

July-September 2023

NCAER NEWS



Welcome to the NCAER newsletter, in which we showcase all the activities and outputs of our researchers and faculty over the last three months.

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NCAER Research Outputs

Monthly Review of the Economy, July, August, and September 2023

The Review of the Economy released every month summarises the economic and policy developments in India; monitors global developments of relevance to India; and showcases the pulse of the economy through an analysis of high-frequency indicators and the heat map.

Heatmap for high-frequency indicators



GenderTalk: Measurement Brief—2023-03

GenderTalk is a measurement brief from the Gender Data Hub, led by Dr Pallavi Choudhuri and Dr Sonalde Desai of the NCAER National Data Innovation Centre.

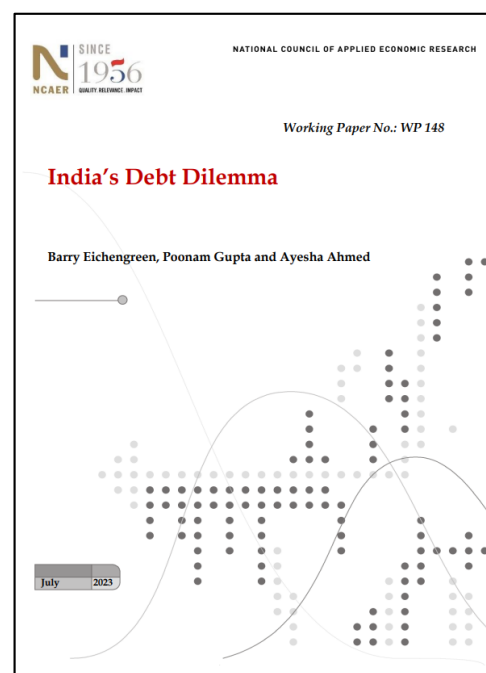
It is a space where scholars, policy-makers, and civil society members can engage with each other on a theme vital to women's well-being in India. The latest issue of GenderTalk discusses women's agency in marriage choice. This includes articles from Bipasa Banerjee (NCAER), Sarah Lamb (Brandeis University), K.G. Santhya (Independent Researcher) and A.J. Francis Xavier (Population Council), Diva Dhar (Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Oxford Martin School), and Zhiyong Lin (University of Texas at San Antonio) that highlight some of the issues. This is followed by a conversation with Poonam Muttreja (Population Foundation of India) on the flagship entertainment-education initiative "*Main Kuch Bhi Kar Sakti Hoon*" (I, A Woman, Can Achieve Anything') and its role in empowering women, especially adolescent girls.



Working Paper/Reports

India's Debt Dilemma

India was an outlier on fiscal outcomes pre-pandemic, before drifting further in the high debt direction during COVID. High levels of debt limit the resources available for other priorities such as health, education and climate change abatement. At the same time, there is no immediate crisis of debt sustainability: institutional factors limit rollover risk, and interest rates have not risen with additional debt issuance. But financial stability and sustainability risks may arise in the future, and lack of resources to meet pressing needs is a drag on growth. Consolidation would require lower primary deficits achieved through tax revenue generation and privatization, all while protecting and prospectively increasing capital spending. Contingent liabilities pose risks to the public finances of the States and should be minimized by fiscal-management reforms. As their debt manager, the RBI should allow States to face the market interest rates warranted by current and projected debt levels. Financial Commissions should be strengthened so as to provide stronger incentives for prudence. This is a working paper by Barry Eichengreen, Poonam Gupta and Ayesha Ahmed.



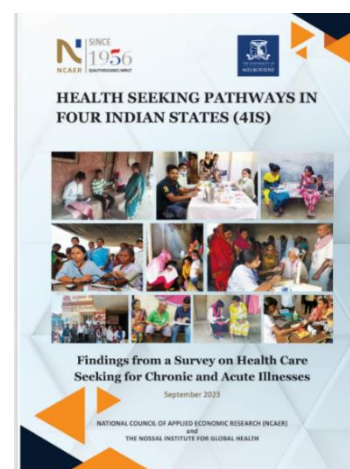
Socio-economic Impact Assessment of Food Delivery Platform Workers



This report, the first output of a three-part research programme undertaken by Bornali Bhandari, Gautam Kumar Das, Samarth Gupta, Ajaya Kumar Sahu, K. Subbaraje Urs, Nishika Pal, Karan Raj, and Sharon Thomas extensively explores the socio-economic implications of workers engaged in the food delivery platform industry, shedding light on their employment patterns, incomes, and work environment. Parts two and three of the research programme reports, to be released subsequently, will evaluate the socio-economic impact of food delivery platforms on restaurants, and their systemic impact on India's economy and labour markets. The issues of platform workers, especially those engaged in food delivery, have been the subject of extensive debate, particularly with regard to their incomes, work conditions, work status, social security, and health insurance, among other things. The findings elucidated in this report can guide policymakers in designing appropriate social welfare policies and safety nets for platform workers.

Health Seeking Pathways in Four Indian States (4IS)

This report is the outcome of a study undertaken jointly by **NCAER** and the **Nossal Institute for Global Health, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health at the University of Melbourne, Australia**, on healthcare seeking pathways to improve healthcare and reduce the overall disease burden in India. The report covers various parameters of these health pathways. The study was conducted in two States with relatively less developed healthcare systems, that is, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh, and two States with relatively more developed healthcare systems, that is, Maharashtra and Punjab. The findings presented in the report have significant policy and practice implications for improving the functioning of the Indian health system.



Project Updates

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A new project sponsored by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, **“To assess the effectiveness of the scholarship scheme implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for the ST students”**, led by **Prabir K. Ghosh**, was awarded to NCAER on September 22, 2023.

Data collection for the third wave of the NCAER flagship longitudinal survey, **India Human Development Survey (IHDS-3)**, is in full swing. Data collection has been completed from households, communities (villages/urban blocks), health facilities and schools in the States of Haryana, Punjab, Chandigarh, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Delhi, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Tripura, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Jammu and Kashmir. The primary survey is ongoing in Odisha, Kerala, Karnataka, Gujarat and Maharashtra. Training has been completed for Assam and the six other North-eastern States, where data collection will start soon.

NCAER researchers published the following opinion and journal articles during the last three months:

Opinion Articles

India's growth rate and the sanctity of GDP deflator

Poonam Gupta

Business Standard, September 20, 2023

The future of inflation management in India

Poonam Gupta

The Economic Times, September 4, 2023

The World Bank must reform

Poonam Gupta

Business Standard, August 22, 2023

Incentivising fiscal prudence for states

Barry Eichengreen and Poonam Gupta

Business Standard, July 31, 2023

India's debt dilemma

Poonam Gupta and Barry Eichengreen

The Economic Times, July 28, 2023

The G20 agenda for bridging the gender digital gap

Anupma Mehta

The Pioneer, September 13, 2023

MSMEs can drive India's digital push

Somya Mathur and Badri Narayanan

The Hindu BusinessLine, September 9, 2023

The Gender Implications of the Jan Dhan Yojana

Anupma Mehta

news9live, August 28, 2023

Smoky Affair. EU's CBAM is unfair in principle

Piyali Majumder, Somya Mathur, and Sanjib Pohit

The Hindu BusinessLine, August 4, 2023

India needs to rebuild once-vaunted statistical system

Sonalde Desai

The Times of India, July 30, 2023

Greening the time' can help India achieve its climate goals

Gaurav Bhatiani and Sanjib Pohit

Livemint, July 24, 2023

Road infrastructure to boost development in NE

Nijara Deka

Assam Tribune, July 24, 2023

The 'discount' games online sellers play

Palash Baruah and D.L. Wankhar

The Hindu BusinessLine, July 20, 2023

Demographic transition and change in women's lives

Sonalde Desai

The Hindu, July 12, 2023

Journal Articles

"Women's Land Ownership in India: Evidence from Digital Land Records"

Charu Jain, Disha Saxena, Somnath Sen and Deepak Sanan, *Land Use Policy*, Elsevier, Volume 133, October 2023

"Assessing the Use of Land as Collateral for Accessing Credit from Institutional Sources in Rural India

Perna Prabhakar, Nishika Pal, and Somnath Sen, *Journal of Land and Rural Studies*, Sage Journals, Volume 11, Issue 2, June 12, 2023

Policy Briefs

Investing in Improving Public Primary Healthcare Will Transform Indians' Care-seeking Journeys to Benefit Individual Health, Families' Financial Stability, and the Country's Broader Socio-economic Development

NCAER and the Nossal Institute of Global Health, The University of Melbourne

Policy Brief No. 3 | 2023

Small Increases in Investments in the Public Healthcare Sector Can Translate into Big Gains for Equitable Universal Health Coverage in India

NCAER and the Nossal Institute of Global Health, The University of Melbourne

Policy Brief No. 2 | 2023

Dissemination Event: Health Seeking Pathways in Four Indian States (4IS) Study, September 27, 2023

NCAER and the University of Melbourne organised an in-person event to launch their report, ***Health Seeking Pathways in Four Indian States (4IS)***, at NCAER, on September 27, 2023. At this event, the team members shared findings from their recently concluded study that helps shed light on the questions of out-of-pocket spending, catastrophic health expenditure and distress financing, and treatment pathways in four States of India—Odisha, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Punjab. The study team members, Dr Ajay Mahal, Dr Barbara McPake, Mr P.K. Ghosh, and Dr Sumit Kane, made presentations at the event. The discussants who shared their comments on the study report included Dr Sajjan Singh Yadav, IAS, and Professor Rama Baru, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.



NCAER Dialogue Room | Episode 6 | 'Employment and Unemployment Statistics: Issues and Challenges', September 6, 2023

NCAER organised an in-person lecture on **'Employment and Unemployment Statistics: Issues and Challenges'** by Dr Gurucharan Manna, Senior Adviser, at NCAER, on September 6, 2023. The panellists at the session included Professor Ravi Srivastava, Director, Centre for Employment Studies, Institute for Human Development; Dr Arup Mitra, Professor, South Asian University; Dr Pallavi Choudhuri, Senior Fellow, NCAER; and Dr Suresh Chand Aggarwal, Visiting Professor, Institute for Human Development.



"IEPFA Celebrated Its Seventh Foundation Day", September 5, 2023

On its seventh Foundation Day, the Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA), in collaboration with the Institute of Company Secretaries in India (ICSI) and NCAER, held a conference on



"Understanding the Psychology of Scams: How to Avoid Fraudulent Schemes", on September 5, 2023. The IEPFA Chair Professor at NCAER, Dr C.S. Mohapatra moderated the technical session at the Conference. The panellists at the session included Mr Ajay Tyagi, former SEBI Chairman, Dr M.S. Sahoo, former IBBI Chairman and former SEBI member, Mr Dharendra Kumar, CEO of Value Research, and Ms Suchitra Maurya, Banking Ombudsman, Delhi, Reserve Bank of India. The keynote address was delivered by Dr Manoj Govil, Chairman, IEPFA, and Secretary Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA). Ms Anita

Shah Akella, CEO, IEPFA, and Joint Secretary, MCA, delivered the inaugural address at the Conference.

Launch of Report on "Socio-economic Impact Assessment of Food Delivery Platform Workers", August 28, 2023

NCAER organised an in-person event to launch its pioneering report, **"Socio-Economic Impact Assessment of Food Delivery Platform Workers"**, on August 28, 2023. The objective of the report was to conduct a socio-economic impact assessment of food delivery platform workers. The issue of platform workers, especially those engaged in food delivery, has been the subject of extensive debate, especially with regard to their incomes, work conditions, work status, social security, and health insurance, among other things. This report is a contribution to both the literature and policy-making about food delivery platform workers in India.



DataTalk: A Conversation about Defining and Measuring Internal Migration in India, August 17, 2023

NCAER Webinar
DataTalk: A Conversation about Defining and Measuring Internal Migration in India

MODERATORS
17 Aug, 2023 6:30-8:00 PM

PANELLISTS

 CHINMAY TIBRE ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR IIMA	 CHANDRABHASHEKAR S. PROFESSOR IGDSR	 NEETHA N. PROFESSOR CWDS	 RAJNI PALRIWALA FORMER PROFESSOR DU	 MITTAL SETHI DIRECTOR VANAMATI	 IQBAL MEHTA JOURNALIST THE INDIAN EXPRESS
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WWW.NCAER.ORG

NCAER's National Data Innovation Centre hosted a web-based panel discussion with eminent researchers and experts, on August 17, 2023, to discuss the dynamics of internal migration in India, and the challenges involved in measurement and data collection, especially streams of migration that are poorly captured by existing data systems. The panel discussion was titled, **"DataTalk: A Conversation about Defining and Measuring Internal Migration in India"**.

Inaugural IEPFA-NCAER Investor Awareness and Protection Webinar of 2022-23, August 17, 2023

NCAER, in collaboration with the Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA), organised a webinar on “**Investor Protection Framework in India: Challenges and Road Ahead**”, on August 17, 2023, to promote financial literacy and investor awareness and protection among investors. The webinar, which was attended by the investor community, and NCAER and IEPFA staff, among others, was organised under the aegis of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India.



NCAER Dialogue Room | Episode 5 | Long-Run Effects of Colonial Land Redistribution: Evidence from India, August 9, 2023

In the paper presented at this seminar, the author, Kartikeya Batra uses a spatial regression discontinuity design to empirically assess the long-run causal effect of a land redistribution policy from the colonial period on present-day socio-economic outcomes in the State of Uttar Pradesh. The author finds persistent positive effects of redistribution on socio-economic outcomes.

NCAER Dialogue Room | Episode 4 | Fisheries Sector in India: An Overview of Current Demand and Future Prospects, July 26, 2023

After the Green and White Revolution, India is currently witnessing a ‘Blue Revolution’ to exploit the huge potential in the Fisheries and Aquaculture sector for sustaining food and nutritional requirements as well as meeting export demand. In this context, NCAER conducted a nationwide study for the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, **Study to Assess the Demand for the Fisheries Sector in India**, to estimate the consumption demand for fish and its spread among fish species. For this episode of the Dialogue Room, Dr Saurabh Bandyopadhyay shared his insights and key findings on the NCAER study.



India Policy Forum (IPF), July 6 and 7, 2023.

The **20th edition of the IPF** was attended by a galaxy of eminent policymakers, economists, academics and researchers, who focused on the key economic challenges facing India, and deliberated on five research papers, covering a range of diverse sectors and subjects, including the public debt and deficit dilemma in India, the financial sustainability of widespread electrification across the country, the need for investing in skills for workers by firms to enhance productivity, the gender implications of preference for sons over daughters, and the status of finance in India.



Voices of our Researchers

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- **Dr Poonam Gupta's** views were cited in an article titled, "G20 Presidency: Multilateral Development Bank Reforms Can be India's Masterstroke" by Raghav Jaitly, published in *News9live.com*, August 27, 2023. [Weblink.](#)
- **Dr Bornali Bhandari's** views were cited in the following newspapers and podcasts:
 - Podcast on "Oil Breezes Past \$95 a Barrel as Inflation Fears Return around the World: Graduates in Gig Jobs" for *The Core Report*, September 20, 2023. [Weblink.](#)

- Interview by Nivedita V. , ‘State of the Economy: Gig Work Is a Job but Not the Job’, published in *The Hindu BusinessLine*, September 16, 2023, [Weblink.](#)
- Citation in an article titled, “Why gig workers in India are getting a raw deal”, published in *India Today*, September 4, 2023, [Weblink.](#)
- Interview for *BQPrime*, “Gig Economy: Are Swiggy and Zomato Really Boosting Workers' Income?” August 31, 2023, [Weblink.](#)
- Citation in an article titled, “Real income of food delivery workers drops as prices rise”, published in *Moneycontrol*, August 29, 2023. [Weblink.](#)
- Citation in an article titled, “More than a third of food delivery workers in India are graduates, finds study”, published in *Moneycontrol*, August 29, 2023. [Weblink.](#)
- **Dr Sanjib Pohit’s** views were cited in the following articles:
 - “Taiwan Becomes Key Partner to India as New Delhi Boosts Its Hi-Tech Industry”, by Monica Aggarwal, published in *International Business Times*, August 30, 2023. [Weblink.](#)
 - “Apple, Samsung and Others Meet Indian Officials to Discuss Laptop Import Curbs, Domestic Manufacturing Plans” by Binitha Jacob in *International Business Times*, August 9, 2023. [Weblink.](#)
 - “Chinese Carmaker BYD Faces Investigation in India over Allegations of Underpaid Taxes” by Binitha Jacob, published in *International Business Times*, August 4, 2023. [Weblink.](#)
- **NCAER Interview Series, “Dialogues and Discussions”**: The next interview in the series features Senior Adviser at NCAER, **Mr K.A. Siddiqui**, in conversation with the Head of Publications and Senior Editor at NCAER, **Ms Anupma Mehta**. The interview highlights Mr Siddiqui’s experience as a data and survey specialist, and his role in various NCAER projects, August 2023. [Weblink.](#)
- **Dr Poonam Munjal** represented India in one of the G20 expert-driven Global Thematic Webinars organised by the Ministry of Culture and contributed to the report titled, “**G20 Culture: Shaping the Global Narrative for Inclusive Growth**”, which includes insights and recommendations from the G20 expert-driven Global Thematic Webinars, August 2023. [Weblink.](#)

Faculty Activities

Following are details of the activities and engagements of NCAER staff and faculty during July-September 2023:

Dr Poonam Gupta, Director General

- Panellist at the NSE-PIF Seminar on “Fiscal Sustainability”, New Delhi, August 29, 2023.
- Participated at the launch of the report, “Socio-economic impact assessment of food delivery platform workers”, New Delhi, August 28, 2023.
- Delivered the keynote address at Takshashila's Academic Conference, ‘Why the Financial Sector Matters for Growth and the role that Public Sector Banks play in it’, New Delhi, August 27, 2023.
- Panellist at Panel Discussion III: ‘Key Global Risks: Inflation, Financial Stability and Climate Change (G20 event on Global Economy: Challenges, Opportunities and Way Forward)’, Mumbai, August 11, 2023.
- Participated in the G20 Conference on ‘A Green and Sustainable Growth Agenda for the Global Economy’, New Delhi, July 28-29, 2023.

- Panellist at the G20 Conference, 'A Green and Sustainable Growth Agenda for the Global Economy' and spoke at a session on "Reshaping Global Finance for Sustainable Growth", New Delhi, July, 28, 2023.
- Participated in the World Bank Group Evolution Consultation Meeting in India, New Delhi, July 27, 2023.
- Delivered a lecture to IES Officer Trainees on "Priorities for the G20 Finance Track" at Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi, July 18, 2023.
- Delivered a lecture to IES Officer Trainees on "India's Debt Dilemma" at Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi, July 12, 2023.

Dr Sonalde Desai, Professor

- Participated in Meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee on Survey, organised by Department of Statistics and Information Management, Reserve Bank of India, Mumbai, August 29, 2023.
- Organised and Moderated (along with Dr Reshma Roshania), the web-based "DataTalk: A Conversation about Defining and Measuring Internal Migration in India", August 17, 2023.
- Chaired the Session on "The T.N. Srinivasan Memorial Lecture" at *India Policy Forum*, NCAER, July 7, 2023.

Dr Ratna Sahay, Professor

- Served on a panel discussion at UN Women in New York on "Reaching Financial Equality for Women: Actions to Advance the SDGs Leveraging Digital Finance Technologies," This was organised by the Permanent Mission of Ethiopia to the UN, UN Better Than Cash Alliance, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Generation Equality Forum, UN Capital Development Fund, the Office of UN Secretary-General's Special Advocate for Inclusive Finance for Development, UN Women, Women's World Banking, Women's Digital Financial Inclusion Advocacy Hub, and the World Bank Group, September 21, 2023.
- Published a Centre for Global Development blog with Kehinde Ajayi on "A Call to Action on Gender Equality: Looking Beyond the G20 New Delhi Summit", September 18, 2023.
- Presented on 'The Care Economy' at the World Economic Forum's "Global Future Council on the Future of the Care Economy" meeting, September 14, 2023.
- Served as Jury Member for the AFI Global Financial Inclusion Awards, which took place in conjunction with the 2023 AFI Global Policy Forum, September 7, 2023. Reviewed submissions by country authorities in Africa, Asia, Middle East, and Latin America.
- Participated in 'G20 EMPOWER Round-table Discussion in Collaboration with LinkedIn', New Delhi, July 20, 2023.
- Participated in the Exclusive Session with G20 EMPOWER Advocates on "Role of the Private Sector in Promoting Gender Equity", July 10, 2023.
- Chaired Panel on, "The Past and Future of Indian Finance", at the India Policy Forum, NCAER, New Delhi, July 7, 2023.
- Participated in World Economic Forum's 'Global Future Council on the Future of the Care Economy' meeting, July 6, 2022.

Dr Sanjib Pohit, Professor

- Appeared as the External Committee member for conducting PhD Proposal Seminars of Students at Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, September 26, 2023.

- Attended meetings of 'Task Force on Logistics Cost and Methodology', constituted by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), and gave presentations on 'Estimation of India's Logistics Costs', July 5, September 5, and September 12, 2023.
- Attended meeting of NITI Aayog Task Force on International Science and Engineering Fair and gave presentation on 'India's Net-zero Pathways and Its Macroeconomic Implications' September 14, 2023.
- Attended meeting with ADB team and gave presentation on 'Strengthening General Equilibrium Modelling Capacity in India', September 5, 2023.
- Participated in Workshop on 'Open-Source Energy System Analysis and the Launch of the Indian Zero Carbon Energy Pathways Model', at Greater Noida Centre, IIT Roorkee, August 22-23, 2023.

Dr Poonam Munjal, Professor

- Attended virtual workshop organised by Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (JKBOSE) on "Finalisation/Vetting of the State Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage (SCF-FS)", August 31, 2023.
- Attended/Provided regional training to Networking Agency for the AICSPS study at Lucknow, August 18-21, 2023.
- Attended meetings and gave presentations before Taskforce for Logistics Cost Calculation Framework, constituted by Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), July 5, August 8, and September 12, 2023.
- Participated in Training of Trainers to survey supervisors and coordinators for the AICSPS study, July 31 to August 6, 2023.

Dr Bornali Bhandari, Professor

- Appeared as a special guest at the Technical Session on "Integrating Skills into a School-based Curriculum for Prospects of Employability" in National Workshop on Leadership for Skills-based and Vocational Education in Government Schools at National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi, August 29, 2023.
- Organised and Presented at Launch of NCAER's Report on "Socio-economic Impact Assessment of Food Delivery Platform Workers", August 28, 2023.
- Panellist at a session on "Brainstorming Workshop on Gig and Platform Workers for Employers Organisations", V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, Noida, August 7 and August 14, 2023.
- Panellist at "Emerging Areas of Compliance in EPFO: Extending Social Security to Gig and Platform Workers and Construction Workers (special reference to Social Security Code 2020): Scope, Extent, Challenges; Funding and Finance; Policy Approaches" in Workshop on 'Compliance Management and Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016', Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya National Academy of Social Security, Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India, Delhi.

Dr C.S. Mohapatra, IEPF Chair Professor

- Gave an introductory speech and moderated the technical session at the 7th Foundation Day of The Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA), September 5, 2023.
- Moderated the webinar on 'Investor Protection Framework in India: Challenges and Road Ahead' by NCAER and The Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA), August 17, 2023.

Dr Pallavi Choudhuri, Senior Fellow

- Panellist at "Employment and Unemployment Statistics: Issues and Challenges", NCAER Dialogue Room Series Lecture, NCAER, September 6, 2023.
- Panellist at Discussion on "Designing Social Security and Skilling Schemes for Food Delivery Platform Workers: What, How, For Whom?", NCAER, August 28, 2023.

Dr Chetana Chaudhuri, Fellow

- Presented a paper on "Effect of Energy Transition Under Net-Zero Target on Employment", co-authored with Devender Pratap and Sanjib Pohit, at the international conference on 'New Technologies and Future of Work in Global South', organised by Institute for Human Development, International Labour Organization, and WITS University, July 17-19, 2023.

Dr Laxmi Joshi, Fellow

- Invited as a valued stakeholder for expert consultation on SDG Blueprint for Sustainable Agriculture at TERI Headquarters, IHC, Lodhi Road, New Delhi, September 26, 2023.
- Participated in the Regional Conference on Agriculture Trade, 'BIMSTEC: New Opportunities and Way Forward', organised by RIS, New Delhi, August 17, 2023.
- Participated at the SIAM conference on 'Fuelling the Future towards Sustainability: Observing World Biofuel Day', New Delhi, August 9, 2023.
- Invited to a high-level conference titled 'Green and Sustainable Growth Agenda for the Global Economy' as a side event under the aegis of India's G20 Presidency organised by NITI Aayog, in collaboration with the International Development Research Centre and the Global Development Network, New Delhi, July 28-29, 2023.
- Presented the final report of the project titled, "Impact Evaluation of Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF) and Price Support Scheme (PSS)" at NITI Aayog, New Delhi, July 20, 2023.
- Invited as an esteemed external expert and alumni member of Area Advisory Board: Stream Development Economics in 'Area Advisory Meeting' at Amity University, July 3, 2023.

Dr Palash Baruah, Associate Fellow

- Attended a meeting with Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, and gave presentation on the study "Physical Verification of the Institutes and Beneficiaries of Scholarship Schemes", New Delhi, September 14, 2023.
- Participated in meetings with the GMR Group and gave presentation on a study proposal on "Economic Impact Assessment of Aerocity – Delhi, Hyderabad & Goa", July-September, 2023.
- Participated in the 'Training of Trainers' session for India's first "All India Citizens Survey of Police Services" at NCAER, New Delhi, July 31 to August 6, 2023.
- Conducted the 'Training of Trainers' session for the study titled, "Survey of the MSME Sector of Assam with Focus on Sectors with Data Gaps", at Guwahati, Assam, July 3 2023.

Dr Isha Dayal, Associate Fellow

- Presentation to the Director General and senior staff of the Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO), NITI Aayog, and senior officials from the Department of Consumer Affairs and Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, of the secondary data analysis for the study on "Evaluation of Price Stabilization Fund and Price Support Scheme", at DMEO, NITI Aayog, New Delhi, July 20, 2023.

Dr Nijara Deka, Associate Fellow

- Conducted training at Guwahati, Assam, for field supervisors/ investigators for the study “Survey of Women’s Conditions in Assam with a Focus on Health and Nutrition Conditions, Educational Attainments, Skills and Employability and Incidence of Crimes against Women”, July 17-18, 2023.
- Conducted training at Guwahati, Assam for field supervisors/ investigators for the study “All India Citizen Survey of Police Services (AICSPS), 21-24 August, 2023.

Dr Somya Mathur, Associate Fellow

- Participated in Workshop on ‘Open-Source Energy System Analysis and the Launch of the Indian Zero Carbon Energy Pathways Model’, at Greater Noida Centre, IIT Roorkee, August 22-23, 2023.

Dr Piyali Majumder, Associate Fellow

- Discussant for ‘Theme 1 - India’s Climate Commitments and Their Implications’ during the National Conference on "Environmental Protection in India from the Perspective of the Poor" at Conference organised by Council for Social Development, New Delhi, September 21-22, 2023.

Dr Reshma Roshania, Associate Fellow

- Organised and Moderated (along with Dr Sonalde Desai) the web-based “DataTalk: A Conversation about Defining and Measuring Internal Migration in India”, August 17, 2023.

Institutional News

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NCAER In the News

- In response to Dr Poonam Gupta’s question on the need for separate institutions to deal with climate change in a lecture organised by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), “**The World is on Fire**”, former US Treasury Secretary Larry Summers’ answer was covered in the following news reports:
 - *Business Standard*: **MDBs at the Centre of Any Chance of Meeting the Climate Challenge**
 - *bqprime.com*: **Make MDBs Not Just Quantitatively Bigger But Qualitatively Better, Says Larry Summers**
- The following news articles covered the NCAER report, “Socio-economic Impact Evaluation of Food Delivery Platform Workers”:
 - *Factly.in*: **Review: NCAER Study Finds That While Incomes Increased by Only 4%, Expenditure of Food Delivery Workers Increased by over 20% in the Last Four Years**
 - *Fortuneindia* (Online): **42% Graduates under 25 Unemployed: Report**
 - *The Hindu*: **Food Delivery Partners’ Double Whammy: Decreasing Income Levels, Rising Petrol Costs | Data**
 - *Anandabazar Patrika*: **Pithe Khabar Bojha Boychen Snatak Ra- Workers are Bearing the Burden of Food Delivery.**
 - *MoneyControl*: **Real Income of Food Delivery Workers Drops as Prices Rise.**
 - *Business Standard*: **Monthly Income of Food Delivery Workers Fell 11% over 3 Years: NCAER**

- *The Times of India*: **More Qualified Food Delivery Workers Earn Lower than Peers: NCAER**
 - *Business Standard*: **Food Delivery Platforms Should Help Gig Workers on e-Shram portal: NCAER**
 - *The Economic Times*: **Food Delivery Platforms Helping Create Jobs, but Gig Workers Need Social Security Access: NCAER study**
 - *Newsdrum*: **Food Delivery Platforms Should Help Gig Workers Register on e-Shram Portal: NCAER.**
 - *CNBTv18.com*: **More Than 30% of Food Delivery Workers are College Graduates: NCAER**
 - *Fortune India.com*: **Food Delivery Workers' Income Drops 11% in 3 years**
 - *Devdiscourse.com*: **Food Delivery Platforms Should Help Gig Workers Register on e-Shram Portal: NCAER**
 - *The Hindu*: **The Travails of Gig Workers**
- The following news articles cited NCAER's Study Report on "Calculation of Logistics Costs":
 - *knnindia.co.in*: **Govt Likely to Come Out with Logistics Cost Estimate by Sept**
 - *Devdiscourse.com*: **As Per Initial Indications, India's Logistics Cost Would Not Exceed 10 pc of GDP: DPIIT Secy**
 - *Livemint*: **India Bets on Latest Reforms for Higher Rank in Logistics by Ravi Dutta Mishra**
 - *Business Standard*: **World Bank's Biennial Index Perception biased and narrow, says Centre**
 - *Devdiscourse*: **LPI rankings: India Wants World Bank to Include PM GatiShakti, ULIP in Calculations**
- An NCAER study was mentioned in an article titled, "**How Tier 2 & 3 Markets Are Shaping Real Estate Future**", by Nikhil Kejriwal published in *Reality Plus* (online), September 14, 2023.
 - A Conference organised by Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority, in collaboration with ICSI and NCAER, held in New Delhi on September 5, 2023, received the following media coverage:
 - *Indiaeducationdiary.in*: **IEPFA Celebrates 7th Foundation Day in New Delhi**
 - *Press Information Bureau*: **Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA) and National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) organise webinar under the theme "Investor Protection Framework in India: Challenges and Road Ahead"**
 - Another NCAER study was mentioned in an article titled, **The Promise of Our Goods and Services Tax is Unfulfilled**, by Ajit Ranade, published in *Livemint*, August 23, 2023.

Images from the Field

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Below we share some pictures from the primary survey being conducted in various States of India as part of the third round of the NCAER flagship project, the India Human Development Survey—IHDS-3.



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