

Sowmya Dhanaraj
Madras School of Economics
Ranjith Road, Kottur, Chennai 600085
Email: sowmya@mse.ac.in

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

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

- Dhanaraj, S., Mahambare, V. “Male Backlash and Female Guilt: Women’s employment, gender identity and partner violence in urban India”, *Feminist Economics*, Accepted for Publication.
- 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: what refrigerator ownership in India tells us”, *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
- "Are India's farm debt waivers an opportunistic political tool and how do they impact government finances?", jointly with Vidya Mahambare and Pragati
- "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:

- "With better and more accessible childcare, more women will join the workforce", (with Vidya Mahambare), *Hindustan Times*, 14 Nov 2017.
- "The gender divide in urban mobility", (with Vidya Mahambare), *The Hindu Business Line*, 3rd Nov 2018

HONORS & AWARDS:

- Awarded Emergent Ventures research grant of USD 5000 in Apr, 2020 to work on circular migration in India (jointly with Vidya Mahambare).
- Awarded travel research grant of INR 62000 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

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Resource person for the following training programmes:

- 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

REFEREED FOR:

Gender and Society, Economic Analysis and Policy, Journal of International Development, International Journal of Educational Development, Journal of Quantitative Economics, Economics Bulletin, Frontiers in Public Health, International Journal of Health Economics and Management, Education Economics

CONFERENCE/ INVITED SEMINARS (SELECTED)

- 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, RBI Workshop on Panel Data Econometrics
- 2017-18 UNU-WIDER conference on “Think WIDER- Think Development”, held in UNU-WIDER, Helsinki, Finland, 4th International Conference on South Asian Development held in SAU, Delhi, India, 13th 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