

MANASI BERA

Assistant Professor
Faculty of Economics
Room No. H 301 L (3rd Floor)
Academic Block 7
South Asian University
Rajpur Road, Maidan Garhi
New Delhi, India 110068

Contact

E-mail: manasi@sau.int

E-mail (alt): manasi.bera87@gmail.com

ORCID ID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7887-3755>

SCOPUS Author ID: 57217060540

PROFILE

Manasi Bera is an applied development economist working at the intersection of labour economics, gender and caste identity, and technological change in developing economies. Her research investigates how mobility constraints, social identity, human capital, and technology adoption shape labour market outcomes, productivity, and inequality. Her work contributes to broader debates on inclusive growth and the micro-foundations of inequality, with a regional focus on South Asia and India. Methodologically, she employs quasi-experimental approaches using large-scale survey data, including household, firm-level, and time-use datasets.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Labour markets and employment in developing economies
- Gender, social identity, and inequality
- Technology, infrastructure, and gender gaps
- Migration and development

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics (2013-2019)

Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India,

MPhil Development Studies (Specialisation Economics) (2010-2012)

Institute of Development Studies Kolkata, University of Calcutta, India

MA Economics (2008-2010)

Department of Economics, University of Calcutta, India

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

TEACHING

Nov 2025 - present: Assistant Professor, South Asian University. New Delhi

July 2024 - Oct 2025: Assistant Professor, XIM University, Bhubaneswar, India

Jan 2024 - May 2024: Assistant Professor, Manav Rachna International Institute of Research and Studies, India

Apr 2021 - Sep 2022: Assistant Professor, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Guwahati, India

RESEARCH

Nov 2022 - Nov 2023: Postdoctoral Fellow, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai

Oct 2019 - Apr 2021: Consultant, Indian Institute of Dalit Studies, New Delhi

- Research on COVID-19's impact on women's work in India (ILO-funded), Transmission of COVID-19 in North India (GCRF, UK-funded) and Durable inequalities (ICSSR-funded)

PREDOCTORAL

Sep 2018 - Feb 2019: Junior Consultant, Indian Institute of Dalit Studies, New Delhi

July 2015 - Dec 2015: Research Associate, Giri Institute of Development Studies, Lucknow, and Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, New Delhi

March 2014 - Sep 2014: Pre-Doc Fellow, National Council of Applied Economic Research

Oct 2012 - July 2013: Research Assistant, Institute of Development Studies Kolkata

Short-term Consultancy

- Declining Child Sex Ratio and Violence against Women - Examining girl child discrimination in India, CSDS and ICSSR, 2019
- Data Gaps in Gender Statistics, IFMR LEAD (IWWAGE), 2019

PUBLICATIONS

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- **Bera, M.,** Dubey, A. & Malhotra, S. (2024). Revisiting earnings differentials across socio-religious groups in the regular salaried employment in India. *The Indian Economic Journal*. 73(4), 751-768. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00194662231201209>
- **Bera, M. &** Dubey, A. (2020). Structure and changes in household income and employment across social groups in rural India, *Indian Journal of Labour Economics*. 63(2), 407-435. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41027-020-00215-8>
- Olsen, W., **Bera, M.,** Dubey, A., Kim, J., Wiśniowski, A. & Yadav, P. (2020). Hierarchical modelling of COVID-19 death risk in India in the early phase of the pandemic, *The European Journal of Development Research*. 32, 1476-1503. <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41287-020-00333-5>

BOOK CHAPTERS

- **Bera, M. &** Dubey, A. (2024) Does caste matter in business earnings in India? Comparing states from three regions with different socio-economic and political settings. In Simantini Mukhopadhyay and Achin Chakraborty (Eds.). *Revisiting Inequality*. Routledge India
- Olsen, W., **Bera, M.,** & Yadav, P. (2021). Labour, gender and work in the regions of India during the COVID-19 period. In Lygia Sabbag Fares and Pedro Henrique Evangelista Duarte (Eds.). *Decent Work or Decent Income? 'Corona Crisis' Experiences*. Labour & Globalization

WORKING PAPER

- Bose, S., Bera, M. & Ghosh, P. (2020). Centre-State Spending on Elementary Education: Is it Complementary or Substitutionary? NIPFP Working Paper No. 320.

WORK IN PROGRESS

- **Edited book volume:** *Inclusive and Sustainable Urbanism in South Asia: Research, Policies, and Practices*, Sustainability Series, Springer Nature (Co-editor)
- **Journal Articles**
 - Does ICT reduce gender productivity gaps? Case of unorganised sector enterprises in India
 - Road infrastructure and female employment in India: Do social gender norms moderate the effects of improved road connectivity?
 - Migration duration and welfare outcomes for rural households: Evidence from India
 - Do institutional skill training programs induce individuals to train for better job prospects: Analysing Indian case with gender lens
 - Synergies and gaps in climate change adaptation and mitigation planning in India: A comparative assessment

RESEARCH GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

- **UGC-JRF & SRF Fellowship in Economics** (2015) – Competitive national-level doctoral research grant
- **Journal of Development Studies Grant** (2019) – Funded conference participation at Development Studies Association, UK.

AWARDS

- **Sanjay Thakur Young Labour Economist Award** (2018) – Best paper in Indian Society of Labour Economics Conference.
- **Gold Medal in B.A. Economics (Hons)**, University of North Bengal (Undergraduate degree)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (selected)

- **Does ICT reduce Gender Productivity Gaps? Case of Unorganised Sector Enterprises in India**, 65th Conference of the Indian Society of Labour Economics, ISEC, Bangalore, Jan 2025
- **Female Migration and Labour Market Entries and Exits in India**
The 3rd International Labour Conference, Goa Institute of Management, June 2024
- **Migration Duration and Welfare Outcomes for Rural Households: Evidence from India**
Asia Meeting of the Econometric Society (AMES) Conference, IIT Delhi, January 2024
- **Persistence of Caste Inequalities with Institutional Reforms: Experiments in West Bengal**
Behavioural Research in Economics Workshop (Economic Science Association) Conference, IIT Bombay, December 2023
- **Female Migration and Work in India: Obstacles and Opportunities**
Development Studies Association Conference, UK, June 2020

- **Impact of Internal Migration on Consumption Outcome: Comparing the Impact of Short-term and Long-term Migration in Rural India**
Development Studies Association Conference, Open University Milton Keynes, UK, June 2019
- **Structure and Changes in Household Income and Employment across Social Groups in Rural India**
Development Studies Association Conference, University of Manchester, UK, 27-29 June 2018

WEBINAR

- Moderator and presenter in Technical Webinar Series on **COVID-19 in India**, Organised by the Indian Institute of Dalit Studies, University of Manchester and Global Challenges Research Fund, July 16 - August 6, 2020

OTHERS

- **2025-26**: Participated in the British Academy International Writing Workshops
- **2025**: Participated in the Econometric Society Virtual Mentoring Initiative
- **2025**: Participated as mentee in the IAFFE mentoring program group

ADDITIONAL ROLES

- **Reviewer**: Frontiers | Indian Economic Journal | Development in Practice | Humanities and Social Sciences Communications | Journal of Social and Economic Development | The European Journal of Development Research
- **Invited Speaker**: Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at IIT Delhi | Manav Rachna International Institute | Resource Person in the UGC-sponsored Refresher Course, University of Calicut
- **Thesis Supervised**: Four M.A. Dissertations at Tata Institute of Social Sciences

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- International Association for Feminist Economics (IAFFE)
- Indian Society of Labour Economics (ISLE), India
- The Econometric Society
- Economic Science Association (ESA)

REFERENCES

Prof. Amaresh Dubey
Professor of Economics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
Email dubey.amaresh@yahoo.com

Prof. Wendy Olsen
Professor of Social Statistics, University of Manchester, UK
Email wendy.olsen@manchester.ac.uk