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POSITION **Centre for Effective Governance of Indian States (CEGIS)** India
Economist Jul 2026—

EDUCATION **University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC)** Santa Cruz, CA
PhD in Economics 2026
Indian Statistical Institute Kolkata, India
MS in Quantitative Economics 2017
St. Xavier's College Kolkata, India
BS in Economics, minor in Mathematics 2015

REFERENCES **Professor Ajay Shenoy**
Associate Professor, Dept. of Economics, UC Santa Cruz
Professor Alan Spearot
Associate Professor, Dept. of Economics, UC Santa Cruz
Professor Gueyon Kim
Assistant Professor, Dept. of Economics, UC Santa Cruz

WORKING PAPERS **Adaptation in Motion: Temporary Migration under Heat Stress**
with Anirban Sanyal [[Paper](#)] [[E-Axes Forum](#)] [[Economic Misfit](#)]
Abstract: The impact of climate-induced temporary migration remains largely unexplored. Yet, this flow is widespread in developing countries and also responds to warming. The distinction from permanent migration is critical: because temporary migrants are often under-counted and unaccounted for in local administrative planning, they generate a distinct externality through the systematic under-provisioning of public services. Using a large-scale panel survey in India, we find that a one-degree rise in mean daily temperature increases temporary out-migration rates by 2%-6%. To investigate spatial spillovers under widespread climate change, we develop a model with both migration channels where temperature affects productivity and the under-provisioning of public services degrades local amenities for everyone. We use this framework to quantify the welfare costs of restricting each migration channel and compare different policy responses under climate change. Under the IPCC SSP 5-8.5 climate change scenario, restricting temporary migration generates welfare costs larger than restricting permanent migration, demonstrating that temporary flows are a critical but overlooked adaptation mechanism. Remedying the under-provisioning of services for temporary migrants delivers more than thrice the welfare gains than from cost-equivalent, place-based adaptation measures. These results have implications for the allocation of scarce climate adaptation funds in developing countries.

The Girl on the Train: Effects of metro transit system on women's employment with Rolly Kapoor and Anirban Sanyal [[Paper](#)]

Abstract: Recent estimates on female workforce participation suggest that only 27 women for every 100 men work in India. Research suggests that restrictions on women's physical mobility, associated with stigma and safety, can affect women's decision to participate in the labor force and reduce access to a large proportion of jobs. This paper investigates the role public, urban rail transit-Delhi Metro Transit System, can play in improving employment outcomes for women in the developing world by alleviating some mobility concerns. Using the economic census of India from 1990-2013, we exploit spatial and temporal variation in access to Delhi Metro stations arising from the staggered opening of stations between 2002-2011. Our empirical approach uses difference-in-differences event study design and presents results using standard fully dynamic specification and a robust estimator developed by Sun and Abraham, 2020. We find that the establishments in treated towns and villages employ 10 to 12.2 percentage points higher number of paid female workers per paid male worker. The effect appears immediately after treatment but continues to be present after treatment. These preliminary results suggest that the Metro changed the composition of establishments within treated units towards more female-friendly establishments that hire a larger fraction of women.

Nonlinear Segregation Dynamics in Schooling Markets: the Case of Caste in India with Shreya Dutt, Gagandeep Sachdeva and Kartik Srivastava [\[Paper\]](#)

Abstract: We study whether local schooling markets in India exhibit tipping-point dynamics in student caste composition. Using near-universal administrative panel data on schools, we define villages as local schooling markets and estimate village-level composition thresholds from the relationship between baseline caste shares and subsequent enrollment flows, adapting the Card et al. (2008) fixed-point procedure to multi-school markets. We study two caste contrasts: upper-caste versus all disadvantaged groups combined, and intermediate-caste versus the most marginalized. Estimated thresholds differ sharply across contrasts and concentrate at very different baseline shares, indicating that tipping is boundary-specific rather than a generic feature of composition change. Around these thresholds, within-village school segregation rises discontinuously by 12% for the upper-caste comparison and 42% for the within-disadvantaged caste comparison. These are driven by resorting across schools within the local market rather than shifts in village composition. School inputs and public grant flows exhibit parallel discrete changes at the same thresholds, with per-student grants jumping by about 30%. Threshold locations are lower where caste identity is more salient and higher where schooling markets are thicker, though both gradients largely reflect state-level heterogeneity. Together, these findings show that institutional responses to composition amplify household sorting, generating a supply-side response that affects school quality.

OTHER	E-Axes Research Digest: Who Moves, and Who Gets Left Behind [Link]	2026
WRITING	Economic Misfits blog: Adaptation's Blind Spot: Why Overlooking Temporary Migration is Costly [Link]	2026
	Phailanx Collective blog: Equitable Access to AI for Climate Adaptation in vulnerable regions [Link]	2025
WORK	Asian Development Bank	Manila
EXPERIENCE	Intern (Climate adaptation dept.; Southeast Asia dept.)	Jul - Sep 2025
	World Bank	Remote
	Short-term Consultant (part-time)	Mar - May 2025
	National Institute of Public Finance and Policy	New Delhi
	Research Fellow	Mar 2019 - Jan 2020
	BlackRock	Gurgaon
	Financial Modeling Analyst	Jul 2017 - Mar 2019
WORKSHOPS/	NEUDC 2026	<i>Upcoming</i>
CONFERENCES	20th Environment for Development (EfD) Annual Meeting 2026	<i>Upcoming</i>
	Global GLO-JOPE Bonn Conference 2026	<i>Upcoming</i>
	11th World Bank-GWU Urbanization & Development Conference	<i>Upcoming</i>
	Women in Leadership Meeting, Inclusion Economics	Aug 2026
	UK Network of Environmental Economists (UKNEE) webinar	Jun 2026
	(<i>Accepted</i>) World Congress of Environmental & Resource Economists	Jun 2026
	Association of Environment & Resource Economists OSWEET	May 2026
	Junior Migration Economists Webinar	Mar 2026
	(<i>Accepted</i>) ADBI-SAU Conference on Climate Change	Oct 2025
	PhD Workshop on Sustainable Development, Columbia University	Apr 2025
	Summer School on Economics of Migration, UC Davis	Sep 2024
AWARDS	Dean's Travel for Research Grant (UC Santa Cruz)	2024, 2026
	Regent's Fellowship (UC Santa Cruz)	2020
	Indian Statistical Institute scholarship	2015-2017
SERVICE	Referee, Journal of International Money & Finance	2026
	Referee, Review of World Economics	2023
	Peer Mentor, Women in Econ/Policy, India	2023-2025
	Grad Mentor, UCSC Women in STEM and Engineering	2023
	Student Rep, Coordinated Community Review, (Title IX), UCSC	2021