

NARESH KUMAR

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An experienced economist with a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of California Santa Cruz. Currently working with the Economic Policy team at the World Bank in India. Core skills include economic analysis, policy dialogue, and organizational skills, supported by a strong background in academic and applied economic research. Demonstrates leadership through effectively managing and guiding junior colleagues to efficiently deliver on various projects.

Education	Ph.D. Economics, University of California Santa Cruz	2023
	M.A. Economics, University of California Santa Cruz	2018
	M.A. Economics, Delhi School of Economics	2007
	B.A. (Honors) Economics, University of Delhi	2005
Work Experience	Economist, Economic Policy Global Practice, World Bank	February 2025- present
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct economic analysis on topics including economic growth, trade and investment, fiscal policy, and labor market.• Provide and support technical assistance and knowledge sharing to government departments• Offer cross-sectoral analytical support to other teams, such as health, education, and social protection.	
	Economist, Poverty & Equity Global Practice, World Bank	February 2023-February 2025
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Led analysis on poverty and welfare monitoring in India, shaping organization's views on these issues. contributing to global and regional World Bank reports on related issues.• Contributed to global and regional analysis, and provided feedback on World Bank publications and analysis related to poverty, inequality, and labor issues in India.• Contributed to policy briefs and notes for Country Management to facilitate high-level policy dialogues.• Provided cross-support and collaborated with other World Bank teams on Jobs, Gender, Nutrition RBF, and Economic Policy Evaluation.• Managed and guided a team of consultants and junior staff across various projects.	
	Economist, International Monetary Fund	November 2009 – August 2017
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supported the IMF's India and Southern Africa country desks, monitoring economic policies, financial markets, and macro-data developments.• Managed macro-fiscal frameworks and forecast models.• Contributed to country and regional research projects, producing IMF working papers and policy briefs for senior management.• Engaged with government and private sector stakeholders on policy discussions and Article IV consultations.• Participated in IMF missions to India, South Africa, and Lesotho, co-authoring sectoral assessments and special issue papers for Article IV consultations.	
	Senior Associate, Infosys Technologies Ltd., India	June 2007 - October 2009
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remotely supported a team of economists and macro strategist covering LatAM region at Deutsche Bank.• Contributed to regular macroeconomic reports, thematic analytical notes, and special deep-dive requests from clients.• Managed Deutsche Bank's forecasts models for the LatAM region.	

Internship	<p>Economist Intern at Amazon.com June - September 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked on a critical project that has a potential impact on supply-chain decisions of billions of products on the Amazon marketplace and, consequently, can have a substantial business impact. • Used propensity score matching and machine learning techniques (random forest and double machine learning models) to analyze a big data set from the Amazon marketplace. • Gained experience working on Amazon cloud and employed various tools such as Python, Hive, SQL, and Spark. 												
Publications	<p>“Private but Misunderstood? Evidence on Measuring Intimate Partner Violence via Self-Interviewing in Rural Liberia and Malawi,” with Shilpa Aggarwal, Dahyeon Jeong, David Sungho Park, Jonathan Robinson, and Alan Spearot. August 2024. World Bank Economic Review (forthcoming).</p> <p>“Shortening the path to productive investment: Evidence from input fairs and cash transfers in Malawi,” with Shilpa Aggarwal, Dahyeon Jeong, David Sungho Park, Jonathan Robinson, and Alan Spearot. Journal of Development Economics 170: 103288.</p> <p>“Exhaustive or Exhausting? Evidence on Respondent Fatigue in Long Surveys,” with Shilpa Aggarwal, Dahyeon Jeong, David Sungho Park, Jonathan Robinson, and Alan Spearot. Accepted, Journal of Development Economics 161: 102992.</p> <p>“Did COVID-19 Market Disruptions Disrupt Food Security? Evidence from Households in Rural Liberia and Malawi,” with Shilpa Aggarwal, Dahyeon Jeong, David Sungho Park, Jonathan Robinson, and Alan Spearot. PLoS ONE 17(8): e0271488.</p>												
Working Papers	<p>“The Dynamic Effects of Cash Transfers: Evidence from Rural Liberia and Malawi,” with Shilpa Aggarwal, Jenny Aker, Dahyeon Jeong, David Sungho Park, Jonathan Robinson, and Alan Spearot. January 2025. Revised and resubmitted (2nd round), AEJ: Applied.</p> <p>“Going the Extra Mile: Farm Subsidies and Spatial Convergence in Agricultural Input Adoption,” with Shilpa Aggarwal, Dahyeon Jeong, Rolly Kapoor, David Sungho Park, Jonathan Robinson, and Alan Spearot. Revised January 2025.</p> <p>“Reducing Intimate Partner Violence: Evidence from a Multifaceted Female Empowerment Program in Urban Liberia,” with David Sungho Park. September, 2022.</p>												
IMF Working Papers	<p>“South Africa: Labor Market Dynamics and Inequality,” with Rahul Anand and Siddharth Kothari. July 2016.</p> <p>“Understanding India’s Food Inflation: The Role of Demand and Supply Factors,” with Rahul Anand and Volodymyr Tulin. January 2016. — Book chapter: “Taming Indian Inflation,” edited by Paul Cashin and Rahul Anand. 2016.</p> <p>“Women Workers in India: Why So Few Among So Many?,” with Sonali Das, Sonali Jain-Chandra, and Kalpana Kochhar. March 2015. — Book chapter: “Women, Work and Economic Growth: Leveling the playing Field,” edited by Kalpana Kochhar, Sonali Jain-Chandra, and Monique Newiak. 2017.</p> <p>“India: Defining and Explaining Inclusive Growth and Poverty Reduction,” with Rahul Anand and Volodymyr Tulin. April 2014</p>												
Grants & Awards	<table> <tr> <td>Guru Gobind Singh Fellowship</td><td>2020–2021</td></tr> <tr> <td>J-PAL Crime and Violence Initiative (CVI) Pilot RCT Grant</td><td>2019</td></tr> <tr> <td>IPA Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Initiative Grant</td><td>2019</td></tr> <tr> <td>UCSC Economics Department Research Grant</td><td>2019, 2020</td></tr> <tr> <td>UCSC Economics Department Fellowship</td><td>2017</td></tr> <tr> <td>Excellence Award for performance at Infosys Ltd.</td><td>2007, 2008, 2009</td></tr> </table>	Guru Gobind Singh Fellowship	2020–2021	J-PAL Crime and Violence Initiative (CVI) Pilot RCT Grant	2019	IPA Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Initiative Grant	2019	UCSC Economics Department Research Grant	2019, 2020	UCSC Economics Department Fellowship	2017	Excellence Award for performance at Infosys Ltd.	2007, 2008, 2009
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