

Debayan Pakrashi

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Research Interests: Applied Microeconomics with particular interest in application of modern econometric methods to issues related to public policy and public health.

Primary Research Areas: Development, Labour, and Health Economics.

Secondary Research Areas: Behavioural and Experimental Economics.

Academic and Professional Appointments:

Associate Professor of Economics Economic Research Unit Indian Statistical Institute Kolkata.	July 2022 – Present
Associate Professor of Economics (on leave) Department of Economic Sciences Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur.	July 2022 – Present
Associate Professor of Economics Department of Economic Sciences Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur.	December 2020 – July 2022
Assistant Professor of Economics Department of Economic Sciences Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur.	May 2017 – December 2020
Assistant Professor of Economics Department of Humanities & Social Sciences Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur.	June 2014 – May 2017
Postdoctoral Researcher Behavioural Science Centre, University of Stirling, United Kingdom.	March 2014 – May 2014
Australian Research Council Research Scholar School of Economics, University of Queensland, Australia. “Rural Urban Migration in China and Indonesia” Project, funded by the Australian Research Council, World Bank, Ford Foundation and German Labour Institute.	June 2010 – December 2013

Other Positions and Affiliations

J-PAL Invited Researcher	October 2023 – Present
Non-Resident Fellow Centre for Development Economics and Sustainability Monash University, Australia.	January 2022 – Present
Senior Public Health Expert (Health security) Consultant, Asian Development Bank.	December 2021 – December 2022
Research Fellow Global Labor Organization.	July 2018 – Present
World Wellbeing Panel Member Barcelona Graduate School of Economics	September 2020 – Present
Founder and Co-ordinator Development Policy Research Network at IIT Kanpur	September 2015 – July 2022

Educational Qualification:

PhD in Economics, University of Queensland, Australia.
Primary Fields: Health Economics, Labor Economics, Behavioural and Experimental Economics, and Development Economics.
Thesis Title: “Essays on Migration and Economic Development: with particular focus on the Chinese Economy”.
Thesis Supervisor: Prof. Paul Frijters.
Received a full tuition fee and living allowance scholarship for this PhD based on academic achievements. Awarded Dean’s Award for Outstanding Research Higher Degree Theses, 2015.

Master of Arts in Economics (with thesis), University of Calgary, Canada.
Primary Fields: International Trade and Health Economics.
Thesis title: “Does membership in International (Trading) Organizations affect the incidence of Child Labour?”.
Thesis Supervisor: Prof. Eugene Beaulieu. Thesis Chair: Prof. M. Scott Taylor.
Received a special invitation and a full scholarship for this Master’s based on academic achievements.

Master of Arts in Economics (with specialisation in world economy).
Centre for International Trade and Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University.
Primary Fields: International Trade, Macroeconomics and Environmental Economics.
Secured first class with a record of highest ever marks (in a semester) from the University.
Received a full scholarship for this Master’s based on academic achievements.

Bachelor of Science in Economics (with first class honours), University of Calcutta.
First class first from college and University Rank Holder.
Minor: Statistics and Mathematics.

Academic Honours and Awards:

1. Selected to receive the American Journal of Agricultural Economics (AJAE) Outstanding Article Award at the 2023 AAEA Annual Meeting.
2. Awarded letter of Appreciation from the Director of IITK for teaching *Introduction to Economics* (large class category), 2022.
3. Awarded letter of Appreciation from the Director of IITK for teaching *Undergraduate Development Economics* (large class category), 2021.
4. Awarded letter of Appreciation from the Director of IITK for teaching *Postgraduate Development Economics* (large class category), 2021.
5. Selected for the STAAARS+ Fellowship in the Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University, 2021-2023.
The STAAARS+ Fellows program, under the USAID Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Food Security Policy Research, Capacity, and Influence (PRCI), is a collaboration between Cornell University, Michigan State University (MSU), and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) to advance rigorous, policy-oriented food security research.
6. Selected for the J-PAL South Asia's Indian Scholars Program, 2021-2022.
7. Awarded the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) *Mathematical Research Impact Centric Support* (MATRICS) grant scheme under Quantitative Social Sciences (QSS), 2020-23.
8. Awarded letter of Appreciation from the Director of IITK for teaching *Introduction to Economics* (large class category), 2019.
9. Awarded letter of Appreciation from the Director of IITK for teaching *Behavioural & Experimental Economics* (large class category), 2019.
10. Awarded the Prof. M. J. Manohar Rao Award 2016, awarded to young scholars under the age of 35 from The Indian Econometric Society in 2018.
11. Awarded the PK Kelkar Class of 1979 Research Fellowship for Outstanding Young Faculty by the Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, 2017-2020.
12. Awarded Best Surge Poster Award 2016 for the project “Vulnerability of Indian widows” with Mr Ayush Agrawal.
13. Awarded letter of Appreciation from the Director of IITK for teaching *Introduction to Economics* (large class category), 2016.
14. Awarded letter of Appreciation from the Director of IITK for teaching *Introduction to Economics* (large class category), 2015.
15. Awarded the Australian Alumni Excellence Award India under Young Achiever Category, 2015.
16. Awarded the 2014 Dean’s Award for Outstanding Research Higher Degree Theses, 2015 for the best Thesis from the University of Queensland, Australia.
17. Awarded the University of Queensland Postdoctoral Research Fellowship. January 2015-December 2017 (declined).
18. Awarded the Institute Fellowship from the Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur. 2014-2017.
19. Awarded the M. N. Murthy Excellence Fund, 2014.
20. Awarded the University of Stirling Postdoctoral Research Fellowship. 2014-2017.
21. Awarded the position of Senior Research Officer at the School of Population Health, University of Queensland, 2013 (declined).
22. Awarded the Graduate School International Travel Award, 2013.
23. Awarded the University of Queensland International Scholarship, 2010-2013.
24. Awarded the Australian Research Council Discovery PhD Scholarship, 2010-2013.
25. Awarded the Research Summer Scholarship, 2009.

26. Awarded the Graduate Teaching Fellowship, 2008-2009.
27. Awarded the Graduate Research Scholarship, 2008-2009.
28. Awarded the Merit Scholarship, 2006-2008.
29. Awarded the Ford Foundation Scholarship, 2007 (declined).
30. Awarded the Indian Culture Award, 2005, 2006.
31. Awarded the Swami Vivekananda Award, 2006.
32. Awarded the J.J. Goodwin Memorial Prize and Scholarship, 2006.
33. Awarded the Hrishikesh Chattopadhyay and Jainaseni Memorial Prize, 2006.
34. Awarded the Mahatma Gandhi Award, 2006.

Revise & Resubmit

1. “Determining the Extent of Taste-based Discrimination: Evidence from a field experiment in India”, with Asad Islam (Monash), Choon Wang (Monash) and Yves Zenou (Monash), CEPR DP# 12955, *Journal of Political Economy: Micro*.
2. “Community Electrification and Women's Autonomy” with Ashish K. Sedai (University of Texas Arlington), Rikhia Bhukta and Sarani Saha (IIT Kanpur), CAMA Working Papers 2023-21, *Energy Economics*.

Journal Publications:

1. “Intergenerational consequences of maternal domestic violence: Effect on nutritional status of children” with Sarani Saha (IIT Kanpur), *forthcoming Review of Economics of the Household*.
2. “Diffusion in social networks: Experimental evidence on information sharing vs peer pressure”, with Asad Islam (Monash), Marcel Fafchamps (Stanford) and Denni Tommasi (Bologna), *forthcoming Journal of Development Economics* (pre-results).
3. “Improving Women's Mental Health during a pandemic” with Firoz Ahmed (Khulna), Asad Islam (Monash), Tabassum Rahman (Newcastle), Abu Siddique (TUM) and Michael Vlassopoulos (Southampton) *forthcoming American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* [ABDC Journal Ranking A*].
4. “Don’t judge a book by its cover: The role of intergroup contact in reducing prejudice in conflict settings”, with Sarani Saha, S. N. Maiti (IIT Kanpur) and Russell Smyth (Monash) *Journal of Economic Behaviour and Organization*, 2022 Vol 202: 533-548 [ABDC Journal Ranking A*] [5-year Impact factor 2.2].
5. “Raising COVID-19 Awareness in Rural Communities: A Randomized Experiment in Bangladesh and India” with Firoz Ahmed (Khulna), Asad Islam (Monash), Tabassum Rahman (Newcastle) and Abu Siddique (TUM). *forthcoming Review of Economics & Statistics* [ABDC Journal Ranking A*] [Impact factor 6.548].
6. “Do caste-based quotas worsen discrimination-induced gender inequality? Field experimental evidence from India” with S. Sahoo (IIT Kanpur), Asad Islam, Yves Zenou and Liang Choon Wang (Monash) *forthcoming Journal of Economic Behaviour and Organization*, 2021, 190:111-124 [ABDC Journal Ranking A*] [5-year Impact factor 2.2].

7. “Experimental Evidence on Adoption and Impact of the System of Rice Intensification” with Asadul Islam (Monash Uni), Christopher Barrett (Cornell Uni), Ummul Ruthbah (Monash) and Md. Malek (Uni of Tokyo) *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 2022 Vol 104(1):4-32 [ABDC Journal Ranking A*] [Impact factor 3.028]. **BBC article [here](#)**
8. “Stigma, Misconception and Discrimination in the time of COVID-19: A Field Experiment in India” with Asad Islam (Monash), Liang C. Wang (Monash) and Michael Vlassopoulos (Southampton) *Social Science & Medicine*, 2021 Vol 278:113966 [SJQR-Q1] [5-year Impact factor 4.241] **Monash Impact article [here](#)**
9. “Determinants and Dynamics of Food Insecurity During COVID-19 in rural Bangladesh” with Firoz Ahmed (Khulna), Asad Islam (Monash), Tabassum Rahman (Newcastle) and Abu Siddique (TUM) *Food Policy*, 2021 Vol 101:102066 [SJQR-Q1] [5-year Impact factor 5.341] [ABDC Journal Ranking B].
10. “Mobilizing P2P Diffusion for New Agricultural Practices: Experimental Evidence from Bangladesh” with Marcel Fafchamps (Stanford Uni) and Asadul Islam (Monash Uni) *World Bank Economic Review*, 2021 Vol 35(4):1076-1101 [ABDC Journal Ranking A] [5-year Impact factor 2.494].
11. “He’s in a better place but she’s not: Health status of widows in India” with Ayush Agrawal (IIT Kanpur) and Chitwan Lalji (IIT Kanpur) *Journal of Development Studies*, 2021 Vol 57(5): 750-771 [ABDC Journal Ranking A] [Impact factor 1.531].
12. “Daily weather only has small effects on wellbeing in the US” with Chitwan Lalji (IIT Kanpur & IIM Kozhikode) and Paul Frijters (LSE) *Journal of Economic Behaviour and Organization*, 2020 Vol 176: 747-762 [ABDC Journal Ranking A*][5-year Impact factor 2.261].
13. “Microcredit Program Participation and Labour Supply Behaviour of Rural Households” with Asadul Islam (Monash Uni) forthcoming *Journal of Development Studies*, 2020 Vol 56(10): 1927-1946 [ABDC Journal Ranking A] [Impact factor 1.531].
14. “Can Referral Improve Targeting? Evidence from a Vocational Training Experiment” with Asadul Islam (Monash Uni), Marcel Fafchamps (Stanford Uni) and Md. Malek (Uni of Tokyo). *Journal of Development Economics*, 2020 Vol 144: 102436 [ABDC Journal Ranking A*] [5-year Impact factor 3.996].
15. “Roommate effects in Health Outcomes” with Paul Frijters (London School of Economics), Asadul Islam (Monash Uni) and Chitwan Lalji (IIT Kanpur) *Health Economics*, 2019. Vol 28: 998-1034. [ABDC Journal Ranking A*] [Impact factor 2.319].
16. “Heterogeneity in Peer Effects in Random Dormitory Assignment in a Developing country” with Paul Frijters (London School of Economics) and Asadul Islam (Monash Uni) *Journal of Economic Behaviour and Organization*, 2019. Vol 163: 117-134. [ABDC Journal Ranking A*] [5-year Impact factor 2.261].

17. “Can eating five fruit and veg a day really keep the doctor away?” with Chitwan Lalji (IIT Kanpur) and Russell Smyth (Monash Uni) ***Economic Modelling***, 2018. Vol 70: 320-330. [ABDC Journal Ranking A] [Impact factor 1.844].
18. “Migration and Discrimination in Urban China: A Decomposition Approach” (with Paul Frijters, UQ) ***Review of Income and Wealth***, 2017. Vol 63(4): 821-840. [ABDC Journal Ranking A] [Impact factor 1.402].
19. “Microcredit Program Participation and Household Food Security in Rural Bangladesh” with (Asadul Islam, Chandana Maitra, Debayan Pakrashi and Russell Smyth) ***Journal of Agricultural Economics***, 2016. Vol. 67(2): 448-470. [ABDC Journal Ranking A] [Impact factor 1.545].
20. “Do all activities ‘weigh’ equally? How different physical activities differ as predictors of weight” (with Grace Lordan, LSE) ***Risk Analysis***, 2015. Vol. 35(11): 2069-2086. [Impact factor 2.898].
21. “Make Time for Physical Activity or You May Spend More Time Sick!” (with Grace Lordan, LSE) ***Social Indicators Research***, 2014. Vol. 119 (3): 1379-1391. [ABDC Journal Ranking A] [Impact factor 1.648].
22. “Do WTO Members employ less child labor?” (with Professor Eugene Beaulieu) Master’s thesis submitted to the ***Indian Growth and Development Review***, 2013. Vol. 6(1):148-159. [ABDC Journal Ranking B].

Working Papers under review:

1. Identity assimilation: Evidence based on the giving behaviors of refugees and natives in West Bengal ” with N. Bhattacharya and Sarani Saha (IIT Kanpur) and Liang Choon Wang (Monash Uni).
2. “Impact of early childhood school intervention on enrolment and learning outcome: Evidence from a government-run universal pre-primary program in West Bengal” with N. Bhattacharya and Sarani Saha (IIT Kanpur) and Soham Sahoo (IIMB).
3. “Does Financial Inclusion Mitigate Social Exclusion?” with Ashish K. Sedai (University of Texas Arlington), Rikhia Bhukta and Sarani Saha (IIT Kanpur).
4. “Do Educated Politicians Facilitate Better Public Health? Evidence From India” with Deepthi S. Anil (IIT Kanpur) and Soham Sahoo (IIMB).

Selected Work in Progress:

1. “She can fight her own battles: Experimental evidence on the effects of increasing awareness about rights and self-defense training on female empowerment in India” with Sarani Saha & Soubhagya Sahoo (IIT Kanpur), Russell Smyth (Monash) and Chitwan Lalji (IIM Kozhikode). Under Review.

2. “What doesn’t kill you makes you stronger: Experimental Evidence on harassment of women in India” with P. Frijters (LSE), Sarani Saha and S. Sahoo (IIT Kanpur).
3. “Microcredit Program Participation and Nutrition Security in Rural Bangladesh” with Asadul Islam (Monash) and Russell Smyth (Monash).
4. “Reconciling datasets” with Paul Frijters (LSE).
5. “If you know it, then you follow it? Experimental Evidence on following traffic rules in India.” with Sarani Saha & Soubhagya Sahoo (IIT Kanpur).
6. “Sleeping patterns and psychological wellbeing: Evidence from young adults in the United States”, with Chitwan Lalji (IIT Kanpur). **download**
7. “Civil Unrest and Learning Outcomes in India” with Ather Hassan Dar & Sounak Thakur (IIT Kanpur).
8. “Son Preference and Fertility: Evidence From India” with Ather Hassan Dar & Sounak Thakur (IIT Kanpur).
9. “The Bangladesh Liberation War and marriage market outcomes” with Ritu Jaiswal & Sounak Thakur (IIT Kanpur).
10. “The effects of personalized information provision on access to emergency government benefits: Experimental evidence from India” with Amrit Amirapu, Irma Clots-Figueras, Bansi Malde, Anirban Mitra and Zaki Wahhaj (Kent Uni).
11. “The Gendered Effect of Filial Co-residence on Health. Reconciling Labour and Autonomy responses.” with Deepthi S. Anil and Sarani Saha (IITK).

Book Chapters:

1. Analysing the poverty situation in India: A multidimensional approach, with Chitwan Lalji and Ayush Agrawal (IIT Kanpur) ***forthcoming*** in *Contemporary Issues in Sustainable Development: The Case of India* published by Routledge.

Project Funding, Consultancy and Collaboration:

1. “Impact of Couple Counselling on Social Norms, Time-Use, and Women Empowerment: Evidence from a Randomized Control Trial (RCT) in India” (received US\$15,500) funded by the Asian Development Bank Institute 2022 (co-PI) with Ashish Sedai (University of Texas Arlington).
2. “Identifying the most cost-effective way to large scale vaccination in rural Bangladesh” (received US\$250,000) funded by the Asian Development Bank 2022-2023 (co-PI).
3. “A kitchen-garden based intervention to understand woman autonomy and resource sharing within the households in rural India” (received US\$15,000) funded by Colgate & Cornell University 2022-2025 (co-PI) with Sounak Thakur (IIT Kanpur).

4. “India Vaccine Hesitancy Study” (received US\$70,000) funded by Monash University 2022-2023 (PI).
5. “COVID-19 Active Response and Expenditure Support Program” (received US\$41,000) funded by the Asian Development Bank 2021-2022 (PI).
6. “A kitchen-garden based intervention to improve nutritional outcomes of children in rural areas” (received US\$24,000) funded under the J-PAL Cash Transfers for Child Health (CaTCH) Initiative 2021-2022 (PI) with Sounak Thakur (IIT Kanpur).
7. “Maternal knowledge, wellbeing & child health: Evidence from the Indian slums” (received US\$20,000) funded under the J-PAL Cash Transfers for Child Health (CaTCH) Initiative 2021-2022 (co-PI) with Chitwan Lalji (IIM Kozhikode).
8. “Health, Wellbeing and household dynamics among Women and Vulnerable Population in the times of COVID-19” (received CAD34,000) funded by the Shastri Covid-19 Pandemic Response Grant (SCPRG): Call for Innovative Solutions 2020-21 (Indian PI) with support from the Ministry of Education (MoE), Government of India, with Myra Yazbeck (University of Ottawa) and Chitwan Lalji (IIM Kozhikode).
9. “COVID-19 pandemic in India” (received £5,000) a small pilot project funded by the University of Kent under the GRCF partnership Fund in 2020.
10. “Application of machine learning techniques and social network analysis to bridge the gap between availability and utilization in the Indian healthcare system” DST-SERB MATRICS Grant 2020-2023 (PI).
11. “Women’s financial inclusion” (received AUD 24,690) funded by Monash University to Dr. Denni Tomassi under the 2020 Early Career Research Grant Scheme, with Asadul Islam (Monash) and Marcel Fafchamps (Stanford) as research collaborators.
12. “Knowledge is Power: A Scoping Study on Women’s Safety” (received £20,000) funded by the International Growth Centre India (Bihar) 2019-2020 (PI) with Sarani Saha (IIT Kanpur).
13. “Addressing financial inclusion in rural India: The role of information and peer pressure” (received £20,000) funded by the International Growth Centre India (Bihar) 2019-2020 (co-PI) with Asadul Islam (Monash) and Marcel Fafchamps (Stanford).
14. “Affirmative Action, Discrimination and Economic Development: Lessons and Evidence” (received AUD 30,000) with Monash University, Australia, funded by the Australia-India Council. 2016-2017 (co-PI).
15. “A workshop into women’s safety in India” (received AUD 50,000) with Prof Paul Frijters, funded by the Australia India Council. 2016-2017 (co-PI).
16. “Pre-feasibility study for Comprehensive Agriculture Information System (CAIS)” (received INR 19,77,000) with other Indian Institute of Kanpur researchers, funded by the Department of Agriculture, Government of Uttar Pradesh. 2016-2017 (co-PI).

17. “Discrimination in the demand for health services in India” (received AUD 19,500) with Yves Zenou, Choon Wang, and Asad Islam, funded by Department of Economics, Monash University. 2016-2017 (co-PI).
18. “Evaluating and Learnings from India’s Family Planning Investments” with the International Centre for Research on Women (ICRW), IPE Global, IIPS Mumbai and others, funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. 2016-2018 (PI).
19. "Skill Formation and Self-Employment Generation through Vocational Training" (received amount INR 850,000) as PI with Deep Mukherjee and Arun Kumar Sharma (IIT Kanpur), Paul Frijters (University of Queensland) and Asadul Islam (Monash), funded by the Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi. 2016-2018 (PI).
20. “Understanding Concepts in Behavioural Economics in the context of Developing Countries: Evidence from India and Bangladesh” (received amount INR 31 lakhs in 2015) funded by Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur Faculty Research Initiation Grant scheme, 2015-2018 (PI).
21. “Technology Adoption and Diffusion: The System of Rice Intensification and Food Security in Bangladesh” (received amount £ 74,000 in 2015) with Asadul Islam (Monash), Christopher Barrett (Cornell), Marcel Fafchamps (Stanford), Paul Christian (Cornell) and BRAC, BIRRI from Bangladesh, funded by the International Growth Centre Bangladesh, directed by the London School of Economics and Oxford University, 2015-2016 (co-PI).
22. “Technology Adoption and Food Security in Rural Bangladesh” (received amount £ 60,000 in 2014) with Asadul Islam (Monash), Christopher Barrett (Cornell), Marcel Fafchamps (Stanford), Garth Holloway (Reading) and other researchers from IRRI, Monash, Dhaka University and BRAC, funded by the International Growth Centre Bangladesh, directed by the London School of Economics and Oxford University, 2014-2015 (co-PI).
23. “Can We Select the Right Peers in Indian Education? Evidence from Kolkata” (received amount £ 10,000 in 2013) with Paul Frijters (Queensland) and Asadul Islam (Monash), funded by the International Growth Centre India Central, London School of Economics, directed by the London School of Economics and Oxford University, 2014-2015 (co-PI).

Other Grants

24. Grant of INR 50,000 from the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur to conduct a workshop on Development Policy. 2016-2017.
25. Grant of INR 1,00,000 from the Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur to develop the Development Policy Research Network. 2016-2017.

26. “Religion and Politics in India” (received £ 23,000) with Sonia Bhalotra (University of Essex), Lakshmi Iyer (University of Notre Dame), Irma Clots-Figueras (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid) and Joe Vecchi (University of Gothenburg), funded by International Growth Central India Central. 2016-2018 (Indian collaborator for DPRN project).

Professional Experience:

ARC Research Scholar under the supervision of Professor Paul Frijters on the RUMiCI project.

Research Assistant under Professor Paul Frijters on miscellaneous projects.

Research assistant under Dr Sangeeta Bansal on a joint project with Colombia University on developing teaching material on “Trade and Environment” (An UNCTAD Project).

Research Assistant under Dr Gurbachan Singh on a finance project for University of Texas A and M, “Asset Prices in India.” 2008.

Research Assistant for Dr Bharat Ramaswami and Dr Sangeeta Bansal for a project funded by International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), 2008.

Supervision of Bachelor’s/Master’s thesis:

Number of UGP/MS students: 15+ completed.

Number of PhD students: 3 graduated; 5 in progress.

PhD students at the Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur

Dr. Chitwan Lalji (***graduated in July 2019***) as principal and sole advisor.

Thesis title: “Essays in Health Economics”. (currently ***Assistant Professor, IIM Kozhikode***)

Dr. Surya N. Maiti (***graduated in July 2022***) supervisor with Prof. Sarani Saha.

Thesis title: “Essays in Development Economics”. (currently ***Assistant Professor, BIT Mesra***)

Dr. Soubhagya Sahoo (***graduated in January 2023***) supervisor with Prof. Sarani Saha.

Thesis Title: “Essays in Experimental Economics”. (previously ***Visiting Assistant Professor, Indian Statistical Institute Delhi, currently at the Department of Theoretical Economics at HSE University in Moscow***)

Mr. Nilanjan Bhattacharya (in progress, started in July 2018) supervisor with Prof. Sarani Saha.

Thesis title: “Essays in Development Economics”.

Ms. Deepthi Sara Anil (in progress, started in December 2020) supervisor with Prof. Sarani Saha. Thesis Title: “Essays on Development Economics: With Focus on Development Indicators and the Quality of Life”.

Mr. Ather Hassan Dar (in progress, started in June 2021) supervisor with Dr. Sounak Thakur.

Thesis Title: “Essays in Economics of Education”.

Ms. Ritu Jaiswal (in progress, started in June 2021) supervisor with Dr. Sounak Thakur.

Thesis Title: “Essays in Family Economics”.

PhD students at the Indian Statistical Institute Kolkata

Mr. Arvind Kr. Mavliya (in progress, started in July 2022) as principal and sole advisor.

Thesis Title: “Essays in Health Economics”.

Visiting Positions:

Visiting Research Scholar at Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta, December 2011 to January 2012.

Visiting Researcher at the London School of Economics, United Kingdom, January 2013.

Visiting Researcher at the Department of Economics, Monash University, Australia, September to October, 2015.

Visiting Researcher at BRAC Bangladesh, November to December, 2015.

Visiting Researcher at the Department of Economics, Monash University, Australia, June, 2018 to July 2018.

Visiting Fellowship in the Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University, September 2022 (declined).

Visiting Fellowship from the SERB-MATRICS grant scheme, 2022-23.

Teaching Assistant Experience: August, 2008 – December, 2009

Econ 311 Computer Applications in Economics, Fall 2008; Econ 321 Global Trading System, Fall 2008; Econ 323 Natural Gas Markets, Fall 2008; Econ 357 Microeconomics II, Winter 2009; Econ 325 Petroleum in North American Economy, Winter 2009; Econ 311 Computer Applications in Economics, Fall 2009.

Tutorial Experience: June 2010 – December 2013

ECON2060 Behavioural Economics, Undergraduate level; ECON2460 Health Economics, Undergraduate level course; ECON7460 Health Economics, Postgraduate level course; ECON1310 Statistics for Business A, Undergraduate level; ECON2050 Mathematical Economics, Undergraduate level; ECON7530 International Trade and Finance, Postgraduate level (Evaluations available upon request).

Teaching Experience: June, 2010 – December, 2013

Econ 2460/7460 Health Economics, Undergraduate and Postgraduate level, Guest Lecturer;
Econ 3800 Human Resource Economics, Undergraduate level, Guest Lecturer; Econ 2060
Behavioural Economics, Undergraduate level, Guest Lecturer.

Teaching Experience:

June, 2014 – July 2022

Eco 101A Introduction to Economics (Semester 1, 2014; Summer Semester; Semester 1, 2015, Summer Semester; Semester 1, 2016; Summer Semester; Semester 1, 2017; Summer Semester; Semester 1, 2018; Summer Semester; Semester 1, 2019; Semester 1, 2020; Summer Semester; Semester 1, 2021) Undergraduate level.

Eco 506A Behavioural and Experimental Economics (Semester 2, 2015; Semester 2, 2016; Summer Semester, 2017; Summer Semester, 2018; Summer Semester, 2019; Summer Semester, 2021) Undergraduate level.

Eco 560A Health Economics and Policy (Summer Semester, 2016) Undergraduate level.

Eco 311A Development Economics (Semester 2, 2017; Semester 2, 2018; Semester 2, 2019; Semester 2, 2020; Semester 2, 2021, Summer Semester, 2021; Semester 2, 2022) Undergraduate level (Department Compulsory).

Eco 735 Postgraduate Development Economics (Semester 2, 2017; Semester 2, 2018; Semester 2, 2019; Semester 2, 2020; Semester 2, 2021)

Eco 201 Microeconomics I (Semester 1, 2020) Undergraduate level (Department Compulsory).

Teaching Experience:

July, 2022 – Present

Development Economics MSQE I&II (Semester 2, 2023)

Basic Economics MSQE I (Semester 1, 2023)

Development Economics MSQE I&II (Semester 2, 2024)

Awarded letters of Appreciation from the Director of IITK for teaching in 2015, 2016, 2019 (twice), 2021 (twice) and 2022.

New courses introduced at the Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur:

ECO 506 Behavioural and Experimental Economics.

ECO 560 Health Economics and Policy.

Conferences and Workshops organized:

Organized the first Development Policy Research Network Workshop and roundtable discussion session with policymakers on March 16-17, 2016 at IIT Kanpur, sponsored by IIT Kanpur.

Organized the Workshop on Development Policy with London School of Economics on March 10-11, 2017 at IIT Kanpur, sponsored by IIT Kanpur.

Organized the Workshop on Women's safety in India and roundtable discussion session with policymakers with Prof. Paul Frijters on October 14, 2017 at IIT Kanpur, sponsored by Australia India Council.

Organized the Affirmative Action Workshop and roundtable discussion session with policymakers with Dr. Asadul Islam and Dr. Liang Choon Wang from Monash University on December 21-22, 2017 at Le Meridian, New Delhi sponsored by Australia India Council.

Organized the 2019 Society for Economic Research in India at IIT Kanpur between 13-14 July.

Invitations to Seminars and Conferences:

Session chair at the Health Economists Study Group Meeting, January 2013.

Discussant at the Fourth Australasian Workshop on Econometrics and Health Economics, April 2013.

Discussant at the Labour Econometrics Workshop, August 2013.

Invited to the 3rd European Research Conference on Microfinance 10-12 June, 2013.

“Can we select the right peers?” Australasian Development Economics Workshop, Monash, 2015.

“System of Rice Intensification in Rural Bangladesh: Adoption, Diffusion and Impact”. Workshop on Statistical Techniques and R Software (STARS - 2016), 12th September 2016, IIT Kanpur.

Development Economics Conference organized by IGC Bangladesh and BRAC institute of Governance and Development, BRAC University 12th March 2017, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

“Can referral improve targeting? Evidence from a vocational training experiment”, Workshop on Human Capital, ISB Hyderabad, August 11-12, 2017.

“How Intensity of Exposure to an Innovation Affects Patterns of Adoption and Impacts: Experimental Evidence from Bangladesh on the System of Rice Intensification”, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta, December 19, 2018.

“How Intensity of Exposure to an Innovation Affects Patterns of Adoption and Impacts: Experimental Evidence from Bangladesh on the System of Rice Intensification”, Economics Group, Indian Institute of Management Bangalore, February 22, 2019.

“Can referral improve targeting? Evidence from a vocational training experiment”, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, October, 2019.

“Take-offs, Landing and Economic Growth”, HUSS, IIT Delhi November, 2019.

“Determinants and Dynamics of Food Insecurity During COVID-19”, University of Kent Webinar, June 2020.

“Mobilizing P2P Diffusion for New Agricultural Practices: Experimental Evidence from Bangladesh”, *ECONCLAVE’20* Online Conference in Economics at the Department of Economic Sciences, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Bhopal, December 2020.

“Mobilizing P2P Diffusion for New Agricultural Practices: Experimental Evidence from Bangladesh”, Refresher Course in Cognitive Economics, Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad, February 2021.

“Mobilizing P2P Diffusion for New Agricultural Practices: Experimental Evidence from Bangladesh”, Shailesh J. Mehta School of Management, IIT Bombay, March 2021.

Invited as speak to a webinar “Ending Violence against women and girls” organized by IGC India and ADRI, June 2021.

“Raising COVID-19 Awareness in Rural Communities: A Randomized Experiment in Bangladesh and India”, Indian Statistical Institute, August 2021.

“Improving Women's Mental Health during a pandemic”, Prince Mohammad Bin Salman College (MBSC) of Business & Entrepreneurship, February 2022.

“Improving Women's Mental Health during a pandemic”, Annual Conference and 8th Research Scholars’ Workshop 2022-23, Calcutta University, January 2023.

“Technology Adoption and Food Security”, under India at 75: Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM) organized by the Institute of Economic Growth (IEG) & Department of Economic

Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Management Calcutta, February 2023.

Distinguished speaker for a Convention and Panel Discussion on “Opportunities in Rural Markets of West Bengal” with special reference to the Regional Rural Banks organized by SBI Life on 27th May 2023 at Digha, West Bengal.

Panellist for “Building on local capacities to generate policy-relevant evidence in LMICs” at the gLOCAL Evaluation Week 2023 powered by GEI, organized by JPAL-South Asia & CLEAR South Asia Center, 1st June 2023.

Seminars and Conference Presentations:

Occupational Safety and Health Regulation, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India, 2007.

Gender Discrimination in the context of Game Theory, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, 2008.

Climate Change and Kyoto Protocol, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India, 2008.

Microcredit and the Apparel Sector in Asia, University of Calgary, 2009.

The Political Economy of Migration in China, University of Queensland, 2010.

Take-Offs, Landing and Economic Growth, Applied Economics Seminar, UQ, October, 2011

“How Australian are you? Happiness, Migration, Assimilation and National Pride” Applied Economics Seminar, UQ, Brisbane, 2012.

8th Australian Development Economics Workshop, Monash University 2012.

14th International Schumpeter Society Conference, Brisbane 2012.

25th UWA ANU Annual Conference, University of Western Australia 2012.

The Political Economy of Migration in China, 8th Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development, New Delhi, 2012.

The Microfinance Puzzle, 8th Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development, New Delhi, 2012.

The Political Economy of Migration in China, Asian Meeting of Econometric Society, New Delhi, 2012.

The Microfinance Puzzle, Asian Meeting of Econometric Society, New Delhi, 2012.

Take-Offs, Landing and Economic Growth, XXIIInd Annual Conference on Contemporary Issues in Development Economics, Kolkata, 2013.

The Microfinance Puzzle, XXIIInd Annual Conference on Contemporary Issues in Development Economics, Kolkata, 2013.

The Microfinance Puzzle, Australasian Development Economics Workshop, ANU, 2013.

The Microfinance Puzzle, Econometric Society Australasian Meeting, Sydney, 2013.

The Microfinance Puzzle, 8th IZA/World Bank Conference, Bonn, Germany, 2013.

Happiness Assimilation amongst Migrants: Evidence from Australia, Hilda Research Survey Conference, October, 2013.

Happiness Assimilation amongst Migrants: Evidence from Australia, Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, August 2013.

Happiness Assimilation amongst Migrants: Evidence from Australia, Behavioural Science Centre, April 2014.

Microcredit Program Participation and Household Food Security in Rural Bangladesh, 10th Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development, New Delhi, 2014.

The Political Economy of Migration in China, Conference on Markets, Labor and Regulation organized by Cornell University, Columbia University, DFID and World Bank, December 17-18, 2014.

Microcredit Program Participation and Household Food Security in Rural Bangladesh, South

Asian Economic Development: The Way Forward, An International Conference from the Perspective of Young Researchers, South Asian University, New Delhi, April 9-10, 2015.

Can we select the right peers? 10th IZA/World Bank Conference, Bonn, Germany, 2015 with funding (declined).

Can we select the right peers? Australasian Development Economics Workshop, Monash, 2015 with funding (declined).

3rd IGC-ISI Summer School in Development Economics, July 2015, with full funding.

Peer Effects in Indian Education: Evidence from Kolkata 5th IGC West Bengal Conference, December 26-27, 2015.

Takeoffs, Landing and Economic Growth: International Conference on Middle Income Trap in Asia and PRC New Economic Normal organized by Asian Development Bank Institute and China and World Economy, 13th-14th April 2016 in Beijing, China.

Can we select the right peers? Australasian Development Economics Workshop, Deakin University, 2016 (declined).

Social Network, Referrals and Technology Adoption: Evidence from Randomized Field Experiments, 3rd International Conference on South Asian Economic Development, South Asian University, New Delhi, February 23-24, 2017.

Social Network, Referrals and Technology Adoption: Evidence from Randomized Field Experiments, Workshop on Development Policy, IIT Kanpur, March 10-11, 2017.

Can referral improve targeting? Evidence from a vocational training experiment, Social Sector Development in India: Emerging Issues and Policy Perspectives, IGIDR Mumbai, October 6-7, 2017.

Can referral improve targeting? Evidence from a vocational training experiment, City University London, June, 2019.

Labour market participation of women in rural Bangladesh: the role of microfinance, Asian and Australasian Society of Labour Economics 2019 Conference, National University of Singapore, 13th December 2019.

Microcredit Program Participation and Labour Supply Behaviour of Rural Households, Department of Economic Sciences Academic Seminar, Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, September 2020.

Mobilizing P2P Diffusion for New Agricultural Practices: Experimental Evidence from Bangladesh, Department of Economic Sciences Academic Seminar, Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, November 2020.

Raising COVID-19 Awareness in Rural Communities: A Randomized Experiment in Bangladesh and India, Department of Economic Sciences, Deakin University, December 2021.

Raising COVID-19 Awareness in Rural Communities: A Randomized Experiment in Bangladesh and India, 2021 Asia Impact Evaluation Conference organized by KDIS-ADB-HKUST, December 2021.

Opinion Pieces/blogs/Media columns:

Popular Summary for globaldev

Food insecurity during Covid-19

<https://www.globaldev.blog/blog/food-insecurity-during-covid-19>

Popular Summary for IGC India

Can we select the right peers in Indian education? Evidence from Kolkata

<http://www.theigc.org/project/can-we-select-the-right-peers-in-indian-education-evidence-from-kolkata/>

Popular Summary for IGC Bangladesh

Technology Adoption and Food Security in Rural Bangladesh

<http://www.theigc.org/project/technology-adoption-and-food-security-in-rural-bangladesh/>

Ideas for India

Can microcredit improve food security among the rural poor? (with Asadul Islam, Chandana Maitra and Russell Smyth) appeared on the Ideas for India website in September 2015 [Link](#) and also on the Monash Business School website in October 2015. [Link](#)

Covid-19: Addressing stigma and misconceptions (with Asad Islam, Michael Vlassopoulos and Liang Choon Wang) appeared on the Ideas for India website in March 2021

<https://www.ideasforindia.in/topics/poverty-inequality/covid-19-addressing-stigma-and-misconceptions.html>

Countering violence against women with awareness creation and self-defence training (with Chitwan Lalji, Sarani Saha and Soubhagya Sahoo) appeared on the Ideas for India website in August 2021 in English & September 2021 in Hindi

<https://www.ideasforindia.in/topics/social-identity/countering-violence-against-women-with-awareness-creation-and-self-defence-training.html>

<https://www.ideasforindia.in/topics/social-identity/countering-violence-against-women-with-awareness-creation-and-self-defence-training-hindi.html>

Covid-19 and mental health: Improving women's mental well-being via telecounseling (with Firoz Ahmed, Asad Islam, Tabassum Rahman, Abu Siddique and Michael Vlassopoulos) appeared on the Ideas for India website in September 2021 in English & October 2021 in Hindi

<https://www.ideasforindia.in/topics/human-development/covid-19-and-mental-health-improving-women-s-mental-well-being-via-telecounseling.html>

<https://www.ideasforindia.in/topics/human-development/covid-19-and-mental-health-improving-women-s-mental-well-being-via-telecounseling-hindi.html>

Gender-caste intersectionality in discrimination: Do patients care about doctor's social identity? (with S. Sahoo, Asad Islam, Yves Zenou and Liang Choon Wang) appeared on the Ideas for India website in January 2022 in English & Hindi

<https://www.ideasforindia.in/topics/social-identity/gender-caste-intersectionality-in-discrimination-do-patients-care-about-doctor-s-social-identity.html>

<https://www.ideasforindia.in/topics/social-identity/gender-caste-intersectionality-in-discrimination-do-patients-care-about-doctor-s-social-identity-hindi.html>

Using personalised information delivery to improve uptake of emergency government benefits (with Amrit Amirapu, Irma Clots-Figueras, Bansi Malde, Anirban Mitra and Zaki Wahhaj) appeared on the Ideas for India website in June 2022 in English.

<https://www.ideasforindia.in/topics/poverty-inequality/using-personalised-information-delivery-to-improve-uptake-of-emergency-government-benefits.html>

Popular Summary for Behavioral Evidence Hub

Incentivizing Referrals in a Farmer Training Experiment

<http://www.bhub.org/project/incentivizing-referrals-in-a-farmer-training-experiment/>

Delivering COVID-19 information across the Digital Divide

<https://www.bhub.org/project/delivering-covid-19-information-across-the-digital-divide/>

Popular Summary for J-PAL website

The Impact of Referrals to Improve Targeting for Agricultural Training in Bangladesh

<https://www.povertyactionlab.org/evaluation/impact-referrals-improve-targeting-agricultural-training-bangladesh>

Popular Summary for BDS

“Income loss and wellbeing during COVID-19 lockdown in rural Bangladesh: Evidence from large household surveys” with Firoz Ahmed (Khulna), Asad Islam (Monash), Tabassum Rahman (Newcastle) and Abu Siddique (TUM). [download](#)

Popular Summary for Economics Observatory

“How is the pandemic affecting mental health in developing countries?” with Firoz Ahmed (Khulna), Asad Islam (Monash), Michael Vlassopoulos (Southampton), Tabassum Rahman (Newcastle) and Abu Siddique (TUM).

Popular Summary for VoxDev

“Improving women’s mental health in resource-poor settings during crises” with Firoz Ahmed (Khulna), Asad Islam (Monash), Michael Vlassopoulos (Southampton), Tabassum Rahman (Newcastle) and Abu Siddique (TUM).

<https://voxdev.org/topic/health-education/improving-women-s-mental-health-resource-poor-settings-during-crises>

Policy reports & articles based on consultancy projects

Policy report (with Grace Lordan) for Nuffield Health with London School of Economics, titled “12 minutes more...” and is expected to promote the importance of physical activity, sports and exercise in maintaining good health. <http://www.nuffieldhealth.com/about-us/lse>

Article on physical activities and weight (with Grace Lordan from the London School of Economics) was widely publicized in the United Kingdom by the media: LSE website, NHS website, Daily mail UK, The Times, The Mirror, The Express, The Sun, Metro CBS News.

Pakrashi D, Maiti S.N., Gautam A, Nanda P, Borkotoky K, Datta N. “Family planning campaigns on television and contraceptive use in India.” *Int J Health Plann Manage*. 2022 May;37(3):1492-1511. doi: 10.1002/hpm.3411. Epub 2022 Jan 9. PMID: 35001417.

Maiti S.N., Maharia M, Pakrashi, D., Gautam A. “Child marriage and reproductive health of Indian women” *Journal of Demographic Economics*. Published online 2022:1-26. Doi:10.1017/dem.2022.29

Pakrashi D., Maiti S.N., Saha, S. “Caste, Awareness and Inequality in Access to Maternal and Child Health Programs: Evidence From India” 2022 vol. 163(3), pages 1301-1321, October.

“Incidence and Repercussions of Child Marriage” with S. N. Maiti and Manoj Maharia (IIT Kanpur).

Contributions to the Institute:

Development of Research and Lab Facilities:

Co-ordinator and founder of a new research network *Development Policy Research Network* at the Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, 2015-Present. www.dprn.in set up with the help of Prof. Arun K. Sharma and Dr. Deep Mukherjee.

Funding received from IITK as well as the Australian Government supported DFAT to conduct three workshops in 2017 with researchers from India, United Kingdom and Australia.

Institute Level Administrative Assignments: Several GATE/JAM and IIT-JEE assignments, ISI Entrance exam invigilation, Gangtok, May 2023.

Professional Responsibilities:

Member of the organizing committee of the Annual PhD Conference in Economics and Business hosted by the University of Queensland School of Economics.

Member of the School of Economics, Ethical Clearance Review Committee, 2011-2014.

Member of Computer and Web Committee, 2014-15.

Member of Departmental Faculty Recruitment Committee, 2015-16.

Member of PUGC, 2016-2018.

Economics Lab-in-charge, 2016-20.

Member of DUGC, 2019-20.

DUGC Convenor, 2020-21.

Economics Lab-in-charge, 2021-2022.

Member of DUGC, 2021-22.

MSQE Admission Selection Committee, 2023-24.

Referee:

Review of World Economics, Health Economics, Review of Income and Wealth, Economic Modelling, Review of Development Economics, Indian Growth and Development Review, Economic Papers, Oxford Development Studies, Journal of Economic Behaviour and Organization, Review of Economics of the Household, Social Science & Medicine.

References:

Available upon request.

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