

Azhagu Meena S P

PhD Student, University of Toronto

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Education

Present Sep 2022	University of Toronto PhD in Information	Toronto, Canada
Apr 2016 Jun 2014	Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) Mumbai M.A in Regulatory Governance > GPA: 7.8 (3 rd Rank)	Mumbai, India
May 2014 July 2011	Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC), University of Delhi Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) > Percentage: 73.3% (First Division)	New Delhi, India

Experience

Aug 2022 Jun 2022	LibTech India Consultant / Mentor: <i>Dr. Vivek Srinivasan</i> > Analyzed qualitative data collected from a range of stakeholders, including environmentalists, government officials, community members, and activists, to leverage MGNREGA (a nation-wide rural employment guarantee scheme) for environmental development.	Bangalore, India
Sep 2021 Aug 2020	Google Research India Pre-Doctoral HCI Researcher / Mentor: <i>Dr. Nithya Sambasivan</i> (collaborated with <i>Prof. Rajesh Veeraraghavan, Dr. Vivek Srinivasan</i>) > Studied datafication experiences of sanitation and domestic workers, who are marginalised by caste, gender, and income, in India to understand how data-driven technologies impacted their personal and professional lives.	Bangalore, India
Aug 2020 May 2019	Microsoft Research India Technology for Emerging Markets 🌐 Research Assistant / Mentor: <i>Prof. Joyojeet Pal</i> > Studied everyday online practices of women grassroots political workers in India to understand how their routine functions changed due to their access to internet-based technologies. > Studied the experiences of Anganwadi health workers in India with a state-introduced mobile application to understand how the care work done by them got articulated and transformed by the app.	Bangalore, India
Apr 2019 Jul 2018	Ministry of Women and Child Development National Nutrition Mission District Lead Chennai and State Coordinator Tamil Nadu > Analyzed nutrition profiles of different districts in the state of Tamil Nadu and designed awareness-related strategies to improve nutritional outcomes of women and children. > Developed convergence action plan by bringing in various stakeholders in state departments, civil society organizations, and self-help groups.	Chennai, India
May 2017 Jun 2016	Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai Research Officer / Mentor: <i>Prof. Sanjeev Chandorkar</i> > Studied everyday practices of urban street vendors, particularly women, to develop content and provide training in financial literacy, and designed customized credit products.	Mumbai, India
Aug 2017 Jun 2017	Ministry of Rural Development Mission Antyodaya Program Evaluator / Mentor: <i>Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, former Member of Parliament, Jodhpur, India</i> > Managed a team of 20 research interns to improve the efficiency of various state policies on unemployment, poverty, and education.	Jodhpur, India
Aug 2017 Jun 2017	MYRADA and Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR), Govt. of India Summer Intern > Studied the financial behaviours of rural women in Tamil Nadu to understand the impact of microfinance products on people belonging to a different class, caste, and social location.	Erode, India

- [P.2] **Inheriting Discrimination: Datafication Encounters of Marginalised Workers in India**
 Azhagu Meena S P, Rajesh Veeraraghavan, Vivek Srinivasan, Shivani Kapania, Vinodkumar Prabhakaran, Nithya Sambasivan
In International Conference on Information and Communication Technologies and Development (In Press) [ICTD'22]
- [P.1] **Counting to be Counted: Anganwadi Workers and Digital Infrastructures of Ambivalent Care.**
 Azhagu Meena S P, Palashi Vaghela, Joyojeet Pal
Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction, CSCW (In Press) [CSCW'22]
- [C.5] **"Because AI is 100% right and safe": User Attitudes and Sources of AI Authority in India** [🔗]
 Shivani Kapania, Oliver Siy, Gabe Clapper, Azhagu Meena S P, Nithya Sambasivan
CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI), 2022 [CHI'22]
- [C.4] **Misinformation as a Window into Prejudice: COVID-19 and the Information Environment in India** [🔗]
 Syeda Zainab Akbar, Anmol Panda, Divyanshu Kukreti, Azhagu Meena S P, Joyojeet Pal
In Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction, 4(CSCW3), pp.1-28. 2021 [CSCW'21]
- [C.3] **Digital Divine: Technology use by Indian Spiritual Organizations** [🔗]
 Azhagu Meena S P, Varuni Bhatia, Joyojeet Pal
In International Conference on Information and Communication Technologies and Development (ICTD). 2020 [ICTD'20]
- [C.2] **Performing Gender, Doing Politics: Social Media and Women Election Workers in Kerala and Tamil Nadu** [🔗]
 Azhagu Meena S P*, Drupa Dinne Charles*, Simiran Lalavani, Syeda Zainab Akbar, Divya Siddharth, Joyojeet Pal (* = Equal Contribution)
In International Conference on Information and Communication Technologies and Development (ICTD). 2020 [ICTD'20]
- [C.1] **Grassroots Campaign in Technology-Enabled Elections: Madurai and Thiruvananthapuram in 2019 Indian Elections** [🔗]
 Drupa Dinne Charles, Azhagu Meena S P, Joyojeet Pal
In Proceedings of the 53rd Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS). 2020 [ICTD'20]
- [W.3] **Tactics in Epistemic Production by the Marginalized on Data-driven Systems** [🔗]
 Azhagu Meena S P, Rajesh Veeraraghavan, Vivek Srinivasan, Shivani Kapania, Vinodkumar Prabhakaran, Nithya Sambasivan
Workshop on Artificially Intelligent Technology for the Margins: A Multidisciplinary Design Agenda (CHI), 2021 [CHI'21]
- [W.2] **How India voted: The use of social media** [🔗]
 Joyojeet Pal, Azhagu Meena S P, Drupa Dinne Charles, and Anmol Panda
In Seminar 720, pp 75-79. 2019 [Seminar'19]
- [W.1] **Social Media, Politics, and the Process of Engagement in the Indian Context** [🔗]
 Divya Siddharth, Anmol Panda, Ram Chandrasekharan, Drupa Charles, Shubi Agarwal, Srujana Kamath, and Azhagu Meena S P
Open Session in International Conference on Information and Communication Technologies and Development (ICTD). 2019 [ICTD'19]

Leadership Experience

Mar 2016 Jun 2015	School of Habitat Studies Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai School Secretary	Mumbai, India
Mar 2015 Jun 2014	School of Habitat Studies Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai Pangaea Coordinator	Mumbai, India
Apr 2014 Jun 2012	Human Resource Development Cell Shri Ram College of Commerce, Delhi Founder and President	New Delhi, India
Apr 2013 Jul 2012	Quiz Society Shri Ram College of Commerce, Delhi Joint Secretary	New Delhi, India
Apr 2013 Jul 2012	Personality Development Cell, National Service Scheme Shri Ram College of Commerce, Delhi Leader	New Delhi, India

Verified Certification

May 2020 | University of Amsterdam with Coursera
Apr 2020 | *Classical Sociological Theory*

Percentage: 97.2%

Jul 2015 | Indian Institute of Banking and Finance
Micro-Finance Professional

First Class

Invited Talks

“Artificial Intelligence & Democracy in India”

› Tandem Research, Microsoft Research, and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Apr 2019

Academic Service and Volunteering

Reviewer CHI 2021 (Papers and Late Breaking Works), CSCW 2020 (Papers)

References

- › Prof. Joyojeet Pal Associate Professor, University of Michigan [🔗]
- › Dr. Nithya Sambasivan Research Scientist, Google Research [🔗]
- › Prof. Rajesh Veeraraghavan Assistant Professor, Georgetown University [🔗]
- › Dr. Vivek Srinivasan Convenor, LibTech India [🔗]