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Academic Employment

Professor of Economics, Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad, 2025 -

Reserve Bank of India Chair in Finance and Economics, Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad, 2024 -

Secondary member, Ravi J. Matthai Centre for Educational Innovation, Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad, 2023 -

Associate Professor of Economics, Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad, 2019 - 2025

Assistant Professor of Economics and Public Policy, Indian School of Business, 2009 - 2019

Instructor and Teaching Assistant, University of Virginia, 2003 - 2008

Research Fields

Public Economics, Labor Economics, Development Economics, Organizational Economics

Indian Economy, Gender, Health, Education, Public Policy

Education

Ph.D. Economics, University of Virginia, 2009

B.A. Mathematics and Economics, Franklin & Marshall College, 1999

Awards and Fellowships

IPA D. G. Shah Best Public Policy Paper Award, IIM Ahmedabad, 2023

InsideIIM Professor of the Year at IIM Ahmedabad, 2021

Mahalanobis Memorial Medal of The Indian Econometric Society, 2020

IPA D. G. Shah Best Public Policy Paper Award, IIM Ahmedabad, 2020

ISB Research Fellow, 2015 - 2018

Fellowship, Bankard Fund for Political Economy, University of Virginia, 2007 - 2008

International academic merit scholarship, Franklin & Marshall College, 1995 - 1999

National talent search scholarship, Government of India, 1993 - 1995

Short-term Visits

Visitor, Monash University, 2014, 2024

Fulbright-Nehru Academic & Professional Excellence Fellow, University of Wisconsin Madison, 2022 - 2023

Visiting Scientist, Indian Statistical Institute Delhi, 2023

Visitor, University of New South Wales, 2017, 2019

Visitor, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, 2012

Professional Service and Other Affiliations

Member, Program Advisory Committee, Plaksha University, 2026 -

Member, Academic Advisory Board, PGDM in Banking and Financial Services, Management Development Institute Gurgaon, 2026 -

Council of Advisors for Women's Financial Inclusion in India, CGAP, World Bank, 2025 -

Member, Technical Advisory Group for Household Surveys of NSSO, Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation, Govt. of India, 2024 -

Research advisor, Avanti Fellows, 2024 -

Digital Health Committee, National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers, Quality Council of India, 2023 -

Affiliate, Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), MIT, 2023 -

Associate Editor, Economic Modelling, 2022 -

CDES Non-Resident Fellow, Monash University, 2021 -

Board of Studies, College for Integrated Studies, University of Hyderabad, 2010 - 2015

Publications

Peer influence and IT career choice, with Nishtha Langer. *Information Systems Research*, 35(2):642–656, 2024.

Lights out? COVID-19 containment policies and economic activity, with Robert C. M. Beyer and Sonalika Sinha. *Journal of Asian Economics*, 85:101589, 2023.

- Dr. Subir V. Gokarn Best Paper Award (3rd prize), 19th Macroeconomics and Finance Conference, IGIDR.

Reshaping adolescents' gender attitudes: Evidence from a school-based experiment in India, with Diva Dhar and Seema Jayachandran, *American Economic Review*, 112(3):899–927, 2022.

- ADB–IEA Innovative Policy Research Award 2022 (Honourable mention)
- Press coverage in *The Economist*, *The Hindu*, *The Hindustan Times*, *Mint*, *El Universal* and *World Bank Impact Evaluation Blog*

Women's labor force participation and household technology adoption, with Gautam Bose and Sarah Walker, *European Economic Review*, 147:104181, 2022.

Measuring gender attitudes: Developing and testing Implicit Association Tests for adolescents in India, with Diva Dhar, Vrinda Kapoor, Vrinda Kapur and Anita Raj, *PLOS ONE*, 17(6): e0264077, 2022.

Science education and labor market outcomes in a developing economy, with Abhiroop Mukhopadhyay, Nishith Prakash and Raghav Rakesh, *Economic Inquiry*, 60(2):741–763, 2022.

- Press coverage in *Indian Express*, *Times of India*, *Times of India Ahmedabad*, *Careers 360*, *Faculti.net*

Lab-in-the-field experiments: Perspectives from research on gender, with Lata Gangadharan, Pushkar Maitra and Joseph Vecci, *Japanese Economic Review*, 73:31—59, 2022.

Infection testing at scale: An examination of pooled testing diagnostics, with Bijendra Nath Jain, *Vikalpa*, 46(1):13–25. 2021.

Social connections and tertiary healthcare utilization, with Sisir Debnath, *Health Economics*, 29(4):464–474, 2020.

Intergenerational transmission of gender attitudes: Evidence from India, with Diva Dhar and Seema Jayachandran, *Journal of Development Studies*, 55(12):2572–2592, 2019.

Female leaders and their response to the social environment, with Lata Gangadharan, Pushkar Maitra and Joseph Vecci. *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, 164:256–272, 2019.

Does who you know matter? Unraveling the influence of peers' network attributes on academic performance, with Nishtha Langer, *Economic Inquiry*, 57(1):141–161, 2019.

Barriers to skill acquisition: Evidence from English training in India, with Pushkar Maitra and Subha Mani, *World Development*, 114:314–325, 2019.

Common tongue: The impact of language on educational achievement, *Journal of Economic History*, 77(2):473–510, 2017.

- Press coverage in *Mint* and *Times of India*

How does relationship-based governance accommodate new entrants? Evidence from the cycle rickshaw rental market, with Ashima Sood, *Journal of Institutional Economics*, 13(3):673–697, 2017.

Social identity and governance: The behavioral response to female leaders, with Lata Gangadharan, Pushkar Maitra and Joseph Vecci, *European Economic Review*, 90:302–325, 2016.

The impact of study groups and roommates on academic performance, with Mudit Kapoor, *Review of Economics and Statistics* 97(1):44–54, 2015.

Letting the briber go free: An experiment on mitigating harassment bribes, with Klaus Abbink, Utteeyo Dasgupta and Lata Gangadharan, *Journal of Public Economics* 111(C):17–28, 2014.

- Press coverage in *The New York Times*, *Rediff.com*, *Hindu Business Line*, *Deccan Chronicle*, *Economic Times*

Where there is a will: Fertility behavior and sex bias in large families, *Journal of Human Resources* 49(2):393–423, 2014.

- Press coverage in *Financial Express* and *ISB Insight Management Briefs*

Reviews and Industry Reports

Language diversity and economic consequences in India, in S. Weber and V. Ginsburgh (eds.) *The Palgrave Handbook of Economics and Language*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2026.

Understanding EdTech usage at home using dedicated devices: Learnings from interventions deployed to encourage use of EdTech on dedicated devices, with Atma Dinnie Charles and Gouri Gupta, Central Square Foundation, May 2024.

- Press coverage in *The Ken Part 1* and *Part 2*

Social health insurance schemes, with Arjun Bedi, Arpita Chakraborty, Sisir Debnath, Anagaw Derseh Mebratie, Pradeep Panda, E. van de Poel, Wameq Raza, Frans Rutten, Zemzem Shigute, Robert Sparrow, Revathy Suryanarayana and Getnet Alemu Zewdu, in J. Jalan, S. Marjit and S. Santra (eds.) *India Public Finance and Policy Report*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2020.

Book review of S. Thorat and K. Newman (eds.) “Blocked by Caste: Economic Discrimination in Modern India,” for *Economic and Political Weekly*, Feb 27, 2010, 45(9), 35–37.

Course Material

Learning from EdTech, with Ambrish Dongre, 2025, *IIM Ahmedabad case RJMC0048*.

Fee regulation in private schooling: The case of Gujarat, with Vertika Bansal, Shivam Kumar and Priyanka Sarda, 2021, *IIM Ahmedabad case ECO366EX*.

Malaria eradication, with Pallavi Wats, 2021, *IIM Ahmedabad case CMHS0045TEC*.

Deworming, with Pallavi Wats, 2021, *IIM Ahmedabad case CMHS0046TEC*.

Incentives in the healthcare system, with Sisir Debnath and Dibya Deepta Mishra, 2019, *Harvard Business Case ISB127-PDF-ENG*.

Teacher Incentives, with Kalyani Chaudhuri, 2017, *Harvard Business Case ISB096-PDF-ENG*.

Search Costs and Market Efficiency in Emerging Economies, with Rohini Ray, 2016, *Harvard Business Case ISB059-PDF-ENG*.

Course Allocation Methods, with Priyanka Sarda, 2013, *Harvard Business Case ISB033-PDF-ENG*.

A Class Divided, 2013, *Harvard Business Case ISB032-PDF-ENG*.

Media

Weaving through generations: Productivity gains in family-owned businesses in rural India, with Shreya Banerjee, Aastha Dang, Jane Hammaker, Chandan Jain, Divya Pandey and Fatema Patel, *Ideas for India*, February 1, 2024.

A program to teach gender-equality, *India Together*, October 22, 2021. Reprinted in *Ideas from IIMA*.

Economic consequences of Covid-19 lockdowns: Lessons from India’s first wave, with Robert C. M. Beyer and Sonalika Sinha, *Ideas for India*, June 14, 2021. Reprinted in *India Together* and *Global Development Blog*.

Fruits of liberation? Women’s work participation and adoption of household appliances, with Gautam Bose and Sarah Walker, *Ideas for India*, May 28, 2021.

IIM Ahmedabad professor on the actual value of an MBA degree, *InsideIIM*, May 17, 2021.

The economic case for free vaccines, *Ahmedabad Mirror*, April 26, 2021.

Ideas for a better budget: Women’s health, maternal leave and safety for economic growth, with Mahima Vasishth, *The Economic Times*, January 8, 2021.

Embracing entropy, *TEDx IIM Ahmedabad*, December 27, 2020.

Science in school? The educational and economic outcomes from high-school science, with Abhiroop Mukhopadhyay, Nishith Prakash and Raghav Rakesh, *Ideas for India*, June 24, 2020.

State governments can be better armed financially to fight COVID 19 by issuing public health bonds, with Maitreesh Ghatak, *The Economic Times*, June 5, 2020.

Pooled testing to unlock economy, *Telangana Today*, June 3, 2020.

Accelerated infection testing at scale, *IIMA Podcast*, April 6, 2020.

Panel discussion: Women's economic empowerment: Constraints and solutions, *Ideas for India*, December, 2019.

How effective are RCTs that won Abhijit-Esther the Nobel, *The Hindu*, October 16, 2019.

The language of learning, *The India Forum*, April 5, 2019.

Panel discussion: Does Ayushman Bharat address the issues of healthcare delivery in Bihar? *Ideas for India*, February 1, 2019.

Designing India's national healthcare protection: Challenges and opportunities, with Sisir Debnath, Dibya Mishra and Revathy Suryanarayana, *Ideas for India*, August 27, 2018.

Common tongue? How mother tongue instruction influences education, with Revathy Suryanarayana, *Ideas for India*, February 27, 2017. Reprinted in *India Together*, *First Post* and *Shiksha Saarthi*.

Bringing the sheen back to teaching, with Avantika Dhingra, *The New Indian Express*, October 8, 2016.

Public health insurance for tertiary diseases: Lessons from Andhra's Aarogyasri programme, with Sisir Debnath, *Ideas for India*, April 12, 2016. Reprinted on IGC blog.

Do self-help programmes change hearts and minds? The JEEViKA experience in Bihar, *ISB Insight*, Jul-Sep 2015.

Citizens' trust in local politicians and implications for good governance, with Lata Gangadharan, Pushkar Maitra and Joseph Vecchi, *Ideas for India*, June 10, 2015.

Women leaders and deceptive behavior, with Lata Gangadharan, Pushkar Maitra and Joseph Vecchi, *Ideas for India*, January 29, 2015. Reprinted in *Mint* and *ISB Insight*.

Tell us what you really think: Measuring gender attitudes in Haryana, with Diva Dhar and Seema Jayachandran, *Ideas for India*, July 18, 2014.

Should bribe-givers be let off? *India Together*, December 31, 2012. Reprinted in *ISB Insight* and *Ideas for India*.

Institutional Service

Chair, Centre for Management of Health Services, IIM Ahmedabad, 2021 - 2024

Chair, Economics Area, IIM Ahmedabad, 2022 - 2024

Chair, PGPX Admission, IIM Ahmedabad, 2020 - 2023

Reviewer for *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, *American Economic Journal: Policy*, *American Economic Review*, *American Economic Review: Insights*, *Economic Development & Cultural Change*, *Economic & Political Weekly*, *Economic Journal*, *Economica*, *European Economic Review*, *Experimental Economics*, *Health Economics*, *Information Systems Research*, *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, *Journal of Economic Growth*, *Journal of Economic History*, *Journal of Financial Intermediation*, *Journal of Human Resources*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Management Science*, *Nature Human Behavior*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *Review of Economic Studies*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *World Development*, and Orient BlackSwan, among others

Grant reviewer for National Science Foundation and International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie)

Organizer of IIMA-RISE Research Conference on Education Economics 2023; Asian Workshop on Econometrics and Health Economics 2018 - 2019, 2022 - 2025; Workshop on Human Capital at ISB 2017, 2018; Society for Economics Research in India (SERI) Research Workshop 2015, 2018, 2020; Bharati Institute Public Policy Research Workshop at ISB 2014; Workshop on Experimental Economics at ISB 2012.

Program committee at ISI Growth and Development Conference, 2013 - 2019, 2021 - 2025; ESA-BREW Conference 2022; 4th DIAL Conference on Development Economics 2017.

Teaching

PhD supervision

Urvi Dhar, IIM Ahmedabad (Chair of thesis advisory committee)

Bharat Barik, IIM Ahmedabad, Proposed 2025 (Chair of thesis advisory committee)

Divyanshu Jain, IIM Ahmedabad, Proposed 2024 (Chair of thesis advisory committee), Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) Award for Best Thesis Proposal

Shaurya Saxena, IIM Ahmedabad, Proposed 2024 (Member of thesis advisory committee)

Vinay Jha, IIM Ahmedabad, Proposed 2023 (Member of thesis advisory committee)

Abhishek Shaw, IIM Ahmedabad, Proposed 2022 (Member of thesis advisory committee)

Amrita Roy, IIM Ahmedabad, 2024 (Member of thesis advisory committee), Prof. Tirath Gupta Memorial Award for Best Thesis

Pavneet Singh, IIM Ahmedabad, 2020 (Chair of thesis examination committee)

Dhritisree Sarkar, Indira Gandhi Institute for Development Research, 2018 (Thesis committee member)

External PhD thesis examiner at Monash University, Indian Statistical Institute, IIM Bangalore, IIM Lucknow, Indira Gandhi Institute for Development Research

PhD and equivalent

Microeconomics II, IIM Ahmedabad, 2023 - 2025

Organizational Economics, IIM Ahmedabad, 2020 - 2025

Organizational Economics, ISB, 2013

MBA and equivalent

Health Economics, IIM Ahmedabad, 2021 - 2025

Indian Economy, IIM Ahmedabad, 2024 - 2025

Microeconomics, IIM Ahmedabad, 2019 - 2025

EdTech, IIM Ahmedabad, 2024 - 2025

Economic Environment and Policy in India, IIM Ahmedabad, 2021

Managerial Economics, ISB, 2010 - 2019

Information Economics, ISB, 2010 - 2019

Economic Data and Program Analysis, ISB, 2017

Executive education

IIMA Accelerated General Management Programme, 2024 - 2026

IIMA Programme on Healthcare Management, 2020, 2024, 2025

Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, 2024

IIMA Programme on Gender Budgeting, Ministry of Women and Child Development, 2024

Leadership for Excellence - Heads of Schools of Madhya Pradesh, Punjab and Delhi, 2023 - 2024

Management Development Programme for Officers of Government of NCT of Delhi, 2023
Mahatma Gandhi National Fellowship, 2023
Kautilya School of Public Policy, 2021 - 2022
Indian Economic Service, 2013 - 2015, 2021
Deakin University Study in India, 2017 - 2019
ISB-EY Program in General Management, 2017 - 2019
J-PAL Executive Education, 2018
ISB Advanced Management Program for Indian Account & Audit Service Officers, 2017
ISB Advanced Management Program in Manufacturing and Operations, 2015
ISB - UNICEF Programme on Evaluation for Development, 2011 - 2013

Undergraduate

Intermediate Microeconomics, University of Virginia, 2008
Principles of Microeconomics, University of Virginia, 2007 - 2008

Professional Employment

Associate, Charles River Associates Inc., Washington DC, 2001 - 2003
Analyst, Oliver Wyman, Boston MA, 2000 - 2001
Associate Consultant, Braun Consulting, Boston MA, 1999 - 2000