2004

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FIELDS: Development Economics, Law and Econ, Political Economy (Organization and

Institutional Economics), Agriculture and Natural Resource Economics

Academic University of Delaware, Assistant Professor (Tenure Track), Dept. of Economics 08/2023 -UC San Diego, Postdoctoral Scholar, Dept. of Economics 07/2020 - 06/2023 **Employment** 

**Affiliations** Affiliated Faculty, GAP Initiative, Northeastern University July 2024 -

> Affiliated Faculty, Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) May 2024 -Affiliated Faculty, UC San Diego 21st Century India Center July 2023 -Invited Researcher, J-PAL South Asia Dec 2021 - May 2024

> Invited Researcher, The World Bank DIME Group March 2022 - Aug 2023

**Prior** Ph.D., Agricultural and Resource Economics, UC Berkeley 2020 **Education** Master of Public Policy, UC Berkeley 2010

B.Engineering (Comp. Sc.), Visveswaraya Technological Univ, India

**Publications** "Got (Clean) Milk?: Organization, Incentives, and Management in Indian Dairy Coopera-

tives" with Ashish Shenoy Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Vol 212, Aug 2023, Pages 708-722 (Open Access Version) Pre-analysis plan filed with the AEA RCT

Registry (#AEARCTR-0000700)

Coverage: VoxDev

Rao, M., Court Efficiency and Business Outcomes: Measuring the Performance of District **Book Chapters** 

Courts, in Justice Frustrated: The Systemic Impact of Delays in Indian Courts, Bloomsbury

India, Shruti Vidyasagar, Shruthi Naik, and Harish Narasappa (eds) (2020)

de Janvry, A., Rao, M., Sadoulet, E. (2017) Learning for adopting: Technology adoption in developing country agriculture, Ferdi, 120 p., de Janvry, A., Macours K., Sadoulet, E. (eds)

(2017)

Working **Papers** 

"Front-line Courts as State Capacity: Evidence from India" (Under Review)

Coverage: (Ideas for India Blog-post, LiveMint, VoxDev).

"Seeding the Seeds: Role of Social Structure in Agricultural Technology Diffusion" with Alain de Janvry and Elisabeth Sadoulet (Revision Requested at JEBO) AEA RCT Registry

(#AEARCTR-0002157)

Coverage: VoxDev, Ideas for India

## Working Papers

"Towns and Rural Land Inequality in India" with Prashant Bharadwaj and Juan Eberhard (Under Review)

"Institutional Factors of Credit Allocation: Examining the Role of Judicial Capacity and Bankruptcy Reforms"

"Whither Justice?: Judicial Capacity Constraints Worsens Trial and Litigants' Outcomes"

"The Value of Decentralized Decision-Making: Lessons from an Agricultural Infrastructure Experiment" with Xavier Gine, Aprajit Mahajan, Anup Malani *Pre-analysis plan filed with the AEA RCT Registry* (#AEARCTR-0004336).

"Mission Kakatiya: An At-Scale Evaluation of Rehabilitating Irrigation Infrastructure in India" with Xavier Gine, Aprajit Mahajan, Anup Malani *Pre-analysis plan filed with the AEA RCT Registry* (#AEARCTR-0001821).

"Land inequality and rural structural transformation: Evidence from India" with Frances Lu and Harrison Mitchell Available upon request

## Ongoing **Projects**

"Contracts, Dispute Resolution, and Firm Productivity: Evidence from Commercial Courts in India" with Sandhya Seetharaman, Khushbu Shah, and Umer Sohail *Analysis ongoing* 

"Debt Recovery, Information Provision, and Legal Counseling: Experimental Evidence from Mumbai Courts" with Raghav Pandey *Pilot ongoing* 

# Teaching (Instructor)

Intermediate Microeconomic Theory (with Calculus) Graduate Development Economics (PhD Field Course)

#### Grants

- J-PAL Governance Initiative Multidisciplinary Grant \$ 29,978 (w/ Raghav Pandey); University of Delaware Lerner Grant \$ 4250

  Center for Effective Governance of Indian States \$ 30,000 (w/ Karthik
- Center for Effective Governance of Indian States \$ 30,000 (w/ Karthik Muralidharan)
- 2022 STEG PhD Research Grant £15,000 (w/ Frances Lu)
- J-PAL GI and K-CAI Grants \$100,000 and \$101,654; FID Grant €129,720 (w/ Xavier Gine, Aprajit Mahajan, Anup Malani)

### Key < 2020 The World Bank Research Grant \$124,490; ATAI Top-up Grant \$49,207 (w/ **Grants** Xavier Gine, Aprajit Mahajan, Anup Malani); The Jean O. Lanjouw Memorial Endowment (\$757); IRLE Graduate Student Award (w/ Vaishnavi Surendra, \$6000), The World Bank Proposal Development Grant (w/ Xavier Gine, Aprajit Mahajan, Anup Malani, \$30,000) ATAI Grant (w/ Xavier Gine, Aprajit Mahajan, Anup Malani, \$233,565), IGC Grant for Judicial Efficiency and Economic Outcomes (PI Advisor: Aprajit Mahajan, £50,000), Levin Family Fellowship (w/ Fiona Burlig and Louis Preonas, \$ 800), Maharaj Kaul Research Travel Grant (\$ 1000); Post Primary Education Initiative Exploratory Grant (w/ Bastien Michel and Bhavya Srinivasan, \$ 10,000); USAID DIV Pilot Award, (w/ Emily Breza, Arun Chandrasekhar, and Ashish Shenoy, \$99,632) Academic 2024 Econometric Society Asia Winter Meetings IIT-Delhi, IGIDR-Mumbai, **Talks** William & Mary Economics Seminar, University of Delaware Economics Seminar, The World Bank Land Conference, AEA CSWEP CeMENT Workshop; NEUDC (Northeastern U), Yale YRISE Annual Conference, IFPRI AMD Seminar 2023 University of Delaware Economics; University of Wisconsin AAE; Ohio State University AEDE; Ashoka University Economics; IIM-Bangalore Econ Area; Shiv Nadar University Economics; Krea University; Firms, Trade, and Development Conference (Yale ECG and the IGC); Yale YRISE Annual Conference 2022 CGIAR SPIA Webinar; STEG Annual Conference; PacDev (USF); Oxford CSAE Poster Session; Urban Economics Asso. Europe Meeting (LSE); Seminar); Advances in Micro Develop-University of Kent (Econ Dept. ment Economics-Barcelona GSE Summer Forum; The World Bank ABCDE;

**Economics** 

(Boston U); ISI-Delhi Conference

of Tamil Nadu 2014; PHFI New Delhi 2013

2021

 $\leq 2020$ 

NEUDC (Yale); Plaksha University; NYU-Abu Dhabi Economics; IIT-Kanpur

ASSA Poster Session; PacDev (UC San Diego); Oxford CSAE Conference; University of Kent (Econ Department Seminar); NBER Org Econ Spring Meet (co-author presenting); UC Riverside (Applied Econ Seminar); NEUDC

PacDev (UC Berkeley); SIOE (self organized session); UC San Diego (guest lecture); Advances in Micro Development Economics-Barcelona GSE; Webinar Series in Finance and Development; Virtual Law and Macro Conference (Yale); NBER Fall Development (lightning round), NEUDC 2019 (Northwestern U); J-PAL South Asia Annual Staff Meet 2017; Dept. of Agriculture, Government

Refereeing

American Economic Review; American Economic Review-Insights; Berkeley Economists for Equity (Grant Review); Economic Development and Cultural Change; Economics of Education Review; Economic Modelling; Environment and Development Economics; International Review of Finance; Journal of Development Economics; Journal of European Economic Association; Journal of Law and Economics; Journal of Political Economy; Journal of Political Economy: Micro; National Science Foundation (Grant Review); Rand Journal of Economics; The Review of Economic Studies; Review of Economics and Statistics; Review of World Economics; The Economic Journal; The Indian Economic Journal

Service

University of Delaware Economics Seminar Organizer; University of Delaware Faculty Recruitment Committee Member, UCSD-Indian Economy Seminar Series Co-Organizer; NEUDC (reviewer), PACDEV (reviewer), Academic Mentor UC Berkeley UN-SDG Undergraduate Research Group Fall 2020; CEGA East Africa Social Science Translation Mentorship Program Spring 2019; Women in Economics (UC Berkeley); UC Berkeley ARE PhD Admissions Committee Student Member; UC Berkeley ARE Department Coffee Hour

Prior Employment The World Bank, Consultant; J-PAL South Asia, Senior Research Manager (position at the time of exit); The Asian Development Bank, Consultant; Janaagraha, Associate; Infosys Ltd, Software Engineer

**Languages** English (proficient), Hindi (proficient), Kannada (native), Tamil (conversational), R (proficient), Stata (proficient), Python (Intermediate)

**Citizenship** Indian Citizen (on US H1B)