

# Research Associate Positions in Development Economics

August 24, 2025

We are seeking to hire multiple full-time Research Associates (RAs) to support the design and implementation of field experiments and surveys across several Indian states, including Bihar, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, and Karnataka.

The research projects fall broadly within development economics, with a particular focus on labor market frictions and the delivery of public services. These projects aim to generate rigorous evidence that can inform both academic debates and policy design in India.

RAs will play a central role in all aspects of the research process. This includes managing day-to-day field operations, contributing to survey and experimental design, coordinating with partner organizations, and supporting high-quality data collection and analysis. In addition, RAs will work closely with PIs and senior researchers, gaining valuable experience in applied microeconomics research. Strong performance in this role can serve as excellent preparation for graduate studies in economics, public policy, or related fields. The projects include:

- Stuck in the Queue: Behavioral Frictions in the Pursuit of Public Sector Employment in India, (PIs: [Varun Kapoor](#) , [Chinmaya Kumar](#), [Anand Shrivastava](#) )
- Why do Firms Hire Migrant Workers? Experimental Evidence from India, (PIs: [Chinmaya Kumar](#), [Varun Kapoor](#))
- Tracking the Welfare State: Public Provision of Health and Social Security in India (PIs: [Arjun Jayadev](#), [Chinmaya Kumar](#), [Rajendran Narayanan](#), [Dipa Sinha](#))
- Strength in Numbers: Experimental Evidence on Complaint Behavior and Collective Action (PIs: [Chinmaya Kumar](#), [M. R. Sharan](#), [Aaditya Dar](#))

**Responsibilities:** Responsibilities include (but not limited to) the following:

- Provide inputs in survey and experimental design
- Design and execute pilot studies to test feasibility of experimental design
- Supervise projects associates and survey enumerators
- Development of survey instruments and discussion guides
- Data cleaning and analysis
- Provide regular updates and reports to the research team
- Assist with the preparation of proposals, presentations, briefing notes and other reports for internal and external use

**Qualifications:** Undergraduate or postgraduate degree in Economics, Public Policy or other relevant disciplines.

The successful applicant will have the following skills and qualifications:

- Strong data skills, with proficiency in Stata or R
- 1–4 years of relevant work experience managing field-based empirical research projects
- Resourceful, detail-oriented, and capable of taking ownership of tasks
- Excellent organizational skills, with the ability to prioritize assignments, maintain workflow, and meet critical deadlines
- Capacity to multi-task—working on a variety of tasks simultaneously, adjusting to priorities, and delivering results in line with agreed objectives
- Advanced computer skills (MS Excel, Word, PowerPoint, etc.) to produce clear, high-impact visual presentations of research findings for diverse audiences and stakeholders
- Ability to work independently, collaborate remotely, and travel as required for field-work
- Prior experience conducting randomized controlled trials (RCTs) and/or a postgraduate degree will be considered an advantage

**Benefits and timeline:** This is a paid position and compensation will be commensurate with educational qualifications and work experience. This assignment is for 9 to 11 months with a possibility of an extension depending on the quality of work and performance.

***Location:*** Research Associates will be placed across multiple locations, including Bangalore, Jaipur, and Patna. Final placement will be determined based on project requirements.

***How to apply?*** Interested candidates should apply by filling out this [Google Form](#). Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. We are looking to hire someone who can start soon. We may not consider applications submitted after September 7, 2025.