Economics Seminar, Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi.

SPEAKER: Rashmi Barua, Singapore Management University.

TITLE: No Pass No Drive: Education and Allocation of Time.

TIME: 11:30 AM - 01:00 PM

DAY & DATE: Friday, 12th April, 2013

PLACE: Seminar Room 2

Abstract:

More than one-third of all public high school students dropout of school each year. This has put the question of how to spend educational resources in a cost-effective way prominent on the research agenda. We study the effect of a low cost negative incentive policy, the No Pass No Drive (NPND) law, on education outcomes. Since the 1980s, several U.S. states have introduced these laws that set minimum academic requirements for teenagers to obtain driving licenses. Using data from the American Community Survey (ACS) and Monitoring the Future (MTF), we find that NPND laws led to a 6.4 percentage increase in high school graduation rates among black boys. Moreover the laws were effective in reducing truancy and increased time allocated to school-work at the expense of leisure and work.

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