

Sanchari Roy

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Academic Appointments and Affiliations

- 2023– Associate Professor of Economics & Director of MRes/PhD Programme
Department of Economics, University of Exeter
- 2026– Editorial Board Member, *Social Science and Medicine-Population Health*
- 2025– Invited Researcher, JPAL
- 2023– Research Associate, CAGE, University of Warwick
- 2017–2023 Senior Lecturer/Reader in Development Economics, King's College London
- 2014–2017 Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Sussex
- 2010–2014 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of Warwick

Education

- 2005–2010 PhD in Economics, London School of Economics
Advisors: Maitreesh Ghatak and Oriana Bandiera
- 2002–2004 MA in Economics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India
- 1999–2002 BSc in Economics, Presidency College Calcutta, India

Publications

- “Social networks, Gender norms and Labour Supply: Experimental evidence using a Job Search Platform” (with Farzana Afridi, Amrita Dhillon and Nikita Sangwan), accepted (undergoing data replication), *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*
- “Trade Policy and Jobs in Vietnam: The Unintended Consequences of US–China Trade Tensions” (with Lorenzo Rotunno, Anri Sakakibara and Pierre-Louis Vezina), *World Bank Economic Review*, June 2026
- “The Gendered Crisis: Livelihoods and Mental Well-being in India during Covid-19” (with Farzana Afridi and Amrita Dhillon), *Feminist Economics* 29(3): 40–74, 2023
- “Sex workers, Stigma and Self-Image: Evidence from Kolkata Brothels” (with Sayantan Ghosal, Smarajit Jana, Anandi Mani and Sandip Mitra), *Review of Economics and Statistics* 104(3): 431–448, 2022
- “Women’s Inheritance Rights Reform and Preference for Sons in India” (with Sonia Bhalotra and Rachel Brule), *Journal of Development Economics* 146: 1–15, 2020
- “Motivating Knowledge Agents: Can Incentive Pay Overcome Social Distance?” (with Erlend Berg, Maitreesh Ghatak, R. Manjula and D. Rajasekhar), *Economic Journal* 129(617): 110–142, 2019
- “Hidden Human Capital: Self-efficacy, Aspirations and Achievements of Adolescent and Young Women in India” (with Matthew Morton and Shrayana Bhattacharya), *World Development* 111: 161–180, 2018
- “Empowering Women? Inheritance Rights, Female Education and Dowry Payments in India”, *Journal of Development Economics* 114(3): 233–251, 2015
- “Culture Clash or Culture Club: National Identity in Britain” (with Alan Manning), *Economic Journal* 120(542): F72–F100, 2010
- “Land Reform and Agricultural Productivity in India: A Review of the Evidence” (with Maitreesh Ghatak), *Oxford Review of Economic Policy* 23(2): 251–269, 2007

Other Publications

- “Early Advantage to Adult Disadvantage: Comparative Analysis of Women’s Outcomes over Life Cycle in West Bengal”, *Economic and Political Weekly*, State Studies: West Bengal, 2026
- “Combining self-regulation and poverty reduction to prevent depression and anxiety among adolescents experiencing multi-dimensional poverty in Colombia, Nepal and South Africa: study protocol of a pilot 4-arm cluster randomised controlled trial” (with M. Jordans, et al.), *Pilot and Feasibility Studies*, 12:113, 2026
- “Poverty-reduction Interventions combined with Psychological Interventions: A Systematic Literature Review” (with M. Tanski, et al.), *Scientific Reports*, 15, 38829, November 2025

“Women’s Inheritance Rights in India: Can Legal Reform Precipitate Social Change?” in *Revisiting Inequality: Theoretical and Methodological Advances with Empirical Examples from India* (eds. A. Chakraborty and S. Mukhopadhyay), Routledge India, 2024, pp. 158–166

“Strengthening self-regulation and reducing poverty to prevent adolescent depression and anxiety: Rationale, approach and methods of the ALIVE interdisciplinary research collaboration in Colombia, Nepal and South Africa” (with Crick Lund et al.), *Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences* 32, e69, 2023, pp. 1–8

“Discriminatory Laws against Women: A Review of the Evidence” *World Bank Policy Research Paper* 8719, January 2019 [prepared for the World Bank’s [Women, Business and the Law Report 2019](#)

“Two States: A Comparative Analysis of Gujarat and Bihar’s Growth Performance Between 1981–2011” (with Maitreesh Ghatak), *India Review* 14(1): 26–42, 2015

“Did Gujarat Switch to a Higher Growth Trajectory Relative To India under Modi? A Rejoinder” (with Maitreesh Ghatak), *Economic and Political Weekly*, 2014

“Did Gujarat’s Growth Rate Accelerate under Modi?” (with Maitreesh Ghatak), *Economic and Political Weekly*, 2014

“Implementing Health Insurance for the Poor: The Rollout of RSBY in Karnataka, India” (with D. Rajasekhar, Erlend Berg, Maitreesh Ghatak and R. Manjula), *Economic and Political Weekly*, 2011

Work in Progress

Disadvantage and Parental Practices (with Patricio Dalton, Sayantan Ghosal, Seemanti Ghosh and Theodore Koutmeridis)

Caste and Board Gender Diversity in India (with Deepti Sharma)

Caste matching and Child Disadvantage (with Erlend Berg) — data collection ongoing

Loneliness among the Elderly (with Anandi Mani, Alison Andrews and Vatsal Khandelwal)

Research Grants

2027–2029	Co-I and Economics Co-Lead, Wellcome Trust Discretionary Award “ALIVE 2.0 Effectiveness Trial in South Africa” (£3.6m)
2021–2026	Co-I and Economics Co-lead, Wellcome Trust Collaborative Project “ALIVE: Improving Adolescent Mental Health by Reducing the Impact of Poverty” (£4.02 million)
2021–2023	Co-I, British Academy/Leverhulme Small Research Grant “Trump’s Trade War, Structural Change and Gender Inequality in Vietnam” (£14,000)
2021–2022	PI, King’s College London Faculty Research Fund (competitive) “Assessing the Impact of a Psychological Empowerment Programme to Self-Help Groups in India” (£13,000)
2020–2021	Co-I, International Growth Centre Grant “Networks, Livelihoods and Well-being in a Pandemic: A Panel Study Using Matched Husband–Wife–Friends Data in India” (£19,990)
2020–2023	Co-I, ESRC Grant “Disadvantage and Participation in Accountability Processes: Theory and Evidence from School Development and Management Committees in Karnataka, India” (£572,000)
2018–2019	PI, King’s College London Faculty Research Fund (competitive) “Disentangling Channels of Information Dissemination in Healthcare Delivery in Rural India” (£10,000)
2016–2018	PI, British Academy/Leverhulme Small Research Grant “Gender Norms, Sexual Violence and Education in India” (£9,800)
2011–2012	Co-I, International Growth Centre Grant “Improving Access to and Measuring Impact of Public Health Insurance in India” (£36,000)

Fellowships and Awards

2024	Above and Beyond Silver Award, University of Exeter
2016	Fellow of The Higher Education Academy, UK
2015	Outstanding Reviewer Award, <i>Journal of Development Economics</i>
2009	Bagri Fellowship, India Observatory, London School of Economics
2008	Teaching Commendation Award, UK Economics Network
2008	LSE Teaching Excellence Award

Invited Keynotes, Lectures and Panels

Nov 2025	Invited panelist, All-Party UK Parliamentary Group Meeting on AI and Gender Divide, London
Oct 2024	Invited lecture, UK-WEN Women in Economics Lecture, Exeter
Jul 2023	Invited panelist, All-Party UK Parliamentary Group Meeting on UK-India Trade, London
Jul 2022	Invited panelist, Westminster Development Studies Symposium, London
Dec 2021	Invited lecture, SERI-D Conference, IIM Bangalore
Nov 2020	Invited panelist, LSESU Economics Symposium
Dec 2019	Invited keynote lecture, IMR Doctoral Conference, IIM, Bangalore

Invited Seminars and Conferences (last 6 years)

2027	KCL-IIT Applied Micro meeting, IIT Bombay (scheduled)
2026	Queens University Belfast; 3rd SEED Workshop, Bath; BITS Pilani International Conference on Economics, Policy and AI for Development, Goa (Keynote); IIM Calcutta
2025	CSSS Kolkata Workshop, India
2024	University of Manchester; Workshop on Institutions and Norms in India (Reading); UNU-WIDER Workshop on Labour Market Inequality and Intergenerational Mobility (Helsinki); CDES Sustainable Development Conference (Monash University, Prato); Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore; Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay
2023	University of Bristol; University of Exeter; University of Warwick
2022	Universidad Autónoma de Madrid; IFS-UCL-LSE Development Seminar; IFPRI; WIDER Development Conference (Bogotá) ¹ ; NOVAFRICA Conference on Economic Development ¹
2021	Workshop on Addressing Inequalities (University of Glasgow); UNU-WIDER Brown Bag; Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies; Institute of Development Studies, Kolkata; Presidency University

Professional Activity

Departmental and University Service

Exeter	Director of MRes/PhD Programme (2024–); Member, Wellbeing and Inclusion Committee (2023–); Co-organiser, Diversity and Human Capital Workshop (2024–); Co-organiser, Workshop on Exploring the Role of Caste in Economic Welfare (2024)
KCL	Research Integrity Advisor, School of Global Affairs (2022–2023); Undergraduate Exam Board Chair/Deputy Chair (2020–2023); Junior Hiring Committee (2021); Co-organiser, King's Economics Joint Seminar Series (2018–2020); Undergraduate Admissions Tutor (2017–2019)
Sussex	Co-organiser, Economics Seminar Series (2015–2017); Junior Faculty Hiring Committee (2016); Organiser, Sussex Workshop on Development Economics (July 2015)

Refereeing

Journals: Review of Economic Studies; AEJ: Applied Economics; AEJ: Economic Policy; Journal of the European Economic Association; Economic Journal; European Economic Review; Journal of Development Economics; World Bank Economic Review; Economic Development and Cultural Change; Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization; Journal of Population Economics; Economica; Oxford Economic Papers; Feminist Economics; Journal of Development Studies; World Development; Oxford Development Studies.

Grants: NSF; ESRC; PEDL; British Academy.

PhD Supervision, Postdocs and Predocs

PhD Supervision:	Abhik Banerjee, University of Exeter (2025–) Kabir Rana, University of Exeter (2026–) Anri Sakakibara, King's College London (2021–2024); placement: TU Munich Luisa Natali, University of Sussex (2015–2018); placement: UNICEF
Postdocs:	Vikram Bahure, King's College London (2022–2024)
Predocs:	10+

Updated September 2026