Dissertations

ON-GOING M.PHIL DISSERTATIONS (2013-15)

Name of Student	Title of Dissertation	Supervisor(s)
Abhijit Sasmal	The Kangsabati Reservoir Project: Exploring Disparity between Head Reach and Tail End Areas	Jenia Mukherjee
Apurba Datta	The Banking Industry under Capital Adequacy Norms - A Study with Reference to Selected Indian Commercial Banks	Uttam Bhattacharya
Gayadhar Malik	Participatory Development and Governance in India: A Case Study of Palli Sabha in Odisha	Prabhat Kumar Datta
Mandira Banerjee	Motives and Effects of Mergers and Acquisitions (M&As) on Pharmaceutical Industry in India	Indrani Chakraborty
Manomita Maji	Urbanisation and Water Bodies : A Study of the Nature and Causes of Degradation of Water Bodies in Selected Areas of Kolkata	Uttam Bhattacharya Jenia Mukherjee
Prashant Kumar Choudhary	Politics and Identity: A Case Study of Doms in West Bengal	Rajasri Basu
Priyanka Dasgupta	Mapping the Multidimensionality of Medical Care Related Catastrophe on Households: A Study of Four Blocks in Birbhum District, West Bengal	Subrata Mukherjee Nandini Ghosh
Rajashree Roy	Understanding Implementation Process of Forest Right Act 2006: A Case Study from Jalpaiguri District, India	Bidhan Kanti Das
Rajesh Barik	A Study of Girl's Dropout in Elementary Education in Bhadrak District, Odisha	Subhanil Chowdhury Gorky Chakraborty
Sanchita Bhattacharya	Educational Attainment and its Determinants among the Poor Children : A Comparative Study of a Slum and Non-Slum Areas in Medinipur Town, Paschim Medinipur District	Subrata Mukherjee Achin Chakraborty



Seema Ahmed	Education of Muslim Girls and Choice of Academic Institutions : A Study in Malda District of West Bengal	Achin Chakraborty Gorky Chakraborty
Trishita Lodh	The Structure and Functioning of "Tripura Tribal Area Autonomous District Council": A Study of its Functions and Functionaries	Gorky Chakraborty Subhanil Chowdhury

ON-GOING PHD DISSERTATIONS

Following students are enrolled in the PhD programme under the supervision/co-supervision of IDSK faculty members including the students who are awarded the Rabindranath Tagore Centre for Human Development Studies (RTCHDS)* PhD Fellowship:

Sl.No.	Name	Research Topic	University	Supervisor(s)
1.	Pranab Maji	Promoting Tourism through Handicrafts: A Study on Selected Districts of West Bengal (Hooghly, Burdwan, Bankura and Birbhum)	Burdwan University	Uttam Bhattacharya Dilip Kumar Das Burdwan University
2.	Sanghamitra Kanjilal Bhaduri	Different Dimensions of Female Labour Participation Fluctuation: A Comparative Analysis of the 61st and 66th NSSO Rounds	University of Calcutta	Ishita Mukhopadhyay University of Calcutta
3.	Sanju Saha	Effect of Instructional Visualization and Instructional Strategies on Student Learning through Computer based Instruction	University of Calcutta	Santoshi Halder University of Calcutta
4.	Gareth Wall	Reflecting Local Priorities for Human Development	University of Birmingham	Achin Chakraborty
5.	Pragna Paramita Mondal	Market and Women's Agency in Commercial Surrogacy in India	University of Calcutta	Achin Chakraborty
6.	Abhinab Ghosh	Corporate Financing, Ownership and Firm Behaviour: A Study of Textile Industry in India in the Post-Reform Period	University of Calcutta	Indrani Chakraborty
7.	Aruna Pain	R&D in Pharmaceutical Industry in India : Some Aspects	University of Calcutta	Indrani Chakraborty
8.	Jhuma Mukhopadhyay	Economic Reforms and its Impact on Corporate Firms' Performance in India	University of Calcutta	Indrani Chakraborty
9.	Debisree Banerjee	Agricultural Insurance in West Bengal Calcutta	University of	Uttam Bhattacharya
10.	Kumkum Basak	Innovation and Patents in Indian Firms and Organisations- A Study with reference to Selected Technological Fields,1990-2010	University of Calcutta	Uttam Bhattacharya
11.	Prasenjit Banerjee	Tenancy Relations in Backward Agriculture: A Study in West Bengal	Rabindra Bharati University	Uttam Bhattacharya
12.	Supriya Bentiya	Economics of Child Mortality: A Study with Reference to Selected States in India	University of Calcutta	Uttam Bhattacharya

^{*1,2,3} are RTCHDS Fellows

Faculty Activities

PARTICIPATION IN SEMINARS / CONFERENCES / WORKSHOPS / DISCUSSIONS

Achin Chakraborty

Keynote address on 'Social Inclusion of the Migrants: Need for a Coherent Policy Framework' at the Workshop on Creating an Enabling Structural Framework for Effective Inclusion of Migrants in Policy Decision on 28th March, 2015, organised by the West Bengal State Commission for Protection of Child Rights and GOAL.

Invited lecture on 'Reckoning Inequality in Non-income Dimensions: Some Difficulties' at Population Studies Unit, Indian Statistical Institute on 24 March, 2015.

Keynote address on 'Reforming the Labour Market: Much Ado about Nothing?' at the Annual Conference of Bengal Economic Association, 21 March, 2015.

Special Lecture on 'Inequality in the Space of Functioning and Alternative Concepts of Equity' in the Two-day Seminar on *Contemporary Issues in Development Economics* at Rabindra Bharati University, 27 February, 2015.

Invited lecture on 'Muslims in India: Problems of Identity and Security' at the Administrative Training Institute, Government of West Bengal, 21 February, 2015, also on 14 January, 2015.

Invited lecture on 'Situation of Weaker Sections in West Bengal and Government Interventions' at Administrative Training Institute, Government of West Bengal, 17 February, 2015.

Panelist at the panel discussion on *Draft National Health Policy 2015* at the Annual Conference of Indian Health Economics and Policy Association at University of Jaipur, 14 February, 2015.



Keynote address on 'Sustainable Human Development' at the International Conference on Human Development and Sustainability: Challenges and Strategies for the Asian Century organised by the Asia-Pacific Branch of the International Consortium for Social Development and the Department of Social Work, Visva Bharati, 16 January, 2015.

Presented a paper on 'Structural Limits to Equitable Urbanisation' at the two-day conference on Sustainable Urbanization in India: Challenges and Opportunities organized by IDSK in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IITB), 15-16 January, 2015.

Invited lecture on 'Human Rights and Human Development: Between Normative and Political' at the UGC sponsored National Seminar on *Human Rights and Human Development: The Current Indian Scenario* at Nahata College, 30 November, 2014.

Invited lecture on 'Revealed Allocation Priorities in the Social Sector' at Loreto College, 14 November, 2014.

Invited lecture on 'Women's Work and Empowerment: Understanding the Tangled Connection' at the UGC sponsored Conference on *Empowering Women* at K K Das College, 11 November, 2014.

Panelist in the Panel Discussion on 'Changing Nature of Inequalities in India' at the two-day decennial celebration conference on *Inequality Revisited: Theory, Evidence, and Policy* organised by the Indian Institute of Dalit Studies, New Delhi, 27-28 September, 2014.

Keynote address titled "Weak Equity" and Revealed Allocation Priorities in India" at the ICSSR- UNIL (International Relations of the University of Lausanne), Switzerland Joint Seminar on Social Dynamics and Well-Being: Indian and Swiss approaches, 09-10 September, 2014, Bengaluru.

Panelist in the panel discussion on 'Economic Possibilities for Our Grandchildren' at the conference on *Perspectives* on *Economic Theory and Applications*, in Honour of

Professor Amitava Bose at the Indian Institute of Management Calcutta, 29-30 August, 2014.

Invited paper titled 'Structural Limits to Equitable Urbanisation' presented at the Workshop on *Interrogating Rural-Urban Transitions: Dominant and Alternative Conceptualizations* organised by the Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA) and Tata institute of Social Sciences (TISS) held at IRMA, 27-28 August, 2014.

Invited lecture on 'Millennium Development Goals (MDGs): An Overview of the Achievements of Targets in West Bengal vis-à-vis India' for Induction Training Programme for the IAS Officers at the Administrative Training Institute, Government of West Bengal, 24 June, 2014.

Invited lecture on 'Issues and Priorities in India's Economic Development' at the Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad, 03 June, 2014.

Led the thematic group presentation at the international symposium on *Human Development in Global South: Emerging Perspectives in the Era of Post-Millennium Development Goals* organised by Institute for Human Development in collaboration with UN-ESACAP, New Delhi, 28-29 April, 2014.

Bidhan Kanti Das

Presented a paper on 'Locating 'Flood disaster caused displacees' in the *Environmental Refugee Discourse: A Case from National Park Environment in India*' at Indian Anthropology Congress 2015 , jointly organized by Department of Anthropology , Utkal University , Lalit Kala Akademi , New Delhi , SC & ST Research & Training Institute , Government of Odisha, at Utkal University, 22-23 February 2015.

Acted as a resource person on 'Ethnography as method and product' in a week long workshop on 'Qualitative Research Methods in Social Sciences' organized by IDSK, 17 to 21 November 2014.



Dipankor Coondoo

Series of lectures on 'Time series econometrics' in the Fellowship programme of IIMC Topics in Advanced Econometrics, December 2014.

Lecture on 'Regression analysis as a descriptive tool' at a workshop on Quantitative Methods for Researchers in Social Sciences, IDSK, 29 October 2014.

Lecture on 'Basic econometrics' at a workshop at Presidency University, September 2014.

Talk on Consumer price index methodology' for trainees of International Statistical Education Centre of ISI, May 2014.

Gorky Chakraborty

Presented a paper on 'Ideology and social science: A crtique in their post-modern conditions' (jointly with Asok Kumar Ray) in a seminar on *Ideology and Social Science*, OKDISCD, Guwahati, 27-28 November 2014.

Indrani Chakraborty

Presented a paper on 'Promoter ownership and performance in publicly listed firms in India: Does group affiliation matter?' (jointly with Ansgar Richter) at the Writing Workshop of University of Liverpool Management School, U.K., 28 January 2015.

Organized a five-day workshop on Quantitave Methods for Researchers in Development Economics at IDSK, 25-29 August 2014.

Jenia Mukherjee

Presented a paper on 'At risk: Understanding Kolkata's vulnerability through dichotomies in urban planning' at the conference on Sustainable Urbanization in India: Challenges and Opportunities, organized by the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay and funded by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), 15-16 January 2015.

Presented a paper on 'Adi Ganga: The forgotten saga' at the youth seminar on Sustainable Solutions for Access to Safe Water: Promoting Innovation and Collaboration, organized by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), New Delhi at the Indian Institute of Social Welfare and Business Management (IISWBM), December 2014.

Presented a paper on 'All about water: Building up from research experiences' at the two day seminar on History of Waters organized by the Corpus Research Institute and hosted by the department of history, Kalyani University, 27 and 28 June, 2014.

Nandini Ghosh

Presented a paper on 'Politics of grassroots level Disabled People's Organisations (DPOs): Reflections from rural India' at the international conference on *Disability Studies* in India: Reflections on Future organized by the Centre for Studies in Social Systems, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, 6 and 7 February 2015.

Presented a paper on 'Politics of embodiment: Women with disabilities in Bengal' at the UGC sponsored national seminar on Women and Politics in India: 1913 - 2013 organized by Lalbaba College, Belur, Howrah and Women's Studies Centre, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata, 26 and 27 November, 2014.

Organized a five-day workshop on Qualitative Research Methods in Social Science jointly with Dr. Bidhan K. Das at IDSK, 17 - 22 November 2014.

Presented a paper on 'Constructing deviance: Gendered/ disabled bodies' at the national seminar on Unfamiliar Margins in the Social organized by Department of Sociology, University of Hyderabad, 14 and 15 October 2014.

Presented a paper on 'Women with disabilities: Nothing about us without us' at the regional consultation on Intersecting CRPD & CEDAW organized by Shanta Memorial Rehabilitation Centre (SMRC), India at Bhubaneswar, 26 -28 August 2014.

Saswata Ghosh

Presented a paper on 'Second demographic transition or



competing aspirations: Exploring fertility transition in Kolkata, India' at LSE Fellow Seminar, 4 March 2015.

Simantini Mukhopadhyay

Delivered an extension lecture on 'Using Economics to study child undernutrition' at Scottish Church College, 25 February 2015.

Accepted a paper on 'On the apparent non-significance of gender in child nutrition in India' at the international conference on *Economic Reforms*, *Growth and Sustainable Development*: Changing Role of Institutions, held at Central University of Kerala, 16-18 February, 2015.

Presented a paper on 'Measurement and determinants of health status: Child undernutrition as a case' at the International Students' Meet on Public Health (ISMOPH), 2015 held at Science City, Kolkata, 9 February 2015.

Accepted a paper 'On the apparent non-significance of gender in child nutrition in India' accepted for presentation at the 51st Annual Conference of the Indian Econometric Society, held in Patiala, 12-14 December 2014.

Subhanil Chowdhury

Presented a paper on 'Corruption or state policy? The modus operandi of the Indian growth story', at the UGC sponsored national seminar on *Corporate Frauds and its Impact on Indian Business Environment*, organized by Department of Commerce, Bangabasi Morning College in collaboration with Department of Commerce, University of Calcutta, at Bangabasi College, 17 March, 2015.

Spoke at a panel discussion on *Decoding the Union Budget 2015*, at JD Birla Institute, 16 March, 2015.

Presented a paper on 'Contemporary imperialism: Some issues', at a conference on *Imperialism: Old and New*, Academy of Third World Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia University, New Delhi, 8-9 February, 2015.

Presented a paper on 'Contemporary Chinese economy' and spoke at a panel discussion on 'Our economy, their

economies', at Heramba Chandra College, 14 January 2015.

Presented a paper on 'Employment and informalization of labour in West Bengal at the conference on West Bengal Economy, Department of Economics, Jadavpur University, 2 -3 January, 2015.

Presented a paper on 'Industries, trade unions and industrial relations: Shifting patterns in post-liberalization West Bengal', at the annual conference of the Indian Society of Labour Economics, BIT Mesra, Ranchi, 18 - 20 December, 2014.

Presented a paper on 'Political economy perspectives from selected Indian literary texts', at 8th Colloquium on Reading Indian Fiction in Bengali, at School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Netaji Subhas Open University, 24 July, 2014

Presented a paper on 'Imperialism in the current era' at IDSK, 20 June 2014.

Presented a paper on 'ls imperialism a relevant concept in today's world?', at the annual conference of Canadian Economics Association, Vancouver, 29 May – 1 June 2014.

Subrata Mukherjee

Accepted a paper on 'What explains local governments' willingness to spend for health from unconditional funds? Evidence from rural India' for presentation in the 11th World Congress of the International Health Economics Association to be held in Milan, Italy (July 12-15, 2015).

Organized a workshop on *Quantitative Methods for Researchers in Social Sciences*, 27-31 October 2014.

Invited as a resource person in a workshop *National Health Mission: Achievement and Challenges* at the Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi, 8-12 September, 2014.

Gave lectures as invited resource person on 'Some issues related to extraction of NSS data using Stata' and 'Analysis of NSS data using Stata Survey commands', in the short-



term course on Research Methodology in Social Sciences organized by the UGC-Academic Staff College, Department of Economics, University of Calcutta, 18-25 August 2014.

Presented a revised version of the paper on 'Do acute health care needs of the poor crowd out their chronic care utilization? Evidence from Rural India' (co-authors Anoshua Chaudhuri and Anomitra Barik) in a two-day workshop on People's Health and Public Policy organised at IDSK, 17-18 July, 2014.

Supurna Banerjee

Presented a paper on 'In search of a 'better' life? : Mobility and migration from the tea plantations in Dooars" at a workshop (En)gendering Migration: Narratives from South Asia and Beyond, organised by IDSK and University of Edinburgh, 20 February 2015.

Organized a workshop (En)gendering Migration: Narratives from South Asia and Beyond, 20 February 2015.

Spoke at 'Judicial intervention and industrial relations: exploring industrial disputes cases in West Bengal' in a panel presentation in Indian Study of Labour Economics annual conference in BITS, Meshra, December 2014.

Invited to talk on 'Write about our struggles too': Conducting inter-personal social research with women' at Ambedkar University, New Delhi, April 2014.

Invited to talk on 'I can survive': (Re)interrogating victimhood" at Centre for Women Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University Delhi, April 2014.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Achin Chakraborty

Coordinator of the study 'Investment Requirements for Provision of Core Services and Own Resource Generation by the Panchayats in West Bengal' commissioned by the 4th State Finance Commission of West Bengal.

Project Director of the research project 'Trade Unions and Collective Bargaining in Urban Labour Market: The Case of West Bengal' sponsored by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR).

Amiya Kumar Bagchi

Engaged as General Editor of the ICHR sponsored fiveyear project 'Economic History of British Rule in India, Northern and Western in the Late Nineteenth Century: Quality of Life'.

Bidhan Kanti Das

Coordinator of the project 'Exploring Implementation Process of Forest Rights Act 2006:

A Comparative Account of Orissa and West Bengal', sponsored by Rabindranath Tagore Centre for Human **Development Studies.**

Completed editing the volume 'Re-examining Tribes in Context: Issues and Priorities 'jointly with Professor Rajat Kanti Das, Former Professor of Anthropology, Vidyasagar University, primarily based on selected articles presented in the conference on 'Conceptualising and Contextualising Tribes in Contemporary India' held at IDSK between February 6 and 8, 2014.

Gorky Chakraborty

Completed a project sponsored by ICSSR on 'Land as Private Property: Changing Patterns of Land Relations in Tribal Societies in Northeast India' jointly with Prof. Bhupen Sarmah, Director, OKDISCD, Guwahati.

Engaged in a study 'Investment Requirements for Provision of Core Services and Own Resource Generation by the Panchayats in West Bengal' commissioned by the 4th State Finance Commission of West Bengal along with Achin Chakraborty and Subrata Mukherjee.

Engaged in a project 'The Look East Policy from People's Perspective: A Study on Mizoram' sponsored by National Foundation for India (NFI), New Delhi, jointly with Dr. Asok Kumar Ray.



Jenia Mukherjee

Completed a project 'Ecosystem for Life: A Bangladesh-India Initiative' funded by International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in December 2014.

Completed a project 'Translocal Learning for Water Justice: Peri-urban Pathways in India, Tanzania and Bolivia' (WatJust) sponsored by International Social Science Council (ISSC) in March 2015.

Engaged in the project 'Studies on Link between Material Existence and Religio-cultural Practices of the Marginalised People Living in the Coastal Areas of Bay of Bengal', funded by Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR).

Nandini Ghosh

Engaged in a project 'A Study of the Barriers to Re-entry of Ex-prisoners into Society: Focus on Employer Attitudes and Factors Precipitating/protective against Recidivism' jointly with Prof. B. Ganguly, Department of Statistics, University of Kolkata sponsored by Rabindranath Tagore Centre for Human Development Studies.

Saswata Ghosh

Carried out a study 'Exploring Routes to Demographic Transition in Kolkata District of West Bengal, India', funded by Sir Ratan Tata Trust under Sir Ratan Tata Trust Fellowship Programme.

Simantini Mukhopadhyay

Working in a study 'Investment Requirements for Provision of Core Services and Own Resource Generation by the Panchayats in West Bengal' commissioned by the 4th State Finance Commission of West Bengal.

Subhanil Chowdhury

Engaged in the research project 'Trade Unions and Collective Bargaining in Urban Labour Market: The Case of West Bengal' sponsored by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) along with Achin Chakraborty and Zaad Mahmood.

Subrata Mukherjee

Engaged in a study 'Investment Requirements for Provision of Core Services and Own Resource Generation by the Panchayats in West Bengal' commissioned by the 4th State Finance Commission of West Bengal along with Achin Chakraborty and Gorky Chakraborty

Supurna Banerjee

Working on the project 'Trade Unions and Collective Bargaining in Urban Labour Market: The Case of West Bengal' sponsored by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)

ASSOCIATION WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS / MEMBERSHIP OF ORGANIZATIONS / MISCELLANEOUS

Achin Chakraborty

External Member, Board of Research Studies, West Bengal State University

Examiner of Ph.D. thesis, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi and IGIDR, Mumbai

CICOPS Fellow, University of Pavia

External Examiner of MA Economics Projects, Jadavpur University.

Ph.D. Supervision

Anjan Ray Chaudhury (University of Calcutta, RTCHDS Fellow): Horizontal Inequality: The Concept, Measurement and Determinants. (Submitted)

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.

M.Phil Supervision



(Jointly with Subrata Mukherjee) Sanchita Bhattacharya (IDSK, 2013-15): Educational Attainment and Its Determinants among the Children: A Comparative Study of Slum and Non-Slum Areas in Medinipur Town, Paschim Medinipur District.

(Jointly with Gorky Chakraborty) Seema Ahmed (IDSK, 2013-15): Education of Muslim Girls and Choice of Academic Institutions: A Study in Malda District of West Bengal.

Amiya Kumar Bagchi

Adjunct Professor, Monash University, Australia Visiting Scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge Life Member, Royal Economic Society, UK

Bidhan Kanti Das

PhD Supervisor, Department of Anthropology, University of Calcutta.

Examiner, Post Graduate Department of Anthropology, University of Calcutta and Sidho Kanho Birsa University, Purulia.

M.Phil Supervision

Rajashree Roy (IDSK, 2013-15): Understanding Implementation Process of the Forest Right Act 2006: A Case Study from Jalpaiguri District, India.

Dipankor Coondoo

External expert, PhD Research Committee of the Department of Economics, Jadavpur University and Department of management, WBUT, Kolkata.

Faculty, M.Phil course of Department of Economics, University of Calcutta.

Gorky Chakraborty

M.Phil Supervision

(Jointly with Achin Chakraborty) Seema Ahmed (IDSK,

2013-15): Education of Muslim Girls and Choice of Academic Institutions: A Study in Malda District of West Bengal.

(Jointly with Subhanil Chowdhury) (IDSK, 2013-15): The Structure and Functioning of "Tripura Tribal Area Autonomous District Council": A Study of its Functions and Functionaries

Indrani Chakraborty

Visited the University of Liverpool Management School, U.K. for four months from October 10, 2014 -February 10, 2015 as a visiting Fellow under the Liverpool-India Fellowship Programme.

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) R&D in Pharmaceutical Industry in India: Some Aspects

Jhuma Mukhopadhyay (University of Calcutta) *Economic* Reforms and its Impact on Corporate Firms' Performance in India

M.Phil Supervision

Mandira Banerjee (IDSK, 2013-15): Motives and Effects of Mergers and Acquisitions (M&As) on Pharmaceutical Industry in India

Jenia Mukherjee

Visiting Lecturer in the post-graduate course on International Relations, West Bengal State University

Life Member, Indian Association of Hydrologists

Life Member, CUA-IUAES Commission of Urban Anthropology

Life Member, Indian Historical Studies

Member, Indian History Congress

Life Member, Corpus Research Institute.



M.Phil Supervision

Abhijit Sasmal (IDSK, 2013-15): The Kangsabati Reservoir Project: Exploring Disparity between Head Reach and Tail End Areas.

(Jointly with Uttam Bhattacharya) Manomita Maji (IDSK, 2013-15): Urbanisation and Water Bodies: A Study of the Nature and Causes of Degradation of Water Bodies in Selected Areas of Kolkata.

Nandini Ghosh

Guest Editor of Café Dissensus, an alternative magazine dealing in art, culture, literature, and politics, based in New York City, USA.

Teaching in Department of Sociology Jadavpur University in Master's degree course Special Paper on Sociology of Marginalised Communities.

Appointed Examiner of M. Phil. Dissertation by Centre for Social Medicine and Community Health, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Empanelled as Examiner of M. Phil. Dissertation by NALSAR, Hyderabad.

Executive Committee Member of Disability Activists Forum West Bengal

M.Phil Supervision

(Jointly with Subrata Mukherjee) Priyanka Dasgupta (IDSK, 2013-15): Mapping the Multidimensionality of Medical Care Related Catastrophe on Households: A Study of Four Blocks in Birbhum District, West Bengal.

Prabhat Datta

Member, PG Board of Studies in Public Administration, Mizoram University.

Member, PG Board of Studies in Political Science, Nagaland University.

Member, Board of Directors, Asian Association of Public Administration.

Visiting Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Calcutta.

Visiting Fellow, Centre for Advanced Study, Department of Political Science Osmania University Hyderabad.

Saswata Ghosh

Honorary Consultant - Demography & Reproductive Health, Society for Health & Demographic Surveillance (SHDH), Suri, Birbhum.

Simantini Mukhopadhyay

Served as an examiner of Economics, MBA First Semester, Indian Institute of Engineering, Science and Technology (IIEST).

Subhanil Chowdhury

Visiting Faculty, Department of Business Management, University of Calcutta

External Consultant, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), New Delhi.

Member, Indian Society of Labour Economics

Member, Canadian Economics Association

M.Phil Supervision

(Jointly with Gorky Chakraborty) Rajesh Barik (IDSK, 2013-15): A Study of Girl's Dropout in Elementary Education in Bhadrak District, Odisha

(Jointly with Gorky Chakraborty) Trishita Lodh (IDSK, 2013-15): The Structure and Functioning of "Tripura Tribal Area Autonomous District Council": A Study of its Functions and Functionaries

Subrata Mukherjee

Taught as Invited Resource Person in a Short-term Course on 'Research Methodology in Social Sciences' organized by the UGC-Academic Staff College, Department of



Economics, University of Calcutta, August 18-25, 2014. M.Phil Supervision

(Jointly with Nandini Ghosh) Priyanka Dasgupta (IDSK,2013-15): Mapping the Multidimensionality of Medical Care Related Catastrophe on Households: A Study of Four Blocks in Birbhum District, West Bengal.

(Jointly with Achin Chakraborty) Sanchita Bhattacharya(IDSK, 2013-15): Educational Attainment and Its Determinants among the Children: A Comparative Study of Slum and Non-Slum Areas in Medinipur Town, Paschim Medinipur District

Supurna Banerjee

Affiliate Member, Centre for South Asian Studies, University of Edinburgh

Member, Indian Association of Women's Studies.

Uttam Bhattacharya

PhD Supervisor, Department of MBM, University of Calcutta

Guest Teacher, Rabindra Bharati University

Life Member, Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad,

Life Member, Asiatic Society, Kolkata

Life Member, Comparative Education Society of India, New Delhi

Life Member, Indian Science Congress

Member, Indian Society of Agricultural Economics(ISAE), Mumbai Member, Indian Society of Labour Economics(ISLE), New Delhi.

PhD Supervision

(Jointly with Dilip Kumar Das) Pranab Majhi (Burdwan University, RTCHDS fellow): *Promoting Tourism through Handicrafts: A Study on Selected Districts of West Bengal (Hooghly, Burdwan, Bankura and Birbhum)*.

Aparna Banerjee (University of Calcutta): Changing Profile of Ports and its Influence on Port Towns in India, 1980-2010 (Submitted).

Debisree Banerjee (University of Calcutta): *Agricultural Insurance in West Bengal*.

Kumkum Basak (University of Calcutta): Innovation and Patents in Indian Firms and Organisations- A Study with reference to selected technological fields, 1990-2010.

Prasenjit Banerjee (Rabindra Bharati University): Tenancy Relations in Backward Agriculture: A study in West Bengal.

Supriya Bentiya (Rabindra Bharati University): *Economics* of Child Mortality: A Study with Reference to Selected States in India.

M.Phil Supervision

Apurba Dutta (IDSK, 2013-15): The Banking Industry under Capital Adequacy Norms - A Study with Reference to Selected Indian Commercial Banks.

(Jointly with Jenia Mukherjee) Manomita Maji (IDSK, 2013-15): Urbanisation and Water Bodies: A Study of the Nature and Causes of Degradation of Water Bodies in Selected Areas of Kolkata.

9

Rabindranath Tagore Centre for Human Development Studies

RESEARCH PROJECTS

A. EXPLORING IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS OF FOREST RIGHTS ACT 2006: A COMPARATIVE ACCOUNT OF ORISSA AND WEST BENGAL

Coordinator: Dr. Bidhan Kanti Das, IDSK

The Forest Rights Act 2006 is perhaps the most important step that challenges the 'eminent domain' of the state over forests. It intends to undo historical injustice over land rights of forest dwellers and access to forest resources and to empower themselves for governance of resources. The Act provides the legislative basis and promises a more secure basis for forest dwellers' livelihoods. The implementation of FRA 2006, in fact, started in early 2008 after the framing of rules by concerned state governments. Various studies across the states reported poor implementation of FRA. Even within the states, there is a wide range of variation in implementation of the Act. The poor implementation of FRA actually leads to deprivation of forest rights to forest dwellers. Against this backdrop, the question may arise whether the FRA really signifies a fundamental change in asserting rights of land and other forest resources. Or will the historic Act become more symbolic than material after more than 5 years of implementation? It is beyond doubt that the FRA implementation process is a prime determinant to understand how far effective it is in practice to undo historical injustice to forest dwellers that they have experienced for last 150 years. There is also a dearth of systematic microlevel studies on the process of implementation of FRA, from village level to SDLC level to SLC level, causes of rejection of claims and relative role of various stakeholders (like panchayat members, forest officials, NGOs, etc.)



for relative success or failure in implementation process. The present study is an attempt in this direction.

Objectives of the Study:

- To examine the nature and composition of members in Forest Rights Committees, distribution of forest dwelling tribals and non-tribals in the committees;
- To examine how far the legal enactments have actually translated into reality at the local level after implementation process. To be specific, to what extent are the tribals and other forest dwellers getting their individual and community rights after implementation of FRA 2006?
- To identify reasons behind the high rejection of individual and community claims. In other words, to what extent is the state taking positive or negative role in providing rights over forest resources?
- To examine whether forest dwellers feel empowered after getting land and access rights under Forest Rights Act. An attempt will be made to assess perception of stakeholders, particularly forest dwellers and forest officials, about the FRA.
- To examine whether conflicts between forest dept. and local forest villagers increased due to implementation of FRA

Methodology:

In the first phase, semi structured questionnaires were used for individual members, members of Forest Rights Committees, forest officials and other related Govt. officials. Two blocks in each of the districts Paschim Midnapore, Purulia and Bankura of West Bengal and Mayurbhanj district of Orissa were chosen based on abundance of forest areas and tribal dominance. Data on number of claims distributed and number of claims rejected, amount of land distributed in different levels, etc., has already been collected in some blocks. From that data, some villages were selected on the basis of extent of distribution of claims for in depth study. A sample of 120-150 respondents in each block will be administered.

The survey work with individual questionnaire is already started in Binpur II block of Paschim Midnapore after sampling at the village level. In the third stage, some qualitative methods like case studies and focus group discussions will be undertaken to understand the process of implementation, causes of rejection and constraints in getting rights, and the role of forest officials and other administrative officials in the process. Some interviews conducted with members of forest rights committees, subdivisional level committees and forest officials will be taken to understand the nature of claims, problems in granting claims and perception about FRA in redressing historical injustice. The quantitative data will be analysed after data entry using software. The time period would be ten to twelve months out of which field work will be done for five months.

B. A STUDY OF THE BARRIERS TO RE-ENTRY OF EX-PRISONERS INTO SOCIETY: FOCUS ON EMPLOYER ATTITUDES AND FACTORS PRECIPITATING/PROTECTIVE AGAINST RECIDIVISM

Coordinators: Dr. Nandini Ghosh, IDSK and Professor Bhaswati Ganguly, Department of Statistics, University of Calcutta.

In India, several states have enacted laws which transform jails to correctional homes. The West Bengal Correctional Services Act, 1992 shifts focus from detention to rehabilitation. Such correctional homes implement extensive support services and training programmes for inmates including literacy programmes/support for higher studies and vocational training. This study attempts to determine perceived barriers to re-entry/employment of ex-prisoners and thus to study the behaviour over time of recidivism rates and factors precipitating recidivism at the individual, neighbourhood and societal levels. This will enable us to compare the recidivist tendencies of four cohorts of ex-prisoners formed on the basis of transitional employment experiences and geographical location. The study is using a mixed methodology, whereby we are surveying people within correctional home and people



who have been released from there to explore their employment experiences. At present data collection is going on using survey method within 3 Correctional Homes in Kolkata. This will be supplemented by qualitative (via case studies, focus group discussions) research techniques.

Participation in Seminars/ Conferences/ Research work with Travel Grants

Dr. Sudeshna Lahiri, Assistant Professor, Department of Education, University of Calcutta presented a paper Assessment of Teacher Education Programme: Attitude towards Computer and its Usage among Trainee Teachers at the 5th Pacific Rim Conference on Education at Taipei, Taiwan, 4-5 November 2014.

Professor Chinmoy Guha, Department of English, University of Calcutta for his research work Impact of France on the Bengali Intellectuals of the 19th and early 20th Century visited Fondation Maison Des Sciences de l'Homme Paris, 6 October 2014 – 2 November 2015.

Dr. Supreo Chanda, Associate Professor, Department of Museology, University of Calcutta for his research work Origin and Development of Science Museums in India: A Social History visited Science Museum of London, 26 September – 12 October 2014.

Dr. Sarmistha Banerjee, Associate Professor, Department of MBM, University of Calcutta presented a paper on Social Capital and Information Sharing, Impact on Firm's Performance at Eurasia Business and Economic Society Conference at Istanbul, Turkey, 5-7 June 2014.

Dr. Subhanil Chowdhury, Assistant Professor of Economics, IDSK presented a paper Is Imperialism a Relevant Concept in Today's World? at the annual conference of Canadian Economics Association, Vancouver, 29 May – 1 June 2014.

Professor Sanjukta Dasgupta, Department of English, University of Calcutta delivered a keynote address on The Embodied Self: Representations of Gendered Silent Bodies in Bengali Literature at the conference Human Body in Comparative Approach: Philosophy, Literature and Art at Pedagogical University of Cracow, Poland, 28-30 May 2014.

Publications

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Achin Chakraborty

Articles in Journals or Newspapers/ Chapters in Edited Volumes

'Understanding Public-Private Mix (Not 'Partnership') in the Social Sector' in J Felix Raj, S Roy and K K Hati (eds) *Indian Economy: A Visionary Perspective*, New Delhi: Regal, 2015.

Amiya Kumar Bagchi

Edited Volumes:

(jointly with Arun Bandopadhyay) Southern India in the Late Nineteenth Century, Vol. 1, Part IA: 1860s-1870s, New Delhi: Manohar, 2015.

(jointly with Arun Bandopadhyay) *Southern India in the Late Nineteenth Century, Vol. 2, Part IB: 1880s-1890s,* New Delhi: Manohar, 2015.

Articles in Journals or Newspapers/ Chapters in Edited Volumes

'Statistical jugglery, reverse redistribution and corporate absolutism', *The Statesman*, 8 March 2015.

'Recovering policy autonomy and moving towards egalitarian and green growth', *Social Scientist*, vol. 42, no. 11-12, pp. 17-38, November-December 2014.

'Earth-grab by corporate feudalism and how to go about resisting it' *The Economic and Labour Relations Review December 2014 25: 612-618,* first published on November 7, 2014 doi:10.1177/10353046145580096.



'Rise of East Asia and Kerala along the path of K.N. Raj', Third Foundation Day Lecture at the Centre for Development Studies (CDS), Thiruvananthapuram, published on the website of CDS, 20 October 2014.

'A comment on the Post-Cope debate on labour aristocracy and colonialism' in Research in Political Economy, vol. 29 , Sraffa and Althusser Reconsidered; Neoliberalism Advancing in South Africa, England, and Greece, 2014.

'Some fundamental problems afflicting the world economy and polity, and how to go about redressing them in Sumit Mazumdar (ed.) What After MDGs? Shaping the Development Agenda in the Post 2015, New Delhi: Institute for Human Development, pp.26-36, 2014.

'Indian economy and society during World War I, Social Scientist, Vol. 42, 7-8, pp. 5-27, July-August 2014.

(in Bânglâ) 'Punjibâjâr theke Bangkokke dure thâkte hobe', Nurul Matin Smarak Boktrita, *Prothom Âlo* (online patrika), November 11, 2014.

(in Bânglâ) 'Ritwik, samâj o dharma, Arek Rakam, Vol. 2, Issue 18-19, pp.87-90, October 2014.

Bidhan Kanti Das

Articles in Journals or Newspapers/ Chapters in Edited Volumes

'Improving forest policies in the context of flood disaster in India: A case from a National Park of Sub Himalayan Bengal, India' (Accepted for publication in Asian Journal of Environment and Disaster Management (AJEDM).

'Ignoring rights to rehabilitation: 'Flood disaster displacees' in A National Park of Sub Himalayan West Bengal', in Suman Kalyan Samanta (ed.) Development for the Communities and Country: Role of Anthropology, Kolkata: Progressive Publishers, (forthcoming).

Dipankor Coondoo

Articles in Journals or Newspapers/ Chapters in Edited Volumes

'Consumption and Level of Living Study: Economists' Approach' in Prasanta Ray and Nandini Ghosh (eds.) Pratyaha, Everyday Lifeworlds: Dilemmas, Contestations and Negotiations, Primus Books (forthcoming).

(in Bânglâ) 'Arthanaitik unnayan o samajkalyan briddhi', Arthabishleson, Vol. 2, no. 1, pp.9-26, 2014.

Gorky Chakraborty

(in Bânglâ) Brahmaputra Upotyaka: Char Kotha (jointly edited with Prasun Barman), Special Issue, Ninth Column, 2015.

Article in Journals or Newspapers / Chapters in Edited Volumes

'Identity issues and emerging reality in Northeast India' in S.T. Ngaihte (ed.) Democratisation Process in Northeast India: Some Issues and Challenges, New Delhi: Gyan, 2015.

Book Review

Review of 'The Demographic Question in Char Areas of Assam', Social Change and Development, vol.XI, no.2, 2014.

Project Report

Land as Private Property: Changing Patterns of Land Relations in Tribal Societies in Northeast India (jointly with Bhupen Sarmah, OKDISCD, Guwahati), submitted to ICSSR, 2015.

Indrani Chakraborty

Articles in Journals or Newspapers/ Chapters in Edited Volumes/Mimeo

'Global financial crisis, capital inflows and policy trilemma: An analysis of the Indian experience', South Asian Journal of Macroeconomics and Public Finance, Sage, 2015 (forthcoming).

'How does corruption influence Corporate Governance?



A cross-country perspective', ICRA Bulletin: Money and Finance, March 2015.

'The effect of business risk on capital structure of Indian Corporate Firms: Business groups vs. Stand-alone Firms', Global Economic Review: Perspectives on East Asian Economies and Industries, Routledge, March, 2015.

Jenia Mukherjee

Articles in Journals or Newspapers/ Chapters in Edited Volumes

'Sustainable flows between Kolkata and its peri-urban interface: Challenges and opportunities' in Mark Swilling, Adriana Allen and Andrea Lampis (eds) *Untamed Urbanisms* UK: Routledge (forthcoming).

'Mega-urbanization in Eastern Kolkata: Vision and reality' (jointly with Amlan Kanti Ray) in Sumita Chaudhuri, ed, Mega-Urbanization and Human Rights: Emerging Challenges and Opportunities, Commission on Urban Anthropology, UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing (forthcoming).

'Beyond the urban: rethinking urban ecology using Kolkata as a case study', *International Journal of Urban Sustainable Development*, February 2015 online version.

Project Report

'Translocal Learning for Water Justice: Peri-urban Pathways in India, Tanzania and Bolivia' (WatJust); The Kolkata case study, submitted to the host organization Development and Planning Unit, University College London in March 2015. The final report will be submitted to ISSC.

'Environmental Security in the Ganges 'Chars', West Bengal, India', submitted the final report to IUCN as a part of the project on *Ecosystems for Life: A Bangladesh-India Initiative*

Translation

Bengali translation of Irfan Habib, Man and Environment:

The Ecological History of India (with Swagatalaxmi Majumder and Debraj Chakraborty) (forthcoming).

Nandini Ghosh

Books

Pratyaha Everyday Lifeworlds: Dilemmas, Contestations and Negotiations (jointly with Professor Prasanta Ray), New Delhi: Primus Publishers (forthcoming)

Impaired Bodies, Gendered Lives: Everyday Realities of Disabled Women, New Delhi: Primus Publishers (forthcoming).

Article in Journals or Newspapers/ Chapters in Edited Volumes

'Sites of oppression: dominant ideologies and women with disabilities in India' in *The Disability Research Reader:* New Voices, UK: Routledge (forthcoming).

Prabhat Datta

'Searching for effective city governance: The case of India's West Bengal', Korean Journal of Area Studies, vol.32, no.2, 2014.

(in Bânglâ) 'Ganatantrer utsabe chenâ o achenâ chhobi', *Bartaman*, April, 12, 2014.

(in Bânglâ) 'Ebarer Loksabhâ nirbâchan o ânchalik dal', Bartaman May 12, 2014.

Translation

Chinese translation of 'Good governance in rural India: Role of civil society', *China Third Sector Research*, vol.7, no.2, 2014.

Saswata Ghosh

Articles in Journals or Newspapers/ Chapters in Edited Volumes

'Health & Demographic surveillance system profile: The Birbhum population project (Birbhum HDSS)' (jointly with (jointly with S. Mukherjee, A. Barik, S. Majumdar, K



Chatterjee, SK Bhaumik, SK Bandyopadhyay, BR Satpathi, PP Majumder and A Chowdhury), International Journal of Epidemiology, pp. 1-10, December 23, 2014, DOI: 10.1093/ije/dyu228.

'Exploring vulnerability of undernutrition among wives: Do husbands' attributes matter?' Journal of Health Management, 16(3):423-439, 2014.

Simantini Mukhopadhyay

Articles in Journals or Newspapers/ Chapters in Edited Volumes

'On the Apparent Non-Significance of Sex in Child Nutrition in India' (Accepted for publication in *Journal of* Biosocial Science, Cambridge Journals

The Intersection of Gender, Caste and Class Inequalities in Child Nutrition in India', Asian Population Studies, Routledge, 2015; DOI:10.1080/17441730.2015. 995150.

Subhanil Chowdhury

Articles in Journals or Newspapers/ Chapters in Edited Volumes

'Growth, imports and inequality: Explaining the persistently high trade deficit in India' (Sent for publication in Economic and Political Weekly).

(in Bânglâ) 'Janamohini tobe subidhâ besi bittabânderi', *Ei Samay*, March 1, 2015.

(in Bânglâ) 'Sarkâri khorocher kâtchânter nitir birodhitâr folei Syrizâr joy', Ei Samay, February 4, 2015.

(in Bânglâ) 'Samâjtântrik kâthâmo rekhe-o mârkin sikriti cubâr noitik joy bolei sikrito hobe', Ei Samay, December 31, 2014.

Subrata Mukherjee

Articles in Journals or Newspapers/ Chapters in Edited Volumes

'Health and heath care in India: Current scenario and new challenges' (Chapter 13), India Development Report, Oxford University Press.

'Gender wage gap in the Indian labour market: Evidence from the NSS 66th round data' (jointly with S Chakraborty) Indian Journal of Labour Economics (forthcoming).

'Health & Demographic surveillance system profile: The Birbhum population project (Birbhum HDSS)' (jointly with S. Ghosh, A. Barik, S. Majumdar, K Chatterjee, SK Bhaumik, SK Bandyopadhyay, BR Satpathi, PP Majumder and A Chowdhury), International Journal of Epidemiology, pp.1-10, December 23, 2014, DOI: 10.1093/ije/dyu228.

Supurna Banerjee

Articles in Journals or Newspapers/ Chapters in Edited Volumes

'We are still junglis to them: Institutionalising marginalities among the Adivasis in Dooars' in Hugo Gorringe, Roger Jeffery and Suryakant Waghmore (eds.) Institutionalising Marginal Actors in South Asia: Processes, Policies, Practices and Pitfalls (Accepted for publication by Sage publications).

'How long can we keep quiet while we see our children going hungry': Understanding the everyday activism of women tea plantation workers in Dooars, India (Accepted for publication in Contributions of Indian Sociology).

Book Review

Review of Delwar Hussein's 'Boundaries Undermined: Ruins of Progress on the Bangladesh-India border' in Contemporary South Asia, vol.22, no.4, pp.425-426.

Uttam Bhattacharya

Articles in Journals or Newspapers/ Chapters in Edited Volumes

'Problems of crop diversification in West Bengal', (jointly with Debisree Banerjee) in Madhusudan Ghosh, Debasis Sarkar and Bidhan Chandra Roy (eds.) Diversification of



Agriculture in Eastern India, New Delhi: Sage, pp. 155-165, 2015.

'Policy intervention in West Bengal agriculture: Role of diversification' (jointly with Shiv Raj Sing and others), in Madhusudan Ghosh, Debasis Sarkar and Bidhan Chandra Roy (eds.), Diversification of Agriculture in Eastern India, New Delhi: Sage, pp.183-194, 2015.

'What has happened to the Sheffield of India? A study of the Foundry Industry in Howrah' (jointly with Anish Mukherjee) in Mahalaya Chatterjee and Anish Mukherjee (eds.) Urban Development in Howrah: Socio Economic Perspectives, Delhi: Primus Books, pp.67-99, 2015.

'India in innovation map: A study with reference to patents , firms and R&D, 1970-2010' (jointly with Kumkum Mandal) in Kasturi Mandal, Nardia Ashlova and Svetlana G.Kirdina (eds.) Socio Economic and Technological Innovations-Mechanism and Institutions, New Delhi: Narosa, pp. 243-261, 2014.

(in Bânglâ) 'Bange Brâhmo samâj o shramajibi ândolon', DashaDisi, vol.2, pp.311-322, January, 2015.

(in Bânglâ) Adhyâpak Sri Bhabatosh Datta (1911-1997)', Kristi o Oneswa, pp.85-91, 2015.

Institutional Publications

OCCASIONAL PAPERS

No. 44 Exploring Post-Sterilization Regret in an Underdeveloped Region of Rural West Bengal, Saswata Ghosh, April 2014.

No. 45 Promoter Ownership and Performance in Publicly Listed Firms in India: Does Group Affiliation Matter? Indrani Chakraborty and Ansgar Richter, February 2015.

No. 46 Intersectionality and Spaces of Belonging: Understanding the Tea Plantation Workers in Dooars, Supurna Banerjee, March 2015.

No. 47 Is Imperialism a Relevant Concept in Today's World? Subhanil Chowdhury, March 2015.

SPECIAL LECTURE

No. 7 A Study in Development by Dispossession by Amit Bhaduri, March 2015.

FORTHCOMING

Pratyaha: Everyday Lifeworld: Dilemmas, Negotiations and Conflicts, Prasanta Ray and Nandini Ghosh, New Delhi: Primus.

Rabindranath Tagore in the World, edited by Subhoranjan Dasgupta and Sangeeta Datta, JU Press.

Library

The IDSK library is an ideal place for knowledge enhancement of academic 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. It 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 18474 processed documents including books, bounded journals and other processed documents of which IDSK's collection is 8665, Rabindranath Tagore Centre for Human Development Studies' collection is 4102 and the rest 5706 are gifted collections. Till 31 March 2014, the library accessioned 307 books, 33 reports, 10 thesis dissertations and 32 CDs. It has also subscribed 17 journals during the year.

It has purchased different tools for processing the documents e.g. Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) 22^{nd} and 23^{rd} edition, Anglo American Cataloguing Rules (AACR-2R), Sears list of subject headings 17^{th} and 20^{th} edition, C.A. Cutter?s 3- figure Author table fully revised edition, American Library Association (ALA) filing rules.

The Library has established network connections with Indiastat.com, Prowess, IMF, EPW online.



The library is using SOUL version 1 (Software for University Libraries) for its on-going automation activities. Currently the library has entered and processed 14152 documents in SOUL. Library has also started book charging and discharging with the help of SOUL software and barcode technology.

Apart from 263 internal registered users including members of Academic Council, members of Governing Council, Staff, Research Scholars and M.Phil students of the Institute enjoying the library lending, document delivery and reading facilities, IDSK also provides reading facilities to external scholars. Total number of registered external scholars is 282 since its inception.

The library provides following services to its members:

Circulation Services: Internal members availed the lending facilities as regular members of the library.

- Reading and References Services: During the period, 2. more than 900 users visited the library physically for reading and references purpose.
- OPAC Services: Users also accessed the OPAC 3. (Online Public Access Catalogue) service from the Library.
- **Document Delivery Services:**
 - a. Reprographic Services
 - b. Electronic Document Delivery Services
 - c. Document Scan Service
- *Inter Library Loan Services*: Library is the institutional member of National Library, University of Calcutta, Indian Statistical Institute Kolkata, American Information Resource Centre Kolkata, DELNET.

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. 2 MBPS leased line is used for Internet connection throughout the campus.

Computer Lab

IDSK has a computer lab with 20 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 operating system, MS Office and Adobe Professional packages for individual desktops, IDSK provides its faculty, research staff, and students with the latest software for statistical and econometrics purposes. These include:

- o Stata
- o SPSS
- o Eviews
- o CSPro
- o Win Rats
- o Win Cats

The databases maintained at IDSK are Prowess and CapitaLines.

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)

International Finance, Econometrics, Technology and Development

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

Bidhan Kanti Das

(Anthropology)

Forest Livelihood Strategies, Nutritional Anthropometry, Tribal Health

Gorky Chakraborty

(Economics)

Development Related Issues in North India



Uttam Bhattacharya

(Economics)

Intellectual Property Rights, Agriculture, Labour

ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

Jenia Mukherjee

(History)

History of Environment and Ecology

Nandini Ghosh

(Sociology)

Gender Studies, Disability Studies

Saswata Ghosh

(Demography)

Epidemiology and Public Health, Mortality and Morbidity

Simantini Mukhopadhyay

(Economics)

Health Economics, Child Health and Nutrition, Measurement of Poverty and Inequality, Microeconometrics

Subhanil Chowdhury

(Economics)

Macroeconomics, Development Economics, Globalization

Subrata Mukherjee

(Economics)

Health Economics, Applied Microeconometrics

Supurna Banerjee

(Political Science)

Gender, Women, Labour, Migration, Social Space, Activism

VISITING / ADJUNCT FACULTY

HONORARY VISITING PROFESSORS

Asis Kumar Banerjee

Development Economics, Development Finance, Measurement of Inequality and Poverty

Dipankor Coondoo

Econometrics, Finance and Monetary Economics

Malabika Dasgupta

Tribal Economy, Urban Economics

Prabhat Datta

Political Science, Decentralization and Public Administration

Prasanta Ray

Occupational Sociology, Social Power Sector, Conflict and Social Movement

HONORARY ADJUNCT FELLOW

Zakaria Siddiqui

Regulation of Energy Infrastructure,

Administrative, Library and Technical Staff

Administration

Soumendra Kanta Lahiri Chaudhuri Accounts Officer

Ranajit Kumar Chaudhuri Officer on Special Duty
Puspendu Das 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
Ashok Kumar Patra Office Attendant
Bijoy Das Office Attendant
Biswanath Das Office Attendant

Library

Madhusri Ghosh Assistant Librarian
Shyam Prasad Ram Assistant Librarian

(On Lien)

Sovan Sardar Library Assistant

Computer Lab

Sanjit Kumar Bandyopadhyay Computer Laboratory Assistant

Governing Council

1.	Professor Sabyasachi Bhattacharya (Former Vice-Chancellor, Visva Bharati and	President
	Chairman, ICHR, New Delhi)	
2.	Professor Nirmala Banerjee	Vice-
	(Former Professor, Centre for Studies in	President
	Social Sciences, Calcutta)	
3.	Professor Achin Chakraborty	Director
	(Professor of Economics, IDSK)	
4.	Professor Anjan Chakrabarti	Secretary
	(Professor of Economics, University of Calcutta)	
5.	Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi	Member
	(Emeritus Professor of Economics and	
	Founder Director, IDSK)	
6.	Professor Rajat Acharyya	Member
	(Professor of Economics, Jadavpur University)	
7.	Professor Sobhanlal Datta Gupta	Member
	(Former Professor of Political Science, University of Calcutta)	
8.	Professor Debashis Gangopadhyay	Member
	(Professor of Physics, Ramakrishna Mission	
	Vivekananda University, Belur)	
9.	Professor Abhijit Chakrabarti	Member
	(Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering, IIEST, Shibpu	
10.	Mr. Vivek Kumar, IAS	Member
	(Secretary, Higher Education, Government of West Bengal)	
11.	Mr. H.K. Dwivedi, IAS	Member
	(Principal Secretary, Finance, Government of West Bengal)	
12.	Professor Indrani Chakraborty	Member
	(Representative of Academic Staff, IDSK)	
13.	Dr. Saswata Ghosh	Member
	(Representative of Academic Staff, IDSK)	
14.	Ms. Sanchari Guha Samanta	Member
	(Representative of Administrative & Technical Staff, IDSK)	

Financial Statement

Details of Income and Expenditure during the year 2014 - 2015 are indicated below:

Income			
	Rs. in	Rs. in	
	Thousand	Thousand	
a) Grant from Government of West Bengal	24,600.00		
b) Fees received from students of M.Phil courses	72.00		
c) From projects	3,109.45		
d) Interest on bank deposits	16,164.47		
e) Miscellaneous receipts	30.75		
		43,9676.67	
Expenditure			
	Rs. in	Rs. in	
	Thousand	Thousand	
a) Revenue Expenditure			
i) Salary	16,718.33		
ii) Maintenance expenditure	<i>7,</i> 195.65		
iii) Outstanding expenditure	18,116.16		
		42,030.14	
b) Capital Expenditure			
i) Office machinery	743.34		
ii) Books & journals	1,142.29		
iii) Outstanding expenditure	60.90	_	
		1946.53	
Total of (a) and (b)		43,976.67	



Library



Computer Lab



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