Rohini Somanathan

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Education

1996	Ph.D in Economics, Boston University
1988	M.A. in Economics, Delhi School of Economics
1986	B.A. (Honours) in Economics, Delhi University

Academic Appointments

2008-	Professor, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi
2015-2018	Visiting Professor, Visiting Professor Program (VPP), University of Gothenburg
2005-2007	Reader, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi
1998-2005	Assistant Professor, University of Michigan
2001-2004	Assistant Professor, Indian Statistical Institute
1995-1998	Visiting Assistant Professor, Emory University
1989-1990	Lecturer, St. Stephen's College, University of Delhi

Awards & Fellowships

2022-23	Annenberg Fellow, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford University.
2021-	Fellow of the Econometric Society.
2018-	Fellow of the International Economic Association (IEA)
2015-2016	Residential Fellowship, Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics, Harvard University
2010-2011	Leon Levy Foundation Member, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton

Institutional Engagement

2012-

Research Panel, India Policy Forum

2015-	Board of Trustees, Srijan (Self-Reliant Initiatives through Joint Action), Chair (2018-2020)
2017-	Board of Governors, Institute for Economic Growth (IEG)
2018-	Research Committee, Environment for Development Initiative (EfD), Gothenburg
2011-2017	Member, Executive Committee, International Economic Association
2014	Member, Steering Committee on Health effects of Air Pollution, Government of India
2013-2016	Governing Board, Oxfam India
2017-2020	Board of Management, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research.

Selected Publications

BOOKS AND EDITED VOLUMES

Difference without Domination: Pursuing Justice in Diverse Democracies (co-edited with Danielle 2020

Allen), University of Chicago Press.

Reading India: Selections from the Economic Weekly, Volume 1, 1949-1965 (co-edited with Pranab

Bardhan and Sudipto Mundle), Orient Blackswan.

Poverty and Income Distribution in India (co-edited with Abhijit Banerjee, Pranab Bardhan and 2017 T.N. Srinivasan), Juggernaut.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

"Meritocracy and Representation" (with Rajiv Sethi), Journal of Economic Literature. "Language and learning in ethnically mixed communities" (with Hemanshu Kumar and Mahima

Vasishth), Review of Development Economics 26(2), 835-846 (May).

"The Impact of Temperature on Productivity and Labor Supply: Evidence from Indian Manufacturing" (with Anant Sudarshan, E. Somanathan and Meenu Tiwari), Journal of Political Economy 129(6), 1797-1827 (June).

> "Estimating the Welfare Gains from Public Schools in Rural India" (with Debopam Bhattacharya and Anders Kjelsrud), Sankhya B, 83, 430-443 (May).

> "Child Labor and Schooling Decisions among Self-Help Group Members in Rural India" (with Jean-Marie Baland, Timothee Demont and Michel Tenikue), Economic Development and *Cultural Change*, 69(1), 73-105 (October).

> "Improving learning outcomes through information provision: Experimental evidence from Indian villages" (with Farzana Afridi and Bidisha Barooah), J. of Development Economics, 146 (September).

> "Designing effective transfers: Lessons from India's school meal program" (with Farzana Afridi and Bidisha Barooah), Review of Development Economics, 24(1), 45-61.

> "Socially Disadvantaged Groups and Microfinance in India" (with Jean-Marie Baland and Lore Vandewalle), Economic Development and Cultural Change, 67(3), 537-569.

> "A behavior-based approach to the estimation of poverty in India", (with Ingvild Almås and Anders Kjelsrud", Scandanavian Journal of Economics, 121(1), 182-224. Published online on 16 October, 2017.

> "Fields on Fire: Alternatives to crop residue burning in India", (multiple authors, first author: Priya Shyamsundar), Science, 365 (6453), 536-538. August 9.

> Editorial Introduction to Special Issue on "Gender, Family and Development". Journal of Demographic Economics, 84(1), 1-2 (March).

> "Creating Long Panels using Census Data: 1961-2001" (with Hemanshu Kumar), Economic and Political Weekly, July, 52(29): 105-109

> "Repayment and Exclusion in a Microfinance Experiment," (with Jean-Marie Baland, Lata Gangadharan and Pushkar Maitra), Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, 137 (May), 176-190.

"Fuel Choices and Respiratory Health in India," (with P.P. Krishnapriya), Indian Journal of Economics, Centennial Issue, XCVII, No. 384, 75-86.

"Caste, corruption, and political competition in India," (with John Roemer and Avidit Acharya), 2015

2.

2019

Forthcoming

2022

2021

2020

2019

2018

2017

2016

Research in Economics, September, 69(3), 336-352.

"Aid and Agency in Africa: Explaining Food Disbursements Across Ethiopian Households, 1994-2004," (with Nzinga Broussard and Stefan Dercon), J. of Development Economics, 108 (May): 128-137.

"Repayment incentives and the distribution of gains from group lending" (with Jean-Marie Baland and Zaki Wahhaj), *J. of Development Economics*, 105 (November): 131-139.

"Back on the Rails: Competition and Productivity Change in State-owned Industry" (with Sanghamitra Das, Kala Krishna and Sergey Lychagin), *AEJ: Applied Economics* 5(1): 136-62.

"The application of nonparametric tests to poverty targeting" with Isha Dewan, *Economics Letters*, 113(1): 58–61.

"Climate Change: Challenges Facing India's Poor" with E. Somanathan, *Economic and Political Weekly*, 44(31): 51-58.

"Racial Inequality and Segregation Measures: Some Evidence from the 2000 Census' with Rajiv Sethi, *The Review of Black Political Economy*, 36(2): 79-91.

"Mapping Indian Districts Across Census Years, 1971-2001" with Hemanshu Kumar, *Economic and Political Weekly*, 44(41): 69–73.

"Micro-finance Lifespans: A Study of Attrition and Exclusion in Self-Help Groups in India" with Jean-Marie Baland and Lore Vandewalle, *India Policy Forum*.

"Quantifying Misallocation in Centrally Provided Public Goods." with Siva Athreya, *Economics Letters*, 98(2): 201-206 (February) .

"The Political Economy of Public Goods: Some Evidence from India", with Abhijit Banerjee, J. of Development Economics, 82(2): 287-314.

"Is Skill-Biased Technological Change Here Yet? Evidence from Indian Manufacturing in the 1990s." with Eli Berman and Hong Tan, *Annales d'Economie et de Statistique*, special issue in honor of Zvi Grilliches, volume 79/80.

"The assumptions and arithmetic of caste-based reservations, *Economic and Political Weekly*, 41(24): 2436-2438

"History, social divisions and public goods in rural India" with Abhijit Banerjee and Lakshmi Iyer, J. of the European Economic Association, April-May, 3(2-3): 639-47

"Inequality and Segregation", with Rajiv Sethi, J. of Political Economy, 112(6): 1296-1321.

"A Simple Model of Voice", with Abhijit Banerjee, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 116(1): 189-227.

"School Heterogeneity, Human Capital Accumulation, and Standards." J. of Public Economics, 67(3): 369-397.

BOOK CHAPTERS

2011

2009

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2021

2020

2010

"Aggregation, Ideology, and the Social Ordering of Caste" in Kaushik Basu, Eric Verhoogen, Sudipto Mundle, Maitreesh Ghatak, and Kenneth Kletzer (ed), *Development, Distribution, and Markets*, OUP.

"Group Inequality in Democracies: Lessons from Cross-National Experiences" in Jean-Marie Baland, François Bourguignon, Jean-Philippe Platteau, and Thierry Verdier (ed.) *The Handbook of Economic Development and Institutions*, Princeton University Press.

"The Demand for Disadvantage" in Jean-Philippe Platteau and Robert Peccoud (ed.) *Culture, Institutions, and Development: New Insights into an Old Debate,* (Routledge)

"Public Action for Public Goods", with Abhijit Banerjee, and Lakshmi Iyer, in T. Paul Schultz 2008 and John Strauss (ed), *Handbook of Development Economics* vol. IV, (North Holland) "Poverty and Exclusion" in The Oxford Companion to Economics in India, Kaushik Basu (ed.) 2007 Oxford University Press, February. BOOK REVIEWS The Service Sector in India's Development by Gaurav Nayyar, Indian Journal of Labor Economics, 2013 Volume 56, No. 3. Social Science Knowledge and Economic Development: An Institutional Design Perspective by Ver-2008 non W. Ruttan, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, 90(2), 574-57. Distribution and Development: A New Look at the Developing World by Gary S. Fields, MIT Press, 2004 Economica, 71(282). Democracy and Development by Jean Dreze and Amartya Sen, Oxford University Press, pub-2002 lished in The Book Review, XXVII (11). MISCELLANEOUS WRITINGS "The cost of stifling voices", *The Hindu*, August 17. 2020 "Being vocal on the right local", *The Hindu*, June 10. "A tailor's journey home", The Hindu, May 10. "T.N., fondly remembered", a tribute to T.N. Srinivasan, Ideas for India, November 19. 2018 "From being world leader in surveys, India is now facing a serious data problem", Economic 2017 Times Blogs, April 4. "The Battle for Backwardness", India Today, January 6. 2016 "Nobel Insights: When It Comes to Contracts, What's Obvious May Not Be Optimal", The Wire, October 11. "Cash vs. kind" (with Anders Kjelsrud), Indian Express, November 3. 2015 "In the greater scheme of things", Indian Express, November 3. 2014 "Religion and relief in Muzzafarnagar", Hindu Business Line, December 4. 2012 "Suresh Tendulkar and his Delhi School Family", Economic and Political Weekly, August 6. 2011 "P.C. Mahalanobis: The Plan Man", India Today, March 27. 2007