

SANDIP MITRA

sandipisi@gmail.com

Curriculum Vitae

(updated in June, 2018)

Education:

MSc (Economics), Calcutta University and PhD (Jadavpur University)

Employment History:

- I. Associate Professor, Sampling and Official Statistics Unit: 2018-till date
- II. Assistant Professor, Sampling and Official Statistics Unit: 2012-2018
- III. Scientist, Indian Statistical Institute –2000 to 2012

Professional awards/honours

1. External Research Associate, Centre for Competitive Advantage in the Global Economy (CAGE), Department of Economics, University of Warwick, UK (2012-2014).
2. Visiting Professor, BRAC University, Bangladesh (2014-2015).
3. Visiting Fellow, Manchester University (March, 2017).

Teaching and Training:

- International Statistics Education Centre (ISEC) and BSTAT courses of ISI:
Courses taught- Descriptive Statistics, Economic Theory, Planning and Development, Large scale sample survey, Economics Statistics
- Workshops Training Programmes for Government Officers/PhD Students/Lecturers organized by ISI during 2000-2012 (venue: Universities in North Eastern India, Themes: Quantitative Economics, Official Statistics, Development)
- Training Programmes organized by ISI for Government Officers of reputed Organisations in India (like Reserve Bank of India, Ministry of Statistics, Govt of India) and Saarc Countries (like Bhutan, Bangladesh)

Research:

Broad Area- Empirical with a thrust on Policy.

Topics- Official Statistics, Political Economy, Experimental Economics, Agricultural Markets, Poverty, Health Economics, Large Scale Sample Survey, Micro Finance.

Research Grants Received for Projects (with co-authors):

USAID, Institute of Food Policy Research (IFPRI, Washington), AUSAID, IGC, Steel Authority of India (SAIL), Hong Kong Research Council, ESRC, National Highway Authority of India (NHAI), 4th State Finance Commission (Govt of West Bengal), CTRPF (CSSS)

Collaborating Institutions:

London School of Economics, Boston University, Monash University, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Warwick University, Manchester University, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, IFMR

Publications:

Journals

1. Incentives, information and malnutrition: Evidence from an experiment in India with Prakarsh Singh, **European Economic Review**, Elsevier, Volume 93, April 2017,
2. Financing smallholder agriculture: An experiment with agent-intermediated microloans in India with Pushkar Maitra, Dilip Mookherjee, Alberto Motta and Sujata Visaria, **Journal of Development Economics**, Elsevier, Volume 127, July 2017.
3. Asymmetric Information and Middleman Margins: An Experiment with Indian Potato Farmers with Dilip Mookherjee, Maximo Torero and Sujata Visaria, **Review of Economics and Statistics** MIT Press, Volume100, Issue 1, March, 2018
4. Cash versus Kind: Understanding the Preferences of the Bicycle Programme Beneficiaries in Bihar with Maitreesh Ghatak and Chinmaya Kumar, **Economic and Political Weekly**, March 12, 2015
5. Changing Voting Patterns in Rural West Bengal - Role of Clientelism and Local Public Goods with Pranab Bardhan, Dilip Mookherjee, Anusha Nath, **Economic and Political Weekly**, March 15, 2014

6. Community versus Individual Targeting in CSR projects with Diganta Mukherjee and others, **Productivity**, October, 2013
7. Land Acquisition and Compensation in Singur with Maitreesh Ghatak, Dilip Mookherjee, Anusha Nath, **Economic and Political Weekly** , May 25, 2013
8. Local Democracy and Clientelism : Implications for Political Stability in West Bengal with Pranab Bardhan, Dilip Mookherjee, Abhirup Sarkar, **Economic and Political Weekly**, 28 February, 2009
9. Relative Profitability from Production and Trade: A Study of Selected Potato Markets in West Bengal with Abhirup Sarkar, **Economic and Political Weekly**, vol xxxviii, no 44, August 17, 2003
10. Convergence in Regional Growth Rates-Indian Research Agenda with Sugata Marjit, **Economic and Political Weekly**, vol xxxi, no 33, August 17, 1996
11. Currency Devaluation and Exports ----- Separating Actual from Statistical with Sugata Marjit and B. Dasgupta, **Economic and Political Weekly**, XXXI, no 33, 1996
12. Fragmentation, Marginalisation and Pauperization: A Study on Inheritance with M. Chattopadhyay , **Man and Development**, vol xvii, no 4, December 1995

Books

1. *Political Participation, Clientilism and Targeting of Local Government Programmes* with Pranab Bardhan, Dilip Mookherjee, Abhirup Sarkar in *Is Decentralisation Good for Development?* Editors: Jean-Paul Faguet and Caroline Posschi, (Oxford University Press, UK), 2015
2. *Road Map to hospitalization* with Manoranjan Pal and others, conference volume of International Institute of Population Sciences, Rawat Publication ,2011
3. *Information and Price Dynamics: Evidence from Selected Potato Markets in West Bengal* in *Economic Theory in a Changing World* with Abhirup Sarkar, Eds. Kajal Lahiri et al, Oxford University Press, 2005
4. *Migration and Land Fragmentation: A Theoretical Note* in *Themes on Development Economics*, Eds. M.Gupta et al, Allied, 2000

5. Price and Arrival Seasonality in Selected Rice and Wheat Markets in India in Regional Dimensions of Indian Economy with A. Sarkar , Eds. B. Chatterjee etal, Allied Publishers 1997.

Recent Research Projects (2012-2017) :

1. **Principal Investigator:** What Drives Politicians Behaviour: Intrinsic Motivation or Self-Interest? with Kunal Sen and Prasenjit Banerjee, Manchester University, UK, funded by ESRC (2016-17).
2. **Project Partner:** DFID-ESRC Growth Research Programme with Timothy Besley, Maitreesh Ghatak, London School of Economics, Konrad Burchardi, IIES, Stockholm University, Abhirup Sarkar, ISI : student internship programme (2015-2017).
3. **Principal Investigator:** Accountability of Local Government: A Study on some Gram Panchayats with Kajal Dihidar, ISI funded by 4th State Finance Commission, West Bengal (2014-15).
4. **Co-Principal Investigator :** Strategic Default of Taxes - A Study on Sales Tax with Sugata Marjit, CSSS funded by CTRPFP, CSSS (2014).
5. **Co-Principal Investigator:** Absolute versus Relative incentives: An experiment targeting child malnutrition in slums of Kolkata with Prakarsh Singh, Amherst college, USA funded by Amherst Research Grant (2012-2013).
6. **Principal Investigator:** Evaluation of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Projects of IISCO, funded by SAIL with Diganta Mukherjee and Kajal Dihidar, ISI (2013-14).
7. **Co-Principal Investigator:** Cash Transfer Versus In-Kind Transfers: A Conceptual Framework and Preliminary Evidence with Maitreesh Ghatak, London School of Economics and Chinmay Kumar, IGC funded by IGC, Bihar (2012-13).
8. **Principal Investigator:** Land Acquisition and Optimal Compensation Policy - A study on Singur with Maitreesh Ghatak, London School of Economics Dilip Mookherjee, Boston University funded by London School of Economics (2010-2013).

9. **Principal Investigator:** Poverty and Aspiration with Sayantan Ghosal, University Anandi Mani, Sanchari Roy, Warwick University, Smarajit Jana ,Durbar funded by ESRC (2013 till date).
- 10.**Principal Investigator:** Role of Clientelism and Local Public Goods with Pranab Bardhan , University of California, Berkeley and Dilip Mookherjee, Boston University funded by IGC (2009-2013).
- 11.**Co-Principal Investigator:** Agent Intermediated Loans: A New Approach to Microfinance with Pushkar Maitra, Monash University, Dilip Mookherjee, Boston University, Alberto Motta, University of New South Wales, Sujata Visaria, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology funded by AUS Aids, ARC, HKUST, IGC, USAids (2009-tilldate).
- 12.**Co-Principal Investigator:** Local Democracy in Rural West Bengal : Political Participation and Targeting of Public Services with Pranab Bardhan, , University of California, Berkeley, Dilip Mookherjee, Boston University and Abhirup Sarkar, ISI funded by NSF and Mc Arthur Foundation (2009-2013).
- 13.**Co-Principal Investigator :** Asymmetric Information and Middlemen Margins - An Experiment with Indian Potato Farmers with Dilip Mookherjee, Boston University Sujata Visaria, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Maximo Torero, IFPRI funded by IFPRI, Washington (2007-2013).

Old Projects :

- 14.**Co-Principal Investigator:** Study on Model Steel Villages, under the CSR scheme of Durgapur Steel Plant with Bimal Roy, Snighdha Chakrabarti and others, ISI funded by SAIL, 2009.
- 15.**Project Team Member:** Study on District Level Poverty: Methodological Issue with Dipankor Coondoo and others, ISI funded by UNDP, 2008.
- 16.**Project Personnel:** Effects of International Trade and Investment on Low income people of India, with Sugata Marjit, ISI funded by CUTS, 2007.
- 17.**Principal Investigator:** A study on Some Health Economic Issues of the North East with M. Pal, ISI and D.C. Nath, Gauhati University and others, funded by ISI, 2003.

18. **Project team member:** Poverty and Household Decisions - An Exploration of Possible Interdependence with Dipankor Coondoo and others, ISI, 2009
19. **Project Personnel:** A study on urban labour markets - The cases of a few cities in West Bengal with Professor Sugata Marjit, CSSS and others, funded by CSSS, 2002.
20. **Co-Principal Investigator:** Information, Storage and Price: A Study on Some Selected Potato market with Abhirup Sarkar, ISI funded by ISI, 1999.
21. **Project Personnel:** Identification of Other Backward Castes in West Bengal, funded by ISI, 1999
22. **Project Personnel:** Tax performance and taxable capacity - An analysis for selected states of India, with D. Coondoo & others, ISI funded by Planning Commission for Finance Commission, 1995.
23. **Project Personnel:** Identification of Rural Poor in West Bengal, with Nikhilesh Bhattacharya, ISI and others funded by Planning Commission of India, 1993.
24. **Project Personnel:** Rural indebtedness in West Bengal, with Bimal Roy, ISI funded by Reserve Bank of India, 1993.
25. **Project Personnel:** Study on the production and marketing of Silk, funded by Central Silk Board, Govt of India, 1992.

Papers presented at recent Conferences and Workshops:

1. **Seminar Presentation:** Politicians' Motivation : Evidence from a Lab-in- Field Experiment , March 13, Manchester University, U.K
2. **Seminar Presentation:** *Large Scale Sample Surveys—Some Problems*, February 8, 2017, Monash University, Australia
3. **Invited talk:** Accountability of Local Governments, IIM, Bangalore
4. **Invited talk:** Data for Policy making, September 07, 2017 , Govt of Tamil Nadu and IFMR
5. **Invited Paper:** *Accountability of Local Governments* at IPS-Monash University Conference , Colombo , 11-12 January, 2017
6. **Invited Paper :** *Middleman Margins in Agricultural Market* at the CTRPF Research Retreat, 4-6 March, 2016

7. **Invited Lecture** : *Rural Local Bodies in West Bengal* at the workshop on West Bengal Panchayats Organised by State Finance Commission , 18 May, 2015
8. **Invited Paper** : A study on some GPs in West Bengal at the Conference on West Bengal Economy organised by Centre for Advanced Studies and Centre for West Bengal Economy, Department of Economics, Jadavpur University, Jan 2-3 ,2015
9. **Invited paper** : *Tax disputes—A study on sales tax in West Bengal* at the CTRPF Research Retreat, 19-21 December,2014
- 10.**Invited Paper** : *Political Economy and Governance* at the BIGD (BRAC) International Conference, Dacca, December 11-13,2014
- 11.**Invited paper**: *Financing Small holder Agriculture* at the International Workshop on Field Experiments with the Small holders' Agriculture organised by Asian Society of Agricultural Economists (ASAE) and BRAC at Dacca, 15-17 October,2014
- 12.**Invited Lecture** : *Agent intermediate Lending* at Reserve Bank of India and NABARD, Mumbai, August 5,2014
- 13.**Invited paper** : *Aspirations and Poverty* (with S. Ghosal and others) at the 3rd IGC-ISI West Bengal Growth Conference at ISI, Kolkata ,23-27 December ,2013
- 14.**Invited Talk**: *Decentralisation and Local Government* in the Workshop on the progress of Research Studies funded by State Finance Commission, July 12, 2013

Work-in- Progress

1. *Sex Workers, Stigma and Self-Belief: Evidence from a Psychological Training Program in India* with Sayantan Ghosal (Warwick university), Anandi Mani(Warwick University), Smarajit Jana(Durbar) and Sanchari Roy(Sussex)-CAGE Working Paper No.152,Warwick University, Harvard Kennedy School Women and Public Policy Program's Gender Action Portal (GAP), Harvard University
- 2 *What Drives Politicians' Behaviour: Intrinsic Motivation or Self-Interest?* With Kunal Sen, Antonio Niccolo and Prasenjit Banerjee (Manchester University) Vegard Iversen (IIM, Ahmedabad)

3. Promise and politicians in an uncertain world: Evidence from a lab-in-the-field experiment in India with With Kunal Sen, Antonio Niccolo and Prasenjit Banerjee (Manchester University), Vegard Iversen (IIM, Ahmedabad)
4. *Empowerment through Self help Groups* - Anandi Mani (Oxford University), Lakshmi Iyer (Harvard University and University of Notre Dame)
5. *Resource Transfers to Local Governments: Political Manipulation and Voting Patterns in West Bengal* with Pranab Bardhan (University of California, Berkeley) Dilip Mookherjee (Boston University), Anusha Nath (University of Minnesota)
6. Distributive Impacts of Agent-Intermediated Microcredit: with Sujata Visaria (HKUST), Dilip Mookherjee (Boston University), Pushkar Maitra (Monash University)
7. Clientelistic Politics and Agent-Intermediated Lending: How Political Agents Use Targeted Loans to Influence Vote Shares with Sujata Visaria (HKUST), Pushkar Maitra (Monash University) and Dilip Mookherjee (Boston University)
8. Market Structure and Middleman Margins in Potato Markets in West Bengal: Evidence from Trader Surveys with Sujata Visaria(HKUST) , Pushkar Maitra (Monash University) and Dilip Mookherjee (Boston University)
9. Assessing the Relative Importance of Information and Credit Constraints: An Empirical Study of Agricultural Sales with Sujata Visaria (HKUST), Pushkar Maitra (Monash University) and Dilip Mookherjee (Boston University).
10. Sham Litigation, Delayed Tax Payment and Evasion: The Role of Informal Credit Market with Sugata Marjit, CSSS

Academic visits abroad:

1. Boston University (2009)
2. Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (December 11 -16, 2011)
3. Warwick University (December 3-10, 2012)
4. Boston University (March, 2013)
5. Cleveland State University (March, 2013)
6. BRAC, Bangladesh (2015 April-2016 March: different time-slots)
8. Monash University (February, 2017)
9. Manchester University (March, 2017)

Academic Administration

1. Convenor, Workshop on Evolving forms of Agricultural Financing organised at ISI, Kolkata in collaboration with Monash University, 2012
2. Convenor, 1st Workshop on Economic Growth in West Bengal – Challenges and Priorities, featuring J. Stiglitz, the Nobel Laureate in collaboration with International Growth Centre, London School of Economics held at ISI Kolkata in 2011.
3. Convenor, 2nd Workshop on Economic Growth in West Bengal – Challenges and Priorities featuring J. Mirrlees, the Nobel Laureate in collaboration with International Growth Centre, London School of Economics held at ISI Kolkata in 2012.
4. Convenor, 3rd Workshop on Economic Growth in West Bengal—Challenges and Priorities featuring Kaushik Basu, Vice president, World Bank in collaboration with International Growth Centre, London School of Economics held at ISI Kolkata in 2013.
5. Convenor, 4th Workshop on Economic Growth in West Bengal—Challenges and Priorities featuring Debraj Ray in collaboration with International Growth Centre, London School of Economics held at ISI Kolkata in 2014.
6. Convenor, 5th Workshop on Economic Growth in West Bengal—Challenges and Priorities held at ISI Kolkata in 2015.
7. Member of the Committee, 6th Workshop on Economic Growth in West Bengal—Challenges and Priorities in collaboration with International Growth Centre and ISI held at Jadvpur University in 2016.
8. In-charge, International Growth Centre Project Office (Kolkata), 2012-2013 as requested by Govind Nankani, Executive Director, IGC Hub and Director, ISI.

Policy Briefs and Op-eds:

1. Middleman Margins and Market Structure in West Bengal Potato Supply chains (with Dilip Mookherjee, Sujata Visaria and Maximo Torero), Ideas for India, September, 2017
2. Agricultural Microfinance: An Alternative Trail (with Pushkar Maitra, Dilip Mookherjee, Alberto Motta and Sujata Visaria), Spore, January 2017.

3. Middleman Margins and Market Structure in West Bengal Potato Supply Chains (with Dilip Mookherjee, Pushkar Maitra, Sujata Visaria) , VoxDev (a research into practice platform of CEPR, IGC, PEDL), 2017
4. Designing microcredit for agriculture: Agent-intermediated lending (with Pushkar Maitra, Dilip Mookherjee, Alberto Motta and Sujata Visaria), Vox, CEPR's policy portal,14 December 2016
5. Cash transfers may not suit all beneficiaries (with Maitreesh Ghatak, Chinmaya Kumar),Business Standard, August 9, 2016
6. Agent Intermediated Loans: A New Approach to Microfinance (with Pushkar Maitra, Dilip Mookherjee and Alberto Motta), *ISB Insight*, Jan-Mar 2014, Volume 1, Issue 2, pp. 33-37. (ISB Insight is the "Flagship Research Quarterly of the Indian School of Business").
7. Helping Microfinance Fulfill Its Promise: Raising Borrower Incomes through Agent-Intermediated Lending (with Pushkar Maitra, Dilip Mookherjee and Alberto Motta), IEMS Thought Leadership Brief, No. 3, October 2014.
8. Financial Inclusion for Agricultural Growth: An Alternative Approach (with Pushkar Maitra, Dilip Mookherjee and Alberto Motta), *Ideas for India*, 8th December 2014.
9. Access to market Data gets better pricing? Live Mint, June 23, 2008
10. Potato Traders in West Bengal: A Survey of Contractual Relations and Market Structure with Dilip Mookherjee, Sujata Visaria, Pushkar Maitra, Alberto Motta, IGC working paper,2013
11. Land acquisition for business and compensation for displaced farmers (with Maitreesh Ghatak and Dilip Mookherjee), IGC policy brief , October,2011
12. Editorial column: various issues, Ananda Bazar Patrika, the Bengali daily
13. Editorial column: various issues, Ei Samay, the Bengali daily