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Education

Ph.D. Economics, University of Houston, Houston, TX, 2016 - Aug 2021

Dissertation Title: *Credit Contract Enforcement and Income Disparities across Indian States: A Heterogeneous Agents Framework with Formal and Informal Firms*

MPhil Economics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi, India, 2012-2015

M.A. Economics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi, India, 2010-2012

BSc.(H) Mathematics, St. Stephen's College, Delhi University, India, 2005-2008

Fields of Interest

Macroeconomics, Development Economics, Entrepreneurship

Working Papers

“*Credit Contract Enforcement and Income Disparities across Indian States: A Heterogeneous Agents Framework with Formal and Informal Firms*” **[Job Market Paper]** ([Click here for latest version](#))

Abstract: This paper evaluates the role of enforcement of credit contracts in explaining the income per capita disparities across Indian states—by studying its impact on access to credit and occupational choices of individuals, and therefore, the overall allocation of factors of production in state economies. First, I estimate the impact of credit contract enforcement on the occupational choices of the working population in India by exploiting the variation in implementation of a major judicial reform policy across Indian states in 2002. Then, I develop and calibrate for each state a heterogeneous-agents model with heterogeneous firms of formal and informal types. In the model, the state-specific ability to enforce credit contracts imposes an endogenous borrowing constraint—which affects the borrowing ability of individuals, the potential size of firms they can run, and the profits they can earn. Combined with labor market frictions and the general equilibrium effects on economy-wide wages and interest rates, individuals sort into different occupational types. Overall, improved enforcement of credit contracts reduces the misallocation of factors of production—entrepreneurial skills, capital, and labor across production units—leading to increased aggregate productivity and output per capita of the economy. Calibrating the model for each Indian state, with states varying on parameters of credit enforcement and availability of labor opportunity, I find that the model explains 19.74 percent disparities across Indian states in 2017-18.

Academic Work Experience

- Founding Faculty, Assistant Professor in Economics, Plaksha University (October 2021 – Present)
- *Lecturer*, University of Houston, USA
 - Principles of Microeconomics (Spring 2020, Summer 2019), Principles of Macroeconomics (Fall 2018)
- *Teaching Assistant*, University of Houston, USA
 - Introduction to Statistics, Mathematics for Economics (Fall 2019)

- Intermediate Microeconomics (Spring 2019)
- Introduction to Econometrics (Spring 2018, Fall 2017)
- History of Economics (Spring 2017)
- Behavioral Economics (Fall 2016)

Other Professional Experience

Software Analyst, Tata Consultancy Services, Bangalore, India, 2008-2010

Fellowships, Honors, and Awards

- *Dr. Walter J. Primeaux Jr. and Natalie A. Primeaux Scholarship*, University of Houston, 2020
- *Graduate Tuition Fellowship*, University of Houston, 2016 – present
- *UGC NET Lectureship Eligibility Examination*, India, June 2015
- *Research Scholarship*, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi, India

Conferences and Presentations

Annual Conference on Growth and Development, ISI Delhi, 2021

DSE Winter School, 2021

Graduate Workshop, University of Houston, 2019, 2020

Languages

English (Proficient), Hindi (Native)

Computer Skills

Matlab, Stata, R, C++, LATEX

References

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