

REPORT ON A HALF-DAY LECTURE SESSION

Organized by

Department of Political Science, Khudiram Bose Central College

With Internal Quality Assurance Cell

In Collaboration with the Bengal Institute of Political Studies (BIPS)

On

**THE IMPACT OF BIG DATA ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: PROFESSOR UPENDRA CHOWDHURY
(MAIN SPEAKER)**

6TH December 2023, 2 pm Onwards

The Half Day Lecture Session was organized by the Department of Political Science with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), Khudiram Bose Central College in collaboration with the Bengal Institute of Political Studies (BIPS). The lecture was organized for the enlightenment of the students and their venture into the recent prevailing trends of international politics/relations. Professor Upendra Chowdhury was the main speaker in this lecture session. Professor Chowdhury specializes, teaches, supervises, and conducts research on International Studies, especially on the role of High-Tech geopolitics in the Indo-Pacific region. He has served both as the Member Secretary and Director of the Indian Council of Social Science Research (2014-2019), New Delhi, under the Ministry of Education, Government of India. He has also been selected as a Senior Adviser by the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA), a post he declined. Presently he is serving as a Professor of International Studies at the Department of Political Science, Aligarh Muslim University, Uttar Pradesh. Professor Rajkumar Kothari (Department of Political Science, Diamond Harbour Women's University) and Professor Biswanath Chakraborty (Department of Political Science, Rabindra Bharati University), President and Secretary of BIPS respectively, also attended the event.

The Half-Day lecture session was on the topic of, "The Impact of Big Data on International Relations". The session began with a short speech by the Teacher-in-Charge, KBCC, Dr. Shubhra Dubey, welcoming the speakers and the students to the lecture. Dr. Supreeta Mehta (HoD, Department of Political Science, KBCC) then introduced the speakers, and felicitations of the guests was done. A summary of the lecture given by Professor Upendra Chowdhury is provided here:

Big data has significantly transformed the landscape of international relations by offering new tools and insights for diplomacy, security, and global governance. Traditionally, international relations relied heavily on qualitative analysis and limited data sources, such as diplomatic cables, official reports, and academic research. However, the advent of big data has introduced vast, diverse datasets—from social media activity and economic transactions to satellite imagery and public opinion trends—that can be analyzed to understand global dynamics in real time.

Big data facilitates more informed decision-making through comprehensive data analysis. Diplomats and policymakers can now access a broader range of information, including sentiment analysis from social media,

economic indicators, and real-time data from various regions, which provides a more nuanced understanding of international issues. This data-driven approach helps in crafting policies that are more responsive to the complexities of global interactions. However, the use of big data in international relations also raises concerns about privacy, security, and the potential for misinformation. The vast amount of data available can be both a strength and a vulnerability, as the misuse of data or the spread of false information can exacerbate tensions between nations.

In summary, big data has revolutionized international relations by enhancing predictive capabilities, improving decision-making processes, and providing a richer understanding of global trends. Yet, it also presents challenges that must be carefully managed to ensure its benefits are fully realized.

After Professor Chowdhury completed his lecture, a question-answer session followed which included a lively interaction between Professor Chowdhury and the students. The session ended with a vote of thanks by Dr. Shilpa Nandy, Department of Political Science, KBCC.

Pictures of the Day



