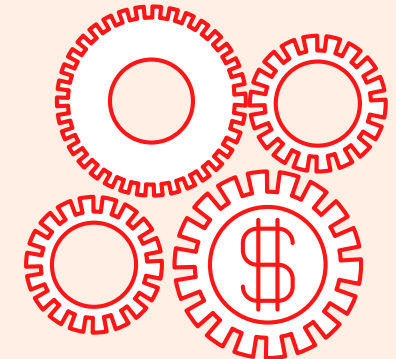# ADVANCED GRADUATE WORKSHOP 2023

## Poverty. Development. Globalisation

JULY 3 – 14, 2023
AZIM PREMJI UNIVERSITY (BANGALORE)

ORGANISERS:
AZIM PREMJI UNIVERSITY (BANGALORE)
INSTITUTE FOR NEW ECONOMIC THINKING

Design and Editing: Tamoghna Halder

# AGW 2023: SCHEDULE (WEEK 1)

## MONDAY, JULY 3

9:00 – 9:40: Introduction to AGW
Coffee Break
9:40 – 10:00: Introduction to students and groups
10:15 – 11:45: Prabhat Patnaik
Lunch Break and group discussion
1:45 – 3:15: Lakshmi Iyer
Coffee Break
3:30 – 4:45: Joseph Stiglitz (Virtual Address)

## TUESDAY, JULY 4

9:00 – 10:30: Madhura Swaminathan
Coffee Break
10:45- 1:30: Group Discussions (includes lunch break)
1:30 – 3:00: Lakshmi Iyer
Coffee Break
3:15 – 4:45: Juan Camilo Cárdenas

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 5

9:00 – 10:30: Farzana Afridi
Coffee Break
10:45 – 12:15: Juan Camilo Cárdenas
Lunch Break
1:30 – 3:00: Group Discussions
Coffee Break
3:15 – 4:45: Panel Discussion (Climate Change): Panelists: Rohit Azad, Kedar Kulkarni, Adaina KC, Juan Camilo Cárdenas

## THURSDAY, JULY 6

9:00 – 10:30: Farzana Afridi
Coffee Break
10:45 – 12:15: Vamsi Vakulabharanam
Lunch Break
1:30 – 3:00: Group Discussions
Coffee Break
3:15 – 4:45: Vamsi Vakulabharanam

## FRIDAY, JULY 7

9:00 – 10:30: Akbar Noman
Coffee Break
10:45 – 12:15: Anshu Malhotra
Lunch Break
1:30 – 2:00: Women in Econ: María del Pilar López-Uribe and Surbhi Kesar
Coffee Break and group discussions
3:30 – 5:00: Panel Discussion (Economics of Identity and Identity of Economics): Panelists: Rosa Abraham, Anand Shrivastava, Surbhi Kesar, Tony Kurian

## NOTES:

Venue: Azim Premji University
Welcome Dinner, 7.00 - 8:30 pm, July 2nd
Farewell Dinner: 7:00 pm, July 14th
Week 1, July 3-7
Week 2, July 10-14

# AGW 2023: SCHEDULE (WEEK 2)

## MONDAY, JULY 10

9:00 – 10:30: Toke Aidt
Coffee Break
10:45 – 12:15: Dilip Mookherjee
Lunch Break
1:30 – 3:00: Maitreesh Ghatak
Coffee Break
3:15 – 4:45: Garima Agarwal, Jitendra Singh & Mustafa Metin Başbay

## TUESDAY, JULY 11

9:00 – 11:00: Panel Discussion on Development Economics; Panelists: Dilip Mookherjee, Maitreesh Ghatak, Dipa Sinha, Toke Aidt, Gayatri Menon.
11:15 – 12:15 – Mateo Hoyos Lopez & Srishti Yadav
Lunch Break
1:30 – 3:00: Dipa Sinha
Coffee Break
3:15 – 4:45: Student Presentations (x3)

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 12

9:00 – 10:30: Student Presentations (x3)
Coffee Break
10:45– 12:15: Maitreesh Ghatak
Lunch Break
1:30 – 3:00: Toke Aidt
Coffee Break
3:15 – 4:45: Student Presentations (x3)

## THURSDAY, JULY 13

9:00 – 10:30: Student Presentations (x3)
Coffee Break
10:45 – 12:15: Student Presentations (x3)
Lunch Break
1:30 – 3:00: Student Presentations (x3)
Coffee Break
3:15 – 4:45: Student Presentations (x3)

## FRIDAY, JULY 14

9:00 – 10:30: Student Presentations (x3)
Coffee Break
10:45 – 12:15: Student Presentations (x3)
Lunch Break
1:30 – 3:00: Student Presentations (x3)
Coffee Break
3:15 – 4:00: Concluding Remarks

## NOTES

Group Leaders:
Garima Agarwal
Jitendra Singh
Mustafa Metin Başbay
Mateo Hoyos Lopez
Srishti Yadav

Mentors:
Rosa Abraham
Anand Shrivastava
Tony Kurian
Surbhi Kesar

# NOTE FROM ORGANISERS

## AZIM PREMJI UNIVERSITY & INSTITUTE FOR NEW ECONOMIC THINKING (INET)

Building on the past splendid editions of the Workshop spanning more than a decade, we are thrilled to welcome you all to the Advanced Graduate Workshop 2023. Every year we have leading academics and practitioners delivering lectures on a wide range of engaging and topical issues, and this year shall be no different. However, AGW has been consciously designed not to make it centric to these lectures. At the core of it are the small groups in which graduate students meet and work on their presentations. It is in these groups where students, guided by their group leaders and occasionally by the visiting lecturers and organisers, not only get feedback on their work but also learn how to give constructive feedback. If testimonials of past participants are anything to go by, it is here that friendships that span continents are born, which then last for a lifetime. The Workshop has been conceived and curated to provide graduate students the conducive space for discussion with their peers in a relaxed (as much as graduate students can relax) atmosphere.

In addition, AGW'23 is special for us on two specific accounts. One, we are bringing back panel discussions to the programme of AGW. The idea being that the graduate students attending AGW should be exposed to some ideas/opinions that are regarded as critical in contemporary research in Economics. We believe, even if one does not pursue research in that specific field, being part of a discussion revolving around it helps one gauge the broad theory and arguments. This then equips them to at least indulge in meaningful conversations, if not encouraging them to pursue further study in the field.

Second, we are introducing a mentoring system in AGW. Unlike the group leaders, mentors will typically not provide feedback on presentation, but be present during the workshop to meet the students and provide guidance on the specifics of the paper/broader research agenda. Thus, in a way, the mentors will complement the task of the group leaders.

Rest, as organisers, we are keen to make this edition as good and useful for you as the previous ones. We have done our part in putting it together and from here on you, the participants, are going to drive a large part of the experience of the Workshop. Your questions and comments during lectures, your interactions with speakers outside of the lectures, your discussions in the small groups, your presentations at the end, and perhaps most importantly, your interactions with each other over breaks and meals and drinks, are what make the workshop, and we invite you to make it a memorable one.

# GRADUATE STUDENTS

# AKANKSHA AGARWAL

## INDIAN STATISTICAL INSTITUTE, DELHI

Akanksha Aggarwal is a doctoral candidate at the Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi, India. Her research interests include Development Economics (empirical) with a focus on Economics of Education. Her work involves informing policy making through evaluating government policies that have a bearing on student learning outcomes. Additionally, she is interested in exploring complementarities between non-cognitive and cognitive student traits in impacting educational attainment and labor market outcomes. She is also keen on exploring machine learning algorithms to decipher and solve economic problems. She holds a Master's degree in Quantitative Economics from Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi, India and a Bachelor's degree in Economics from Shri Ram College of Commerce, University of Delhi. Outside of work, she finds joy in trekking and music.

**Abstract**: In this paper, we study the impact of teacher transfers in government primary schools in India on student learning. In developing countries, teacher transfers, in general, occur due to deficit teachers in schools, teacher preferences for school location characteristics, political factors etc. We utilize a government policy implemented in an Indian state in 2016 providing us with exogeneous variation in teacher transfers. Using variation in the intensity with which the policy impacts school and a four-year panel data between 2014-15 to 2017-18 with a rich set of variables on 6,394 primary schools, we find a significant negative impact on student learning. Since school reported data can be biased, we also use student learning from another data collected by an independent non-governmental organization and find that student reading scores are significantly negatively impacted while math scores witness no change. Heterogeneity analysis shows results driven by schools with greater number of students, lower Pupil Teacher Ratio, lower proportion of girls and lower proportion of students belonging to socially backward classes in the baseline year. In terms of mechanisms, we find that schools with larger transfers lose greater number of teachers making pupil teacher ratio worse and also losing more qualified teachers.

# ANAND KUMAR

## INDIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT, BANGALORE

Anand Kumar is a Ph.D. candidate in the Economics area at Indian Institute of Management Bangalore. His research interests are in economics of education, gender, behavioral and labour economics. His work has been published in Education Economics. His current research projects include estimating the effect of social information on competition choice, and the effect of business cycles on religious behavior. Prior to the commencement of the Ph.D. program, he has served as Manager at State Bank of India, a large public-sector bank heading several branches in the rural and urban sectors between 2009-2016. He is also a veteran of the Indian Air Force, where he served as a fighter pilot.

**Abstract**: Rwanda experienced one of the most horrific genocides in history, where the Hutu extremists systematically massacred more than 70 percent of the Tutsi population in 1994. The project investigates whether radio-based messages aimed at fostering peace and reconciliation had long-term social effects in Rwanda. We exploit a specific geographical feature of Rwanda, the hilly topography, to generate a plausibly exogenous variation, in the reach of radio signals across the country. This identification strategy allows us to test whether children in "treatment" villages, i.e., those which had access to decent radio signals, had an outcome that is different than those in "control" villages that did not receive radio signals. We examine the effect of radio-based reconciliatory messages on human capital formation. Our main outcome of interest is the administrative test score obtained from the universe of all test-takers in a Rwandan national primary school exam. First, we investigate whether the ethnic conflict led to a persistent negative effect on learning levels and an increase in the gender gap in learning outcomes for Rwandan students. Second, we examine whether subsequent state-sponsored, radio-based messages from 2005 onwards, aimed at fostering peace and reconciliation, helped improve learning levels and minimize gender gaps in learning levels. This project allows us to examine the effectiveness of post-conflict reconciliation policies used by the state.

# ANKUSH GARG

## DELHI SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

Ankush Garg is a graduate student at the Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi. He has recently submitted his PhD thesis titled 'Essays on the Theory of Voting'. In his thesis, studies the interplay of institutional rules, information structure and motives of voters in small and large groups in order to understand the ability of institutions and social groups in adopting policy reforms. His broad research interest lies in studying how economic participants interact with institutions and how institutions can be designed better to improve the welfare of the participants. He believes that economic discipline is enriched with alternative schools of methodologies and that no unique framework fits all contexts. He has also been working as an Assistant Professor at PGDAV College, University of Delhi. There, he has been teaching Microeconomics based papers to undergraduate students in Economics and other courses.

**Abstract**: In this paper, we use a game theoretical framework to study the voting behaviour and optimal committee design in the presence of possible bias among some committee members towards a certain policy (e.g., they may be racist or sexist or ideologically predisposed towards a certain policy regardless of its merits). Additionally, members may have reputation/image concerns. Committee members who are truly unbiased not only care about whether the right decision is taken but also whether they are perceived as biased by outsiders. We argue that the bias may be counteracted at two levels – private and institutional. In the absence of reputation concerns, unbiased committee members tend to oppose bias by displaying the reverse bias in their voting behaviour. However, we show that the optimal response to individual bias is to adjust voting rules to counteract it, i.e., implement some form of institutional affirmative action. This involves less information loss. When considering reputation concerns, we study the information aggregation properties of two information regimes (i) private information, where only the committee's decision is publicly revealed (ii) public information, where individual votes of members are revealed. Reputation concerns considerably weaken information aggregation, since even unbiased members may not vote sincerely and posture to protect their reputation. We show that CJT fails in the public regime while not in the private information regime.

# BALRAM KUMAR

## INDIRA GANDHI INSTITUTE FOR DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH

Balram is a PhD candidate in Development Studies at IGIDR, focusing his research on the critical linkages between agriculture and nutrition. His work aims to unravel the intricate connections and understand how agricultural practices and migration patterns influence the dietary quality and nutrition of women and children. Within his dissertation, Balram's current research delves into the role of agriculture and remittances in shaping nutrition outcomes within agrarian settings. By examining the impact of these factors, he seeks to contribute valuable insights into improving the nutritional well-being of communities. Prior to joining IGIDR, Balram completed a Master's Degree in Development Studies from IIT Guwahati and worked for BRLPS, in Bihar. In 2017, he was the recipient of the SPIC MACAY Scholarship and the UGC-NET in 2019.

Beyond his academic work, he is also an avid explorer with a deep passion for adventure. He loves hiking and sea swimming.

**Abstract**: Farm production can influence the household diet if they consume what they produce, after controlling for income and relative food prices. The study aims at understating the association between farm production diversity and dietary diversity in the Women of the Reproductive Age (WRA) group (15-49 years) and the role of the market. A cross-sectional survey on agriculture and food consumption patterns of a representative sample of 4100 households was conducted in rural Bihar and Odisha, in 2014-15. It uses three measures of production diversity: Farm Production Diversity, Crop Species Count and Animal Species Count. The dietary diversity was assessed by using quantitative 24 hours recall and the Minimum dietary diversity for women (MDD-W) was calculated using 10 food groups (FAO, 2021). Logistic regressions were applied to study the association between variables. The dietary diversity varied across different agroclimatic zones and socioeconomic groups. Purchased foods were found to have a greater impact on dietary diversity than home produced. The median Dietary Diversity (DD) score was 5, with a mean score of 4.75. Only 58% of women achieved minimum dietary diversity and are more likely to have adequate micronutrient intakes. The farm production diversity was associated with higher dietary diversity and higher odds of achieving MDD-W (OR: 1.16). After adjusting for sociodemographic and seasonality, the association becomes weak. Further cereals production did not increase the odds of attaining MDD-W whereas milk production did (OR: 1.44). Access to common property resources positively affected DD only among poor households. The findings suggest that while crop species count and milk was associated positively with dietary diversity, animal species count was negatively associated. Access to the market played a positive role. Factors like the education level of households, wealth index and land are positively associated with DD. There exist significant differences across different social groups as well.

# BASIT ABDULLAH

## CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Following his post-graduation in Economics at Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, Basit commenced his academic journey at the Centre for Development Studies (CDS), Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, where he is enrolled as an integrated MPhil-PhD student. He worked on youth unemployment in India for his MPhil dissertation, exploring its different dimensions. Specifically, he examined the link between the aspirations gap and its impact on unemployment among young people. He is currently working on his PhD dissertation titled "Non-Farm Self-Employment in the context of Economic Development in India". His PhD work involves analysis of the evolution of self-employment in the backdrop of economic development and structural transformation. His research interests primarily revolve around development economics and labour economics, with a specific focus on employment patterns in developing countries and issues relating to the labor market of India. His recent work analyzes the impact of wages in casual employment on non-farm self-employment in India.

**Abstract:** The paper aims to empirically examine if variation in casual employment wage levels leads to differences in non-farm self-employment across time and space in India. Using pseudo-panels constructed from the National Sample Survey Organization&#39;s (NSSO) Employment- Unemployment Surveys over a 20-year period, the results suggest that wage level in casual employment has a negative impact on non-farm self-employment. Furthermore, the results shed light on the heterogeneous nature of self-employment in a developing country by demonstrating the differential impact of the casual wage rate on self-employed individuals across different income groups. It is mainly the individuals belonging to lower income groups where increase in wage levels is associated with the decline in non-farm self-employment. Wage levels do not seem to affect the levels of self-employment for individuals belonging to higher income class. Individuals at the lower end of income levels are more likely to be pushed to become self-employed due to unfavorable conditions such as low wage. Higher wages in casual employment leading to lower prevalence of NFSE also suggests that these individuals are engaged in self-employment for their subsistence reasons and not entrepreneurial ambitions.

# DAMON ATKIEN

## SOAS, UNIVERSITY OF LONODN

Damon is a PhD student in Economics at SOAS, University of London. His work looks at the role of macroeconomic policy in green industrialization. This work aims to learn about the role of macroeconomic policy in historical cases of industrialization and then to extract lessons for macroeconomic policy frameworks assisting green industrialization in low and middle-income countries. He is broadly interested in understanding more about patterns of industrialization and development across the global economy and is particularly interested in the economic history of industrialization, macroeconomics, and development economics.

**Abstract**: Climate change will have drastic effects on not only weather systems and the physical landscape but will also upend the traditional model of capital-intensive industrialization and development. There is a pressing need to decarbonize modes of production by adopting renewable energy sources and to adopt energy-saving production processes. Green industries are therefore not only crucial to the global economy as cornerstones of the green transition but also as open windows of opportunity for latecomer industrializers to develop growth industries. There is a large literature on the importance of industrial upgrading for increasing overall development and a historical literature on the importance of macroeconomic stability for industrialization but there is little application to the topic of macroeconomic policy in facilitating potential green industrialization in late industrializers. This paper accordingly has two objectives. Firstly, it describes patterns of green industrialization across the globe; identifying and taxonomizing which economies have developed capabilities in green industries based on their structural characteristics according to the economic complexity literature. Secondly, it then proceeds to explore the policy factors behind these patterns; conducting an empirical analysis of the historical role of macroeconomic policy in facilitating industrialization. Data on green product exports from the UN and OECD is utilized to construct measures of progress towards green industrialization. A panel structural VAR (SVAR) model that relates overall export and then green export output to the interest rate and exchange rate is created. The paper examines the effect of these macroeconomic policies on green-adjacent industries to show how macroeconomic policy is a determining factor in the evolution of green industrial capabilities.

# EMILE MOTANDA

## SOAS, UNIVERSITY OF LONODN

Emile Motanda is a PhD Economics Candidate with a broad experience in financial and project management in Africa. He worked as a Country Finance Officer for nine years at The Marist Brothers-DRC and as a member of the Board of Management for the African Central-East Region (including Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, the Central Africa Republic and the D.R Congo) for two years. Emile has 9+ years of experience managing financial assets and coordinating development projects in DR Congo, leading management teams of up to 150. He also worked as an Assistant Lecturer in Economics at the Pan-African University of Congo and Marist University of Congo. Emile holds an MSc in Microfinance (Protestant University of Congo), an MSc in Accounting and Finance (University of Salford/ Manchester) and an MSc in Economics (SOAS, University of London). Emile has exemplary academic performance and leadership skills. His PhD Economics Research at SOAS, University of London, investigates the Informal Economy and informal enterprises' productivity in DR Congo. Emile is a fa of quantitative and data analytics with rich work experience in data analysis. In his free time, Emile likes to read about African history and develop his data analytics and coding skills.

**Abstract**: Although much research has been conducted on informality from various angles, there are still considerable gaps to be bridged in understanding the dynamics of the informal economy. For instance, the question of how institutional asymmetries and institutional voids impact firms' productivity (or efficiency) has not been fully addressed. Similarly, the mechanism by which the incongruences between formal and informal institutions would determine informalisation processes and the enterprises' levels of informality is still to be studied scrupulously. This research intends (1) to explore the mechanisms through which institutional asymmetries (alignment or incongruences between formal and informal institutions) determine informalisation dynamics and enterprises' levels of informality and productivity; (2) to examine the determinants of informality and informal enterprises' technical (in)efficiency ; (3) to estimate and assess the predicted impact of formalisation policy on enterprises' productivity of a change in the level of informality. This study will further advance the institutional perspective to the study of the informal economy and informal entrepreneurship by assessing the linkages between the levels of informality and enterprises' performance in the context of an economy with a predominant informal sector, namely the Democratic Republic of Congo.

# GARGI SRIDHARAN

## MADRAS INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES (MIDS)

Gargi is a researcher pursuing PhD in Economics at the Madras Institute of Development Studies (MIDS) under the guidance of Prof L Venkatachalam. She has been part of the research team working on the Tamil Nadu Household Panel Survey (2016-present), which has played an important role in furthering evidence-based policy-making in Tamil Nadu. Her current research is on gendered labour and well-being, time-use and scaling techniques, survey methodology and sampling techniques. Her doctoral research studies the interdependencies of domestic labour between women and men and their well-being outcomes in households from Chennai and Thiruvarur districts.
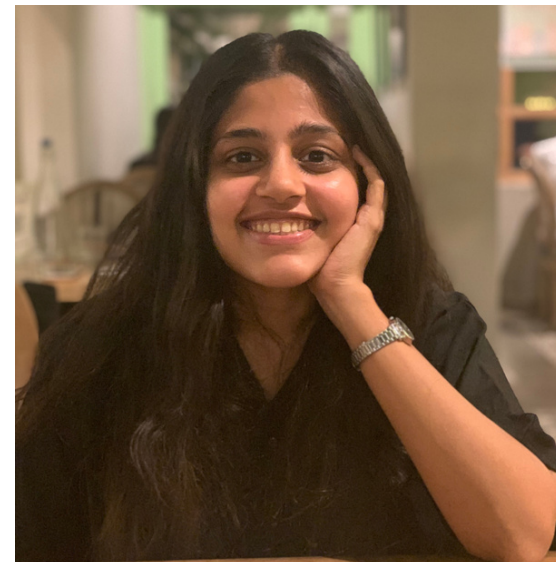
**Abstract**: Several studies in the past have highlighted the systemic difference in the division of labour between men and women in India (Kabeer, 2007; Swaminathan, 2005). The recent Time Use Survey (2019) added to the growing discourse on women's inequality which problematizes the widening gender gaps in formal sector jobs, wages, care work, domestic work and so on. An extension of this is the study of well-being, especially in developing countries wherein women have little bargaining power. A strong case could be made for the relationship between women's continued involvement in unpaid work and their psychological and emotional well-being. Both paid and unpaid work have economic and emotional consequences which are disproportionately different for women and men in Indian households (Sridharan, 2021). Keeping these contexts in mind, this paper uses survey data from a stratified sample of households from Chennai, a fully-urbanised district, and Thiruvarur, the most socio-economically backward district in Tamil Nadu. This paper looks at the time allocations of men and women in paid and unpaid work and explores the possible linkage between work and well-being in the two district samples. In particular, this paper compares the life satisfaction of married couples who adopt an egalitarian model of sharing work and having identical education, earnings and so on with couples that adopt a traditional specialisation hypothesis with a male breadwinner and a female homemaker.

# JAYLEXIA CLARK

## UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Jaylexia Clark is a Ph.D. Candidate and 2022-2023 Fulbright recipient in the Department of Sociology. She received her Bachelor's of Science in Industrial and Labor Relations from Cornell University (2019). Prior to coming to Notre Dame, she worked with the New York City-based Worker Institute and the Tompkins County Workers Center to advocate for better legal protections and a living wage for platform workers. Her primary research interests are structural racial and gender inequality, platform work, and digital entrepreneurship. Currently, she is investigating the experiences of female digital entrepreneurs and platform workers in Accra, Ghana. Through a gendered racial capitalism analytical framework, she explores whether and to what extent gender and income inequality impact women's participation in Ghana's platform economy. This project is a part of her ongoing research which seeks to bridge the gap between theories on gendered racial capitalism and platform capitalism.

**Abstract**: In this paper, I investigate the following research questions: How does pre-existing gender inequality structure women's access to and use of platform technology in Ghana? How do platform applications like Uber, Yango, and Bolt reproduce existing gender and income inequities? What are ways in which women in Ghana have used platform technology to disrupt the cycle of gendered economic oppression? In this paper, I discuss my findings from 26 in-depth interviews and group discussions with female "digital drivers" and digital entrepreneurs in Ghana. Digital drivers refer to women who use platform applications Yango, Uber, and Bolt to earn income as rideshare drivers. Digital entrepreneurs refer to individuals who use platform technologies to create products, conduct business, or connect workers and consumers. Based on my findings, I argue that underlying historical and structural racial and gender inequalities can stall the potential of platform technology and reproduce gender, racial and economic disparities. Gender disparities in access to platform technologies and persistent negative attitudes/beliefs towards women active within the platform economy are not fixes that an algorithm can solve. I argue that while platform applications can be a tool for economic empowerment, the same technology can be used to reiterate gender norms and facilitate the devaluation of Black women's labor, not just in Ghana but in the Global platform economy. Thus, I end this paper by putting forth a call for more research that takes a gendered racial capitalism analytical approach to platform capitalism.

# KISHEN SHASTRY

## UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Kishen Shastry is a PhD student in Economics at the University of Cambridge, with a research focus on development economics, institutional economics, and economics of religion. His published research includes "Religion, Covid-19 and Mental Health," while his ongoing projects include "Divine Competition" and "Political Economy of Informal Institutions in India." Kishen has an MPhil in Economic Research from the University of Cambridge, a master's degree in international economics from the Geneva Graduate Institute, and a Post Graduate Diploma in Liberal Studies from Ashoka University. He is also an Adam Smith Fellow at the Mercatus Center, George Mason University. Kishen's research methodology is grounded in rigorous statistical analysis, econometric modeling, and causal inference techniques. He applies microeconomic theory and empirical methods, to explore the mechanisms underpinning economic development, and the role of institutions and culture in shaping economic outcomes.

**Abstract**: This paper illustrates the political economy of informal institutions by examining the role of identity-based religious organizations in the supply of public goods. I present two different models within a framework that collates multiple identities: political, religious, and ethnic. The first model is based on the collective production of a social identity — where an organization introduces an optimal level of 'politicalness' to create an alternate identity that can support collective action. The second model is a spatial model where competition and product differentiation occur at the level of 'political services provided in attracting membership. Both the models yield a central prediction for the existence and spread of identity-based organizations that cultivate and differentiate on politicalness. Finally, I present a simple model where the presence of identity-based organizations results in political representatives exerting more effort to increase the supply of public goods. To test the above, I compile a unique database and study a widely spread identity-based organization in India — mutts. Using the 1990s shocks that decentralized administration over public goods in India, my difference-in-differences estimates show that a higher concentration of mutts would yields a higher supply of public goods proxied by educational institutions. Finally, I also show that mutts improved total employment in their proximate regions, with a 10 percentage point increase in mutt density is associated with 12% increase in total employment.

# KISHOREKUMAR SURYAPRAKASH

## University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Kishorekumar Suryaprakash is pursuing a Ph.D. in Economics at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, USA. His Ph.D. dissertation is on 'state informality and peri-urban development in the global south' that studies the state-capital nexus in the urban development processes of Chennai Metropolitan Area (CMA), Tamil Nadu, India. Kishore's research is motivated by his continuous engagement with working-class politics and urban activism in Chennai. His research interests are in the political economy of urban development, inequality and poverty, economic development in Asia, and the political economy of environment.

Kishore holds a Master of Philosophy (Economics) and Master of Arts (Economics) from the University of Hyderabad, India. He is a coordinator of the urban and regional economics working group at the Young Scholars' Initiative - Institute of New Economic Thinking (YSI-INET). He also writes on current economic and political issues in digital and print media.

**Abstract**: The mounting inter-city competition to attract capital investments forces the governments in the Global South to restructure their cities to attain the status of a 'Global City'; Several Indian cities aspired to become global after the national government adopted a liberalization policy in 1991. Following liberalization policies, cities had to provide cheap labor and land to attract multinational corporations (MNCs), which created both the opportunity and compulsion for the provincial states in India to restructure their cities. Evicting the urban poor from inner cities to the peripheries has become the dominant strategy of the spatial restructuring process. This paper investigates the placemaking process of the Chennai Metropolitan Area (CMA) by explicitly looking at the political economy of resettlement of the urban poor. The existing literature observes that slum dwellers resist relocating to the peripheries because of a lack of employment opportunities and the social stigma attached to resettlement colonies. However, the development of a new economy creates employment opportunities for the resettled population in the periphery which contradicts the above observation. Using an original household survey, the employment and livelihood conditions of people in resettlement colonies are compared with their counterparts in the inner city. This paper argues that resettlement policy and establishment of special economic zones create a 'neoliberal' peri-urban space that is exclusionary and unsafe for the urban poor while benefiting the high-income class. Despite receiving tenurial security, the resettled population suffers from a lack of access to public services and safer living conditions compared to the slum dwellers.

# KUNAL MUNJAL

## INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, HYDERABAD

Kunal is a Senior Research Fellow at the Economic Analysis Unit, Indian Statistical Institute Bengaluru, India, and a Ph.D. candidate at the Department of Liberal Arts, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Hyderabad, India. His broad research interests are agrarian studies, commodity exchange relations, migration and unfreedom, and classical political economy. His doctoral work focuses on production and exchange relations in Indian agriculture with a focus on commodity prices. He has completed my under-graduation in Social Work (Rural Development) from Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) and post-graduation in Public Policy from National Law School of India University (NLSIU), Bengaluru. Interdisciplinarity in research has been part of his educational training and he intend to stay at the cross-roads of such disciplinary boundaries. He is also an ardent believer in generating field-based primary insights to connect the macro-micro picture.

**Abstract:** Unequal terms of trade (ToT) between different sectors of the economy, implying commodity output surplus from one sector is exchanged at a price lower than its value, is an important tool of policy intervention known as 'price scissors.' The agrarian transition in many Western economies had benefitted from such unequal exchange relations for agriculture against the industry to sustain the latter's growth. Such a trajectory is considered bypassed in India and some scholars remark that rural accumulation is irrelevant to global capitalism. But the surplus generated from the agriculture sector has been increasing due to increased commercialisation and where that surplus must be directed is a political-economic concern. The expansion of the service sector, moving beyond the dual economy models, and penetration of globalization also needs to be incorporated in ToT analysis now.

With this background, this methodological paper focuses on ToT through the following objectives: i) identifying the gaps in the existing methodology and data sources for calculating terms of trade, ii) assessing the possibility of calculating regional and commodity-specific ToT, iii) reconsidering the contemporary relevance of unequal exchange facilitated by markets for Indian agrarian political economy

There has not been any comprehensive research work on the subject matter in the past two decades. All of this can only be studied from a better estimation of the exchange of commodities between sectors and the contemporary agrarian reality in India demands an update in methodology to assess the prevalence and magnitude of unequal exchange within and between sectors and classes. This paper is situated towards a modest attempt to highlight the same.

# LEKSHMI PRASAD

## GULATI INSTITUTE OF FINANCE AND TAXATION

Lekshmi Prasad is a fourth-year Ph.D. scholar at the Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation, Trivandrum, Kerala. Her Ph.D. thesis focuses on the critical issue of 'The Role of Caste in Financial Inclusion in India'. Her research aims to shed light on the barriers faced by marginalized communities in accessing financial services and explore potential solutions to address this persistent problem. Lekshmi research interests belong broadly in the area of development research and particularly into discrimination, poverty, gender and development finance and public policy. She possesses a Bachelor's Degree and Master's Degree, both in Economics from Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala. Her academic journey started at Assumption College, where she completed her Bachelor's degree in Economics.

**Abstract**: This paper analyses the trends and patterns of financial inclusion in India in the post-liberalization era and the role of caste therein. The present study focuses on the supply-side responses of the formal financial system in India to cater to the needs of vulnerable and marginalized populations by evaluating the impact of two recent policy initiatives to foster financial inclusion; the bank licensing policy in 2005 and PMJDY in 2014. Using the supply-side data, we constructed a Financial Inclusion Index (FII) for 24 major states during 1993-2018. For identifying the role of caste, states are divided into SC-ST dominant states, and non-SC-ST states based on their average share in the total population. The econometric results indicate a significant difference in the financial inclusion of SC-ST dominant states vis-à-vis other states, even after controlling for a number of other key determinants. Contrary to the expectations, our results suggest that the two policy initiatives have contributed to faster growth in financial inclusion of non-SC-ST states compared to the SC-ST dominant states and contributed to divergence in financial access and financial deepening. The findings of this study, therefore, make a case for building an institutional architecture that fosters financial deepening among marginalized communities.

# MANYA BUDHIRAJA

## University of Massachussets, Amherst

Manya is a graduate (PhD) student at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Prior to joining UMass, she was an M.Phil scholar at CESP, JNU, and pursued her Masters in economics at the University of Hyderabad. Her dissertation research lies at the intersection of labor economics and macro-development. A part of her dissertation is a theoretical and empirical inquiry into the simultaneous estimation of labor and product market power, where she introduces monopsony in the Hall-Crepon framework to jointly estimate monopsony; monopoly; returns-to-scale, and productivity growth in the Indian manufacturing sector. The other part of her dissertation research focuses on the theoretical underpinnings of the Kaldor-Verdoorn (KV) Law. The crux of this research is to demonstrate that it is possible to make unambiguous inferences about the returns-to-scale parameter (or induced technical progress) from the KV coefficient only under certain conditions about production technology and labor market behavior.

**Abstract**: Abstract: This paper is a theoretical and empirical inquiry into the simultaneous estimation of labor and product market power. It uses a growth accounting approach to develop a framework for jointly estimating monopsony power in labor markets; monopoly power in product markets; returns to scale; and, productivity growth. Using methods from control function approaches, this model is empirically implemented for the Indian manufacturing sector from 2009-2014; using firm-level panel data from the Annual Survey of Industries. This work builds on the Solow-Hall-Cre\pon approach for the joint estimation of rent-sharing (or bargaining); monopoly; returns-to-scale; and, productivity parameters. I contribute to this literature by considering an alternative distortion in labor markets, in the form of monopsony. I conclude by drawing some policy implications of this work.

# MEGAN HAASBROEK

## Erasmus University, Rotterdam

Megan Haasbroek is a PhD candidate in Economics at Erasmus University Rotterdam and Tinbergen Institute under the supervision of prof. dr. Maarten Bosker and dr. Sacha Kapoor. Her research agenda combines international economics with economic geography, focusing on the intersection of firm behavior, development and trade policy. She has worked on international trade intermediation in a context of matching frictions, how domestic transportation costs affect the passthrough of international trade shocks and she is currently analysing the effect of land transaction costs on sectoral composition. Besides work, she likes spending time with friends, cooking, baking (her brownies are renowned), reading and origami.

**Abstract**: High land transaction costs impede both farms and firms from reaching their efficient scale of production, and thereby result in lower agricultural and manufacturing productivity. However, if land intensity in production varies across sectors, this might not just introduce allocative inefficiency within sectors but also across sectors. Understanding how these land transaction costs distort optimal sectoral composition is informative about shock resilience and poverty alleviation and therefore vital to aggregate productivity and welfare. This paper studies the impact of land acquisition costs on sectoral composition by exploiting an unexpected policy change in India that increased these costs for Special Economic Zones (SEZs). Initially, Indian state governments were incentivised to engage in forced land acquisition to create these zones, thereby shielding the SEZ developers from any land market frictions. After a violent response to a protest against this forced acquisition in West Bengal, the central government decided to prohibit forced land acquisition for SEZs. This implied higher resettlement and compensation costs and thereby an increase in land acquisition costs for SEZ developers. I first establish the effect on entry and investment in SEZs per sector: after land transaction costs increased, SEZs become 13% smaller and the share of manufacturing SEZs falls by 8 percentage points. I then investigate location choices, including a careful study of local land market frictions by leveraging geographically disaggregated data on land concentration. Finally, using village-level data on economic activity, I quantify the effect on both local and national sectoral compensation.

# MOHIT ARORA

## University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Mohit Arora (he/him) is a PhD Candidate in the Department of Economics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst. His primary areas of teaching and research interest are in Macroeconomics and Economic Development. He is also interested in International Finance and Economic History. Prior to joining the doctoral program at the University of Massachusetts, he did an M.Phil. in Economics at the Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, JNU and an M.A. in Economics at the University of Hyderabad.

**Abstract**: Inspired by Soviet industrialization and post-World War II focus on state-led development, the Indian state aimed to restructure production towards the capital-goods producing sectors. To what extent did the Nehru-Mahalanobis targeting of heavy industries during the Second Five- Year Plan in India (1956-61) promote their development and what were the prospects for a successful unbalanced growth strategy in the Indian context in the 1950s? To answer these questions, I construct a novel panel dataset that tracks 36 large-scale industrial sectors over 1951-65 - a period coinciding with the first three Five-Year plans in India. This dataset harmonizes industrial production, prices, and input-output data from pre-digital data books. I find that targeting of heavy industries did not have a significant impact on their development. There is no evidence of learning-by-doing in targeted industries when this industrial policy was being implemented. Weak Hirschman-style linkages existed between sectors of the economy before the heavy industry drive began and hence even if the targeting had been successful, there would be limited spillover effects which weakens the case for adopting an unbalanced growth strategy.

# MUKTA JAIN

## Delhi School of Economics

Mukta Jain is a fifth year PhD Scholar at Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics. Her research work titled "The Economics of Artificial Intelligence" is under the supervision of Prof. Mausumi Das, Dr Ayona Bhattacharjee and Prof. Anirban Kar. She analyses the role of time preferences in adoption of automation and artificial intelligence (AI) in her thesis. Her other works include use of recurrent neural network to predict vulnerable sections of society, a social experiment to assess the impact of AI on creativity and another experiment to assess the expected electricity usage upon shift to renewable sources of energy. She has collaborated internationally to publish two conference papers and one journal paper for a work that lies at the intersection of machine learning and renewable energy. In future, she aims at working further in the domain of responsible AI, to fuel the societal benefits of these technologies.

**Abstract**: Automation technologies and their inherent tendency to replace labour mandates the study of it's economic effects. Throughout history manual/routine tasks that can be completed with algorithms are easy to automate, but cognitive tasks aren't [1]. Therefore, developing countries, endowing a greater pool of manual labour have greater potential to automate. Yet, the world's top automated countries are developed [2]. Developing countries are unable to reap benefits of these technologies. It's not surprising because large labour in developing countries reduce labour wages and disincentivize automation. However, another explanation lies in low income countries saving less than their developed counterparts [3]. Thus, the corresponding capital and automation levels fall. A source of differential marginal propensity to save is the varying patience level at country level. Lawrence (1991) [4], Lipsis (2021) [5] et al. demonstrate the relationship between income, culture and time preferences at country level. Accordingly, the results of Acemoglu and Restrepo (2018) [6] and many others indicate that adoption of automation depends on patience level of people in society. Our paper analyse this channel by endogenising the rate of time preferences and exploring how countries adopt automation. It suggest policies that can help low income countries to break their vicious cycle. In some cases, a big push investment for a short time can be useful, while the path of prosperity is not necessarily through automation for others. Therefore, our work help nations in choosing the development path, especially when automation is rapidly infiltrating the global production process of the affluent world.

# NEHA ARYA

## Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi

Neha is a PhD scholar, currently enrolled in the Department of Humanities & Social Sciences of the Indian Institute of Technology (Delhi). Her research interests centre around the impact of technology on the labour market. At present, she is studying the implications of the rise of gig/platform economy in India on India's labour market. India's large, relatively young, population and high unemployment rates (especially in urban areas) present the context in which she undertakes in her research.

**Abstract**: The availability of official labour statistics on India's gig economy is a major hurdle to studying gig work. Accordingly, this paper uses the Consumer Pyramids Household Survey (CPHS) dataset (waves 25, 26, and 27) by the private organisation, Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) to study platform workers. The paper is a first attempt, to the best of our knowledge, to use this national-level dataset to study the demographics and conditions of work of urban India's platform workers. It also discusses several important limitations of the dataset to draw broad conclusions about the platform economy. We find that most of India's platform gig workers are not in the "youth" ("18-29" years age group, as per the National Youth Policy- 2014) category. This is contrary to the conclusions of the report on gig work released by the NITI Aayog in 2022. We also find that while graduates and post-graduates also engage in platform work, majority of the workers have lower levels of education. With respect to gender, women's participation in platform work is abysmally low with occupational segregation by gender. Transitions in and out of platform work are also noted across waves. Most of the platform workers earn an average monthly salary of 10,000-20,000. Job instability, earnings levels and long work hours seem to characterize platform work.

# PINAR KAHYA

## Middle East Technical University

Pinar Kahya is a PhD Candidate in Political Science and Public Administration at Middle East Technical University (METU) and works as a research assistant at Inonu University. Her research area is global political economy. Her academic interests are form(s) of the state, financialization, poverty and Indian and Turkish political economy.

**Abstract**: Recent political economy and critical political economy studies describe and analyse the phenomenon of financialization as a multifaced and complex process. The relationship between the phenomenon of financialization and the state is a relatively new research agenda. The relationship of the state with financialization generally consists of framing the state as an actor that paves the way and facilitating financialization and is examined with its regulations and practices in the process. Whether we start from the theoretical assumption of some theories of the state that state is not an explanans but a phenomenon that needs to be explained, or we observe that the state is not only a transforming but also a transformed area in political economic practice, the financialization of the state, both theoretically and practically, is the most outstanding development of the recent period. The financialization of the state is a concept that examines the increasing influence and role of financial institutions and practices within the operations of the state, particularly in relation to economic policymaking and governance. The Indian state, which is one of the most original cases of the post-independence planned economic model became also financialized in the 2010s. In the presentation, I will show the financialization of the state in India through the transformation of the institutional structure of development and the content and form of welfare funds. This study is process-tracking research of the process of financialization of the state in India in the axis of the following questions: How did the institutions of the central Indian state transform from a neo-developmentalist structure to the current finance-oriented structure? How was the scale and methods of state intervention transformed under financial imperatives?

# POSSAPON CHAROENPORN (MIKE)

## SOAS, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Possapon Charoenporn (Mike) is a PhD candidate in International Development at SOAS, University of London. He is an economic and development geographer by training, holding MSc degrees in Local Economic Development as well as Health and International Development from the London School of Economics and Political Science. He has worked as an East Asia Pacific researcher for the Armed Conflict Location; Event Data Project (ACLED), collecting and analysing data on political violence and protests in Southeast Asia. His expertise also extends to spatial analysis, where he contributed to research on socio-economic inequalities in the Urban Age project at LSE Cities. Possapon's current research interests revolve around local and regional economic development, global production network, and the political economy of industrial development. Specifically, he delves into the role of institutions and the influence of China in shaping industrialization trajectories and geographically uneven economic development in developing countries.

**Abstract**: Deindustrialization is a significant challenge globally, particularly in the Global South, where it occurs before reaching desired levels of manufacturing productivity, resulting in developmental setbacks, widening inequalities, and potential political instability. However, the specific influence of China on deindustrialization in the Global South has received limited attention. This research aims to investigate how institutional arrangements and China have shaped deindustrialization and regional economic development in Thailand after the 1997 Asian financial crisis. The study focuses on two industrial areas: the Bangkok Metropolitan Region, representing the traditional industrial hub, and the Eastern Economic Corridor prioritized for reindustrialization. Using a mixed-method approach that includes interviews, institutional and policy mapping, and statistical analyses, the study employs the theoretical frameworks of Geographical Political Economy (GPE) and Global Production Network (GPN). GPE provides a suitable basis for understanding the interactions among actors across geographical scales within the unique political-economic regulatory regime, while GPN sheds light on the dynamics of upgrading and downgrading within global production networks and spatial reorganization of manufacturing activities. This research contributes to the field by integrating GPN and GPE frameworks to analyse regional economic development, offering insights into the interrelationships between the two industrial regions within Thailand's national context. Ultimately, this study enhances our understanding of the complexities of uneven development in the Global South and provides valuable insights for policymakers and stakeholders striving for sustainable economic growth in the region.

# PRANAV MIMANI

## EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE, FLORENCE

Pranav Mimani is a PhD candidate at the European University Institute, Florence, Italy. He was born and brought up in India and graduated from the Delhi School of Economics, India with a Master of Arts (Economics) degree. He holds a Bachelor of Technology degree in Mechanical Engineering from Shiv Nadar University. His research focuses on the role of information and expectations for workers in determining labor market dynamics. Broadly, his research interests are in Macroeconomics and Labor Economics. He likes cooking, chess and running.

**Abstract**: What happens to labor market dynamics when a share of workers is uninformed about aggregate productivity? In this paper, I use heterogeneity in workers' perception of aggregate productivity process to replicate features of US data. Firm incentives to create jobs is driven by the interactions of firm with workers of two types: full information workers and uninformed workers who do not observe aggregate productivity. Differences in worker types drive differences in wage contracts based on bargaining protocol of Binmore-Rubinstein-Wolinsky with uninformed workers negotiating a fixed wage while full information workers asking for aggregate productivity-linked flexible wages. The paper is related to literature on search and matching with the innovation of heterogeneous workforce. Firms' incentives to create vacancies varies with the proportion of uninformed workers and aggregate productivity level. The presence of uninformed workers provides wage rigidity which allows the framework to replicate features of the data for reasonable calibration of the parameters.

# RASMITA MAHARANA

## INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, MUMBAI

Rasmita Maharana is a research scholar pursuing her Ph.D. in Department of Economics, Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai. Her area of research is Development Economics, primarily focused on the measurement of poverty and vulnerability in unidimensional and multidimensional space and impact evaluation of welfare programmes. She has completed her Bachelor's degree in economics from Ravenshaw University, Cuttack, Odisha. She has pursued her post-graduation in economics from Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi where she was awarded Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) by the University Grant Commission (UGC). During this period, she developed a keen interest in various development issues and how public policies influence the wellbeing of the people which motivated her to undertake her Ph.D. research in understanding various approaches to poverty dynamics and the role of social policies in addressing this issue. She has attended multiple workshops and conferences to enlarge and enrich her knowledge as a researcher. In her leisure time she learns classical dance (Kathak).

**Abstract**: The primary goal of any poverty alleviation program is not only to increase the overall well-being of the people but also to enhance the risk coping capability among them to meet their basic needs, make productive investments, and prevent them from selling their resources during adverse shocks (Swain and Floro, 2012). A policy with multiple outcomes tries to reduce multiple deprivations simultaneously. Microfinance Institution (MFIs) is an innovative way to influence different dimensions of the well-being of poor people. The reasons behind the huge expansion of microfinance are easy accessibility and collateral-free credit. The cumulative impact of microfinance on well-being cannot be captured by the standard measures of poverty. It increases the risk-coping capability, diversifies income-earning sources, and generates assets (Swain and Floro, 2012). Our study examines the impact of access to microcredit from the microfinance/self-help groups on poverty and vulnerability level of the households in multidimensional space by using CPHS panel data for the years 2016 to 2019. The endogeneity in the treatment variable has been taken into account by using fixed effect, fixed effect with propensity score matching (PSM), and difference in difference with PSM. A negative significant treatment effect has been found on multidimensional poverty as well as the probability to future poverty. The loan for productive purpose is preventing the household to fall into multidimensional poverty in future whereas the loan for nonproductive purpose has impact on both multidimensional poverty and vulnerability. We find that there is a reduction in the deprivation and vulnerability of the household who first time take loans compared to those who never take any loan.

# RENU BANSAL

## DELHI SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

Renu Bansal is working as Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics, at Shri Ram College of Commerce, Delhi University, India. Over the last 24 years with the College, she has taught variety of subjects to both undergraduate and postgraduate students. She has also worked as a Consultant Economist at United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the Planning commission of India. Renu has also worked as Editorial Assistant for 'Indian Economic Review' journal, Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics. (2005-2010). Currently, she is pursuing Ph.D. from the Delhi School of Economics, India, in the field of Capital inflows, Exports and Formal Employment. Renu graduated in Economics from Shri Ram College of Commerce, subsequently attained Master's in Economics & Master's in Philosophy from Delhi School of Economics. Apart from Research, Renu has keen interest in travelling, fitness and enjoys playing badminton and table tennis.

**Abstract**: This paper explains a lower level of FDI to an economy with abundant informal labour due to the differential treatment for the foreign firms accessing them at additional regulatory costs. If foreign firms face a higher regulatory cost than domestic firms, a simple global sourcing model finds that foreign firms prefer to out-source than integrate under FDI for the informal labour-abundant country. The paper extends the model of global sourcing with formal and informal labour. Both transaction-cost and property-right approaches show that the attractiveness of integration (under FDI) falls with the rise in regulatory costs for accessing informal labour. However, such adverse effects of regulatory costs decline with a rise in the capital intensity of a firm. Further, two sets of empirical exercises using cross-country panel data for 80 countries during 2000-2019 and pooled cross-section firm-level data for 31 countries confirm such conjectures and reveal that the FDI declines with the fraction of informal labour employed by the affiliate increases.

# RODRIGO ALIPHAT RODRIGUEZ

## CENTER FOR ECONOMICS RESEARCH AND TEACHING (CIDE)

Rodrigo is a young professor at the recently created Division of Development Studies at the Center for Economics Research and Teaching (CIDE) and teach at the UNAM Faculty of Economics. In his previous role, I had the opportunity to work as a consultant for the World Bank. He is a Ph.D. graduate, and his thesis was titled: 'The Keys to modern industrial development in emerging economies: the case of Mexico'. He is primarily focused on studying Economic Development., particularly in Industrial Policy and productive development in Emerging Economies, where he applies econometric analysis, input-output, and social account matrix. He has shared his research through articles, book chapters, and presentations in regions like Mexico, the United States, and South America.

**Abstract**: Based on the premise of Hirschman (1968:32), "Industrialization was expected to contribute to changing the social order, and all it did was produce manufacturing". This paper proposes an industrial policy for Mexico using the linkage between productive structure and household income. In the 1980s, Mexico and Latin America established a free trade policy. Forty years later, it resulted in high integration with global markets and increased exports; In contrast, households now rely heavily on social programs and remittances instead of being actively involved in productive activities. In addition, macroeconomic policy changes limited the credit by development banks, local production chains disintegrated, and imports consolidated in the national aggregate demand.

The Western Economic thought of comparative advantages contrasted with that of the Asian economies that defined them as "Do what we want but do it well". In this sense, the industrial policy requires to attend problems such as specialization in unproductive activities and income concentration while coexisting with global integration. Following the Theory of Productive Forces approaches, This document combines for Mexico the Input-Output model with the household income of México to simulate and evaluate the effects of reducing the propensity to import 1, 5, and 10% of electrical, electronic, and transport goods in the productive structure (internal production), household income, and GDP growth. The result is a positive effect; as the propensity to import reduce, domestic production increase. In contrast, the impact on wages is lower in households, but their income from the productive sectors increases. Finally, this model has the feasibility of evaluating industrial policy instruments.

# RUMI AZIM

## Centre for International Trade and development, JNU

Rumi Azim is a Ph.D. candidate at the Centre for International Trade and Development, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University. Her research focuses on understanding the interaction between international trade and the environment from a micro-perspective, particularly the trade-induced within-firm mechanisms of the environmental impact of trade. She presented her preliminary work at the 27th Annual Conference of the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists in 2022. She has been awarded a Junior Research Fellowship from University Grants Commission for her work. Prior to joining JNU, she worked as an Academic Associate at the Centre for Public Policy, Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore.

**Abstract**: We examine the role of imported technology in firm-level carbon emissions in the Indian manufacturing sector, especially among export-oriented firms. Recent literature shows that the changes in firm-level emission intensity are determined by the changes in firm's scale, technology adoption and product-mix. Using data on Indian manufacturing firms from 1994-2019, we explore the within-firm mechanisms which affected their $CO_2$ emission intensity. In particular, we test whether imported intermediate inputs and capital goods enhanced the environmental performance of firms. To control for firm heterogeneity, we begin with a fixed effects regression analysis, and
then use propensity score matching to control for endogeneity. Firms that are more productive and invest in R&D are cleaner with lower emission intensity. We find that importing of raw materials and capital goods reduces the emission intensity of firms. Particularly, the import of intermediate inputs is significant in reducing the emission intensity of export-oriented firms. Moreover, this pollution-reducing effect of imported intermediate inputs among export-oriented firms is highly significant for multi-product firms vis à vis single-product firms.

# SAMISKHA KAPOOR

## SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY

Samiksha is pursuing Ph.D. from Centre of Informal Sector and Labour Studies, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University. She has done her M.Phil. Economics from University of Hyderabad, MA Economics from Ambedkar University Delhi and B.A. Honours Economics from Zakir Husain Delhi College, Univeristy of Delhi. Her area of interest include Feminist Economics, Labour Economics, Development Economics and Political economy.

**Abstract**: Ninety three per cent of the workforce is informally employed in India and paid domestic work is a highly feminised sector with more than eighty per cent workers being female. It is difficult to organise these workers as employer- employee relationship is informal. They are poorly paid and do unpaid work. There is dearth of research on unionisation in this sector. This study tries to address this research gap. In this study we look at how trade unions organise female part time domestic workers in Delhi. We have choosen two trade unions for our study namely Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) and National domestic workers movement (NDWM). We look at the strategies of these unions in organising informal paid domestic work. We also look at their challenges. The organisational strategies of unions during covid 19 is also part of analysis. What are expectations of domestic workers from their respective unions is also studied. The field work is was carried out in 2022 in Delhi. Mixed methods approach was used. Firstly we did 30 open ended interviews using an interview guide. This is followed by 60 structured interviews using a questionnaire of 116 questions. Participant Observation method is also used by regularly attending meetings of these workers with their respective unions. This helps us in getting an in-depth analysis of the field. We also see whether the union address the woman's question along addressing the labour question. Does the union help these workers on issues of domestic violence, sexual abuse by husband etc. We find out if these matters are discussed in union meetings and what is response of union leaders on these questions. We also look at increased mobility of domestic workers around the city once they become members of these unions. What does being part of a union means to a domestic worker and what more they expect from the union is also studied.

# SHILPA KRISHNAN

## CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Shilpa Krishnan is currently a doctoral scholar at the Centre for Development Studies (CDS) in Thiruvananthapuram. She is an applied development economist with a focus on the economics of education and labour economics. Her ongoing doctoral research primarily delves into the evolving dynamics of education, skills, and employment in India. In the current scenario, India's labour market is characterised by growing unemployment, especially among the educated youth as there are limited job opportunities given the education and skills. In this context, specifically, her thesis analyses the extent of the education-occupation mismatch and examines the returns to education within the Indian context. Before her doctoral studies, Ms. Krishnan's research focused on the financing and costs associated with nursing education in Kerala, for her Master of Philosophy (MPhil) dissertation at CDS. Before joining her MPhil at CDS(JNU) Thiruvananthapuram, Shilpa completed her Integrated MSc in Economics from the Central University of Puducherry.

**Abstract**: Linking 'education to work' is not a new phenomenon. The public perception on the link between education and job can be seen from popular articles and this link is highlighted in various government documents. There is a vast body of literature which talks about the importance of education in getting better employment and better wages. In India, the post-reforms period witnessed an increased demand for skilled labour (Berman et al.,2005). The rising share of middle class who had financial resources to pay for education increased the demand for education (Altbach, 2009). The education expansion in India resulted in a change in the composition of educated workforce. The type of occupation one is likely to get in the past is different from what one is getting now. More years of education is required to find the same kind of employment now than before. The jobseekers find it difficult to find jobs matching their skills. They resort to jobs below their qualification level (Sengupta,2017). Therefore, this study attempts to understand the vertical education-occupation mismatch in India. This type of mismatch happens then the years of schooling attained by an individual and the required education for her occupation is not in alignment. We aim at understanding the changing dynamics of education-occupation mismatch using 'realized matches' method. This paper attempts to understand the extent of education-occupation mismatch across different socioeconomic markers over time using different rounds of National Sample Survey Employment and Unemployment Surveys (EUS) and Periodic Labour Force Surveys (PLFS).

# SHU KITTAKA

## Columbia University

Shu is a policy practitioner, currently pursuing his Master's degree in Economic Policy at Columbia University in the City of New York. He holds a Bachelor of International Relations from The University of Tokyo in Japan. He started his career as a tax analyst at the Ministry of Finance Japan. Aspiring to address global income disparities, his professional work has focused on the reformation of OECD's international tax principles. His research interests include financial sustainability and data-driven evaluation of policy effectiveness. Currently, he is studying the impact of China's lending on African countries' debt sustainability and economic growth.

**Abstract**: How has the rise of China as a world's creditor changed the sovereign debt landscape and affected the economic growth in developing countries? Some stress that Chinese development finance has remarkably boosted the short-term growth in the countries that the traditional DAC members showed a negative lending attitude towards due to the debtor country's poor governance. Others argue that China's lending policy has exacerbated the debt sustainability of the recipients and intensified geopolitical tension.

My research illustrates the crowding-out effect caused by China's unprecedented lending style represented by the heavy infrastructure investments under the Belt and Road Initiative. High external debt financing can burden governments' capacity to invest in social welfare and hinder the accumulation of human capital and long-term economic growth in the recipient countries as the debt overhang theory and the liquidity constraints theory have also proven. Through analyzing data from 50 low and lower-middle-income African countries from 2000 to 2020 using a fixed effect model, my research shows lower-income countries are more likely to experience the crowding-out effect of China's lending.

# GROUP LEADERS

# GARIMA AGARWAL

## AZIM PREMJI UNIVERSITY

Garima Agarwal is a labour development economist interested in gender. She received her Ph.D. in Economics from the Delhi School of Economics and was a Stephan Klasen Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Göttingen. Her research seeks to understand and address barriers to human capital accumulation and participation for women and girls. Her doctoral dissertation focusses on barriers to school participation for adolescent girls on account of biological constraints such as puberty and menstruation. For analysis, she applies a variety of econometric techniques to primary as well as secondary data. She aims to pursue policy relevant research with a strong focus on ground realities. Her current projects explore barriers to women's labour force participation. While the focus of her work is India, she is keen to explore issues of female participation in other contexts as well.

# JITENDRA SINGH

## ASHOKA UNIVERSITY

I am a Ph.D. candidate in economics at Ashoka University. My research agenda broadly spans the field of development economics and political economy. I am interested in examining how social identities, namely gender, caste, and religion determine economic outcomes in contemporary India. My thesis is focused on the issue of the decline in female labor force participation in India. Another strand of my research studies the economic impact of Hindu-Muslim religious violence in India.

# MATEO HOYOS LOPEZ

## CENTER FOR ECONOMICS RESEARCH AND TEACHING (CIDE)

Mateo is an assistant professor of economics at CIDE, in Mexico City. He got his PhD in economics from University of Massachusetts, Amherst. In his research he focuses on international trade, economic growth, and the macroeconomic aspects of economic development.

# MUSTAFA METIN BASBAY

## BOĞAZIÇI UNIVERSITY

Mustafa is an Assistant Professor of Economics at Boğaziçi University in Istanbul, Turkey. His areas of research include macro-level development policies, particularly fiscal policy and the history of economic thought. He completed his Ph.D. at the University of Cambridge, Centre for Development Studies, under the supervision of Dr. Ha Joon Chang. Before joining Boğaziçi University, he worked as a teaching fellow at the Department of Development Studies at SOAS between 2019-2021. Mustafa holds two BA degrees (Economics and Sociology) from Boğaziçi University.

# SRISHTI YADAV

## AZIM PREMJI UNIVERSITY

Srishti Yadav is an Assistant Professor with the Economics group at Azim Premji University. Her research interest is in the use of theoretical tools of Marxian political economy and methodological tools of fieldwork to better understand the economies of the global south. She holds a PhD in Economics from the New School for Social Research. Her doctoral research explored classic and contemporary dimensions of the agrarian question in India, i.e. the role of agricultural surplus in India's development trajectory, and social relations of production in contemporary agriculture. Her ongoing research extends from agrarian self-employment to non-agrarian self-employment, or petty commodity production. She hopes to conduct fieldwork soon to better understand production, reproduction, and accumulation dynamics in petty commodity producing households.

# AGW 2023: MENTORS



Surbhi Kesar
Assistant Professor
SOAS, University of London



Anand Shrivastava
Associate Professor
Economics, Azim Premji Universtiy



Rosa Abraham
Assistant Professor
Economics, Azim Premji University



Tony Kurian
Research Fellow
Indian Institute of technology, Mumbai

We are happy to introduce the mentoring system in AGW, where the idea is that the mentors, who will be present on multiple days of the workshop, will dedicate some of their time to speak to the PhD students in detail, providing some feedback to progress their research. The rationale for introducing the mentoring system is that he group leaders often find themselves extremely busy coordinating the group discussions duringthe workshop, and in order to provide technical guidance (which is appreciated but not necessary) they have to spend time with students beyond the designated sessions, often till late in the evenings.

Unlike the group leaders, mentors will typically *not* provide feedback on presentation, but provide guidance on the specifics of the paper/broader research agenda. Thus, in a way, the mentors will complement the task of the group leaders.

Our hope is that the mentoring system will allow for more meaningful engagement with students who can benefit from such technical guidance from young and established faculty members/researchers in their field.

# AGW 2023: LOGISTICS TEAM



**Raghvendra Shrikrishna Vanjari**

Raghvendra is currently working at the Azim Premji University's Research Centre, taking care of administrative work. He is a Zoologist by training and education, and his academic interest has inclined towards ecology in the recent past. He received his master's degree from Solapur University, following which he worked at the Indo German consortium, in a socio and agroecological project. The project "Ecosystem services, agricultural diversification and smallholders' livelihoods in the rural-urban interface of Bengaluru", sponsored by Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, gave him three years of experience to involve in research work at university.

He is also part of the project "Food Systems in Transition: A Case Study of the Soliga Tribe in Biligiri Ranganna (BR) Hills, Karnataka" supported by the university. Raghvendra enjoys birdwatching, painting, and cycling.

# AGW 2023: ORGANISING COMMITTEE



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