



O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL
INSTITUTION OF EMINENCE DEEMED TO BE
UNIVERSITY
A Private University Promoting Public Service



**Jindal School of Government
and Public Policy**
India's First Public Policy School

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

on

Economics and Public Policy

HYBRID, 22nd and 23rd DECEMBER 2025



Organised by
Jindal School of Government and Public Policy
O.P. Jindal Global University

PROGRAMME

DAY-1: MONDAY, 22nd DECEMBER 2025

08:00 AM – 06:00 PM **REGISTRATION**

10:30 AM – 10:45 AM **WELCOME ADDRESS**

R. Sudarshan

Professor and Dean,
Jindal School of Government and Public Policy
O.P. Jindal Global University

10:45 AM – 12:15 PM **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

**Development in Uncertain Times:
Re-imagining Economic Strategies**

SPEAKER

Jayati Ghosh

Professor, Department of Economics
University of Massachusetts at Amherst, USA

CHAIR

R. Sudarshan

Professor and Dean,
Jindal School of Government and Public Policy
O.P. Jindal Global University



Imaginarium, Ground Floor
Savitri Jindal Faculty Office Block



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<https://tinyurl.com/uc4dnsna>

12:15 PM – 01:15 PM **LUNCH** |  Vidya Devi Jindal Dining Block (5th Floor)

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM | PARALLEL PAPER PRESENTATIONS - 1

Session 1a

Climate

CHAIR

Priti Agarwal

Associate Professor,
Jindal School of Government
and Public Policy,
O.P. Jindal Global University

📍 T68, Ratan Jindal Academic Block



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<https://tinyurl.com/yc5uv565>

Session 1b

Complexity and Game Theory

CHAIR

Shivangi Chandel

Associate Professor,
Jindal School of Government
and Public Policy,
O.P. Jindal Global University

📍 T69, Ratan Jindal Academic Block



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<https://tinyurl.com/22zm58ve>

Session 1c

Gender

CHAIR

Mrinalini Jha

Professor
Jindal School of Government
and Public Policy,
O.P. Jindal Global University

📍 T70, Ratan Jindal Academic Block



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03:00 PM – 03:30 PM

TEA/COFFEE BREAK

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM | PARALLEL PAPER PRESENTATIONS - 2

Session 2a

Health-1

CHAIR

Indranil Mukhopadhyay

Professor
Jindal School of Government
and Public Policy,
O.P. Jindal Global University

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Session 2b

Labour-1

CHAIR

Rahul Menon

Associate Professor
Jindal School of Government
and Public Policy,
O.P. Jindal Global University

📍 T69, Ratan Jindal Academic Block



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Session 2c

Industry

CHAIR

Naveen J. Thomas

Professor
Jindal School of Government
and Public Policy,
O.P. Jindal Global University

📍 T70, Ratan Jindal Academic Block



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06:00 PM – 08:00 PM

DINNER | 📍 Vidya Devi Jindal Dining Block (5th Floor)

DAY-2: TUESDAY, 23rd DECEMBER 2025

09:00 PM – 06:00 PM

REGISTRATION

09:15 AM – 10:15 AM

INVITED SPEAKER ADDRESS-2

Indian Agriculture and its Contradictions

SPEAKER

Mekhala Krishnamurthy

Associate Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology
Ashoka University

CHAIR

R. Sudarshan

Professor and Dean, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy
O.P. Jindal Global University



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10:15 AM – 10:30 AM

TEA/COFFEE BREAK

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

PANEL DISCUSSION 2

Policy and the Way Forward for Agriculture

PANELISTS

Mekhala Krishnamurthy

Associate Professor, Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology
Ashoka University

Harish Damodaran

Editor, National Rural Affairs & Agriculture, Indian Express

Richa Kumar

Associate Professor, Sociology and Science and
Technology Studies (STS), IIT Delhi

CHAIR

Avanindra Nath Thakur

Professor, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy
O.P. Jindal Global University



Imaginarium, Ground Floor
Savitri Jindal Faculty Office Block



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12:00 PM – 01:00 PM

LUNCH | Vidya Devi Jindal Dining Block (5th Floor)

1:00 PM – 2:30 PM | PARALLEL PAPER PRESENTATIONS - 3

Session 3a

Education

CHAIR

Manini Ojha

Associate Professor
Jindal School of Government
and Public Policy,
O.P. Jindal Global University

📍 T68, Ratan Jindal Academic Block



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Session 3b

Agriculture and Government

CHAIRS

Sushant Kumar

Assistant Professor, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy,
O.P. Jindal Global University

Prachi Bansal

Assistant Professor, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy,
O.P. Jindal Global University

📍 T69, Ratan Jindal Academic Block



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02:30 PM – 02:45 PM

TEA/COFFEE BREAK

2:45 PM – 4:15 PM | PARALLEL PAPER PRESENTATIONS - 4

Session 4a

Health-2

CHAIR

Vyom Anil

Post-Doctoral Researcher
Jindal School of Government
and Public Policy,
O.P. Jindal Global University

📍 T68, Ratan Jindal Academic Block



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Session 4b

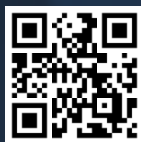
Labour and Inequality

CHAIR

Rahul Menon

Associate Professor
Jindal School of Government
and Public Policy,
O.P. Jindal Global University

📍 T69, Ratan Jindal Academic Block



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<https://tinyurl.com/yzd3hyah>

Session 4c

Macroeconomics

CHAIR

Subaran Roy

Professor
Jindal School of Government
and Public Policy,
O.P. Jindal Global University

📍 T70, Ratan Jindal Academic Block



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04:15 PM – 04:30 AM

TEA/COFFEE BREAK

04:30 PM – 06:00 PM

CLOSING PANEL DISCUSSION

Search for Equity in a Fragmented Health System

PANELISTS

Achin Chakraborty

Professor, Institute of Development Studies, Kharagpur

Indrani Gupta

Head, Health Policy Research Unit,
Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi

Archana Dang

Assistant Professor, Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi

Anandita Sharma

Senior Research Associate and Post-Doctoral Fellow,
O.P. Jindal Global University

Vyom Anil

Senior Research Associate and Post-Doctoral Fellow
O.P. Jindal Global University

CHAIR

Nandita Bhan

Professor and Vice Dean (Academic Affairs),
Jindal School of Public Health and Human Development,
O.P. Jindal Global University

MODERATOR

Meenuka Mathew

Lecturer and Senior Research Manager,
O.P. Jindal Global University



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06:00 PM – 06:15 PM

CLOSING REMARKS

Naveen J. Thomas

Professor and Vice Dean
Jindal School of Government and Public Policy
O.P. Jindal Global University

07:00 PM – 09:00 PM

CONFERENCE DINNER | Vidya Devi Jindal Dining Block

DETAILS ON PARALLEL SESSIONS

DAY-1: MONDAY, 22nd DECEMBER 2025

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM | PARALLEL PAPER PRESENTATIONS - 1

Session 1a Climate

Chair: Priti Agarwal, Associate Professor, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy, O.P. Jindal Global University

1. **Saurav Kumar**, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai
Carbon Credit Training and India's Green Transition.
2. **Naveen Kumar**, Delhi School of Economics
Beyond GDP: Quantifying Heterogeneous Impact of Climate Change on Well-being and Social Progress.
3. **Paras Aggarwal**, BITS Pilani, Hyderabad Campus
Climate-Smart Trade and Sustainability: Structural vs. Dynamic Determinants in the G20.

Session 1b Complexity and Game Theory

Chair: Shivangi Chandel, Associate Professor, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy, O.P. Jindal Global University

1. **Shobhit Mohan**, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy
A Quantum-Bayesian Network Approach to Incomplete Contracts in Financial Markets
2. **Abinabha Nandy**, DePauw University
Spatial competition under multihoming
3. **Ravindra Agarwal**, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay
Party-influenced media, independent news and information traps
4. **Rahul Sinha**, Indian Institute of Technology Jodhpur
The Clockwork of Democracy: Welfare, Strategy and Electoral Temporality

Session 1c Gender

Chair: Mrinalini Jha, Professor, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy, O.P. Jindal Global University

1. **Maitree Thakur**, IISER Bhopal
When Goddess Empowers: Navratri and the Reporting of Domestic Violence
2. **Nayani Sharma**, Lal Bahadur Shastri Institute of Management
The Problem of Neutrality: Gender-Blind Tourism Policies and Their Implications in India
3. **Aishwarya Nambiar**, Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad
The Southern Paradox: Neighbourhood Level Norms and the Justification of Intimate Partner Violence in India.

Session 2a Health-1

Chair: Indranil Mukhopadhyay, Professor, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy, O.P. Jindal Global University

1. **Vinod Mishra**, Monash University
National Community Health Worker Program and Mental Health: Evidence from Ghana
2. **Bhawna Taneja**, Jawaharlal Nehru University
Mapping the Reach of Maternal Benefits: Spatial Dynamics and Peer Effects in Uptake of India's Conditional Cash Transfer Program
3. **Ishita Varma**, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai
Forest Rights, Dietary Diversity and Nutritional Security of Tribal Communities: Evidence from India.

Session 2b Labour-1

Chair: Rahul Menon, Associate Professor, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy, O.P. Jindal Global University

1. **Cherry Uppal**, O.P. Jindal Global University
Transition to Adulthood: Educational and Labour Market Pathways among the Older Cohort of the Young Lives Study in Andhra Pradesh, India
2. **Ravinder**, Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi
Foundational Skills and Labour Market Outcomes: Evidence from India
3. **Ronak Maheshwari**, Madras School of Economics
Labour Market Outcomes over the Life-Cycle: Formal and Informal Vocational Education, and General Education

Session 2c Industry

Chair: Naveen J. Thomas, Professor, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy, O.P. Jindal Global University

1. **Megha Chamoli**, Indian Institute of Technology Indore
R&D and Institutional Change in India: Growth Dynamics through a Varieties of Capitalism Lens
2. **Sourish Dutta**, VIPS-TC, GGSIPU Delhi
The Anatomy of Value Creation: Input-Output Linkages, Policy Shifts, and Economic Impact in India's Mobile Phone GVC
3. **Virender Kumar**, Delhi Technological University
Assessing the Impact of the Russia-Ukraine War on Industry-Specific Stock Market Performance in India

Session 3a Education

Chair: Manini Ojha, Associate Professor, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy, O.P. Jindal Global University

1. **Minali Grover**, Indian Institute of Management Indore
From Classrooms to Careers: The Impact of Fee Reimbursement Scheme on Education and Employment
2. **Pradeep Kumar Choudhury**, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
Removing Phones from Classrooms Improves Academic Performance

Session 3b Agriculture and Government

Chairs: Prachi Bansal, Assistant Professor, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy, O.P. Jindal Global University

Sushant Kumar, Assistant Professor, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy, O.P. Jindal Global University

1. **Aaqif Rashid Lone**, IISER Bhopal
Is Crop Insurance Environmentally Sustainable: Evidence from India
2. **Sumedha Shukla**, IIIT Delhi
A quantile regression approach to estimate heterogeneous credit-yield linkage and elicit rationing in rural credit markets: Evidence from semi-arid villages in India
3. **Ajay Saharan**, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research Mumbai
Party-Aligned Electoral Spending without Direct Voter Accountability: Evidence from India's Indirectly Elected Parliamentarians

Session 4a Health-2

Chair: Vyom Anil, Post-Doctoral Researcher, O.P. Jindal Global University

1. **Archana Singh**, Jawahar Lal Nehru Memorial PG College, Barabanki
Who Benefits from Public Nutrition Programs? Caste and Region-Based Heterogeneity in the Effectiveness of ICDS in India
2. **Sneha Nimmagadda**, University of Southern California
Parental Misperceptions on Child Nutrition in India

Session 4b Labour and Inequality

Chair: Rahul Menon, Associate Professor, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy, O.P. Jindal Global University

1. **Ravinder Ram**, B.R Ambedkar University, New Delhi
Measuring and Decomposing Inequality in Household Energy Consumption: Evidence from India's Household Consumption Surveys (2011-12 to 2022-23)
2. **Mansi Wadhwa**, Isaac Centre for Public Policy, Ashoka University
Paid Family Leave and Work Flexibility: The Differential Effects of California Paid Family Leave on Women's Work across Occupations
3. **Tanya Jain**, Delhi School of Economics
From Group Membership to Economic Empowerment: Heterogeneous effects of Social Capital on Women's Work Participation

Session 4c Macroeconomics

Chair: Subaran Roy, Professor, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy, O.P. Jindal Global University

1. **Keshav Sethi**, O. P. Jindal Global University
Impact of Global Financial Crisis on Regional Convergence Dynamics: New Evidence from India
2. **Roma Kumari**, IGIDR Mumbai
Target, Path, and Beyond: High-Frequency Evidence of Monetary Policy Spillovers to India
3. **Priyanka Arora**, TERI, New Delhi
Culture and Market: A Macroeconomic Tale of Two Institutions



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SPEAKERS' BIOS



WELCOME ADDRESS

R. Sudarshan

Professor and Dean, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy
O.P. Jindal Global University

Prof. R. Sudarshan has had distinguished careers in the domains of research, development programming and governance. After he obtained a Master's degree in Economics from the Delhi School of Economics he was elected to a Rhodes scholarship. He joined Balliol College, University of Oxford, and obtained a Master's degree in Politics in 1977. He was elected to a research fellowship at St. John's College, University of Cambridge, where he studied judicial review of economic legislation by the Supreme Court of India, specializing in the interface of law and economics. In 1983 he was a visiting scholar in the School of International Development, University of East Anglia. In 1984 he served in the Ford Foundation's South Asia Office in New Delhi as Assistant Representative and programme Officer for Human Rights and Social Justice. In 1991 he joined the UNDP in India as Senior Economist and Assistant Representative for Governance and Public Policy. In 2000 he served UNDP in Jakarta as its Senior Governance Advisor. In 2002 he was appointed Policy Advisor for Justice and Governance in the UNDP Oslo Governance Centre. In 2005, he was transferred to the UNDP Asia-Pacific Centre in Bangkok, where he was Regional Policy Advisor for Governance, Human Rights, Rule of Law, Justice, and Legal Reforms. In 2012 he joined the O.P. Jindal Global (Institution of Eminence Deemed To Be University) as the founding Dean of the Jindal School of Government and Public Policy. He has an impressive track record of publications comprising books, articles, and UN policy reports, reflecting his inter-disciplinary research, teaching and policy experience in development programmes, human development, law, governance, institutions and policy.

SPEAKERS



Jayati Ghosh

Professor, Department of Economics
University of Massachusetts at Amherst, USA

Prof. Jayati Ghosh is Professor of Economics at the University of Massachusetts Amherst since January 2021. She previously taught at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi (1987-2020). She is co-chair of Independent Commission for the Reform of International Corporate Taxation (ICRICT) She is also member of UN Secretary General's High-Level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism High-level Advisory Board on Economic and Social Affairs. In 2021, she was appointed to the WHO Council on the Economics of Health for All. She is the Executive Secretary of International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs).

Prof. Ghosh's research focuses on globalization, development economics, employment, gender issues, international finance, and macroeconomic policy. She has authored and/or edited over 20 books and nearly 200 scholarly articles and writes regularly for Project Syndicate, Frontline, The Guardian and Hindu BusinessLine. She has received awards including John Kenneth Galbraith award (2023), Malcolm Adisheshaiah Award for Contributions to Social Sciences (2015), the ILO Decent Work Research Prize (2010) and NordSud Research Prize in Social Sciences (2010). She has advised governments in India and internationally, notably as Chairperson of the Andhra Pradesh Commission on Farmers' Welfare (2004), Member of the National Knowledge Commission of India (2005-09) and Member of State Planning Board, Government of Tripura (2013-16). She has consulted for the ILO, UNDP, UNCTAD, UN-DESA, UNRISD, and UN Women.



Mekhala Krishnamurthy

Associate Professor, Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology
Ashoka University

Dr. Mekhala Krishnamurthy is Associate Professor of Sociology and Anthropology at Ashoka University and Senior Fellow at the Centre for Policy Research (CPR), New Delhi. She is a Non-Resident Visiting Scholar at the Center for the Advanced Study of India (CASI), University of Pennsylvania.

Over fifteen years, Dr. Krishnamurthy's research, publications, and policy engagements have encompassed women's courts and dispute resolution, community health workers and public health systems, agriculture and agricultural markets, and land, water, and livelihood security. Her work has positioned her at the intersections of academia, public policy, government, the private sector, and grassroots civil society organizations.

Dr. Krishnamurthy's longstanding research interest focuses on understanding the institutional dynamics and everyday life of the state, market, and economy in contemporary India, which she is currently pursuing through field-based research and writing projects. At CPR, she is engaged in building a new initiative on state capacity, examining the challenges and possibilities of strengthening public institutions in democratic India. Her work particularly emphasizes the lived experiences of field administrators, regulators, and frontline state functionaries.

PANELISTS



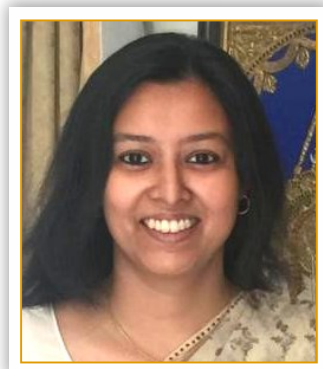
Harish Damodaran

Editor, National Rural Affairs & Agriculture, Indian Express

Harish Damodaran is National Rural Affairs & Agriculture Editor of *The Indian Express* and Senior Visiting Fellow at the Centre for Policy Research (CPR), New Delhi. A journalist with over 32 years of experience as a field reporter and editorial analyst, he has worked with the Press Trust of India (1991-94), *The Hindu Business Line* (1994-2014), and *The Indian Express*. His work and areas of interest encompass the farm sector, macroeconomics, business, and social history. He has been a Fellow of the New India Foundation, Bangalore (2004)

and Visiting Scholar at the Center for the Advanced Study of India, University of Pennsylvania (Spring 2008).

He is the author of *India's New Capitalists: Caste, Business, and Industry in a Modern Nation* (Palgrave Macmillan/Permanent Black, 2008; Hachette India, 2018), which examines the evolution of India's capitalist class since Independence, particularly the widening of its social base beyond traditional mercantile communities. The book won the Ramnath Goenka Excellence in Journalism Award in the Books (Non-Fiction) category for 2008-09. His second book, *Broke to Breakthrough: The Rise of India's Largest Private Dairy Company* (Penguin), a documentation case study of a regional 'new capitalist' enterprise, won the Gaja Capital Business Book Prize in 2022. He is currently working on a business biography of an 'old capitalist' and founder of India's third largest industrial house at the time of Independence.



Richa Kumar

Associate Professor, Sociology and Science and Technology Studies (STS), IIT Delhi

Dr. Richa Kumar is Associate Professor of Sociology and Science and Technology Studies (STS) in the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi. For over 20 years, she has studied issues at the intersection of agriculture, food, human health, and the environment from a social science and STS perspective. Her research and teaching interests encompass the Sociology of Agriculture, Environment and Climate Change; Sociology of Food, Nutrition, Toxicity and Health; Science and Technology Studies; and Rural and Agrarian Policy.

Dr. Kumar is the author of *Rethinking Revolutions: Soyabean, Choupals and the Changing Countryside in Central India* (Oxford University Press, 2016) and co-author of the *State of Rural and Agrarian India Report 2020*, in addition to numerous journal articles, book chapters, and public opinion pieces. She is Principal Investigator of the IIT Delhi Grand Challenges Project on measuring agrochemical body burden in select human populations, allocating exposure by source, and studying implications for public health and agrochemical regulation in India (2020-2025). Her collaborative work with Sangtin Kisan Mazdoor Sangathan on diets, nutrition, and agrarian transformation in western Avadh, Uttar Pradesh, has been co-curated on the bilingual portal www.foodcultures.org for public dissemination. Her work has been featured on the TEDx platform, in documentaries by ScoopWhoop Documentaries and VICE News, and on Radio France.

Dr. Kumar serves as member of the Core Group on Right to Food and Nutrition of the National Human Rights Commission, General Body Member of the Bharat Rural Livelihoods Foundation (BRLF), member of the National Technical Committee for implementing the Himalayan Agroecology Initiative, and Steering Committee Member of the National Coalition for Natural Farming (NCNF). She is a core group member of the Network of Rural and Agrarian Studies (NRAS), a multidisciplinary group of scholars and activists working on agrarian issues in India. As part of NRAS, she has co-organized several conferences and mentoring workshops at IIT Delhi and across non-metro academic spaces in India. She is a recipient of the inaugural Elizabeth Adiseshiah Memorial Award (2019), the New India Fellowship (2010), and was nominated for the Women Leading IITs Leadership program (2022).



Achin Chakraborty

Professor, Institute of Development Studies, Kharagpur

Prof. Achin Chakraborty is Professor of Economics and Director of the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata (IDSK) since 2013. He served as Associate Professor at the Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram (1996-2004) and as Visiting Professor at Sciences-Po, Paris (2007).

Prof. Chakraborty has co-edited *The Land Question in India: State, Dispossession, and Capitalist Transition* (Oxford University Press, 2017) and has published extensively in leading journals. His research focuses on welfare economics, human development, health economics, environmental economics, and inequality. He teaches courses on Alternative Perspectives on Well-Being, Measuring Development, and Poverty, Inequality and Human Development at IDSK. He has led numerous research projects for ICSSR, UNDP, Planning Commission of India, Asian Development Bank, and state governments, including the Kerala Human Development Report and MDG-based poverty reduction strategy for West Bengal. He has supervised doctoral theses at Jawaharlal Nehru University and the University of Calcutta.



Indrani Gupta

Head, Health Policy Research Unit,
Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi

Prof. Indrani Gupta is Professor and Head of the Health Policy Research Unit (HPRU) at the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi. She established HPRU in 1998, making it the first of its kind in India and among the few institutions in the country that conducts policy-oriented research on the health sector using tools of economic analysis. She holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Maryland, College Park, USA, and a Master's in Economics from the

University of Delhi. Prof. Gupta's work experience includes teaching and positions at academic institutes, the World Bank, and the Government of India. Her research interests encompass a wide range of topics in health economics and policy, including demand for health and health care, health insurance and financing, poverty and health, costing and cost-effectiveness, economics of diseases, and international agreements.



Archana Dang

Assistant Professor, Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi

Archana Dang is a Assistant Professor (On Contract) at the Institute of Economic Growth. Her current research interests include the economics of health, specifically behavioral economics and overweight and obesity issues in India. She conducted a primary survey of over 800 households to identify the determinants of burgeoning overnutrition issues. One of Archana's papers got published in Economics and Human Biology. In addition, she has co-authored two book chapters published by ADBI and Springer. She obtained her

Ph.D. and Master's in Economics from the Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics.



Meenuka Mathew

Lecturer and Senior Research Manager, O.P. Jindal Global University

Meenuka Mathew is currently Senior Research Manager for the NIHR Grant on Health Financing Fragmentation Study in India, a collaborative research study between JGU and Imperial College London. She has a Bachelor's degree in Humanities from Aquinas University, Colombo, Sri Lanka and a Master's degree in Public Policy from O.P. Jindal Global University, India. Her research focuses on Public Health, Refugee economies, Transnational Migrants, Policy Evaluation and Policy Communication. She has worked for International Non-

Governmental organisations based in the Philippines, France, and Uganda. In Sri Lanka, she has worked in programme design and evaluation. She is currently the Assistant editor of the Jindal Journal of Public Policy.



Anandita Sharma

Senior Research Associate and Post-Doctoral Fellow,
O.P. Jindal Global University

Dr. Anandita Sharma is Senior Research Associate at OP Jindal Global University, Sonapat. She holds a Ph.D. in Economics and a Masters in Economics from B R Ambedkar University, New Delhi.

**Vyom Anil**

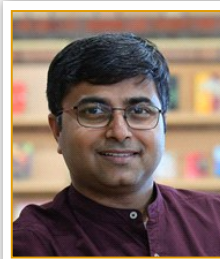
Senior Research Associate and Post-Doctoral Fellow
O.P. Jindal Global University

Dr. Vyom Anil is Postdoctoral Researcher at OP Jindal Global University, Sonapat. He holds a Ph.D. in Social Medicine and Community Health and a Masters in Social Sciences in Health from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. He also holds a Masters in Social Work in Rural Development from Tata Institute of Social Sciences.

SESSION CHAIR

**R. Sudarshan**

Professor and Dean,
Jindal School of Government
and Public Policy,
O.P. Jindal Global University

**Naveen J. Thomas**

Professor and Vice Dean,
Jindal School of Government
and Public Policy,
O.P. Jindal Global University

**Priti Agarwal**

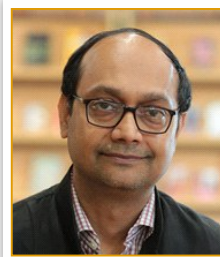
Associate Professor,
Jindal School of Government
and Public Policy,
O.P. Jindal Global University

**Shivangi Chandel**

Associate Professor,
Jindal School of Government
and Public Policy,
O.P. Jindal Global University

**Mrinalini Jha**

Professor,
Jindal School of Government
and Public Policy,
O.P. Jindal Global University

**Indranil Mukhopadhyay**

Professor,
Jindal School of Government
and Public Policy,
O.P. Jindal Global University

**Nandita Bhan**

Professor and Vice Dean,
Jindal School of Public Health
and Human Development,
O.P. Jindal Global University

**Rahul Menon**

Associate Professor,
Jindal School of Government
and Public Policy,
O.P. Jindal Global University



Avanindra Nath Thakur
Professor,
Jindal School of Government
and Public Policy,
O.P. Jindal Global University



Manini Ojha
Associate Professor,
Jindal School of Government
and Public Policy,
O.P. Jindal Global University



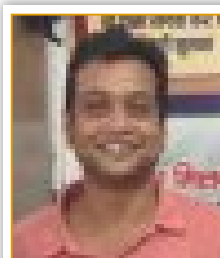
Sushant Kumar
Assistant Professor,
Jindal School of Government
and Public Policy,
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Aaqif Rashid Lone

Research Scholar, Department of Economic Sciences,
Indian Institute of Science Education and Research,
Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh

Aaqif Rashid Lone is a Research Scholar in the Department of Economic Sciences, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, India. His research interests include Climate Change Economics, Agriculture Economics, and Environmental Economics. His research is guided by a central question: How climate change influences the behaviour of the farmers, as well as farmers adaptation in the presence of climate uncertainty. His secondary research interests include Development Economics, especially the evaluation of contemporary agricultural policies and their implications for farmers. His current research examines role of crop insurance as a mechanism to mitigate climate-related risk and evaluates its impact on household decision-making and financial outcomes.



Abhinaba Nandy

Professor, DePauw University

I completed my PhD in Economics from Virginia Tech. I previously held faculty position in the Department of Economics at Grinnell College, Iowa. I am currently employed by the Department of Economics and Management at DePauw University, Indiana. My research interests lies at the confluence of Industrial Organization and Political Economy.



Aishwarya Nambiar

Academic Associate, IIM Bangalore

Aishwarya S N is currently an Academic Associate at the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Bangalore. She holds a Master's degree in Development Studies from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Hyderabad. Her research interests focus on understanding development challenges, particularly women's labor force participation, unpaid work, and the drivers of gender-based inequality, including Intimate Partner Violence (IPV).



Ajay Saharan

PhD Candidate, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research,
Mumbai

Ajay Saharan is a final-year PhD candidate in Development Studies at the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai



Bhawna Taneja

PhD Candidate, Centre for the Study of Regional Development (CSRD), School of Social Sciences (SSS), Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)

I, Bhawna Taneja, am a PhD candidate at the Centre for the Study of Regional Development (CSRD), School of Social Sciences (SSS), Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU). My research lies at the intersection of development economics, health economics, and applied econometrics. I focus on maternal and child health, public health interventions, and policy evaluation. Alongside, I also examine the dynamics of gender disparities, intimate partner violence, and social norms. My research employs quantitative techniques, including causal inference techniques, spatial econometric methods, and survey-based empirical analysis, utilizing both large-scale secondary data as well as primary data.



Cherry Uppal

PhD Scholar, JSGP, O.P. Jindal Global University

Cherry Uppal is an Assistant Professor at the University of Delhi and is currently pursuing a PhD at O.P. Jindal Global University. She has over 10 years of teaching experience. She completed her B.A. (Hons) in Economics from the University of Delhi and her M.A. in Economics from Panjab University. Her research focuses on the economics of education, with a particular interest in understanding the factors that shape educational and labor market outcomes. attainment, skill development, and post-school transitions.



Ishita Varma

PhD Student, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai

I am a PhD student of economics at the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai, India. My research lies at the intersection of political economy, development, and health economics. My PhD thesis explores decentralisation reforms introduced for the tribal communities in India, particularly focusing on how granting them greater autonomy through political representation and land rights impacts their welfare.



Keshav Sethi

Doctoral Scholar, JSGP, O.P. Jindal Global University

Keshav Sethi is a Doctoral Scholar in Economics at O.P. Jindal Global University, specialising in Applied Econometrics and Macroeconomics. He is a Gold Medalist in M.A. Economics from O.P. Jindal Global University. He has experience as a Teaching Assistant for various courses at the Jindal School of Government and Public Policy, as well as research experience in government ministries such as the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation and the Ministry of Education.

**Maitree Thakur**

Master's Student, Department of Economic Sciences at IISER, Bhopal

Maitree Thakur is a Master's student in the Department of Economic Sciences at IISER Bhopal. She is currently pursuing her Master's thesis on violence under the guidance of Dr. Tista Mukherjee.

**Dr. Mansi Wadhwa**

Postdoctoral Fellow, Isaac Centre for Public Policy, Ashoka University

Dr. Mansi Wadhwa is currently a Postdoctoral Fellow at Isaac Centre for Public Policy, Ashoka University. Her research is in the areas of gender economics, labor economics, social policy, and evidence-based policymaking. She specializes in analyzing the causal effects of policies/programs using experimental and quasi-experimental methods. Her recent work includes impact evaluations of job counseling programs, impacts of maternity and parental leave policies on women's labor market outcomes and examination

of evidence-based policymaking and program effectiveness ratings. Previously, she was a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the University of Utah. She holds a PhD in Public Policy from George Washington University, Washington DC with specialization in Program and Policy Evaluation. She also holds a Master's in Public Policy (MPP) from the Hertie School, Berlin and a Bachelors in Arts (Hons) in Political Science from the University of Delhi.

**Megha Chamoli**

PhD Candidate and Professor, Indian Institute of Technology Indore

Megha Chamoli is a PhD candidate at IIT Indore, specializing in the impact of the public sector on innovation in India. Her doctoral research examines the interplay between public institutions and technological advancements. She is deeply curious about science, technology, and innovation policies, with a particular focus on how they shape national development and foster sustainable growth.

**Minali Grover**

PhD Scholar, Indian Institute of Management Indore

Minali Grover is a doctoral scholar in economics at the Indian Institute of Management, Indore. Her research interests primarily lie in development economics, with a focus on gender, labour, education, and migration. She is also keen to explore climate-related migration.

**Naveen Kumar**

PhD Scholar, Delhi School of Economics

I am a final year Ph.D. Scholar at Delhi School of Economics, specialising in Climate Change Macroeconomics. My research focuses on the macroeconomic impacts of climate change in developing economies. I use both quantitative methods and empirical tools for my research within the broad area of Climate Macroeconomics and Environment & Development.

**Dr. Nayani Sarma**

Assistant Professor, Lal Bahadur Shastri Institute of Management

Dr. Nayani Sarma is an Assistant Professor of Economics and Public Policy at Lal Bahadur Shastri Institute of Management (LBSIM), New Delhi. She holds a Ph.D. in Educational Studies from Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi, and has previously worked as a Project Scientist at IIT Kanpur and a Research Associate at IIM Shilong. Her research interests span tourism and rural management, the economics of education, and the history of higher education in India. She has a particular focus on rural homestay tourism in the

Indian Himalayan Region, examining issues of gender, informality, and policy design. Beyond tourism economics, her teaching and research engage with business communication, development policy, and the intersections of gender, sustainability, and social innovation.

**Paras Aggarwal**

PhD Scholar, BITS -PILANI Hyderabad Campus

I am an Economist and PhD (Economics) Scholar at BITS Pilani, specializing in trade– environment linkages, global value chains, and climate-smart goods. My research employs advanced econometric and simulation techniques, including PPML, PCSE, and Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) models. I bring over six years of combined experience in research, teaching, and policy analysis through roles at RIS, IGC, and Delhi University. I have presented my work at national conferences and contributed to policy discussions on trade,

sustainability, and infrastructure development. I also hold professional certifications in Data Analytics (Google), Project Management (Microsoft), and Econometric Modelling (IIT Roorkee).

**Pradeep Kumar Choudhury**

Assistant Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

Pradeep Kumar Choudhury is Assistant Professor of Economics at Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, and an Affiliate Associate at South Asia Institute, Harvard University, USA where he was a visiting Research Fellow in 2023-24. Pradeep is also an Associate Researcher of Centre de Sciences Humaines (CSH) Delhi. His research spans the field of development economics, with a focus on education. In his work, he focuses on the measurement and explanation of

educational and learning inequalities, its interaction with climate, technology, and early life decisions.



Priyanka Arora

Assistant Professor, TERI School of Advanced Studies

Priyanka Arora is an Assistant Professor of Economics at TERI School of Advanced Studies. Previously, she was a visiting faculty at Ashoka University. She got her PhD in Economics from the Delhi School of Economics in 2021. Her research interests include topics in Macro Development Theory. She has worked on the role of culture in the economy, its interactions with the economic sphere and the implications of these on economic development. She is currently working on diverse projects related to rural livelihoods and development and topics related to circular economy. She has taught reputed

undergraduate colleges at Delhi University in the past including St Stephen's College, Shri Ram College of Commerce, Jesus and Mary College and Kirori Mal College. She received her Master's degree in Economics from the Delhi School of Economics and a Bachelors from Kirori Mal College, University of Delhi.



Rahul Sinha

PhD Scholar, IIT Jodhpur

Rahul Sinha is a doctoral researcher at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Jodhpur, specializing in political economy, game theory, and market microstructure analysis. His work spans dynamic and strategic modelling of electoral systems, crony capitalism, and media bias, often combining mathematical rigor with empirical evidence. Rahul has experience with large-scale financial datasets, advanced econometric techniques, and simulation-based analysis, drawing on fields such as panel data modelling, system dynamics,

and mixed oligopoly theory. His current research explores the interplay between political incentives, institutional design, and economic performance, with a focus on India and comparative international contexts.



Ravinder Ram

PhD Candidate, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University, Delhi

Ravinder Ram is a doctoral researcher in the Department of Economics at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University, Delhi. His research agenda is centered on applied microeconomics, specifically examining critical issues of development in India, including labour market dynamics, household energy consumption, poverty, and inequality. He employs advanced econometric techniques on national-level data to investigate how policy interventions in these areas affect different socio-economic groups. Ravinder holds a Master's and a Bachelor's (Hons.) degree in Economics.

His PhD work aims to provide evidence-based insights for fostering more equitable and inclusive growth.



Ravinder

PhD Candidate, Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi

Ravinder is a Ph.D. candidate in Quantitative Economics at the Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi. His research interests include development macroeconomics, labour economics, education, and the rural economy. He has held visiting fellowships at UNU-WIDER, Finland, and IGIDR, Mumbai. His work includes a WIDER Working Paper on tertiary education and rural development, along with ongoing projects on foundational skills, entrepreneurship, and stream choice in education. He has received multiple fellowships and research grants,

presented at several economics conferences, and actively contributes to academic initiatives and capacity-building exercises.



Ravindra Agrawal

PhD Scholar, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay

I am a research scholar at the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay. I work on Applied game theory with a primary interest in political economy, public economics, information economics, and development economics. My research focuses on how information asymmetries and strategic behavior influence the quality of elected leadership and the effectiveness of democratic outcomes. I study theoretical frameworks such as signaling models, global games, and equilibrium refinements to analyze how candidate investments, media structures, and voter choices interact under uncertainty. A significant part of my research examines paradoxical outcomes, where more information does not necessarily lead to improved welfare, in both political and market contexts. I am particularly interested in the economics of media, political accountability, and the mechanisms through which democratic institutions can be designed to promote competence and fairness in governance. My broader goal is to bridge rigorous economic theory with policy-relevant insights, thereby contributing to a deeper understanding of how informed decision-making impacts collective welfare.



Roma Kumari

PhD Scholar, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai

I am a PhD scholar in Economics at the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai. My research focuses on how monetary policy actions and communications influence emerging market economies and financial markets. I study monetary policy spillovers, inflation expectations, and the interconnectedness between banks and non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) using empirical and analytical approaches to examine policy transmission and financial linkages. My other interest includes exploring large language models (LLMs) and network-based methods to improve the understanding of central bank communication and market responses.



Ronak Maheshwari

PhD Scholar, Madras School of Economics

Ronak Maheshwari is a final-year PhD student in Economics at the Madras School of Economics, Chennai. He holds a B.A. (Hons) in Economics from Banaras Hindu University (2018) and an M.A. in Economics from the Central University of Punjab (2021). His research examines school-to-work transitions in India, with a particular focus on youth labour market outcomes, NEET (Not in Employment, Education, or Training) youth, time-use and learning behaviours, the role of social networks, and employment outcomes associated with vocational versus general education. Methodologically, his work uses large-scale Indian datasets such as the Periodic Labour Force Survey, Time Use Survey, and Indian Human Development Survey datasets, applying econometric techniques including discrete choice models, models of censoring and truncation, and control function methods. Previously, he has worked as a Consultant with Quest Alliance, Bengaluru, evaluating learning outcomes from secondary-school interventions, and as a Research Associate at the Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai, on a Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology-funded project examining the third-order digital divide in India.

**Saurav Kumar**

PhD Scholar, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research

Saurav Kumar is a Ph.D. candidate at Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai. His research primarily focuses on environmental regulation at business cycle frequency and on the interaction between monetary, fiscal, and climate policy in the context of E-DSGE models.

**Shobhit Mohan**

PhD Scholar, JSGP, O.P. Jindal Global University

Shobhit Mohan has an MPhil and MA degree in economics. He is currently a PhD research scholar at Jindal School of Government and Public Policy, OP Jindal Global University. His PhD research focuses on Quantum-like framework and its policy implications.

**Sneha Nimmagadda**

PhD Candidate, Department of Economics,
University of Southern California

I am a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Economics at the University of Southern California, on the 2025-26 Job Market. My primary research fields are development and health economics, with secondary interests in public and behavioral economics. My research examines how to strengthen human capital among disadvantaged populations and how governments in developing countries can improve outcomes for the poor through public programs, with a focus on early childhood nutrition and health. I hold a master's degree in economics from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, and an undergraduate degree from Lady Shri Ram College, Delhi University.

**Sourish Dutta**

Assistant Professor, Economics Department, VIPS-TC (GGSIPU, Delhi)

I am an Assistant Professor in the Economics Department at VIPS-TC (GGSIPU, Delhi). I worked on this paper as a Research Consultant under the guidance of Director & RBI Chair Prof. C. Veeramani at the Centre for Development Studies in Thiruvananthapuram. My research focuses on international trade, industrial economics, and applied econometrics, specialising in GVCs and Input-Output network analysis.



Sumedha Shukla
PhD Scholar, IIIT-Delhi

Sumedha is a fourth-year PhD student in Economics at IIIT-Delhi, India. She is interested in questions in agricultural and natural resource economics. She uses econometric techniques to answer causal questions pertaining to crop yield management in India. She is also working as researcher with the Tata-Cornell Institute for Agriculture and Nutrition (TCI) as part of their Zero Hunger Zero Carbon Project. She has worked extensively with primary survey data made available by ICRISAT, CIMMYT, IMD, and NSSO and has recently gained experience

with field-level survey design and data collection in her work with TCI. In her spare time, she enjoys music, cooking, and reading.



Tanya Jain
PhD Candidate, Delhi School of Economics

Tanya Jain is a PhD candidate in Economics at the Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi. She holds an MA in Economics from Jawaharlal Nehru University (2021) and a BA (Hons) in Economics from Hansraj College, University of Delhi (2019). She qualified for the UGC-NET JRF in 2020. Tanya has served as a guest lecturer in Macroeconomics at Sri Ram College of Commerce and possesses proficiency in statistical software including Stata and LaTeX. Her research interests focus on behavioural economics, labor

economics and social capital, with particular emphasis on gender disparities in the Indian labor market.



Vinod Mishra
Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Monash University

Vinod Mishra is an applied economist whose research interests span energy economics, development economics, financial markets, and institutional change. He has published widely on energy poverty, health, education, and inequality in developing countries, as well as on long-run convergence in energy consumption across regions. His work also examines the dynamics of income inequality, environmental sustainability, and financial development, with a particular focus on the Asia-Pacific and South Asia. Beyond these themes, he

has contributed to scholarship on stock market efficiency, portfolio diversification, labour market outcomes in China and India, and institutional performance, including courts and governance. His research is distinguished by the use of rigorous empirical methods and large-scale datasets to generate policy-relevant insights.



Virender Kumar
Assistant Professor, Delhi Technological University (DTU)

Virender Kumar is an Assistant Professor at Delhi Technological University, India. He has completed M.A. and Ph.D. in Economics from the Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, India. He has 9 years of teaching and research experience and also holds a M.Phil in Economics. Previously, He was employed at the Shri Ram College of Commerce, University of Delhi, India, as an Assistant Professor. His interests lie in the areas of Monetary Economics, International Finance, Financial Market Analysis, Time Series analysis, and Panel Data

analysis on Macroeconomic issues.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE



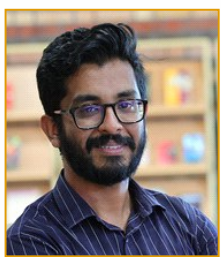
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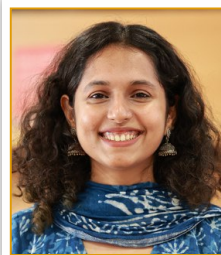
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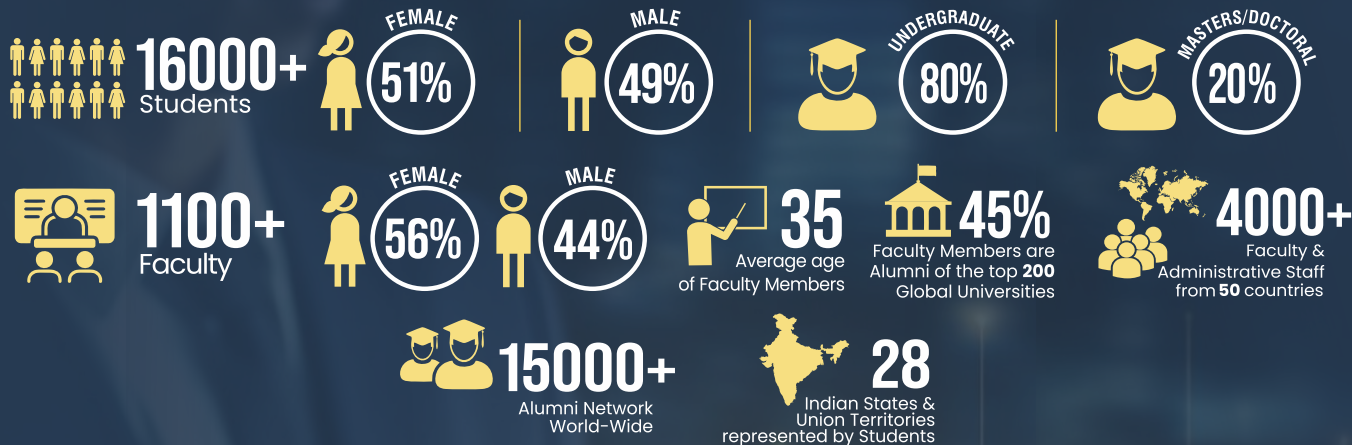
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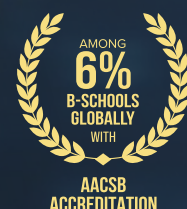
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