

**Sowmya Dhanaraj**  
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## **EMPLOYMENT**

07/2017 – Present: Assistant Professor, Madras School of Economics (MSE)  
08/2017 – 10/2017: Visiting Scholar, United Nations University – World Institute of Development Economics Research (UNU-WIDER)  
08/2014 – 06/2017: Lecturer, Madras School of Economics (MSE)  
06/2014 – 07/2014: Project Officer, Department of Management of Studies, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) - Madras

## **EDUCATION**

2010 – 2017: Ph.D. in Development Studies, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai, 2017  
4-6/2013 PhD Research Internship at UNU-WIDER, Helsinki, Finland  
2008 – 2010: M.S. (by Research) in Financial Economics, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)- Madras, Chennai, 2011  
2004 – 2008: B.E. (Hons.) in Electrical & Electronics Engineering, Birla Institute of Technology & Science (BITS) – Pilani, Goa Campus, 2008

## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Development Economics, Applied Microeconomics

## **TEACHING**

Mathematical Statistics, 1<sup>st</sup> year graduate course, MA Economics  
Econometrics, 1<sup>st</sup> year graduate course, MA Economics  
Applied Econometrics, 2<sup>nd</sup> year graduate course, MA Economics  
Advanced Quantitative Methods and Applications, 1<sup>st</sup> year PGDM (Research & Business Analytics))  
Probability Theory, 1<sup>st</sup> year PGDM (Research & Business Analytics and Finance)  
Statistical Modelling and Inference, 1<sup>st</sup> year PGDM (Research & Business Analytics and Finance)  
Applied Multivariate Statistics, 2<sup>nd</sup> year PGDM (Research & Business Analytics and Finance)

## **SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

- Dhanaraj, S., Mahambare, V. “Male Backlash and Female Guilt: Women’s employment, gender identity and partner violence in urban India”, *Feminist Economics*, Forthcoming
- Dhanaraj, S., Paul C.M., Gade, S. 2019 "Household income dynamics and investment in children: Evidence from India", *Education Economics*, 27(5): 507-520.
- Dhanaraj, S., Mahambare, V. 2019. “Family structure, education, and women’s employment in rural India”, *World Development*, 115: 17-29.
- Narayanan, S., Dhanaraj, S. 2018. “Child Work and Schooling in rural north India: What do time use data say about tradeoffs and drivers of human capital investment?”, *Indian Journal of Human Development*, 12(3): 378–400.
- Dhanaraj, S., Mahambare, V., Munjal, P. 2018. “From Income to Household Welfare: Lessons from refrigerator ownership in India”, *Journal of Quantitative Economics*, 16: 573.
- Dhanaraj, S., 2016. Effects of parental health shocks on children’s schooling: Evidence from Andhra Pradesh, India, *International Journal of Educational Development*, 49: 115-125.

- Dhanaraj, S., 2016. Economic vulnerability to health shocks and coping strategies: evidence from Andhra Pradesh, India, *Health Policy and Planning*, 31 (6): 749-758
- Dhanaraj, S., Gopalaswamy, A. K., Suresh Babu, M. 2013. Dynamic interdependence between US and Asian markets: An empirical Study. *Journal of Financial Economic Policy*, 5(2), 220-237.

#### **REFEREED BOOK CHAPTERS**

- “Women and work in urban India”, jointly with Vidya Mahambare, in *India Development Report 2020*, OUP, Forthcoming

#### **REFEREED WORKING PAPERS**

- Dhanaraj, S. & Mahambare, V. (2017) Family structure, education and women’s employment in rural India. WIDER Working Paper 2017/195. Helsinki: UNU-WIDER.
- Dhanaraj, S. (2015) Health Shocks and the Intergenerational Transmission of Inequality: Evidence from Andhra Pradesh, India. WIDER Working Paper 2015/004. Helsinki: UNU-WIDER.
- Dhanaraj, S. (2014) Health Shocks and Coping Strategies: State Health Insurance Scheme of Andhra Pradesh, India. WIDER Working Paper 2014/003. Helsinki: UNU-WIDER.

#### **CURRENT WORK**

- “The grandparents effect on children’s education investment: Evidence from rural India,” jointly with Vidya Mahambare, submitted to *Economics of Education Review*
- “Are India’s farm debt waivers an opportunistic political tool and how do they impact government finances?”, jointly with Vidya Mahambare and Pragati, under review in *World Development*
- “Travel mobility and women’s employment outcomes in urban India”, jointly with Vidya Mahambare, Under Review in *Cities*
- “Tamil Nadu”, book chapter in *Socioeconomic Profile of Rural India, Vol I: South India*, jointly with Vidya Mahambare

#### **MEDIA MENTION:**

- "Great Indian Family doesn't help working women", *Livemint*, 19th Feb 2019.
- “The hidden truth behind India’s low refrigerator ownership”, *The Economic Times*, 24th Mar 2017

#### **NON-TECHNICAL WRITINGS:**

- "Working women face more domestic violence" (with Vidya Mahambare), *The Hindu Business Line*, 5 Mar 2021.
- "Education levels of SC, ST, OBC rising. A new study looks at caste gap in jobs, income too" (with Vidya Mahambare and Sankalp Sharma), *The Print*, 9 Feb 2021
- "Manufacturing or high-tech? This is what India's most prosperous states focus on" (with Vidya Mahambare and Sankalp Sharma), *The Print*, 9 Feb 2021
- "In ‘progressive’ Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, only 1 in 5 young urban women in paid work" (with Vidya Mahambare and Sankalp Sharma), *The Print*, 27 Jan 2021
- "More young urban Indian men appear to be studying longer, not looking for jobs: New research," (with Vidya Mahambare and Sankalp Sharma), *The Print*, 20 Jan 2021.
- "The gender divide in urban mobility", (with Vidya Mahambare), *The Hindu Business Line*, 3rd Nov 2018.

- “With better and more accessible childcare, more women will join the workforce”, (with Vidya Mahambare), Hindustan Times, 14 Nov 2017.

#### **GRANTS & AWARDS:**

- Awarded INR 5,80,000 grant by Azim Premji University Research Funding Program 2020 to work on informal employment (jointly with Vidya Mahambare and Sankalp Sharma)
- Awarded Mercatus Center Emergent Ventures of George Mason University research grant of USD 5000 in Apr, 2020 to work on circular migration in India (jointly with Vidya Mahambare).
- Awarded travel research grant from Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) in Jan, 2020 to present a paper in the Australian Gender Economics Workshop, 2020
- Economic consultant to LMW group of companies, Coimbatore, Jan-Mar, 2020
- Recipient of Teaching/Research Assistantship from Reserve Bank of India for Doctoral students at IGIDR (2010-2014)
- Recipient of Half Time Research/Teaching Assistantship from Ministry of Human Resources and Development, Government of India for M.S. students at IIT Madras (2008-2010)
- Recipient of merit scholarship (biannual) from BITS – Pilani, Goa Campus (2004-08)
- Recipient of merit scholarship (annual) during 2004-08 from GRD School for securing the first rank in higher secondary examination

#### **REFEREED FOR:**

The Journal of Development Studies (1), Gender and Society (1), Economic Analysis and Policy (1), Journal of International Development (1), International Journal of Educational Development (3), Journal of Quantitative Economics (2), Economics Bulletin (1), Frontiers in Public Health (1), International Journal of Health Economics and Management (1), Education Economics (1)

#### **CONFERENCE/ INVITED SEMINARS (SELECTED)**

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| 2021-   | 6 <sup>th</sup> International conference on South Asian Economic Development, South Asian University, Delhi, Feb 2021, IIM-B Seminar Series, Mar 2021.  |
| 2019-20 | Musings on the 2019 Nobel Prize, PES University, Bengaluru, India, India Development Report 2020 Workshop, held in IGIDR, Mumbai, India, Australian Gender Economics Workshop, 2020 held in Brisbane, Australia; National conference on “Democracy and Development – A social worker perspective” held in MSSW, Chennai   |
| 2017-18 | UNU-WIDER conference on “Think WIDER- Think Development”, held in UNU-WIDER, Helsinki, Finland, 4 <sup>th</sup> International Conference on South Asian Development held in SAU, Delhi, India, 13 <sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development held in ISI Delhi, India, IEA-IGIDR international conference on social sector development in India, IGIDR, Mumbai, India |
| 2014-16 | Annual IGIDR-ISIK Doctoral Workshop held in IGIDR, Mumbai, India, UNU-WIDER conference on “Inequality- measurement, trends, impacts and policies” held in Helsinki, Finland, Invited seminar, MS Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai, India, Joint NiDi-RUG Workshop in University of Groningen, Groningen, Netherlands  |
| 2011-13 | Annual conference (2012) of Comparative Education Society of India (CESI) held in Jammu, India, Human Development and Capability Association (HDCA) Annual conference held in Jakarta, Indonesia, Annual conference (2011) of Comparative Education Society of India (CESI) held in Hyderabad, India  |

## **INVITED LECTURES**

### **Resource person for the following training programmes:**

- 02/2021: Research Methodology course for PhD scholars in Social Sciences organized by Bharathiar University
- 02/2021: Workshop Online Workshop in Research Methodology for MPhil, PhD and Postdoctoral Scholars in Social Sciences organized for Madras Institute of Development Studies (MIDS)
- 11/2020: Online workshop on Dynamic Panel data models for Reserve Bank of India (RBI) officers
- 10/2020: Online workshop on Advanced Econometric Analysis under Geospatial Mapping Project in International Institute of Population Sciences (IIPS), Mumbai
- 03/2020: Business Statistics and Research Methodology for officers of Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Government of India
- 12/2019: Economics for Young Leaders – Great Lakes and PS Senior Secondary School Management & Entrepreneurship Program for high school students
- 10/2018: Multivariate Statistics – Factor Analysis and Principal Component Analysis for Reserve Bank of India (RBI) officers
- 01/2018: Advanced Econometrics – Time series analysis for RBI officers
- 12/2017: Quantitative Methods Used in Early Warning Framework – Logit Regression Analysis for RBI officers
- 05/2017: Econometrics Workshop for PhD Scholars of Madras Institute of Development Studies (MIDS), Chennai
- 03/2017: Advanced Panel data econometrics for RBI officers
- 02/2017: Time series econometrics for RBI officers
- 12/2016: Basic Statistics for RBI Officers
- 09/2016: Basic Econometrics and its applications for RBI Officers

## **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

- PGDM Chairperson July 2020 Onwards
- PGDM Placement Coordinator October 2021 Onwards
- Member, PGDM Admission Committee Jan 2021 Onwards
- MSE Seminar Coordinator 2018-20
- Core Organizing Committee, Madras School of Economics Silver Jubilee Conference on “Technology and Development” held in Aug, 2018.
- Faculty advisor