

PRADEEP KUMAR CHOUDHURY

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Current Positions

Assistant Professor of Economics, Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies, School of Social Science, JNU, Delhi, India (Since August 2015)

Vice-President, International Longevity Economics (EIDLL) Network, Paris, France (Since February 2020)

Past Positions

Assistant Professor, Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, Delhi, India (February 2013–August 2015)

Research Fellow, Public Health Foundation of India, Delhi, India (October 2012–February 2013)

Consultant, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, Delhi, India (August 2012–October 2012)

Research Associate in Economics, ICFAI University, Hyderabad, India (April 2006–July 2007)

Education

PhD in Economics of Education, National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA), Delhi, India (2007 – 2013)

Title of thesis: “*An Economic Analysis of Demand for Higher Education in India: A Study of Engineering Education in Delhi*”, Adviser: Professor Jandhyala B G Tilak

M.A. in Economics, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, India (2004 – 2006)

B.A. (with Honours) in Economics, Fakir Mohan University, Odisha, India (2001 – 2004)

Peer-Reviewed Journal Publications

[* co-authored]

1. “An Empirical Analysis of Household Expenditure on Engineering Education in Odisha”, *Millennial Asia*, (2021)*. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0976399620969892>
2. “Determinants of Private School Choice in India: All about the Family Backgrounds?”, *Journal of School Choice*, (2020)*. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/15582159.2020.1852517>
3. “Computer science skills across China, India, Russia, and the United States”, *PNAS*, National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America, 116 (14): 6732-6736 (2019)*.
4. “Student assessment of quality of engineering education in India: evidence from a field survey”, *Quality Assurance in Education*, 27 (1): 103-126 (2019).
5. “NEET for Medical Education: Finding a Balance”, *Economic and Political Weekly*, 51:35, 16-19 (2016).
6. “Role of Private Sector in Medical Education and Human Resource Development for Health in India”, *Economic and Political Weekly*, 51(3): 71-79 (2016).

7. "Growth of Engineering Education in India: Status, Issues and Challenges", *Higher Education for the Future*, 3(1): 93-107 (2016).
8. "Estimating Demand for Education: A Critical Review", *Manpower Journal*, 50(1&2): 47-64 (2016).
9. "Explaining the Role of Parental Education in the Regional Variation of Infant Mortality in India", *Asia & the Pacific Policy Studies*, 2(3): 544-572 (2015).
10. "Explaining Gender Discrimination in Employment and Earnings of Engineering Graduates in India", *Journal of Educational Planning and Administration*, 29(3): 225-246 (2015).
11. "Growth of Engineering Education in Delhi: Trends, Patterns, and Challenges", *IASSI Quarterly: Contributions to Indian Social Science*, 33(2-4): 113-125 (2014).
12. "Determinants of Employment Probabilities and Expected Earnings of Engineering Graduates: An Empirical Study in Delhi, India", *Journal of Income and Wealth*, 35(2): 131-146 (2013).
13. "Fiscal Deficit and Public Debt of State Governments in India: Causality and Co-integration", *Indian Journal of Economics*, 89(354): 345-56 (2009)*

Books, Chapters, and Reports

14. "Contextualising Educational Studies in India: Research, Policy and Practices", Edited Volume, forthcoming by Routledge India, (in press)*.
15. "Engineering Education in India", in *Changing Higher Education in India*, Bloomsbury (Eds. Simon Marginson, N. V. Varghese & Saumen Chattopadhyay) (forthcoming)*.
16. "Changing Landscape of Professional Higher Education in India: What Do We Know and What Do Recent Data Tell Us?", in *India's Economy and Society: Lateral Explorations*, Springer (Ed. Sunil Mani) (in press).
17. "Expanding Education Market and Parental Choice for Secondary Schools in India: Evidence from IHDS Data", in *Universal Secondary Education in India: Issues, Challenges and Prospects*, Springer (Ed. Jandhyala B G Tilak) (2020).
18. "Parental Choice for Schools in the Changing Context of the State and Market in India", in *Education and Public Sphere: Exploring the Structures of Mediation in Post-Colonial India*, Routledge (Ed. Suresh Babu G. S) (2020).
19. "Inequality in Access to Higher Education in India between the Poor and the Rich", in *Social Development Report 2018*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi for Council for Social Development, New Delhi (Eds. T. Haque and D N Reddy) (2019)*.
20. "Pattern and Determinants of Household Expenditure on Higher Education: Evidence from Rural Odisha", in *The Future of Higher Education in India*, Springer (Ed. Sudhanshu Bhushan) (2019).
21. "Explaining Gender Differentials in the Employment of Engineering Graduates in India" in *Gender and Education from Different Angles*, LIT Verlag, Germany (Eds. Malgorzata Jarecka-Zyluk and Oliver Holz) (2014).

Working Papers

- "Engineering Education in India: Growth, Challenges and Prospect", forthcoming Working Paper, Council for Social Development, Delhi*.

“Inequality in Access to Higher Education in India between the Poor and the Rich: An Analysis of 64th and 71st Rounds of NSSO Data (2007-08 and 2013-14)”, Working Paper No. CSD 1/2019, Council for Social Development, Delhi, April 2019*.

“Role of Private Sector in Medical Education and Human Resource Development for Health in India”, Working Paper No. 169, ISID-PHFI Collaborative Research programme, Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, Delhi, October 2014.

“What Explains the Gender Discrimination in Employment and Earnings of Engineering Graduates in India?” Working Paper No. 2014/003, Development Studies Association of Ireland, November 2014.

“Parental Education and Infant Mortality in India: Understanding the Regional Differences”, Working Paper No. 157, ISID-PHFI Collaborative Research programme, Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, Delhi, November 2013.

Short Articles

“Taxation and Domestic Financing of Education in India”, NORRAG Special Issue 05 on Domestic Financing: Tax and Education, 23 November 2020. <https://resources.norrag.org/resource/view/630/364>

“A deadly difference: Why infant mortality rates in India vary between regions, and what policymakers can do about it”, Asia and the Pacific Policy Society Newsletter, 11 November 2015. <http://www.policyforum.net/a-deadly-difference/>

“Foreign Aid and Economic Development: A Study of India, Sri Lanka and Maldives”, A Review article of the Commonwealth-AMDISA Post Doctoral work, *Association of Management Development Institutions in South Asia Newsletter*, Volume 48, October 2015.

"Demand for Educational Services", for M. A. (Economics) course on ‘Economics of Social Security and Environment’, Indira Gandhi National Open University, 2016.

On-going Research (incomplete)

Provisioning of Private Schools in Rural Odisha

Financial Assistance for Engineering Graduates in India

Determinants of Demand for Private Coaching in Indian Higher Education (with Amit Kumar & Angrej Singh Gill)

How Much Do Parents Spend on Private Schools in India? (with Amit Kumar & Angrej Singh Gill)

Explaining Gender Inequality in the Employment and Earnings of Graduates in India (with Deepak Kumar)

Covid-19 and Labour Market Uncertainties among University Graduates in India (with Amit Kumar)

Who all change schools and for what reasons? (with Chayanika Mitra & Indrani Sengupta)

Availability of early childhood development programs and children’s learning outcomes (with Deepak Kumar)

Research Project and Consultancy

“Delhi Cluster: Delhi Research Implementation and Innovation (DRIIV), Vertical: Effective Education”, IIT Delhi, funded by Department of Science and Technology, Government of India (collaboration) grant amount: INR 80,74,800 (ongoing).

“Assessing and Improving the Quality of Higher Education - An International Comparative Study” collaborative project with Prashant Loyalka, Stanford University, USA (March 2017 – December 2019), grant amount: USD 40,000 (completed).

“Effectiveness of Selected Scholarship Schemes for the Improvement in Access and Retention of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Students in Odisha”, research grant sanctioned by the Indian Council of Social Science Research, Delhi (October 2015 – September 2016), grant amount: INR 7,50,000 (completed).

“Students Loan as the Alternative to Costly Higher Education: Evidence from Odisha” research grant sanctioned by the University with Potential for Excellence (UPE II) grant, JNU, Delhi (August 2016 – March 2019), grant amount: INR 3,30,000 (completed).

“Regulatory Frameworks and Accountability Mechanisms Governing Private Sector Engagement in Education in India”, consultancy work with the National Coalition for Education, Delhi (October 2017 – February 2018) (completed).

Occasional Reviewer

Journals: International Journal of Educational Development, Asia and the Pacific Policy Studies, Millennial Asia, Social Change, Higher Education for the Future, Journal of Social and Economic Development, SN Social Sciences, The Indian Economic Journal, Journal of Applied Research in Higher Education, Journal of Educational Planning and Administration, International Journal of Commerce and Management, Genus, Sage Open, Diaspora, Indigenous, and Minority Education, Contemporary Review of the Middle East, Interactive Technology and Smart Education, Orissa Economic Journal; Book Manuscripts: Oxford University Press, Routledge; Conference Papers: American Educational Research Association (AERA), Globelics, Comparative Education Society of India

Teaching and Supervision

Teaching

Currently teaching three courses (*Economics of Education, Quantitative Research Methods, Education in India: Social Science Perspectives*) to MPhil/PhD students of the Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies, JNU

Taught the course *Science, Engineering and Social Responsibility* to PhD Scholars of the Department of Humanities, Delhi Technological University, Delhi, March to May 2013 (as a guest faculty)

Taught the *Micro Economics* and *Macro Economics* to the Post Graduate Students of Economics (distance mode), Indira Gandhi National Open University, Delhi, September to November 2013 (as an Academic Counsellor)

Thesis supervision (MPhil/PhD)

Joel Vergis – Awarded MPhil (2017). Title of the dissertation: “Education and Labour Market for Persons with Disabilities: A Study of IT Sector in India”; pursuing PhD on the topic “Education, Employment and Well-being of Persons with Disabilities in India”.

Amit Kumar – Awarded MPhil (2017). Title of the dissertation: “Household Expenditure on Higher Education in India: Evidence from NSSO Data”; pursuing PhD on the topic “Student Loans and Financing of Professional Higher Education in Delhi”.

Meghna Sharma – Pursuing PhD on the topic “Effort or Opportunity: A Study of the Determinants of Women’s Labour Market Participation in India”.

Loknath Acharya – Pursuing PhD on the topic “University-Industry Linkages and India’s National System of Innovation: A Study of Patterns and Determinants”.

Biswa Ranjan Baral – Awarded MPhil (2018). Title of the dissertation: “Participation and Household Expenditure on School Education in India: Evidence from NSSO Data”, pursuing PhD on the topic “Emerging School Education Market in Odisha: A Study of Household Demand and Private Provisioning”.

Sadath Hussain – Awarded MPhil (2018). Title of the dissertation: “Engineering Education in Hyderabad Karnataka Region: Addressing Questions of Access and Equity” thesis, awarded); pursuing PhD on the Topic “Muslim Students’ Participation and Experiences in Higher Education: Comparative Study of Two Central Universities in North India”.

Saksham Sood – Awarded MPhil (2018). Title of the dissertation: “Education and Female Workforce Participation in India: Evidence from IHDS Data”.

Meghna Khurania – Pursuing MPhil on the topic “Student’s Choice for Vocational Education and Labour Market Aspirations: A Study of Select ITIs”.

Invited Talks (2015 onwards)

2020

Assessment in Engineering Education: Where do we fail and Why? (Velammal Institute of Technology, Chennai); Higher Education and Development (HRDC, Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar); Reforms in Higher Education in India ((HRDC, JNU); NEP’s road map for higher education 2020: prospects and impediments (Assam University Silchar, Assam); Reforming Higher Education in India: Are We on the Right Track? (HRDC, Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar); Panellist for the discussion on National Education Policy 2020: The Forward Strategy (Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, Manav Rachna International Institute of Research and Studies); State, Market and Reforms in Indian Higher Education (HRDC, Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar); National Education Policy 2020 and Reforms in Higher Education (Equal Opportunity Cell, Kalinga Mahavidyalaya, Kandhamal); Positioning Education in the Changing Developmental Discourse (Department of Education, Central University of Haryana, Mahendergarh); National Education Policy, 2020 and Literacy Challenges (Abhibyakti Research and Development Foundation, Rourkela); Reforms in India’s Education Policies (LexQuest Foundation, Delhi); Discussant for an International Webinar on Evolving Paradigm of Higher Education amidst the Coronavirus Pandemic (Impact and Policy Research Institute, New Delhi & University of Idaho, USA); National Education Policy 2020: Challenges and Opportunities (Ama Prayas, Odisha); Discussant for a technical session in the conference on COVID-19 and Reverse Migration in India (A.S. College, Khanna, Punjab); Outcome Based Education (Loyola College of Social Sciences, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala); Draft National Education Policy 2019: A Critical Analysis (S.K.C.G. Autonomous College, Odisha); Education and Development: Changing Contours and Emerging Concerns (Department of Economics, R.C.M. Science College, Odisha)

2019

Positioning Education in the Changing Developmental Discourse (National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, Delhi); Education and Development (University School of Open Learning, Panjab University, Chandigarh); Contemporary Challenges before Academic Writers (Department of Education, Panjab University, Chandigarh); Presenting and Interpreting the Results (Research Methodology Course on Large Scale Survey: Data Analysis and Tools, NIEPA, Delhi); Privatisation of Education (National Consultation on Draft New Education Policy 2019, National Coalition for Education, Delhi); Gender Issues in STEM Education in India (American Centre, Delhi); Qualitative Research in Quantitative Times, Measuring Equity and Social Justice in Education (Department of Education, Panjab University, Chandigarh); Lecture Series on Education and Development (Faculty Development Centre, Shri Mata Vashno Devi University, Jammu &

Kashmir); Education and Development (TERI School of Advanced Studies, Delhi); Neoliberalism and the Changing Discourse on Higher Education (HRDC, JNU); Lecture Series on Higher Education (Faculty Development Centre, Shri Mata Vashno Devi University, Jammu & Kashmir); Crisis of Undergraduate Education in India: Issues and Challenges (Sukinda College, Odisha); Income Inequality and Access to Higher Education in India (S N College Rajkanika, Odisha)

2018

Financing Education in India: Issues and Challenges (HRDC, JNU); Quantitative Research Method in Education (HRDC, JNU); Inequality in Access to Higher Education (National Coalition for Education, Delhi); Financing Education in India (TERI School of Advanced Studies, Delhi); Database for Social Science and Educational Research in India (JNU, Delhi); Financing Education in India (HRDC, JNU); Expansion of Private Schools in India: Regulatory Frameworks, Accountability Mechanisms and Parental Choice (HRDC, JNU)

2017

Regulation and Accountability of Private Schools (National Coalition for Education, Delhi)

2016

How to write a Research Proposal (University of Delhi, Delhi); Randomised Controlled Trials (Delhi Technological University, Delhi); Data Base on Education in India (Indian Economic Service trainees at Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi); Economics of Education & Human Capital Theory (Ambedkar University, Delhi); Role of Private Sector in Medical Education and Human Resource Development for Health (NUEPA, Delhi)

2015

Financing of Higher Education in India: Issues and Challenges (HRDC, JNU); Governance Reforms for Quality Higher Education (NUEPA, Delhi); Economics of Education: Disciplinary Progress, Challenges and Policy Discourse (National Institute of Labour Economics Research and Development, Delhi); Quantitative Research Methods and Hands-on Exercise on SPSS (Chaudhary Charan Singh University, Meerut); Access and Equity Issues in Education (Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, Delhi); Autonomy, Accountability and Accreditation in Higher Education (National Institute of Labour Economics Research and Development, Delhi); Quantitative Research Methods (Delhi Technological University, Delhi)

Conference/Seminar Presentations (2015 onwards)

2020

DSA Ireland Annual Conference 2020 on Humanitarianism in Action (Dublin, Ireland – Virtual); 24th Annual Conference of the Indian Political Economy Association (Delhi - Virtual), 32nd Annual Conference of the European Association for Evolutionary Political Economy on The Evolution of Capitalist Structures: Uncertainty, Inequality, and Climate Crisis (Bilbao, Spain – Virtual); Annual Conference of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE) on Development Today: Accumulation, Surveillance, Redistribution (Amsterdam, the Netherlands – Virtual); 2020 HDCA Conference on New Horizons: Sustainability & Justice (Auckland, New Zealand – Virtual); 5th SANEM Annual Economists' Conference on Institutions for Development (Dhaka, Bangladesh); Seminar on Indian Economy and Society (Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala)

2019

Tenth Annual International Conference on Exclusion, Inclusion and Equity in Education, Comparative Education Society of India (JNU, Delhi); PEGNet Conference 2019 on promoting social, economic and socio-political development through social protection (Gustav Stresemann Institute, Bonn); Eighth Meeting of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (Paris School of Economics, Paris); International Symposium on ageing policy (Transitions démographiques, Transitions économiques, Paris); International Conference on Vocational Education in India and China: Sharing Experiences (Institute of Chinese Studies, Delhi)

2018

International Symposium on Social Protection and Growth (The Chair "demographic transitions, economic Transitions" and the network "International Longevity Economy", Paris); III International Conference on Public Policy and Management (Centre for Public Policy, Indian Institute of Management Bangalore, Delhi); National Seminar on Shifting Paradigms in Education Financing: Concerns of Quality, Equity and Employability (NIEPA, Delhi); International Seminar on Quality and Excellence in Higher Education (NIEPA and British Council India, Delhi); National Seminar on Universalisation of Secondary Education (Council for Social Development, Delhi)

2017

Labour Market Uncertainties for Youth and Young Adults, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore, Singapore; National Conference on Health, Public Policy and Human Development: A Way Forward to Address SDGs (National Institute of Rourkela, Rourkela); National Seminar on the Futures of Higher Education: Economic and Social Contexts (NUEPA, Delhi); Eighth Annual International Conference of the Comparative Education Society of India (University of Jammu, Jammu)

2016

14th Development Dialogue on Do We Need to Grow? Problematizing Growth Economy in Development (International Institute of Social Studies, Netherlands); Young Lives Conference on Adolescence, Youth and Gender: Building Knowledge for Change (Lady Margaret Hall, University of Oxford); 50th Annual Conference of the Canadian Economics Association (University of Ottawa, Canada); Fifty-Third Annual Conference of The Indian Econometric Society (National Institute of Science Education and Research, Bhubaneswar); Silver Jubilee Conference of ADRI on Social Statistics in India (Asian Development Research Institute, Patna); National Seminar on Private Sector Participation in Public Services (Council for Social Development, Delhi); National Seminar on Education and Public Sphere Exploring the Structures of Mediation in Post-Colonial India (JNU, Delhi)

2015

Sixth Annual International Conference of the Comparative Education Society of India (Azim Premji University, Bengaluru); Fourth CESP-CAS Young Scholars' Seminar (JNU, Delhi)

Participation in Workshops/E-Learning Courses

Workshops

Workshop on Economics Resources for Teachers in Higher Education, (NIEPA, Delhi), 2020; National Consultative Meet on Transforming Teacher Education, (NIEPA, Delhi), 2020; Workshop on Library Facilities in Indian Undergraduate Colleges and its Impact on Students' Academic Performance (NIEPA, Delhi), 2019; African Programme on Rethinking Development Economics (Johannesburg, South Africa), 2018; IZA/DFID Short Course on Program Evaluation and the Labour Markets in South Asia: Evidence and Policy Lessons conference (Dhaka, Bangladesh), 2015; Summer course on Innovative Financing for Education: Arguments, Options and Implications (Central European University, Budapest, Hungary), 2015; Workshop on Higher Education and Employability (NUEPA, Delhi), 2015; Third Young Scholar Program on Human Development (Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai), 2008

E-Learning Courses

Economics of Education for Policy Makers: Part II, World Bank Institute, 2014; Policies for Growth, World Bank Institute, 2013; E-Business Strategies, Asian Development Bank, 2007

Academic Programmes Organised (as Coordinator/Convenor)

Graduate Seminar, Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies, JNU, 2019; Advanced Quantitative Research Method Workshop, Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies, JNU, 2018; 2nd Refresher Course on

Teachers' Educators, HRDC, JNU, 2018; 1st Refresher Course on Teachers' Educators, HRDC, JNU, 2018; Advanced Research Methods, Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies, JNU, 2018; Principals' Workshop, HRDC, JNU, 2015; Graduate Seminar, Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies, JNU, 2015; Orientation Programme on Social Science Research, Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, 2014

Academic Awards and Grants

Awards: Qualified National Eligibility Test (NET) for lectureship in Economics, June 2012; Second Prize in General Knowledge Competition in Bhadrak College, 2003

Fellowships: Junior Research Fellowship (2007–2009) and Senior Research Fellowship (2009–2012), NUEPA, Delhi; Merit-Cum-Means scholarship for both UG & PG courses (2001-06)

Travel grant/bursary for attending international conference/workshop: South Asian Network on Economic Modeling, 2020; Poverty Reduction, Equity and Growth Network, 2019; Paris School of Economics, 2019; Transitions démographiques, Transitions économiques, 2018; South African Department of Trade and Industry & the Industrial Development Corporation, 2018; Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore, 2017; International Institute of Social Studies, 2016; Young Lives, 2016; Indian Council of Social Science Research, 2016; Canadian Development Economics Study Group, 2016; Department for International Development (DFID) and Institute for the Study of Labour (IZA), 2015; Open Society Foundation, 2015; EDGE: EDucation and GEndEr, 2014; Leonard Cheshire Disability, 2012; Development Studies Association (DSA) and European Association of Development Research and Training Institute (EADI), 2011; Global Network for Economics of Learning, Innovation, and Competence Building Systems (Globelics), 2010

Languages

English (proficient)

Hindi (conversational)

Odia (native)

Citizenship

India