

# Santanu Pramanik

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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**Affiliation:** Senior Fellow, NCAER and Deputy Director, NCAER National Data Innovation Centre

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**Email:** [spramanik@ncaer.org](mailto:spramanik@ncaer.org)

## EDUCATION

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B.Sc. Statistics (Honours), R.K. Mission Residential College, Narendrapur, Kolkata, India, 2001

Minors: Mathematics and Economics

Percentage of Marks: 65.6% (First class Honours)

M.Sc. Statistics, Calcutta University, India, 2003

Specialization: *Advanced Statistical Inference*

Percentage of Marks: 73% (First class, ranked third)

Ph.D. Survey Methodology, Joint Program in Survey Methodology (JPSM), University of Maryland, College Park, USA, 2008

Dissertation: *The Bayesian and Approximate Bayesian Methods in Small Area Estimation*

Advisor: Partha Lahiri

## POSITIONS AND EMPLOYMENT

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2018-	Senior Fellow, NCAER and Deputy Director, NCAER National Data Innovation Centre, New Delhi, India
2012- 2017	Research Scientist, Public Health Foundation of India, New Delhi, India
2008-2012	Survey Statistician, NORC at the University of Chicago, Bethesda, Maryland

## RESEARCH SPECIALIZATION

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My research interests lie in survey methods, data quality, randomized controlled trials, and small area estimation; and their applications across different substantive domains including childhood immunization, health insurance & healthcare expenditure, employment, and family planning. At the NCAER National Data Innovation Centre, I have led four rounds of telephone surveys in the Delhi NCR in order to understand and quantify the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic across various domains such as health, economy, education, poverty.

## PUBLICATIONS

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### *Peer-reviewed*

- Desai, S., Deshmukh, N., and **Pramanik, S.** (2021). Precarity in a Time of Uncertainty: Gendered Employment Patterns during the Covid-19 Lockdown in India, *Feminist Economics*, [Link](#).
- Lahiri, P., & **Pramanik, S.** (2019). Evaluation of Synthetic Small-area Estimators Using Design-based Methods. *Austrian Journal of Statistics*, 48(4), 43-57. [Link](#).
- Pramanik S**, Ghosh A, Nanda RB, de Rouw M, Forth P, Albert S (2018). Impact evaluation of a community engagement intervention in improving childhood immunization coverage: a cluster randomized controlled trial in Assam, India. *BMC Public Health*, 18(1):534. [Link](#).
- Winter, A., **Pramanik, S.**, Lessler, J., Ferrari, M., Grenfell, B. and Metcalf, C. J. (2018). Rubella vaccination in India: Identifying broad consequences of vaccine introduction and key knowledge gaps. *Epidemiology and Infection*, Volume 146, Issue 1, pp. 65-77. [Link](#).
- Ghosh, A., Millett, C., Subramanian, S. V., **Pramanik, S.** (2017) Neighborhood heterogeneity in health and well-being among the elderly in India- evidence from Study on Global Ageing and Adult Health (SAGE), *Health & Place*. Vol. 47, 100-107. [Link](#).
- Pramanik S**, Muthusamy N, Gera R, Laxminarayan R (2015). Vaccination coverage in India: A small area estimation approach. *Vaccine*, Vol. 33, No. 14, 1731-1738. [Link](#).
- Pramanik, S. (2014). Selection of Prior for the Variance Component and Approximations for Posterior Moments in the Fay-Herriot Model, *Mathematical Population Studies*, Vol. 21, No. 1, 45-64. [Link](#).
- Yang, M., Buso, M., Butani, S., Hiles, D., Mushtaq, A., **Pramanik, S.**, Scheuren, F. (2014). An evaluation of three disclosure limitation models, *Journal of the International Association for Official Statistics*, Vol. 30, No. 2, 75-88. [Link](#).
- Lahiri, P., **Pramanik, S.** (2011) Discussion of “Estimating Random Effects via Adjustment for Density Maximization” (by Morris, C. and Tang, R.). *Statistical Science*, Vol. 26, No. 2, 291–295. [Link](#).

### *Policy Briefs*

- Roy Chowdhury, Soumi, Abhinav Motheram, **Santanu Pramanik** (2021). “Covid-19 vaccine hesitancy: Trends across states, over time” *Ideas for India Policy Brief*. 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2021. International Growth Centre (IGC), New Delhi. [Link](#).
- Choudhuri, Pallavi, **Santanu Pramanik**, and Sonalde Desai (2020). “Urban Challenges of the COVID-19 Pandemic: Findings from the Delhi NCR Coronavirus Telephone Survey, Rounds 1 and 2”, Measurement Brief No. 2020-3, New Delhi: NCAER National Data Innovation Centre. [Link](#).
- Barik, Debasis, **Santanu Pramanik**, and Sonalde Desai (2020). “Insured but Not Covered: Rising Insurance Coverage Should be Accompanied by Awareness of Entitlements”, Measurement Brief No. 2020-2, New Delhi: NCAER National Data Innovation Centre. [Link](#).
- Deshmukh, Neerad, Sonalde Desai, **Santanu Pramanik**, and Dinesh Tiwari (2020). “Improving Measurement of Women’s Work Participation: Sensitivity of Work Participation Rates to Questionnaire Design.” *NCAER National Data Innovation Centre Measurement Brief No. 2020-1*. NCAER, New Delhi. [Link](#).

### **Report**

**Pramanik, S.**, Ghosh, A., Goswami, A., Das, T., Forth, P and Nanda, R, Albert, S. (2020). *Impacts of the Stimulate, Appreciate, Learn, and Transfer community engagement approach to increase immunisation coverage in Assam, India*, 3ie Grantee Final Report. New Delhi: International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie). [Link](#).

**Pramanik, S.**, Agrahari, K., Srivastava, A., Varanasi, V., Setia, M., Laxminarayan, R. (2016). Integrated Child Health and Immunization Survey, Rounds 1 & 2 Report. *Immunization Technical Support Unit, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India*, New Delhi.

### **Op Eds**

1. Desai, S. and **S. Pramanik**, *Telephone survey shows high understanding of social distancing, support for lockdown*, in *The Indian Express*. April 20, 2020, [Link](#).
2. Desai, S. and **S. Pramanik**, *View: Beyond the lockdown bend*, in *The Economic Times*. Apr 29, 2020, [Link](#).
3. Mazumdar, S., **S. Pramanik**, and S. Desai, *Urban poor need better relief measures*, in *The Hindu BusinessLine*. May 24, 2020, [Link](#).
4. Desai, S. and **S. Pramanik**, *Virus fear and logistical challenges curtailing economic activity in Delhi-NCR, new survey shows*, in *Mint*. 05 Jul 2020, [Link](#).
5. Bhandari, B., **Santanu Pramanik**, and S. Desai, *PM-KISAN is not reaching all farmer households as intended*, in *The Indian Express*. August 3, 2020, [Link](#).
6. **Pramanik, S.** and S. Desai, *Reluctance to take Covid-19 vaccines could hinder achieving herd immunity sooner*, in *The Indian Express*. 2021, [Link](#).

## **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

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### **Presentations/ Seminars/ Webinars/ Meetings**

- Moderator. Dialogue session: *Vaccination in the context of COVID-19*. CORE Net Conference, April 30, 2021.
- Presenter. *Challenges and Learnings from conducting research during the COVID-19 pandemic*. Roundtable discussion, virtually organized by Institute of Social Studies Trust (ISST), April 9, 2021.
- Presenter. *Quality of Survey Data and Survey Estimates*, workshop in Research Methodology for Social Science scholars, virtually organised by Madras Institute of Development Studies (MIDS), February 24, 2021.
- Presenter. *Round 4: Delhi NCR Coronavirus Telephone Survey. Recovery and vulnerability: Divergent paths in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic*, webinar organised by NCAER, January 20, 2021.
- Panellist. *Doctoral Colloquium on Management and Development (DOCMAD-2020)*, panel discussion on 'Covid Conundrum' virtually organized by Institute of Rural Management, Anand (IRMA), November 4, 2020.
- Presenter. *Survey Research*, 3rd Refresher Course in Research Methodology virtually organised by HRDC-JNU, October 21, 2020.

- Attendee. *Steering Committee Meeting of National Data Quality Forum (NDQF)* organised by ICMR-National Institute for Medical Statistics, October 13, 2020.
- Presenter. *Round 3: NCAER'S Delhi NCR Coronavirus Telephone Survey. FROM LOCKDOWNS TO LIFTING RESTRICTIONS*, webinar organised by NCAER, July 4, 2020.
- Panellist. *Ethics in Research on Vulnerability*, webinar on Ethics in research in mobile surveys for Covid-19: Balancing timely response, relevance and ethics organised by CORE Net, COVID-19 Research Network and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, June 25, 2020.
- Panellist. *Collecting high quality data in phone surveys during a pandemic*, panel discussion virtually organised by National Data Quality Forum (NDQF), May 21, 2020.
- Presenter. *Round 2: NCAER's Delhi NCR Coronavirus Telephone Survey*, webinar organised by NCAER, May 1, 2020.
- Presenter. *First Results: NCAER's Delhi NCR Coronavirus Telephone Survey*, webinar organised by NCAER, April 14, 2020.
- Presenter. *Experience of NCAER in conducting national and area surveys: way forward*, Stakeholder Consultation on Skill Sets for Survey Specialist/Enumerators organised by MoSPI, November 2019, New Delhi.
- Paper presenter. *The Paradox of Declining Fertility and Declining Contraceptive Use in India*, International Seminar on 25 Year of NFHS in India organized by IIPS-Mumbai, October 2019, New Delhi.
- Presenter. *Quality assurance through remote monitoring of paradata and survey data: Delhi Metropolitan Area Study (DMAS)*, Data QI and Data Repository Stakeholder Meeting organised by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, June 2019, New Delhi.
- Poster Presenter. *The Paradox of Declining Fertility and Declining Contraceptive Use in India*, Population Association of America (PAA) annual meeting April 2019, Austin.
- Paper Presenter. *Community Engagement & Behaviour Change Communication*, Urban Health Conference, IIMR Delhi, Feb 24-25, 2018.
- Paper Presenter. *Impact evaluation of a community engagement intervention in improving immunization coverage: a cluster randomized controlled trial*, IISA International Conference on Statistics, Dec 27-30, 2017, Hyderabad.
- Paper Presenter. *Evaluating the impact of a community engagement approach to increase immunization coverage in Assam*, Evaluation Conclave June 6-9, 2017, Thimphu.
- Paper Presenter. *Integrated Child Health and Immunization Survey (INCHIS): Objectives, Methodology and Challenges*, IFPRI-POSHAN conference on Delivering for Nutrition in India: Learnings from Implementation Research, Nov 9-10, 2016, Delhi.
- Paper Presenter. *Evaluating the impact of SALT intervention to increase immunization coverage in Assam: challenges*, 3ie-Delhi Evidence Week, November 15-16, 2016.
- Paper Presenter. *Selection of Prior for the Variance Component and Approximations for Posterior Moments in the Fay-Herriot Model*, World Statistics Congress (WSC), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, July 2015.
- Paper Presenter. *Vaccination Coverage in India: A small area estimation approach by combining time series and cross sectional data*, International Statistical Institute (ISI) Satellite Meeting on Small Area Estimation, Santiago, Chile, August, 2015.
- Paper Presenter. *Vaccination Coverage in India in 2011: A Small Area Estimation Approach*, ISI Regional Statistics Conference, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Nov 2014.

- Paper Presenter. *Small Area Estimation of Vaccination Coverage Rates by combining Time Series and Cross Sectional Data*, 31st Annual Conference of Indian Society for Medical Statistics (ISMS) 2013, Christian Medical College Vellore.
- Paper Presenter. *Design Consistency and Benchmarking in Small Area Estimation*, Joint Statistical Meeting (JSM) 2012, San Diego.
- Paper Presenter. *Modeling Aggregates for Reliability and Confidentiality of Output with Application to the QCEW program of BLS*, JSM 2011, Miami.
- Paper Presenter. *MCMC Algorithms for Bayesian Models Involving Binary Data*, JSM 2010, Vancouver.
- Paper Presenter. *The Prior Selection and Approximations for the Nested Error Regression Model: Estimation of Finite Population Mean for Small Areas*, JSM 2009, Washington DC.
- Chair- Invited Session. *Contemporary Bayesian Generalized Linear Models*, JSM 2009, Washington DC.
- Invited Speaker. *Consultation on Small Area Measurement and Health Information Systems*, Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), April 2009, Seattle.
- Invited talk. *Estimation under Ignorable Response Mechanism and Unweighted Imputation*, Washington Statistical Society (WSS), July, 2007
- Invited Speaker. *Estimation under Ignorable Response Mechanism and Unweighted Imputation*, Joint Statistical Meeting, 2006, Seattle.

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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- Recipient of Cochran-Hansen Award 2015: International Association of Survey Statisticians (IASS) presents this award every two years for the best paper on survey research methods submitted by a young statistician from a developing or transition country.
- Elected as South Asia Editor of *Journal of the International Association for Official Statistics*, 2014 September onwards and now termed as Emphasis Editor.
- Received *2011 NORC Employee Recognition Spot Award* for my contribution to the US Census Record Linkage Evaluation project.
- Received *2010 NORC Employee Recognition Award* for overall performance in the calendar year.
- Winner of the Joint SSS, GSS, and SRMS *Student Paper Competition award* for the Joint Statistical Meeting, 2009, Washington, DC & 2008, Denver.
- Qualified for the Joint CSIR-UGC *Junior Research Fellowship (JRF)* and have been declared eligible for lectureship in colleges in India, 2003-2004.