

# FARZANA AFRIDI

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## CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

- 2021- Professor, Economics and Planning Unit,  
Indian Statistical Institute (IS) Delhi
- 2016-20 Associate Professor, Economics and Planning Unit,  
Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) Delhi
- 2011-16 Assistant Professor, Economics and Planning Unit,  
Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) Delhi

## EDUCATION

- 2006 Ph.D. in Economics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
- 1999 M.A. in Economics, Delhi School Economics, University of Delhi
- 1997 B.A. in Economics (with Honors), Lady Sri Ram College for Women,  
University of Delhi

## PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT

- 2010-11 Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics  
University of Delhi
- 2006-09 Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Syracuse University
- 2004-05 Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics, University of  
Michigan
- 2000-02 Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics, University of  
Michigan
- 1999-00 Research Assistant, National Council of Applied Economic Research

## VISITING POSITIONS

- 2021- National University of Singapore, Department of Economics
- Sept 2017 University of Texas-Dallas, Department of Economics
- June 2017 University of New South Wales, Department of Economics
- 2014-15 Centre for Finance and Development, The Graduate Institute, Geneva
- 2009-10 Planning Unit, Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi

## EDITORIAL POSITIONS

- 2019-24 Member, Editorial Board 'Sarvekshana' - the official journal of the National Sample Survey Organization of India, Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation
- 2018- Academic Editor, PLOS One
- 2015- Member, Editorial Board, Ideas for India (IGC-India Central blog)

## OTHER AFFILIATIONS

- 2021- Founding member, [The Feedback Initiative](#)
- 2020- Lead Academic, International Growth Centre (India program)
- 2019-21 Member, International Union for the Scientific Study of Population's (IUSSP) Panel on Population, Poverty and Inequality (PoPovIn)
- 2018- Core committee member, Society for Economic Research in India ([SERI](#))
- 2014-16 Member, Advisory Board, Educational Survey Division, National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)
- 2012- Research Fellow, Institute for the Study of Labour (IZA), Bonn

## JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

- (1) Improving Learning Outcomes through Information Provision: Experimental Evidence from Indian Villages (with Bidisha Barooah and Rohini Somanathan), *Journal of Development Economics*, 146, September 2020.
- (2) Using Social Connections and Financial Incentives to Solve Coordination Failure: A Quasi-field Experiment in India's Manufacturing Sector (with Amrita Dhillon, Sherry Xin Li and Swati Sharma) *Journal of Development Economics*, 144, May 2020
- (3) Designing Effective Transfers: Lessons from India's School Meal Program (with Bidisha Barooah and Rohini Somanathan), *Review of Development Economics*, 24(1): 45-61, February 2020.
- (4) Why Are Fewer Married Women Joining the Workforce in Rural India? A Decomposition Analysis over Two Decades (with Taryn Dinkelman and Kanika Mahajan), *Journal of Population Economics*, 31(3): 783-818, July 2018.
- (5) Women Political Leaders, Corruption and Learning: Evidence from a Large Public Program in India (with Vegard Iversen and M.R. Sharan), *Economic Development and Cultural Change* (lead article), 66 (1): 1-30, October 2017.
- (6) Female Labour Force Participation and Child Education in India: Evidence from the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. (with Abhiroop Mukhopadhyay and Soham Sahoo), *IZA Journal of Labor and Development*, April 2016.
- (7) Social Identity and Inequality: The Impact of China's Hukou System. (with Sherry Xin Li and Yufei Ren) , *Journal of Public Economics*, 123: 17-29, March 2015.
- (8) Social Networks and Labour Productivity: A Survey of Recent Theory and Evidence (with Amrita Dhillon and Swati Sharma), *Indian Economic Review*, 2015, Vol L (1).
- (9) Social audits and MGNREGA delivery: Lessons from Andhra Pradesh (with Vegard Iversen) *India Policy Forum*, 2014.
- (10) The Impact of School Meals on School Participation in Rural India. *Journal of Development Studies* (Special Section on Impact Evaluations), 47(11): 1636-1656, November 2011.

- (11) Child Welfare Programs and Child Nutrition: Evidence from a Mandated School Meal Program. *Journal of Development Economics*, 92(2):152-165, July 2010.  
(Reprinted in Jha and Gaiha eds. 'The Economics of Food Security', The International Library of Critical Writings in Economics series Vol II, November 2016, Edward Elgar Publishing)
- (12) Women's Empowerment and the Goal of Parity Between the Sexes in Schooling in India. *Population Studies*, 64(2): 131-145, July 2010.
- (13) Can Community Monitoring Improve the Accountability of Public Officials?" *Economic and Political Weekly*, Mumbai, Vol. 43 (42), 2008.
- (14) Mid-day Meals in Two States: Comparing the Financial and Institutional Organization of the Program, *Economic and Political Weekly*, Mumbai, Vol. XL (15), 2005.

## BOOK CHAPTERS AND REPORTS

- (1) Efficacy of Centralised and Decentralised Monitoring of Corruption in Developing Countries (with Amrita Dhillon and Arka Roy Chaudhuri) (provisional title) in preparation for Jean-Paul Fuguet and Sarmistha Pal (eds.) *Global Perspectives on Decentralized Governance*, 2021.
- (2) Livelihoods and Mental Well-being during Covid-19: Evidence from India (with Amrita Dhillon and Sanchari Roy) in-progress book chapter commissioned by UNU-WIDER, Oxford University Press, 2021.
- (3) Social Networks and Labor Markets in Developing Countries (with Amrita Dhillon), in preparation for Klaus Zimmerman ed. *Handbook of Labor, Human Resources and Population Economics*, Springer-Nature, 2021.
- (4) Governance and Public Service Delivery in India. IGC research synthesis & IZA working paper No. 10856, 2017.
- (5) Educational Attainment and Learning in India, 2004-12 (with Bidisha Barooah) in Batabyal and Nijkamp ed. *Regional Growth and Sustainable Development in Asia*, Springer, January 2017.
- (6) Who Benefits from Public Sector Health Spending? Results of a Benefit Incidence Analysis for India, (with Ajay Mahal, Janmejay Singh, Vikram Lamba, V. Selvaraju and Anil Gumber) National Council of Applied Economic Research, New Delhi & World Bank, Washington D.C. Report,

2002.

## **WORKING PAPERS**

- (1) Employment Guaranteed? Social Protection During a Pandemic (with Kanika Mahajan and Nikita Sangwan), IZA Discussion Paper 14099
- (2) Gendering Technological Change: Evidence from Agricultural Mechanization (with Kanika Mahajan and Monisankar Bishnu), IZA Discussion Paper 13712
- (3) A Breath of Fresh Air: Raising Awareness for Clean Fuel Adoption (with Sisir Debnath and E. Somanathan), *Revise and Resubmit*  
Pre-results (Stage 1) accepted at the *Journal of Development Economics*  
IZA Discussion Paper 13967  
<http://jde-preresultsreview.org/index.html#prospectivearticles>
- (4) The Ties that Bind Us: Social Networks and Productivity in the Factory (with Amrita Dhillon and Swati Sharma), CEPR Working Paper 14687
- (5) What Determines Women's Labor Supply? The Role of Home Productivity and Social Norms (with Monisankar Bishnu and Kanika Mahajan), IZA Discussion Paper 12666, *Revise and Resubmit*
- (6) Electoral Competition and Corruption: Theory and Evidence from India (with Sourav Bhattacharya, Amrita Dhillon and Eilon Solan)  
Previously titled "Exposing Corruption: Can Electoral Competition Discipline Politicians" IZA Discussion Paper 10396
- (7) Hunger and Performance in the Classroom (with Bidisha Barooah and Rohini Somanathan), IZA Discussion Paper 12627

## **WORK-IN-PROGRESS**

- (1) Home Production Technology and Women's Time Allocation in Rural India (with Sisir Debnath and Taryn Dinkelman)
- (2) The Gendered Effects of Climate Change: Production Shocks and Labor Usage in Agriculture (with Kanika Mahajan and Nikita Sangwan)
- (3) Votebuying (with Shabana Mitra and Sujata Visaria)

- (4) Electoral Cycles and Public Goods Provision: Evidence from India (with Ahana Basistha, Amrita Dhillon and Arka Roy Chaudhuri)
- (5) Social Networks, Social Norms and Women's Labor Supply (with Amrita Dhillon and Sanchari Roy)
- (6) Beliefs, Information and Anti-corruption during Covid-19 (with Ahana Basistha, Amrita Dhillon and Danila Serra)

## **POLICY WRITING**

Did MNREGA cushion job losses during the pandemic? (with Kanika Mahajan and Nikita Sangwan)

*Ideas for India*, 11 February 2021

Reprinted in *The Wire*

The elusive promise of work (with Amrita Dhillon and Arka Roy Chaudhuri)

*Op-ed, Indian Express*, 7 October 2020

DUET: Weighing the costs and benefits

*Ideas for India*, 21 September 2020

What does India need to do to clean up its air?

*India in Transition, CASI at UPenn*, 3 August 2020

Using social connections to solve coordination failure: Evidence from assembly lines in India (with Amrita Dhillon, Sherry Xin Li and Swati Sharma)

*VoxDev*, 16 July 2020

How has Covid-19 crisis affected the urban poor? (with Amrita Dhillon and Sanchari Roy)

*Ideas for India - Part I*, 11 March 2020

*Ideas for India - Part II*, 23 April 2020

Reprinted in *The Wire*

Can relocating industries help women job seekers? (with Eesha Kunduri)

*Hindustan Times*, 17 September 2019

How LPG improves rural women's health

*Op-ed, Business Standard*, 17 August 2019

Providing information on school quality in a dysfunctional public education system

*Ideas for India, 18 October 2018*

The marriage penalty on women in India (with Kanika Mahajan)  
*MINT, 4 July 2018*

Editor, e-symposium 'Firms and Labor Productivity'  
*Ideas for India, 12 March 2018*

Why female employment is falling? (with Taryn Dinkelman and Kanika Mahajan)  
*Op-ed, Business Standard, 5 March 2017*

Editor, e-symposium on the 10th anniversary of MGNREGA  
*Ideas for India, 14 March 2016*

Social audit isn't enough  
*Op-ed, Indian Express, 22 January 2014*

We, the monitors  
*Op-ed, Indian Express, 30 July 2013*

Does political reservation for women improve programme delivery?  
*Ideas for India, 17 January 2013*

Food for thought: On the design of school subsidy programmes  
*Ideas for India, 6 August 2012*

## **GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| 2020    | Networks, Livelihoods and Well-being During a Pandemic: A Panel Study Using Matched Husband-Wife-Friends Data in Urban India (with Amrita Dhillon and Sanchari Roy)<br><i>IGC Covid-19 Research Grant</i> |
| 2019-21 | Centralised vs. Decentralised Monitoring to Reduce Corruption (with Amrita Dhillon and Eilon Solan)<br><i>DFID-Anti Corruption Evidence Grant</i>   |
| 2018-21 | Identifying and Alleviating Constraints to Women's Economic Empowerment<br><i>IWWAGE-IFMR sub-award - A Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Initiative</i>  |

- 2015-16 Identity, Social Networks and Labor Productivity (with Amrita Dhillon and Sherry Xin Li)  
*Planning Commission, PPRU Grant, ISI, Delhi*  
*CAGE, Warwick University*
- 2014-15 A Field Experiment on Labour Productivity in an Indian Garment Factory (with Amrita Dhillon and Vegard Iversen)  
*Planning Commission, PPRU Grant, ISI, Delhi*
- 2013-16 Women and Work in Rural India (with Taryn Dinkelman, Kanika Mahajan and Abhiroop Mukhopadhyay)  
2014-16 *International Growth Centre (IGC)*  
2013-15 *Planning Commission, PPRU Grant, ISI, Delhi*
- 2012-14 Political Economy of Implementation of Public Programs in India  
*EU-NOPOOR Grant*
- 2010-12 Does Female Leadership Impact on Governance? Evidence from a Public Poverty Alleviation Programme in Andhra Pradesh, India (with Vegard Iversen)  
2011-12 *International Growth Centre (IGC)*  
2010-12 *Planning Commission, PPRU Grant, ISI, Delhi*
- 2009-12 Health and Cognitive Effects of Supplementary School Feeding Programs (with Bidisha Barooah and Rohini Somanathan)  
2011-12 *International Growth Centre (IGC)*  
2009-10 *Department of Education, Government of Delhi*
- 2003-05 Impact Evaluation of School Meals in Rural India  
2005 *Marshall Weinberg International Research Fellowship, Population Studies Center, University of Michigan*  
2003-04 *Pre-Dissertation Fellowship, Population Council*

#### **OTHER GRANTS / FELLOWSHIPS**

- 2008 Centre for Policy Research, Grant for Summer Research Assistance, Syracuse University (with Perry Singleton)
- 2007-08 Appleby-Mosher Faculty Research Grant, Syracuse University
- 2007 Moynihan Institute, Syracuse University, Faculty Research Grant
- 2005 Rackham Dissertation Fellowship



- 2002-03 Hewlett Foundation Fellowship, Population Studies Center,  
University of Michigan (2002-03)
- 2002 Summer Research Fellowship, Department of Economics, University  
of Michigan
- 1999 Junior Research Fellowship, University Grants Commission, India

## **TEACHING**

THE GRADUATE INSTITUTE, GENEVA:  
Population and Development (M.A.)

ISI, DELHI:

Econometric Methods (M.A./Ph.D. level)

Econometric Applications: Household Behaviour (M.A./Ph.D. level)

Labour Economics (M.A./Ph.D. level)

DELHI SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS:

Population and Development (M.A./Ph.D. level)

Structural Modelling for Policy Analysis (M.A./Ph.D. level)

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY:

Topics in Development Economics (Ph.D. level)

Development Economics (undergraduate level)

Microeconomic Theory (intermediate level)

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, ANN ARBOR:

Introductory Microeconomics (undergraduate level)

## **Ph.D. SUPERVISION**

2016 Bidisha Barooah, Delhi School of Economics

2014- Swati Sharma, ISI Delhi

2016- Ahana Basistha, ISI Delhi

2019- Nikita Sangwan, ISI Delhi

## **MASTER'S THESIS SUPERVISION**

2015-16 Lalit Sethia (ISI)  
2017-18 Resem Makan (ISI)

### **INVITED LECTURES AND PANELS**

- 2021 Accelerating gender equality in India post Covid (LSE Festival), Women's labor force participation: Research and policy priorities (IWWAGE-ISI workshop)
- 2020 Prof. K. Vasanthi Devi Endowment Lecture (Ethiraj College for Women, Chennai), Keynote "Women's work, production technology and the environment" (EfD Annual conference); NCAER-CSF panel on "Private schooling in India"; IGC Panel on "Covid-19 and informal employment in India" (co-panelists Jean Dreze and Purnima Menon)
- 2019 Jadavpur University, IWWAGE-IFMR, IGC at 10 (Delhi), St. Stephen's College, United Nations General Assembly (UN- Women-ILO, New York), 3ie (Delhi Evidence Week), IGC-Bihar (Patna)
- 2018 Miranda House, Dyal Singh College (Econclave), Summer School for Women in Mathematics and Statistics (TIFR, Bangalore), IIPS workshop (Mumbai)
- 2017 Lady Sri Ram College Annual Economics Symposium Panel, IEG, IGC-EPoD Regional Dialogue on Women's Empowerment (Kathmandu), Delhi School of Economics, Australian Development Economics Workshop (UNSW, Sydney)
- 2016 Institute for Economic Growth, IFPRI (Delhi), Janki Devi Memorial College annual lecture series
- 2015 IFPRI (Delhi)
- 2014 3ie (Delhi), Lady Sri Ram College – Academic Congress on Gender

### **INVITED SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES (\*scheduled)**

- 2021 STEG-CEPR Annual Conference, IIM-Lucknow, Annual Economics Conference (Ahmedabad University), \*SMU-NUS Development Economics workshop, \*HKUST (econ)

- 2020 Centre for the Advanced Study of India (CASI) at UPenn, UT-Austin (econ), EfD annual conference, NUS (econ)
- 2019 South Asia workshop (Monash-IIPS, Colombo), Women in the Economy workshop (ISI), Workshop on Community Networks and Institutions (Ashoka University), Sustainable Development Conference (Prato, Monash University), IUSSP Conference (Ann Arbor), Delhi School of Economics, Conference on Network Economics (IIM Ahmedabad)
- 2018 IIM Kolkata, ICAS workshop on political economy (Kolkata), Shiv Nadar University, IIM Bangalore, ABCDE Conference (Washington DC), Human Capital workshop (ISB), Workshop on Empirical and Computational Social Sciences (TCPD, Ashoka University)
- 2017 DSE-ISI- Gothenburg conference (Delhi), Australian Development Economics Workshop (UNSW, Sydney), RISE conference (Washington D.C.), IGC conference (Delhi), Human Capital Workshop (ISB), CASI conference on Early Childhood Development (University of Pennsylvania), UT-Dallas, Mumbai School of Economics, Australia-India workshop (Delhi)
- 2016 CSSS (Kolkata), NOPOOR conference (Delhi), SERI, JNU (CITD), Ashoka University, IGC-ISI-Jadavpur conference
- 2014 ISI-Warwick workshop (Delhi), IGC-South Asia conference (Lahore), Cornell- IFPRI-IGIDR conference on NREGA (Mumbai), ISI (Delhi), The Graduate Institute, Geneva
- 2013 Young Lives Conference (Oxford University), NCAER-Brookings India Policy Forum (Delhi), Indian Econometric Society's Golden Jubilee Conference (DSE), NEUDC (Harvard University)
- 2012 CSSS (Kolkata), Asian Development Bank, Manila (Economic Research Unit), International Growth Centre-ISI Conference, IIM-Bangalore (Centre for Public Policy), Indian School of Business (ISB), International Growth Week (LSE), IZA-World Bank Conference (Delhi), World Bank seminar (Delhi), ISI (Delhi), Journal of Public Economic Theory workshop on governance and political economy (Mysore)
- 2011 University of New South Wales (Development Economics Workshop), International Growth Centre-ISI Conference
- 2010 Delhi School of Economics, International Growth Centre-ISI Conference

- 2009 Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), Delhi
- 2008 Syracuse University (Moynihan Institute), International Economic Development Conference (University of Wisconsin-Madison)
- 2007 Syracuse University, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Population Association of America Annual Meeting, Mid-West Economics Association Annual Meeting, Minnesota International Economic Development Conference, Delhi School of Economics, NEUDC (Harvard)
- 2006 Far-Eastern Econometrics Conference (Tsinghua University, Beijing), Michigan State University, Syracuse University, University of California-Riverside
- 2005 University of Michigan Economic Development and Transition Seminar, University of Michigan Public Finance Seminar, Population Association of America Annual Meeting, Mid-West Economics Association Annual Meeting
- 2004 University of Michigan Public Finance Seminar

**DEPARTMENT SERVICE**

**ISI DELHI:**

- 2020-21 Chair, Sexual Harassment Committee
- 2020 Convener, Admission Committee for MSQE Program
- 2017- 20 Member, Policy Committee, Center for Climate, Food, Energy and Environment (CECFEE)
- 2016-20 Convener, Policy and Planning Research Unit
- 2016 Convener, Admission Committee for Doctoral Program in Economics
- 2012-16 Coordinator, EPU Department Seminar
- 2012-14 Chair, Research Fellows' Advisory Committee
- 2011-12 Member, Computer Committee; Member, Library Committee

**DELHI SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS:**

- 2010-11 Coordinator, Placement Cell.

**SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY:**

- 2006-08 Member, Junior Faculty Recruiting Committee
- 2007 Member, Senior Faculty Search Committee
- 2006-08 Co-organizer, International Trade and Development Seminar

2006-08 Faculty Advisor, Undergraduate Economics Club

## **WORKSHOP AND CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION**

2020 Executive Committee, Annual SERI Conference  
2019-22 Organizer, Annual 'Women in the Economy' Workshop  
2019-20 Organizing Committee, IUSSP PopPovIn Conference  
2018 Selection Committee, Annual SERI Conference  
2016-19 Program Committee, ACGDE (ISI Annual Conference)

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

Ad-hoc referee for: *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, Asian Population Studies, Demography, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Economica, Economics and Politics, Economics of Transition, Education Economics, Economic Inquiry, Economics of Education Review, European Economic Review, Experimental Economics, Feminist Economics, Food Policy, Indian Economic Review, Indian Growth and Development Review, IZA Journal of Development and Migration, Journal of Comparative Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Development Studies, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Economic Studies, Journal of Health Economics, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Population Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Letters in Spatial and Resource Sciences, Oxford Economic Papers, Population and Development Review, Population Studies, Review of Economics and Statistics, Scandinavian Journal of Economics, Social Science Research, World Development*

External Reviewer for: *National Science Foundation of the U.S.A; International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie); GLM-LIC program, IZA*

