

DR SULAGNA CHATTOPADHYAY

Founder-Editor, Geography and You

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Sulagna Chattopadhyay (PhD) has been working for 27 years in climate change, polar studies, disaster management, and biodiversity. She founded LIGHTS (Learning in Geography, Humanities, Technology and Science), an educational NGO in 2003. Under the aegis of LIGHTS, she founded G'nY (Geography and You), an ISSN and RNI accredited journo-mag focusing on climate change, development and the environment in particular, completing 150 issues; and SaGAA (Science and Geopolitics of Arctic and Antarctic) a Delhi based think tank that works on the policy and advocacy of Polar and mountain issues. Dr Sulagna has been involved in various research and outreach programmes and has co-authored two books—Climate Change and The White World; Science and Geopolitics of The White World: Arctic-Antarctic-Himalaya published by Springer along with six other books on varied topics. She has two petitions admitted in the Indian Parliament on stent pricing and PIO marriages. She has been a member of the National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai and has engaged in various conservation and climate change efforts. She was awarded the “Business Excellence and Innovative Best Practices Academia Award-2019” by the New Delhi Institute of Management (NDIM).

Keywords: Cryosphere, health econometrics, training, research, disaster management, climate change, women studies, biodiversity

Invited Profiles:

- Evaluator, study on IORA's *Sustainable Development Objective(s) and United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (17 SDGs): Through Global Partnership*, Indian Council of World Affairs, 2023.
- Evaluation Committee for Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)-GIZ Research Study on *Covid 19 & Climate Change*, (2022-2023).
- Advisory Body, Environment Department, H.R. College of Commerce and Economics, Mumbai, 2023 onwards.
- Evaluation Committee Arctic Frontiers-Emerging leaders, Royal Norwegian Embassy in India, October 2020.
- Advisory Body, Mumbai University - Center for Excellence in Maritime Studies, 2021 onwards.
- Observer, UK Parliament: Antarctic Parliamentarians Assembly, Westminster, London, December 2021 and 2019.
- Observer, Arctic Circle Assembly, Reykjavik, Iceland, October 2019.
- Jury, FICCI National Geospatial Awards, New Delhi (2019).
- Member, National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai (2017-2019).
- Member, Bihar State Disaster Management Authority, Patna (2014 - 2016).
- Member, Working Group, Disaster Management, Planning Commission of India, New Delhi (2011).
- Member, Anti-Ragging Task Force, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi (2011-2018).
- Question Setter for CSIR Recruitment and Assessment Board, Hyderabad (2013).
- Life Member, Kalyan Banerjee's Clinic internal committee on sexual harassment, New Delhi.

Engaging with Policy:

Petitions Admitted in Indian Parliament

- The Indian Parliament admitted a petition on 'Stent Pricing' following which the government placed a cap on the price of stent (2017).
- The Indian Parliament admitted a petition on 'Fraudulent marriages of PIO', which enabled the government to devise policy in order to stop such marriages (2016).

Arctic Policy

- Worked with various ministries and departments, primarily the Ministry of Earth Sciences and National Security Council Secretariat, to bring India's Arctic Policy (2022).

Select invited talks and lectures:

- Speaker, One Planet Polar Summit, Paris
- Lecture, National Defence College, 63rd NDC Course for Senior Officers from the Indian Armed Forces, Civil Services and Officers from Friendly Foreign Countries on Arctic and Antarctic, July 2023.
- Judge, Luminaire, Mothers International School, July 2023.
- Speaker, National Conference on Polar Sciences (NCPS), National Center for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR) on *Efficient Science Communication for Good Policy*, May 2023.
- Interview, Strat News Global, 'The Gist' on Climate Change and the Arctic, May 2023.
- Speaker, India International Centre-Diamond Jubilee Year on Preserving the Last Frontier - Antarctica, April 2022.
- Lecture, Banaras Hindu University, Climate Change, Arctic and a New World, February 2022.
- Lecture (UGC), Calcutta University, Climate change, geoengineering and hydrogen fuel, January 2022.
- Speaker, Indian Council of World Affairs: ICWA; National Consultations on the Indo-Pacific Ocean Initiative, Marine Plastic Pollution and the Indo-Pacific Region, 2021.
- Speaker, Indian Council of World Affairs, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India: Webinar on "The Antarctica Treaty @60: India and the 'White Continent", 2020.
- Speaker, Indian Council of World Affairs, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India: National Seminar on India's Engagement with the Changing Arctic, New Delhi, March 2020.
- Panelist, National Security Council, Government of India, Brainstorming Meeting on India's Arctic Policy, New Delhi, February 2020.
- Speaker, National Institute of Advanced Studies: NIAS Science Diplomacy Initiative, Arctic Developments, Bangalore, February 2020.
- Lecture, PARI, Artificial Intelligence and Public Health Policy Administration in the Course on Public Health Policy Administration for Medical Administrators in Govt. and Autonomous Health Institutions, 2019 (Five groups from April to November).
- Talk on the book 'Science and Geopolitics of The White World: Arctic-Antarctic-Himalaya' at the National Conference on Polar Sciences (NCPS), National Center for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR), August 2019.

- Guest of Honour, Viswa Yuvak Kendra national seminar on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and Environmental Consciousness, New Delhi, June and December 2019.
- Speaker, Institute of Social Sciences: Challenges Arctic Poses to Resource Exploration, New Delhi, May 2019.
- Speaker, Pollution Control & Emissions Monitoring World Conference: Understanding the Impact of Marine Litter, New Delhi, January 2019
- Speaker, Climate Resilient Observing Systems Promotion Council (CROPC), New Delhi, December 2018.
- Speaker, FICCI: GeoIntelligence-led Policing and Emergency Response, New Delhi, May 2018.
- Speaker, Pollution Control & Emissions Monitoring World Conference: Aligning air pollutants forecasting for better air quality, New Delhi, April 2018.
- Lecture, Jawaharlal Nehru University: CAS III Lectures, New Delhi, September 2017.
- Speaker, FICCI: Location-based services (LBS), Transforming Coordinates to Business, New Delhi, June 2017.
- Lecture, Calcutta University-Geography Department: Opportunities in geographical research, Kolkata, April 2017.

Toolkit for Vulnerability Ranking of Hospitals:

- Developed a three-level toolkit for the Bihar government to help assess the disaster preparedness of its governmental hospitals with vulnerability rank accorded with weighted scores, 2018.

Periodicals:

- Editor in Chief, Geography and You, Jouno-mag–22 volumes, 150 issues, 60-100 pages each.
- Editor, validator and developer, Akshay Urja magazine, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Govt. of India, 3 volumes, 18 issues from 2010 onwards, 60 pages each.
- Nehru Yuva Sandesh, Nehru Yuva Sangathan, Ministry of Youth Affairs, Govt. of India, 4 volumes, 48 issues from 2005 onwards, 20 pages each.
- WBREDA Newsletter, West Bengal Renewal Energy Development Agency, Govt. of West Bengal, Kolkata, 2010, 1 volume, 5 issues, 24 pages each.

Books, Papers and Popular Articles:

- Chattopadhyay S. 2022. The Young Working Mothers of Kolkata Slums and the Health of Their Children, *International Journal of Applied Social Science*, Volume 9 (3 & 4), 48-60.
- Chattopadhyay S. 2022. Marine Plastic Pollution and the Indo-Pacific Region, IPOI Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative—Towards a Sustainable and Prosperous Region, Indian Council of World Affairs, 37-54.
- Goel, P.S., Ravindra, R., and Chattopadhyay S., (eds.), 2019. Climate Change and the White World, Springer. 260 pages.
- Chattopadhyay S. (ed.), Fresh Water in India, 2018. Iris Publication Pvt. Ltd., 224 pages.
- Goel, P.S., Ravindra, R., and Chattopadhyay S., (eds.), 2017. Science and Geopolitics of the White World, Springer. 220 pages.
- Chattopadhyay, S., (ed.), 2014. Climate Change in India, Iris Publication Pvt. Ltd., 424 pages.

- Chattopadhyay, S., (ed.), 2014. Environment in India, Iris Publication Pvt. Ltd., 375 pages.
- Ramesh, R., Sudhakar, M., Chattopadhyay, S., (eds.), 2013, Scientific and Geopolitical Interests in Arctic and Antarctic, LIGHTS Research Foundation, 288 pages.
- Chattopadhyay S., and Prasad N., (eds), Essays on Water, 2006, Iris Publication Pvt. Ltd., 215 pages.
- Chattopadhyay S. 2019. India Left Behind: Towards a Hindukush-Himalaya Science Forum, *Geography and You*, 19(125).
- Chattopadhyay S. 2019. Artificial Intelligence in India: India's AI Applications in Healthcare, *Geography and You*, 19(133)
- Chattopadhyay S. 2019. Landforms in India: Coastal Geomorphology, *Geography and You*, 17(128)
- Chattopadhyay S and Saxena S. 2019. Ageing in India: Working Out of Choice, *Geography and You*, 19(130-131)
- Chattopadhyay S. 2018. Vote for Reforms: Spatial Patterns and Voter Turnout, *Geography and You*, 18(118)
- Chattopadhyay S and Jawak S. 2018. Vanishing profiles: Haryana's Disappearing Lakes, *Geography and You*, 18(120).
- Chattopadhyay S. 2015. Water Matters: Surface Water Storage and Disasters, *Geography and You*, 17(91).
- Chattopadhyay S. 2017. Coal Powered India: Discovering Coal, *Geography and You*, 17(103).
- Chattopadhyay S. 2014. Disasters Emerging Perspectives: Disaster Preparedness, Gender and Vulnerable Coastal Communities, *Geography and You*, 15(83).
- Chattopadhyay S. 2013. Emerging Forms of Urbanism: Conservation: for The Rich, by The Rich, *Geography and You*, 13(81).
- Chattopadhyay S. 2013. Sustainable Fertiliser Usage: Swajaiwik Farming – Sustainable Organic Farms for All, *Geography and You*, 13(80).
- Chattopadhyay S. 2013. Curbing Pollution in India: Bloody Plastics, *Geography and You*, 13(78).
- Chattopadhyay S. 2013. Fisheries Policies and Interventions: Island Kings Turned to Beggar, *Geography and You*, 13(77).
- Chattopadhyay S. 2012. Land Degradation and Livelihoods: Managing India's Hazardous Wastes, *Geography and You*, 11(73).
- Chattopadhyay S. 2011. Geography in Geospatial Technologies: Are Geographers Missing The Bus, *Geography and You*, 11(68).
- Chattopadhyay S. 2013. Fisheries Policies and Interventions: Wild Shrimp Seed Collection, *Geography and You*, 13(77).
- Chattopadhyay S. 2020. Global Warming: Bonding Over Ice, *Financial Express*, August 17.
- Chattopadhyay S. 2019. Icy challenge: Distrust Towards Chinese Interference in Arctic an Opportunity for India, *Financial Express*, October 21.
- Chattopadhyay S. 2019. Cold rush: Why India is Rushing to The Arctic, *Financial Express*, September 30.
- Chattopadhyay S. 2019. Disconnect with Antarctic Diplomacy: Need for Policy Interest from India, *Financial Express*, December 16.

Special G'nY Issues Commissioned by Indian Government:

- National Center for Coastal Research (NCCR), Govt. of India. Issue title - India's Fragile Coasts, *Geography and You*, Vol. 22, Issue 1, No. 148, 2022.

- Indian National Centre for Ocean Information (INCOIS), Govt. of India. Issue title - Sentinels of the Seas, Geography and You, Vol. 20, Issue 6-7, No. 144-145, 2020.
- National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR), Govt. of India. Issue title - India's Polar Endeavours, Geography and You, Vol. 19, Issue 16 No. 127, February 16-28, 2019.
- National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Govt. of India. Issue title - Ocean Tech, Geography and You, Vol. 19, Issue 13 No. 124, January 1-15, 2019.
- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Govt. of India. Issue title - Space Technology | Geography and You, Vol. 18, No. 107, March-April, 2018.
- National Physical Laboratory (NPL), CSIR, Govt. of India. Issue title - Technovation, Science Bolstering the Economy, Geography and You, Vol. 18, Issue 106, January-February, 2018.
- Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Govt. of India. Issue title - Transforming Lives with Science, Geography and You, Vol. 16, Issue 97, July-August 2016.
- Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI), Govt. of India. Issue title - Waterways, Geography and You, Vol. 15, Issue 92, September-October 2015.
- Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR), Govt. of India. Issue title - The Panchayat: Emerging Perspectives, Geography and You, Vol. 14, Issue 87, November-December 2014.
- Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR), Govt. of India. Issue title - Women in Panchayat, Geography and You, Vol. 14, Issue 87, January-February 2014.
- Fertiliser Association of India (FAI), Department of Fertilisers, Ministry of Chemical and Fertilisers, Govt. of India. Issue title - Sustainable Fertiliser Usage, Geography and You, Vol. 13, Issue 80, September-October 2013.
- Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Govt. of India. Issue title - Earth Science Technologies, Geography and You, Vol. 13, Issue 79, July-August 2013.
- Lakshadweep Administration, Govt. of India. Issue title - The Isles Lakshadweep, Geography and You, Vol. 12, Issue 75, November-December 2012.
- Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Govt. of India. Issue title - Sustainable Futures, Geography and You, Vol. 11, Issue 65, March-April 2011.
- Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF), Govt. of India. - Issue title - Climate Change, Geography and You, Vol. 8, Issue 45, September - October 2008.
- Bureau of Energy Efficiency, Govt. of India. - Issue title - Shock Waves, Geography and You, Vol.5, Issue 20, November - December 2005.
- National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Ltd. (NHPC), Govt. of India Undertaking. Issue title - Hydro Power Resurgence, Geography and You, Vol. 4, Issue 13, May-June, 2004.
- Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR), Govt. of India. Issue title - Waiting for Water, Geography and You, Vol. 3, No. 11, May-June 2003.

Books Validated | Developed | Edited:

- Understanding Rural Habitat: Lessons in Sustainability, Development Alternatives, New Delhi, DA, 2012, 188 pages.
- Investor's Manual for Energy Efficiency, Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency, Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, Govt. of India, New Delhi, 2007, 584 pages.

- Appraising Energy Efficiency Projects, Designing Financial Structures and Instruments, Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA), New Delhi, 2007, 141 pages.
- Jawaharlal Nehru, Memorable Quotes, Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, New Delhi, NYKS, 2007, 24 pages.
- Losing Count, Mapping India's Child Sex Ratio, Population Foundation of India, New Delhi, PFI, 2006, 72 pages.

Reports Validated | Developed | Edited:

- The Future of Arctic Ice: An Indo-Pacific Connect, A Synopsis of SaGAA 7, Recommendations for Action, LIGHTS Research Foundation, 2023, 102 pages.
- Low Carbon Pathways: Sustainable Civil Society Initiatives to Address Global Environmental Challenges, Development Alternatives, 2011, DA, 152 pages.
- Safe Habitat: Good Practices for Disaster Risk Reduction, Development Alternatives, 2010, 30 pages.
- Mission Clean Ganga, Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi, MoEF, 2009, 16 pages.
- Cluster Development and Poverty Alleviation, Foundation for MSME Clusters, New Delhi, 2008, 64 pages.
- Sustaining Rural Lives and Livelihood, Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi, MoEF, 2008, 84 pages.
- Sustainable Reconstruction Initiative in Karaikal, Development Alternatives, New Delhi, DA, 2008, 74 pages.
- Global Environment Facility Report, Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi, MoEF, 2008, 45 pages.
- Parivesh Highlights, Central Pollution Control Authority, New Delhi, CPCB, 2007, 176 pages.
- Third National Report on the Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in India, Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi, MoEF, 2007, 34 pages.
- Owner Driven Housing Process: Reconstruction Programme in Bhachau, Unnati, Ahmedabad, 2007, 28 pages.
- Facilitating the Changemakers Experiences: Rural Housing Project, Holtec Consulting Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi, 2007, 34 pages.
- Case Studies: Knowledge is Power; ODTF; Anandi; TVSG, Development Alternatives, New Delhi, DA, 2007, 72 pages.
- Framework for a Rural Habitat Policy for India: Responding to the Needs of the Poor, Development Alternatives, New Delhi, 2006, 48 pages.
- JansankhyaSwasthaya Sanchar – Jharkhand, Population Foundation of India, New Delhi, PFI, 2006, 64 pages.
- Diaspora Youth: Know India Programme, Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, New Delhi, NYKS, 2006, 52 pages.
- China and India: Youth Delegation to India, Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, New Delhi, NYKS, 2006, 74 pages.
- Participatory Rural Habitat Processes: Emerging Trends, Development Alternatives, New Delhi, DA, 2005, 108 pages.

Studies Undertaken as Principal Investigator:

- Reforms in Conservation and Resettlement of Forest Dwellers, Case Study of Ranthambore Tiger Reserve, Sawai Madhopur, Rajasthan, 2013.

- Wind Power in Jaisalmer, Report on Status of Wind Power vis-a-vis Social Amenities and Local Problems, LIGHTS Research Foundation, New Delhi, 2008.
- Changing Pattern of Consumption, Case Study of Isapur Sarki, a Village in Uttar Pradesh, LIGHTS Research Foundation, New Delhi, 2008.
- Polyandrous Jaunsari, Report on Gender Relations biased against Women, LIGHTS Research Foundation, New Delhi, 2008.
- Tharu of Don, Report of Women Empowerment in the Tribal region of Valmiki Forest, East Champaran, Bihar, LIGHTS Research Foundation, New Delhi, 2008.
- The Climate Change Refugees, Report of Mausuni in the Sunderbans, in the Distributaries of Ganga, West Bengal, LIGHTS Research Foundation, New Delhi, 2008.
- Rising sea level and livelihood concerns of Digha and Shankarpur West Bengal, LIGHTS Research Foundation, New Delhi, 2008.
- Delhi Ridge Invaded – Report on Infestation of the Weed-Like Prosopis Juliflora, in the ridge area of Delhi, LIGHTS Research Foundation, New Delhi, 2007.
- Banned Without Effect – Report on Wild Shrimp Seed Collection on the Hoogly, LIGHTS Research Foundation, New Delhi, 2007.
- Profiling Teesta V - Socio-economically, LIGHTS Research Foundation, New Delhi, 2006.
- A Report on Parbati HEP – Stage II, LIGHTS Research Foundation, New Delhi, 2005.

Convenorship | National & International Conferences:

- Convenor, 7th National Conference on Science and Geopolitics of Arctic and Antarctic, India International Centre, New Delhi (2023).
- Convenor, SaGHAA Webinar, Managing Polar Oceans Sustainably, (2020).
- Convenor, 5th International Conference on Science and Geopolitics of Himalaya-Arctic- Antarctic, India International Centre, New Delhi (2019).
- Convenor, 4th International Conference on Science and Geopolitics of Himalaya-Arctic- Antarctic, JNU Convention Center, New Delhi (2017).
- Convenor, Conference on Geospatial Information Systems in Regular Curriculum for Schools and Colleges, Delhi (2016)
- Convenor, 3rd International Conference on Science and Geopolitics of Arctic and Antarctic, India International Centre, New Delhi (2015).
- Convenor, Delhi Round Table Conclave: Vulnerable India, India International Centre, New Delhi. (2013) with a focus area on disaster mitigation.
- Convenor, 2nd International Conference on Science and Geopolitics of Arctic and Antarctic, India International Centre, New Delhi (2012) (Third pole - Himalayan river systems).
- Convenor, National Conference on Science and Geopolitics of Arctic and Antarctic, India International Centre, New Delhi. (2011).
- Convenor, Delhi Round Table Conclave: Impact of Climate Change on Seas and Oceans around India, India International Centre, New Delhi (2010).

Seminars and Workshops on behalf of Govt. of India:

- Convenor, Awareness about Air Pollution Among Teachers and Students of Selected Governmental Schools | Delhi Pollution Control Board (2019).
- Convenor, Ozone Day Celebrations for Schools in N. E. India | MoES (2013).

- Convenor, GIS/GPS/Remote Sensing training for Senior Secondary Teachers in Guwahati | DST (2013).
- Convenor, Earth Day Celebrations for Schools in Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and West Bengal | MoES (2013).
- Convenor, Earth Day Celebrations for Schools in N. E. India | MoES (2012).
- Convenor, Data Users' training for Senior Secondary Teachers in Mysore | DST (2012).
- Convenor, National Conference on Data Usage among Senior Secondary Teachers, Teacher Training Centre, Ajmer | DST (2011).
- Convenor, Earth Day Celebrations for Schools in Maharashtra | MoES (2011).
- Convenor, GIS/GPS/Remote Sensing training for Senior Secondary Teachers in Nagpur | DST (2011).
- Convenor, GIS/GPS/Remote Sensing training for Senior Secondary Teachers in Tirupathi | DST (2011).
- Convenor, National Conference on Data Use in Teaching, Survey of India, Dehradun | DST (2010).
- Convenor, Akshay Urja Virasat Televised Quiz Programme | MNRE (2009).
- Convenor, Data Users' Workshop for Senior Secondary Teachers in National Capital Region | DST (2009).

Creative Film Head:

- TV Quiz Programme on DD Sahyadri. Three episodes on behalf of the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, Govt. of India. Creative head for the quiz rounds and development of question bank and supplementary information. Liaison with director/artists/schools and film editing team. (2007).
- Short Film, Producer of 120 Short Films in a YouTube Channel - Geography and You TV.
- Award, Award for a short film on Air Pollution

Membership | Fellowship | Award:

- Member, India International Center, New Delhi.
- Fellow, Royal Geographical Society, London, UK.
- Business Excellence and Innovative Best Practices Academia Award-2019, New Delhi Institute of Management (NDIM), Delhi.

Employment Record:

- Editor G'nY magazine (2001 onwards).
- Secretary General, LIGHTS (Learning in Geography, Humanities, Technology and Science) Research Foundation (not-for-profit outfit) (2003 onwards).
- Science Editor, Learn Today - India Today Group (1998-2001).
- Editorial Assistant, Map Publishing Division, Eicher Goodearth Ltd. (1997-98).

Educational Qualification:

- PhD, School of Social Sciences, Centre for Study of Regional Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, 2022. **Thesis titled:** Maternal Employment and its Impact of Children's Health in Kolkata Slums.
- M.Phil, School of Social Sciences, Centre for Study of Regional Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, 1997. **Thesis titled:** Poverty and Women's Work in Rural India: A State Level Analysis.
- M.A., School of Social Sciences, Centre for Study of Regional Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, 1995.
- B. Sc. in Geography, Loreto College, Calcutta University, 1993.
- Higher Secondary and Secondary, Loreto House, Middleton Row, Kolkata, 1990.
- Scholarships awarded by the West Bengal Education Department for securing high rank in Higher Secondary and Graduation.

Research Qualification:

- Trained in research methodology and health econometrics having over 27 years of experience in quality research with various reports and books for various governmental institutes and clients.

Teaching Qualification:

- Qualified for the National Eligibility Test (NET) held by the University Grants Commission (UGC) in 1997 and was awarded the Junior Research Fellow position.

Languages:

- English: Full proficiency in speaking, reading and writing.
- Bengali: Full proficiency in speaking, reading and writing.
- Hindi: Full proficiency in speaking and partial proficiency in reading and writing
- Nepali: Partial proficiency in speaking.

Volunteer:

- Member, Animal Welfare Committee, B1 Resident Welfare Association, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi.
- Teaching, Periodically in several senior secondary schools.