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Date of Birth : 7th August 1978
Citizenship : Indian

Main Research Interest

Public Finance: Expenditure management and resource mobilization issues of the Centre-State and Local governments. I have specific interest in the domain of local government and have a firsthand experience of personally visiting around 90 Urban Local Bodies so far across the country and few abroad. Further, resource mobilization and expenditure management for human development, especially in the domain of education is also a core area of my research interest.

Socioeconomics: My core interest also lies in the domain of interdisciplinary research, especially socioeconomics. Herein, I am specifically interested in the issues related to educational attainment, dropout and alike.

Educational Background:

Ph.D (2014) Area: Economics of Education, Socioeconomics, Public Expenditure

Dissertation: *Socioeconomic Determinants of School Attendance: A Study of Jalpaiguri and Murshidabad Districts in West Bengal* (Synopsis Confirmation: 2008, Completed: 2013, Degree awarded: 2014)

Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India

Supervised by: Professor Saumen Chattopadhyay

M.Phil (2007) Area: Financing Education Expenditure, Public Expenditure, Human Development

Dissertation: *Fiscal Reform and Public Expenditure on Social Services: The Case of School Education in Karnataka and West Bengal* (Synopsis Confirmation: 2005, Completed: 2006,

Degree awarded: 2007)

Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India

Supervised by: Professor Saumen Chattopadhyay

M.A. (2003)

Area: Economics

Special Paper: Environmental Economics, Population Economics

Optional Papers: Industrial Organization, Public Economics
Department of Economics, Kalyani University, West Bengal, India

Completed: 2003

B.Sc (Hons ,2001)

Area: Economics, Calcutta University, Completed : 2001

Fellowship/Membership/Achievements

- Worked closely under the guidance of Sri Kailash Satyarthi (Nobel Laureate-Peace 2014) and forward of the outcome report 'Rhetoric Vs. Reality: The State of Elementary Education in India 2008' co-authored with Dr. Ramakant Rai was written by Sri Satyarthi as a token of acknowledgement.
- Team member of the Audit team of PwC (US) at Grameen Telecom, Bangladesh (2012). During this tour I got the opportunity to closely work with the Yunus Centre (Bangladesh) and interact with Prof. Muhmmmed Yunus (Nobel Laureate, Peace-2006).
- Coordinated the Outreach Programme of the Reserve Bank of India at BITS-Pilani (K.K. Birla Goa Campus) on 11th September 2015
- Coordinator, EURAXESS-Info session (25th Sept-2015) at BITS-Pilani, K.K. Birla Goa Campus. EURAXESS is a platform of the European Union promoting Research and Excellence globally.
- Life member of 'The Indian Econometric Society', Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi, w.e.f.January-2010.
- Trained at 'Intermediate Budget Workshop' held at Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanzania during 12-23 March 2007,organised by-IBP (Wasington DC), Funder (Mexico)
- Received the University Grants Commission Fellowship for pursuing M.Phil/Ph.D provided by Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Invited Talks/Seminars

- 2015: 'Union Budget 2015-16: A brief Discussion', lecture delivered at BITS-Pilani, K.K. Birla Goa Campus on 11 March 2015.
- 2014: Invited participant with full scholarship at the workshop titled 'Opportunities for Europe and India in Social Sciences and Humanities', one day conference organized by EURAXESS, European Union & ICSSR on 14th October-2014, Taj Mahal Hotel (New Delhi).
- 2011: 'Rising Disparity In Municipal Finances: Evidence From India' , Co-authored with Shrabani Mukherjee, paper selected for presentation at the 9th International GLOBELICS conference, held at Buenos Aires, Argentina, 15-17 Nov,2011.
- 2010: Roundtable on India Municipal Finances, Seoul, Korea, organized by KIPF-NIPFP-GOI, June 2010
- 2010: 'Realizing Property Tax Potential: Rationale for Central Valuation Boards' paper presented at the Development Convention, ISEC, Bangalore, January 2010.
- 2009: Workshops on: Development and Climate Change organized by the World Bank, New Delhi.
- 2009: Meeting-cum-workshop of Consultative Group for Mid-term Appraisal of the Eleventh Five Year Plan for Urban Affairs, Housing and Poverty Alleviation organized by the Planning Commission
- 2008: 'Understanding State Budgets: The Case of Education in the State Budget of Bihar', paper presented at a two day national workshop organised by the NCE, GCE and BSTA for secondary school teachers and civil society activists at Patna, 2008.
- 2008: 'Promises in Oblivion? A brief account of elementary education in India', paper presented (by invitation) at launching ceremony of the Edwatch Report 2006 by CAMPEE at Dhaka, Bangladesh (20th April to 23rd April 2008).
- 2008: Conducted training (by invitation) at the Workshop on Networking & Advocacy. Presented a paper on 'Right to Education & Budgets'- organized by the India chapter of 'Terre Des Hommes' Canada, held from 16th June to 18th June, 2008 in Lucknow.
- 2008: 'Right to Education & Budgets', paper presented a workshop organized by the India chapter of 'Terre Des Hommes' Canada, was held from 16th June to 18th June, 2008 in Lucknow.
- 2007: 'Economic Reforms & School Education: A Study of West Bengal & Karnataka' was presented at the 43 rd Annual Conference of The Indian Econometric Society held at IIT Mumbai, January 2007.The abstract of the paper has been published in the conference issue of the same.

- 2007: Budget & Advocacy Workshop: Attended & conducted training (by invitation) at the 'Intermediate Budget Workshop' held at Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanzania during 12-23 March 2007. The workshop was jointly organized by International Budget Project (a programme of Centre for Budget & Policy Priorities, Washington D.C.), FUNDER- Mexico & Haki-Elimu, Tanzania. Apart from research work on Budgets, the workshop mainly highlighted on probable problems & relevant paths for better advocacy.

Academic Experience

Teaching and Research

- Dec 2012- till date
Assistant Professor, Department of Economics & Finance, Birla Institute of Technology & Science (BITS)-Pilani, K.K.Birla Goa Campus, Goa. Here my duties involve teaching Economics to first degree {M.Sc (Hons)} students and also conduct research. So far I have taught Public Finance-Theory & Policy, Resource and Environmental Economics Principles of Economics. As a part of research activities I have so far supervised around 12 study oriented projects. Currently, I am supervising an off-Campus first degree thesis as well.
- Aug 2005 to Jan 2007
For a short period I was engaged as a Guest Lecturer at Deshbandhu College, Delhi University and taught Public Finance to undergraduate students.

Research

- Jul 2011 to Nov 2012
Senior Consultant ,PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) Pvt. Ltd. I was attached with the Public Finance team of the Government Reforms & Infrastructure Development unit of PwC. Here I had conducted consultancy projects with various state governments. The projects were fully funded by donor agencies like the Asian Development Bank, DFiD, etc.
- Jun 2008 to Jun 2011
Economist (Faculty) , National Institute of Public Finance & Policy (NIPFP), New Delhi. NIPFP is an apex autonomous Institute under Ministry of Finance, Govt of India. At NIPFP, I was attached with the urban finance and governance unit headed by Prof. Om Prakash Mathur.
- May 2007 to June 2008
Research Consultant , National Coalition for Education , New Delhi .
During my tenure I closely worked with Sri Kailash Satyarthi and Dr. Ramakant Rai and drafted the Edwatch Country report on Elementary Education in India.
- Nov 2005 to Apr 2007
Research Associate with the Centre for Budget & Governance Accountability (CBGA), New Delhi. During my tenure at CBGA, I had contributed as co-author on many funded projects related to Central and State Budgets by UNICEF, UNDP, etc. Notable achievements are the drafting of the Child Budget Study, Gender Budget Study, etc.

- May 2005 to Nov 2005
Junior Project Associate with National Institute of Public Finance & Policy (NIPFP), New Delhi. Here I was engaged in the data collection process for the project 'Financing Human development in India' under the leadership of Prof. Tapas Sen.

Publications

Newspaper/ Magazines /Interviews

1. 'Exploring innovative revenue-generation models', The Financial Express, (invited column on the recent move of the Government of India for skill based education), 17th July 2015, India. For details refer to:
<http://www.financialexpress.com/article/industry/jobs/exploring-innovative-revenue-generation-models/108213/>
2. 'Success Through Skills', The Financial Express (invited column on the recent move of the Government of India for skill based education), 30th March 2015, India. For details refer to:
<http://www.financialexpress.com/article/industry/jobs/success-through-skills/58530/>
3. 'Dropping the Ball in the State's Court', The Financial Express (invited Column on Education Expenditure and the Union Budget 2015), 16th March 2015, India. For details refer to:
<http://www.financialexpress.com/article/industry/jobs/education-expenditure-dropping-the-ball-in-the-states-court/53917/>
4. -Ibid: cited in the March 2015 Newsletter of Euraxess. Refer to the link:
http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/data/newsletters/india/EURAXESS_Links_India_2015%20March%20FINAL.pdf
5. Interview (bite) on curriculum development published in the prestigious Career 360 in the article 'Decoding MBA Curriculum' by Shilpi Sachdeva on 27 Feb 2015. For details refer to :
<http://www.bschool.careers360.com/articles/decoding-mba-curriculum>
6. 'Five Pillars of Growth', column (invited) on Union Budget 2011-12, published in Competition 360 degree, May 2012. The magazine is a part of the Outlook group.
7. 'Budget- Optimism and Challenges'- column (invited) on Union Budget 2011-12, published in Competition 360 degree, April 2011. The magazine is a part of the Outlook group.
8. 'Balancing Act'- SAARC Journal of Transport, New Delhi, March 2011.
9. 'Plead Guilty'- Article on the impact of GST, Logistics Times, January, New Delhi.

Journals

10. 'Parent's Choice Function for Ward's School Continuation in Rural India: A Case Study in West Bengal', co-authored with Shrabani Mukherjee, Margin-Journal of Applied Economic Research (accepted for publication), SAGE Publication, UK-India.
11. 'Budget of Change! How is it?' Mulyayan, Vol.2 Issue 8, ISSN-2347-6168, July, 2014, Kolkata.
12. 'Governance, State, Control and West Bengal', Mulyayan, Vol.2 Issue 10, ISSN-2347-6168, December 15, 2014, Kolkata.
13. 'Right to Education and Infrastructural Facilities in Schools of West Bengal: A brief Review', -authored with Shrabani Mukherjee, Communique, Volume 7, Number 1 (Issue funded by Indian Council of Social and Scientific Research (ICSSR), New Delhi) March 2013.
14. 'Growing Dependence on Transfers and Rising Disparity in Municipal Finances in India: Evidence from Thirteenth Finance Commission', Co-authored with Shrabani Mukherjee, IJEF, e-ISSN: 2321-5933, p-ISSN: 2321-5925. Volume 10, Issue 1 (May.-Jun. 2013), Pp31-41.
15. 'Panchayats in West Bengal- Towards Developing the Pedagogy of the Common Mass- a brief note', Mulyayan, Volume 1, Number 2, Pp.36-43, Kolkata, West Bengal.
16. 'Toll Roads or Non-Toll Roads: The Debate in a Nutshell', SAARC Journal of Transport, Vol. XIV, No.9, September 2013, New Delhi.
17. 'Unraveling the Union Budget', is published in Seminar (Co-authored, June 2007 issue, titled-Children First), a reputed monthly journal on socio-political-economic issues, edited by Harsh Shetty. The paper specifically focused on the social sector, especially health & education.
18. 'Reaching the Excluded', is published in Seminar (Co-authored, June 2007 issue, titled-Children First), a reputed monthly journal on socio-political-economic issues, edited by Harsh Shetty.

Books/Monographs

19. 'Parent's Choice Function for Ward's School Continuation in Rural India: A Case Study in West Bengal', co-authored with Shrabani Mukherjee, Working Paper-106/June 2015 (Peer double blind reviewed), Madras School of Economics, Chennai, India.
20. 'Fiscal Stress & Education Expenditure: A Tale of Two Indian States'- Co-authored with Shrabani Mukherjee, Lambert Academic Publishers, Germany,2013, ISSN- 978-3-659-42704-6.
21. 'A Primer on Tax & Non Tax Revenues'- Co-Authored, Centre for Budget & Governance Accountability (CBGA), New Delhi,2010.

Fully Funded Project based Study Reports

22. 'Municipal Finance Matters'- Coauthored with Om Prakash Mathur, S.Chowdhury & A.K.Halen, NIPFP, New Delhi. This is a technical assistance report funded by Asian Development Bank based on an in depth study based data collected from 31 urban local bodies spread across six states. This report proposes the path of municipal reform through better Public Financial management Techniques and better Expenditure Frameworks.
23. Project Preparatory Technical Assistance (PPTA) report for Government of West Bengal (GoWB), 2012 funded by Asian Development Bank (ADB). Drafted the chapter on 'Improving Service Delivery in Education in West Bengal'. The chapter dealt with the school education sector in West Bengal. Further, as a part of this project Public Expenditure Tracking Survey (PETS) was carried out in three select districts of West Bengal on salary expenditure for teachers for Government aided schools. The report also deals with proposed mid term fiscal frameworks in line with the World Bank techniques.
24. Project Preparatory Technical Assistance (PPTA) report for the Department of Urban Development, Government of Himachal Pradesh (GoHP), 2011-2012, funded by Asian Development Bank (ADB). Drafted the chapters on Public Expenditure Management, Mid Term Fiscal Frameworks, Revenue Mobilization for the urban local bodies.
25. Fiduciary Risk Assessment report of the Health Sector in Orissa, 2011, Orissa, funded by DFID.
26. 'A Case Study on Reasons of Discontinuation of Formal Schooling: A Socio Economic Perspective', Paper selected for presentation at 'The First International Conference on Interdisciplinary Research and Development', 31 May - 1 June 2011, Thailand.
27. 'Urban Property Tax Potential' - Project report for the Thirteenth Finance Commission, Government of India (Co authored with Om Mathur & Nilesh Rajadhyakshya), NIPFP, New Delhi 2009. The study was based on data collected from 35 major urban local bodies in India.
28. 'Poverty Alleviation in a Fiscal Federal Framework', (co-authored with O.P.Mathur, O.P .Bohra & A.K.Halen), NIPFP, New Delhi. This report deals with different aspects of poverty alleviation in a fiscal federal framework with special focus on resource mobilization, resource re-allocation, expenditure frameworks, etc.
29. 'Rhetoric Vs. Reality: The State of Elementary Education in India 2008'- (Co-authored) Edwatch Country Report for India. The project for India was implemented by National Coalition for Education, New Delhi, India. This report consists of a critical evaluation of Elementary Education in South Asia from Budgetary perspectives. Other similar reports for respective countries within South Asia are compiled by noted development practitioners from those countries. Forward written by Nobel Laureate (Peace-2014) Sri Kailash Satyarthi. The work was also done under his close personal guidance.

30. 'Gender Budget Analysis' for the Government of West Bengal, India- for the year 2004-05'.The Project was funded by the Department of Planning, Government of West Bengal, India. The report has been jointly published by the UNDP & Government of West Bengal (Co Authored,22nd May, 2007).
31. 'Public Resources For Children In India: A Study Of The Budgets Of Rajasthan' ,Vol. 2 of Resources For Children Series, supported by UNICEF-India, published by Centre for Budget & Governance Accountability (CBGA), New Delhi.

First Degree Projects (Completed, not published)

1. Economic Reforms And Social Sector Expenditure: A Study of 2 Indian States- Gujarat And West Bengal, with Naveen Joshua (BITS ID:2011A3PS154G)
2. Economic Reforms and Social Sector Expenditure: A Study of 2 Indian States with Emphasis On Power Sector- Kerala and Tamil Nadu, with Mohit Ashok (BITS ID: 2010A8PS373G)
3. Economic Reforms and Social Sector Expenditure: A Study of 2 Indian States with Emphasis On Finance Sector- Andhra Pradesh And Maharashtra, with Sabarinath S.Krishnan (BITS ID: 2010B5A3446G)
4. Assessment of Public Financial Management in India: A Case-Study of Goa Based on Selected Indicators, with Abhijith Asok (BITS ID: 2010B4A3562G)
5. Economic Efficiency of Petro-Products: A Case Study of Naptha, with Atanu Kundu (BITS ID:2010A1PS468G)
6. Trends in Social Sector Expenditure: A Study of Selected Indian States', Avijith Warrior (BITS ID: f2013309G)
7. Bitcoins and Digital Currency: An analysis of the roadblocks to mainstream acceptance and popularity, with Mudit Badlani (BITS ID: 2011B3A1262G)
8. Effect of Weather on Indian Stock Market, with Prakhar Sharma (BITS ID: 2011B3A4436G)