

Ashokankur Datta

Curriculum Vitae

Contact

Planning Unit
Indian Statistical Institute
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Research Interests

Environmental and Development Economics.

Education

Ph.D., Economics, in progress (expected September, 2010)
Indian Statistical Institute
New Delhi
Thesis: *Three Essays in the Economics of Environmental Policy*
Adviser: Prof. E. Somanathan
Committee: Prof. Prabal Roy Chowdhury, Prof. Abhiroop Mukhopadhyay, and
Prof. Sujoy Chakraborty

M.A., Economics, May 2005
Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi
Delhi
Grade: First Division, Aggregate: 63%

B.Sc. (Honours) Economics, May 2003
Presidency College, University of Calcutta
Kolkata, West Bengal.
Grade: First Division, Honours Aggregate: 65%
Minors: *Political Science* and *Mathematics*

Honors, Scholarships and Fellowships

A.N. Ram Scholarship awarded by University of Delhi
Awarded for the period July, 2003- June, 2005

Junior Research Fellowship awarded by the Indian Statistical Institute
Awarded for the period July, 2005- Jun,2007

Senior Research Fellowship awarded by the Indian Statistical Institute
Awarded for the period July, 2005- Jun,2007

Graduate Work

My Ph.D. thesis consists of three main chapters each dealing with an aspect of environmental policy. The first chapter studies the distributional effects of fuel taxes in India. I do an input-output analysis to show that for most of the fuels generally used by Indian households (either directly or indirectly), taxes are progressive. The second chapter studies the role of market instruments in inducing emission reducing research and development in an environment where the policy maker cannot commit to a policy for future. It shows that the equivalence between price and quantity instruments break down in such an environment. It characterizes the conditions under which one instrument performs better than another. The role of investment subsidy is also studied. The third chapter looks at the impact of community forestry on the distribution of forest resources amongst different socio-economic groups in Nepal. It tests the hypothesis that in stratified societies, communal control of resources ensures a inequitable distribution of resources amongst different groups.

Research Work

Article in Press

Incidence of Fuel Taxation in India (Forthcoming in *Energy Economics*-Special Issue on Asian Energy). A larger version of the same paper is forthcoming as a chapter in Thomas Sterner edited book *Distributional Effects of Fuel Taxation*

Work in Progress

Climate Policy in Absence of Commitment (with Prof. E. Somanathan, Indian Statistical Institute)
Inequality and Communal Control of Forests: Evidence from Nepal.
Tenure and forest management in India (with Prof. Gunnar Kohlin, University of Gothenburg)

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant for Macroeconomics at ISI, New Delhi. (ISS Training Programme) (April-May,2007)

Teaching Assistant for Environmental Economics at ISI, New Delhi. (Spring-2008)

STATA instructor for Econometrics I course of MS (QE) students. (Spring-2008)

Teaching Assistant for Mathematical Methods in Economics Course of first year MS (QE) at ISI, New Delhi. (Fall-2009)

Seminars and Conferences

4th World Congress of Environmental and Resource Economists, Montreal, 28th June - 2nd July, 2010.

Climate Policy Outreach- Europe Aid- Kick Off Meeting, Centro Euro- Mediterraneo per I Cambiamenti Climatici and Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei, Venice. 16th March, 2010.

National Research Conference on Climate Change, Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi. 5th-6th March, 2010.

Fifth Biennial Conference of the Indian Society for Ecological Economics, Gujarat Vidyapeeth, Ahmedabad, 21th -23th January, 2009

16 Annual Conference of European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, Gothenburg, 26th - 28th June 2008

Seminar at Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi, April 2008

Computer Skills

Proficient

STATA, LaTeX, Matlab

Familiar

SHAZAM, Mathematica, Gauss

Language

Bengali, English and Hindi.

Miscellaneous

Citizenship: Indian

Marital Status: Single

Date of Birth: 22/10/1981

References

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Former President, European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists
Environmental Economics Unit, Department of Economics
School of Business Economics and Law
University of Gothenburg
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July 22, 2010