

BHARTI NANDWANI

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Political Economy, Development Economics, Economics of Education

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics, Shiv Nadar University, 2018

M.S. Economics, Shiv Nadar University, 2014

B.A. (Honours) Economics, Hansraj College, Delhi University, 2012

EMPLOYMENT

Associate Professor, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, November 2025 – Present

Assistant Professor, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, June 2018 – November 2025

PUBLICATIONS

1. Women inheritance rights and political participation, with Punarjit Roychowdhury, *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization* 248 (2026): 107667.
2. The long-term effect of colonialism on women empowerment in India, with Punarjit Roychowdhury, *Economic Development and Cultural Change* 74.4 (2026): 1509-1552.
3. Private investment in education: Household response to a policy change in English as a second language, with Gitanjali Sen, The *Journal of Development Studies* (2025): 1-18.
4. Rural roads infrastructure and women autonomy, with Punarjit Roychowdhury, *The World Bank Economic Review* (2024): lhae048.
5. Women representation in school management and school quality, with Chandan Jain, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization* 222 (2024): 84-103.

6. Land rights recognition and political participation: Evidence from India, *Journal of Development Studies* 59.11 (2023): 1741-1759.
7. Community forestry and its implications for land related disputes: Evidence from India, *European Journal of Political Economy* 73 (2022): 102155
8. Local community composition and school provision in India, with Nishant Chadha, *Journal of Development Studies* (2021):1-21.
9. Public and private schools in India, with Nishant Chadha, *India Development Report* 2021
10. Examining the Role of Corporate Social Responsibility Funding in Indian Education, with Nishant Chadha, *New Philanthropy and the Disruption of Global Education* (2020): 102
11. Growth, Development Spending and Inequality in Indian States – 1988-2012, with Nishant Chadha, *Economic & Political Weekly* (2019): 54(11), 45-52
12. Decentralisation, Economic Inequality and Insurgency, *Journal of Development Studies* 55.7 (2019): 1379-1397
13. Ethnic fragmentation, public good provision and inequality in India, 1988–2012, with Nishant Chadha, *Oxford Development Studies* (2018): 1-15.
14. Caste and Class, *Review of Market Integration* 8.3 (2017): 135-151.

WORKING PAPERS

- Decentralisation of governance and health seeking behavior, with Ishita Varma (revise and resubmit, *Journal of Development Economics*)
- Access to clean cooking fuel and women outcomes, with Manisha Jain (Conditionally accepted, *Journal of Environmental Management*)
- Guns and Gains: Effects of Early-Life Exposure to Counterinsurgency on Human Capital and Labor Market Outcomes in India, with Punarjit Roychowdhury and Sourish Mustafi (revise and resubmit, *Journal of Comparative Economics*)
- Importance of English as a second language in higher education: Learning from a natural experiment in India, with Gitanjali Sen
- Rural Roads and Firm Outcomes in India, with Punarjit Roychowdhury and Binay Shankar
- From State to Community: Forest Land Rights and Forest Conservation in India, with Ishita Varma
- Demand shocks and supply of schools: Insight from rainfall shocks in India, with Nishant Chadha
- Financial development and Conflict Mitigation: Can finance combat conflict? with Sankar De

WORK IN PROGRESS

- Fostering women's interest in economics: Empirical evidence on the influence of female role models in India, with Akanksha Aggarwal
- Political Alignment and Credit Allocation, with Prosenjit Barman

ARTICLES IN POPULAR PRESS

- Building a resilient school education system, with Nishant Chadha, *Business Standard* (June 22, 2020)
- Does increasing female representation in school management improve school quality, with Chandan Jain, *Ideas for India* (April 18, 2022)
- Women empowerment in India: Does colonial history matter? With Punarjit Roychowdury, *Ideas for India* (June 22, 2023)
- Forest Rights Act: Political Participation of Indigenous Communities, *Ideas for India* (September 20, 2023)
- Forest Rights Act: An account of contradictory conservation laws, *Ideas for India* (September 20, 2023)
- Road to empowerment: Rural roads programme and women's outcomes, with Punarjit Roychowdury, *Ideas for India* (November 27, 2024)
- Rural road infrastructure empowered women in India, with Punarjit Roychowdury, *VoxDev* (January 9, 2025)
- Building on the gains of rural roads scheme, with Punarjit Roychowdury, *Hindustan Times* (January 20, 2026)

AWARDS AND GRANTS

- Prof MJ Manohar Rao award, 2024 awarded by The Indian Econometric Society
- Grant of USD 6,000 from UNU-WIDER for a project on horizontal inequality (jointly with Nishant Chadha)
- Grant of INR 40 lakh to study impact of Microfinance on lives of Borrowers (funded by SIDBI)
- Grant of 20,000 USD from IEA to study interventions to improve women representation in economics (jointly with Akanksha Aggarwal)

TEACHING

IGIDR:

- Econometrics I (MSc & PhD)
- Political Economy (MSc & PhD)

Shiv Nadar University:

- Introductory Econometrics, August – Dec, 2016
- Teaching Assistant for Introductory Econometrics, Introductory Microeconomics, Microeconomics I (Msc)

CONFERENCE / SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

2026: Peace and Conflict Workshop, Plaksha University, NCDE 2026, Vaxjo

2025: Seminar at Shiv Nadar University; IISER Bhopal, IIT Kanpur, NIPFP, ECINEQ conference, World Bank, Economics of Firms Workshop, SNU

2024: AMES 2024, IIT Delhi; 5th Annual Conference, Ahmedabad University; 4th workshop on women in economy; IIC Delhi; Seminar at Azim Premji University; Seminar at IFPRI; 19th ACEGD, ISI Delhi

2023: Seminar Presentation at UC San Diego Seminar series, Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society, Singapore; 18th ACEGD, ISI Delhi

2022: Seminar Presentation at International Initiative for Impact Evaluation; Shiv Nadar University; Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research; Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, Indian Statistical Institute Delhi; Society for Advancement of Economic Research in India, Southern Economic Association, 2022; Winter School 2022 Delhi School of Economics, 17th ACEGD, ISI Delhi

2021: IEA world congress, ICDE 2021; IPPN Annual Conference 2021; 16th ACEGD, ISI Delhi; Winter school 2021, Delhi School of Economics

2020: CSAE conference, University of Oxford (could not attend due to COVID-19)

2019: Winter school 2019, Delhi School of Economics; Seminar at University of Birmingham; 3rd DEC conference, University of Lincoln; Seminar at ISI-Delhi; National conference, CSSS Kolkata

2018: 13th ACEGD, ISI Delhi; WIDER development conference; Conference on new directions in economic theory and empirical economics, IIM Calcutta; Seminar at Ashoka University

2017: Seminar at University of Gothenburg

2016: 11th Delhi School of Economics Winter School; Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research Ph.D. Colloquium; NBER summer institute on Economics of National Security; 28th SASE conference, University of California Berkeley

2015: 10th Delhi School of Economics Winter School; 9th Annual IMR Doctoral Conference, IIM Bangalore; 25th Annual Conference on Contemporary Issues in Development Economics, Jadavpur University, Kolkata

REFeree SERVICE:

Journal of Comparative Economics, Journal of African Economies, Economic Modelling, World Bank Economic Review, Journal of Development Studies, Journal of Social and Economic Development, Economics of Governance, Journal of South Asian Development, Journal of Quantitative Economics, Conservation and Society, Review of Market Integration

STUDENT SUPERVISION:

PhD Thesis

PR Dheeraj (ongoing), Shraddha Yadav (submitted), Ishita Varma (submitted), Rajat Kumar (ongoing), Prosenjit Barman (ongoing), Aastha Kapoor (Ongoing)