
Sumedha Bajar

Date of Birth: 08/09/1987

Present Address:

B-006, Sterling Park Apartments, Kodigehalli, Bangalore, Karnataka, India

☎ : +91 7829376006

E-mail: sumedha.bajar@gmail.com,

Research

My principal research interest lies in the field of macroeconomics and development economics. For my PhD dissertation I analysed the relationship between components of infrastructure with output growth in India through various phases of growth. Additionally, I examined the relationship between infrastructure development and inequality across Indian states using NSSO data and the latest econometric estimation techniques. To complete this research I spent one year on coursework and four years doing theoretical and statistical analysis based on secondary data. Having submitted my dissertation with University of Mysore, my future research plans include, but not limited to building on the foundations of my PhD to further develop models and tools in conjunction with the objectives of my study.

Currently, I am working on a United Nations Development Program (UNDP)- National Institute of Advance Studies (NIAS)'s Research Initiative on Inequality and Human Development particularly concerning the process of transition from an agrarian economy to a non-agrarian one and demand for non-farm occupations in India at district level using Census of India data.

Educational Qualifications

2010 - 2016 **PhD (Economics), *Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore, Karnataka***

- Topic – “*Infrastructure and Economic Growth: Evidence from India*”
- Supervisor – *Prof. Meenakshi Rajeev*

2008 - 2010 **Master of Arts (Economics), *University of Hyderabad***

- First Division with Distinction, **CGPA : 8.25/10**
- Modules included: Theory of Money, Econometrics, Micro Economic Theory, Game Theory, Theories of Growth and Development, General Equilibrium, International Trade and Payments, Environment Economics

-
- 2005 - 2008 **B.A. (Honours) Economics, *Miranda House, University of Delhi***
- First Division, 61 per cent
- 2004 - 2005 **Senior School Certificate Examination (C.B.S.E),
*Kulachi Hansraj Model School, Delhi***
- First Division, 82.4%

Experience

- 2016 to present **Post-Doctoral Fellow**
National Institute of Advanced Studies, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, Karnataka
- NIAS-UNDP Policy Research Initiative on Inequality and Human Development
- 2014 to 2015
(September, 2014-December, 2015) **Assistant Director**
National Institute of Labour Economics Research and Development (Formerly, IAMR), NITI Aayog, Govt. of India, Delhi
- Team member in the project “Impact Assessment of Krishi Vigyan Kendras on Dissemination of Improved Practices and Technologies, ICAR”. Participated in survey questionnaire design, conducted field visits, performed analytical work using primary data and contributed to report writing.
 - Secondary data analysis for the project “Determinants of Access to Formal Credit by Micro, Small & Medium Enterprise Units in India”.
- 2009
(June - July) **Summer Trainee**
National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), Delhi
- Worked under Dr. Rajesh Chadha, Senior Fellow
 - Wrote a paper on **Trade in Services** with special emphasis on Export of software services from India
- 2008
(December) **Intern**
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Delhi
- Worked under Dr. Rashmi Banga and Abhijit Das
 - Worked on following projects – “Indo- Japan Government

Procurement Agreement: Implications for India”, “Economic Slow Down: Opportunities for India”, “Sectoral Negotiations at the WTO”

- Learned to use databases like WITS, OECD Database for Services, UNCTAD’s Handbook of Statistics

Conferences and Workshops

- 2015** **South Asian Economic Development: The Way Forward, An International Conference from the Perspective of Young Researchers, at South Asian University, New Delhi, India**
9th to 10th April
- Presented paper titled “The Impact of Infrastructure Provisioning on Inequality in Indian States: Does level of Development Matter?”
- 2014** **5th Lindau Meeting of the Laureates of the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel, at Lindau, Germany**
19th to 23rd August
- Participated as PhD Scholar from India
- 2014** **Warwick Economic Growth Workshop, at University of Warwick, United Kingdom**
7th to 11th July
- Presented paper titled “*Infrastructure-Output Nexus: Regional Experience from India*”
 - Introductory lectures by Oded Galor, Stelios Michalopoulos, Sascha Becker, James Fenske etc.
- 2014** **ISI-Warwick Economics Workshop, at Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi, India**
24th to 28th February
- Expository lectures delivered by Debraj Ray, Sascha Becker, Sharun Mukand, Rocco Macchiavello, Omer Moav
- 2013** **Sixth Doctoral Thesis Conference, at ICFAI Business School, Hyderabad, India**
26th to 27th April
- Presented paper titled “*Infrastructure-Output Nexus: Regional Experience from India*”

-
- 2013** **CESifo Venice Summer Institute, at Venice International University, San Servolo, Italy**
26th to 27th July
- Presented paper titled “***Infrastructure-Output Nexus: Regional Experience from India***” at the workshop titled “*The Economics of Infrastructure Provisioning: The (Changing) Role of the State*”; Organised by CESifo Group Munich
- 2012** **BREAD-IGC-ISI Summer School in Development Economics, at Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi, India**
21st to 25th July
- Faculty: Dilip Mookherjee, Kartik Muralidharan, Viktoria Hnatkovska, Seema Jayachandran, Sheetal Shekhri

Publications

- **Chand, R and Bajar, S** (2012) “Agriculture Trade Liberalisation Policies in India: Balancing Producer and Consumer Interests”. In: Banga R and Das A eds. *Twenty Years of India’s Liberalisation: Experiences and Lessons. United Nations.*
- **Bajar, S** (2014) “The Infrastructure-Output Nexus: Regional Experience from India”. Working Paper no. 319, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore
- **Bajar, S** (2015) “The Infrastructure-Output Nexus: Regional Experience from India” in Picot A, Florio M, Grove N and J. Kranz eds *The Economic of Infrastructure Provisioning: The Changing Role of the State.* Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.
- **Bajar, S and Rajeev, M** (2015) “The Impact of Infrastructure Provisioning on Inequality: Evidence from India”. ISEC Working Paper No. 337. Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore.
- **Bajar, S and Rajeev, M** (2015) “The Impact of Infrastructure Provisioning on Inequality: Evidence from India”. Global Labour University working paper no. 35. International Labour Office (ILO), GLU.
-
- **Bajar, S and Rajeev, M** (2016) “The Impact of Infrastructure Provisioning on Inequality in India: Does Level of Development Matter?” *Journal of Comparative Asian Development.* DOI: 10.1080/15339114.2016.1150188

Technical Skills

- ❖ Expert in statistical software packages like Stata, SPSS, E-views, J-Multi
- ❖ Well versed with MS Word, Excel, Power point
- ❖ Thorough knowledge of Economics databases.

References

Prof. Meenakshi Rajeev (Supervisor)

Centre for Economic Studies and Policy (CESP)
Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore
Ph.D. Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata
Email: meenakshi@isec.ac.in

Dr. Ellumalai Kannan (Associate Professor)

Agricultural Development and Rural Transformation Centre (ADRTC)
Ph.D. (Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi)
Email: elumalaik@isec.ac.in

Dr. Rashmi Banga

Adviser and Head
Trade Division
Commonwealth Secretariat, London, United Kingdom.
Email: r.banga@commonwealth.int