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**[Sumedha’s Picture- attached]**

Sumedha Minocha

I am a Ph.D. candidate at Cornell University, Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics (Area of Concentration: International & Development Economics).

**I am on the 2025-2026 academic job market.**

**Research Interests:**Social Protection Programs, Gender, Nutrition, Health, Agriculture

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You can find my CV [here](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rwPDVSMfDBzd4GSIux3ZF-QUN-PoVy6w/view?usp=sharing)

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**Working Papers**

**“Food Transfers, Program Uptake and Maternal Nutrition: Evidence from India”** (Job Market Paper)

I use a natural experiment in which I compare the impact of providing nutritious rations given as ready-to-cook food packets once in two months vs bundling of this program with daily nutritious cooked meals at village- based community centers. Quazi experimental methods were used to match village pairs based on observable variables and spatial distance across these two groups. Primary data was collected for a sample of ~930 pregnant women across two districts of Maharashtra in India in 2024-2025.

“[**Do maternal spot feeding programs effect birth weight? Evidence from Andhra Pradesh and Telangana in India**](https://ecommons.cornell.edu/handle/1813/113036)”

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**Peer-reviewed Publications**

Makkar, S., **Minocha, S**., Bhat, K.G., John, A.T., Swaminathan, S., Thomas, T., Mannar, M.G.V., Kurpad, A.V. (2022). **“**[**Iron Fortification through Universal Distribution of Double-Fortified Salt Can Increase Wages and Be Cost-Effective: An Ex-Ante Modeling Study in India**](https://scholar.google.com/citations?view_op=view_citation&hl=en&user=D9Id01UAAAAJ&authuser=1&citation_for_view=D9Id01UAAAAJ:2osOgNQ5qMEC)**”** The Journal of Nutrition 152 (2), 597-611

<https://doi.org/10.1093/jn/nxab378>

John, A.T., Makkar, S., Swaminathan, S., **Minocha, S.**, Webb, P., Kurpad, A. (2021) “[**Factors influencing household pulse consumption in India: A multilevel model analysis**](https://scholar.google.com/citations?view_op=view_citation&hl=en&user=D9Id01UAAAAJ&authuser=1&citation_for_view=D9Id01UAAAAJ:YsMSGLbcyi4C)**”** Global food security 29, 100534.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gfs.2021.100534>

Makkar, S., **Minocha, S**., Swaminathan, S., Kurpad, A. “**Can millets find a place on the Indian plate? A policy perspective**” Economic and Political Weekly, 68 (2), 607-653

Ward, P.S., Spielman, D.J., Ortega, D.L., Kumar, N., **Minocha, S**. “**Demand for complementary financial and technological tools for managing drought risk**”. Accepted for publication in Economic Development and Cultural Change.

<https://doi.org/10.1086/700632>

**Minocha, S.**, Makkar, S., Swaminathan, S., Thomas, T., Webb, P., Kurpad, A. (2019) “**Supply and Demand of high quality protein foods in India: Trends and opportunities”.** Global Food Security 23: 139- 148.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gfs.2019.05.004>

Shivakumar, N., **Minocha, S.**, Kurpad, A. (2018) “**Protein quality and the requirement of indispensable amino acids in Indians**” Indian Journal of Medical Research 148: 5 557-568 <http://www.ijmr.org.in/article.asp?issn=09715916;year=2018;volume=148;issue=5;spage=557;epage=568;aulast=Shivakumar>

Swaminathan, S., Sinha, S., **Minocha, S.**, Makkar, S., Kurpad A.V. (2018). “**Are we eating too much? A critical reappraisal of the energy requirement in Indians”**. Proc Ind Natn Sci Acad 84: 4 809- 819.

<http://www.insajournal.in/insaojs/index.php/proceedings/article/view/558>

**Minocha, S.**, Thomas, T., Kurpad, A. (2018). “**Are ‘fruits and vegetables’ intake really what they seem in India?**”. European Journal of Clinical Nutrition 72: 603- 608.

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41430-018-0094-1>

**Minocha, S.**, Thomas, T., Kurpad, A (2017). “**Dietary Protein and the Health–Nutrition–Agriculture Connection in India**”. The Journal of Nutrition 147:7 1243- 1250. <https://doi.org/10.3945/jn.116.243980>