

Curriculum Vitae

(Updated in September, 2024)

Professor Sandip Mitra
Sampling and Official Statistics Unit
Indian Statistical Institute

Major Field of Interest:

Empirical Development Economics, Official Statistics, and Policy

Research Themes: Agricultural Market, Agricultural Credit, Microfinance,
Behavioral Economics, Political Economy

Google Scholar: scholar.google.com/citations?user=bbDpUgwAAAAJ

Orcid ID: orcid.org/0000-0002-7024-9341

Irins: isi.irins.org/profile/111495

Education

MSc (Economics): Calcutta University

PhD: Jadavpur University

Employment History

2012-2018: Assistant Professor, Indian Statistical Institute

2018-2024: Associate Professor, Indian Statistical Institute

2024-till date: Professor, Indian Statistical Institute

Regular Teaching

Courses Taught:

B.Stat and ISEC

Subjects: Official Statistics, Economic Development, Economic Statistics

PhD Supervision

PhD Students Supervised: One

Major Publications

Journals

List of Published/Accepted Papers (Journals):

1. **Politicians, Institutions, and Citizen Welfare: Evidence from a Lab-in-the-Field Experiment in India** with Prasenjit Banerjee, Vegard Iversen, Kunal Sen : *Oxford Economic Papers*, gpa028, 10 August 2024 (advance article available online).
2. **How Do Voters Respond to Welfare vis-à-vis Public Good Programs?** with Pranab Bardhan, Dilip Mookherjee, Anusha Nath : *Quantitative Economics, Journal of Econometric Society*, July 2024, Volume 15, Issue 3.
3. **Decentralized Targeting of Agricultural Credit Programs: Private versus Political Intermediaries** with Pushkar Maitra, Dilip Mookherjee, Sujata Visaria : *Journal of the European Economic Association*, March 08, 2024.
4. **Evaluating the Distributive Effects of a Micro-Credit Intervention** with Pushkar Maitra, Dilip Mookherjee, Sujata Visaria : *Journal of Development Economics*, Volume 158, September 2022.
5. **Sex workers, Stigma and Self-Image: Evidence from Kolkata Brothels** with Sayantan Ghosal, Anandi Mani, Smarajit Jana, Sanchari Roy : *Review of Economics and Statistics*, Volume 104, Issue 3, May 2022, MIT Press.
6. **Tax evasion by tax deferment: Sham litigation with an informal credit market** with Sugata Marjit, Surya Prakash Mishra: *European Journal of Political Economy*, Volume 69, September 2021.
7. **Asymmetric Information and Middleman Margins: An Experiment with Indian Potato Farmers** with Dilip Mookherjee, Maximo Torero and Sujata Visaria : *Review of Economics and Statistics*, Volume 100, Issue 1, 2018, MIT Press.
8. **Incentives, Information and Malnutrition: Evidence from an Experiment in India** with Prakارش Singh : *European Economic Review*, Volume 93, April 2017, Elsevier.
9. **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*, Volume 127, July 2017, Elsevier.
10. **Cash versus Kind: Understanding the Preferences of the Bicycle Programme Beneficiaries in Bihar** with Maitreesh Ghatak, Chinmaya Kumar : *Economic and Political Weekly*, March 12, 2015.
11. **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.
12. **Local Democracy and Clientelism: Implications for Political Stability in Rural West Bengal** with Pranab Bardhan, Dilip Mookherjee, Abhirup Sarkar: *Economic and Political Weekly*, February 28, 2009.
13. **Relative Profitability from Production and Trade: A Study of Selected Potato Markets in West Bengal** with Abhirup Sarkar: *Economic and Political Weekly*, November 1, 2003.

14. **Currency Devaluation and Exports: Separating Actual from Statistical Effects** with Sugata Marjit, Byasdeb Dasgupta : *Economic and Political Weekly*, April 29, 2000.
15. **Targeting Sectors for Foreign Capital Inflow in a Small Developing Economy** with Sugata Marjit, Udo Broll: *Review of International Economics*, February 1997/2.
16. **Convergence in Regional Growth Rates: Indian Research Agenda** with Sugata Marjit: *Economic and Political Weekly*, August 17, 1996.

Book Chapters

1. **Political Participation, Clientelism 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. **Information and Price Dynamics: Evidence from Selected Potato Markets in West Bengal** with Abhirup Sarkar in *Economic Theory in a Changing World: Policy Making for Growth*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2005.
3. **Migration and Land Fragmentation: A Theoretical Note** with Abhirup Sarkar in *Themes on Development Economics*, edited by M. Gupta, Allied Publishers, 2000.
4. **Price and Arrival Seasonality in Selected Rice and Wheat Markets in India** with Abhirup Sarkar in *Regional Dimensions of the Indian Economy*, edited by Ajitava RayChaudhuri, Allied Publishers, 1998.

Working Papers

Reputed Universities / International Platforms (2012–till date)

1. **Working papers / Discussion papers of various universities and institutes** (with co-authors) on various themes:
Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Monash University, Oxford University, University of Warwick, Boston University, Hitotsubashi Institute for Advanced Study, London School of Economics, CEPR, IEMS.
2. **National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER):**nber.org/people/sandip_mitra
 - Declining Clientelism of Welfare Benefits? Targeting and Political Competition based Evidence from an Indian State, 2024.
 - How Do Voters Respond to Welfare Vis-a-Vis Public Good Programs? Theory and Evidence of Political Clientelism, 2024.
 - Decentralized Targeting of Agricultural Credit Programs: Private versus Political Intermediaries, 2020.
 - An Evaluation of Agent-Intermediated Microloans in India, 2015.
 - Financing Smallholder Agriculture: An Experiment with Agent-Intermediated Microloans in India, 2014.
3. **United Nations University (UNU) Wider:**
 - Moral reputation and political selection in a decentralized democracy: Theory and evidence from India, 2020.

- Promise and politicians in an uncertain world: Evidence from a lab-in-the-field experiment in India, 2021.

4. Indian School of Business Insight:

- Agent Intermediated Loans: A New Approach to Microfinance

5. Ideas for India: ideasforindia.in/profile/sandip1

Projects funded by International Growth Centre (IGC): theigc.org/people/sandip-mitra

- Sex workers, stigma, and self-image: Evidence from Kolkata's brothels, 2021.
- Using intermediaries to deliver credit, 2020.
- Middleman margins and market structure in West Bengal potato supply chains, 2017.
- Financial inclusion for agricultural growth: An alternative approach, 2014.
- Cash Transfer versus In-Kind Transfers: A conceptual framework and preliminary evidence, 2013.
- Potato Traders in West Bengal: A Survey of Contractual Relations and Market Structure, 2012.
- Political Clientelism and Government Accountability in West Bengal: Theory and Evidence, 2012.
- Middleman Margins, Credit and Information Constraints: Potato Markets in West Bengal, India, 2012.
- Designing microfinance for agricultural growth, 2012.
- Land Acquisition for Business and Compensation of Displaced Farmers, 2012.
- Case Study on Successful Land Acquisitions in Bihar, 2012.

6. VoxDev: voxdev.org/sandip-mitra

- Using intermediaries to deliver credit.
- Middleman margins and market structure in West Bengal potato supply chains.

Major Research Projects

• Theme: Microfinance, Agricultural Credit, Agriculture Market

Co-authors:

a) Pushkar Maitra (Monash University), Dilip Mookherjee (Boston University), Sujata Visaria (Hong Kong University of Science and Technology). Funded by AUS Aids, USAids, Hong Kong Research Council, IGC.

b) Dilip Mookherjee (Boston University), Sujata Visaria (Hong Kong University of Science and Technology), Maximo Torero (International Food Policy Research Institute). Funded by IFPRI (2000–2013).

• Theme: Political Economy

Co-authors:

a) Pranab Bardhan (University of California), Dilip Mookherjee (Boston University), Anusha Nath (Federal Reserve, Minneapolis). Funded by IGC and others.

b) Dilip Mookherjee (Boston University), Pushkar Maitra (Monash University), Sujata Visaria (Hong Kong University of Science and Technology). Funded by IGC and others.

c) Kunal Sen (Manchester University), Prasenjit Banerjee (Manchester University), Antonio Niccolò (Manchester University), Vegard Iversen (University of Greenwich). Funded by ESRC grant of Manchester University (2016–2019).

- **Theme: Behavioural Economics**

- **Co-authors:**

Sayantana Ghosal (University of Warwick and Glasgow), Anandi Mani (Oxford), Sanchari Roy (King's College), Smarajit Jana (Durbar). Funded by Warwick University (2013–2016).

- **Theme: Gender Studies**

- **Co-authors:**

a) Anandi Mani (Oxford).

b) Anandi Mani (Oxford), Sanchari Roy (King's College).

c) Pushkar Maitra (Monash University), Dilip Mookherjee (Boston University), Sujata Visaria (Hong Kong University of Science and Technology). Funded by Oxford, King's College, and others (2019–2022).

- **Theme: Direct Benefit Transfer**

- **Co-authors:**

Maitreesh Ghatak (London School of Economics), Chinmaya Kumar (IGC). Funded by IGC, Bihar (2012–2013).

Invited Govt. Funded Research Projects/Studies(Major)

Theme: Official Statistics and Policy Research

- **Technical Guidance for Implementation of Activities by Tripura Institute of Transformation (TIFT)**

Co-authors: Debasis Sengupta, Nachiketa Chattopadhyay, Ranjan Sett. Funded by NITI Aayog with respect to Laksha 2047, 2024–present.

- **Social Audit Applying Survey Sampling and Analytics**

Co-authors: Debasis Sengupta, Nachiketa Chattopadhyay, Mausumi Bose, Anup Dewanji. Funded by NITI Aayog, 2023.

- **Delivery of Entrusted Services and Financial Health of Rural Local Bodies in West Bengal**

Co-authors: Debasis Sengupta, Nachiketa Chattopadhyay. Funded by Fifth State Finance Commission of West Bengal, 2023.

- **State Programme of the SSS-Scheme of DES, Govt of Tripura**

Co-authors: Debasis Sengupta, Nachiketa Chattopadhyay, Alok Kar. Funded by the Government of Tripura, 2021–present.

- **Study on the Socio-Economic Impact of National Highway 6**

Co-authors: Asit Baran Chakrabarty, Nachiketa Chattopadhyay, Probal Chaudhuri, Debasis Sengupta. Funded by National Highway Authority of India, 2017.

- **Accountability of Local Governments**

Co-authors: Kajal Dihidar. Funded by 4th State Finance Commission, West Bengal, 2013.