

ANAKA AIYAR

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor, *Department of Economics* 2020 - Current
University of Nevada, Reno, NV

Post Doctoral Associate, *Tata-Cornell Institute for Agriculture and Nutrition* 2016 - 2020
Dyson School of Applied Economics & Management
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics 2016
University of California, Riverside, Riverside, CA

M.A. in Economics 2013
University of California, Riverside, Riverside, CA

M.Sc. in Economics 2006
Madras School of Economics, Anna University, Chennai, India

B.A. Economics (Hons) 2004
Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Delhi University, New Delhi, India

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Health, Insurance, Food Security, Applied Microeconomics

PUBLICATIONS

Aiyar, Anaka, Andaleeb Rahman & Prabhu Pingali. "India's rural transformation and rising overweight burden." *World Development*, 138 (2021)

Aiyar, Anaka, and Joseph R. Cummins. "Age-Profile Estimates of the Relationship Between Economic Growth and Child Health." *Journal of Development Economics*, 148 (2021)

Aiyar, Anaka, "Unintended consequences of targeted health insurance on intra-household resource allocations." *Journal of Development Studies*, vol 57, no 3, (2021): 502-518

Aiyar, Anaka, and Prabhu Pingali. "Pandemics and Food Systems: Towards a proactive food safety approach to disease prevention & management." *Food Security* (2020): 1-8

Aiyar, Anaka, and Srinivas Venugopal. "A Macromarketing Approach to Addressing the Ethical Challenge of Market Inclusion in Base of the Pyramid Markets." *Journal of Business Ethics*, 164 (2020): 243-260

Pingali, Prabhu, and **Anaka Aiyar**. "Diversity in Development – Inter-state Differences in the India Growth Story" *World Food Policy Journal* 4, no. 2 (2018): 57-78

Pingali, Prabhu, and **Anaka Aiyar**. "Food, Agriculture, and Nutrition Policy: Looking Ahead to 2050." *Agriculture and Food Systems to 2050*, edited by Prabhu Pinagli & Rachid Serraj. World Scientific Publishing, (2018): Chapter 18

Agarwal, Neha, **Anaka Aiyar**, Arpita Bhattacharjee, Joseph Cummins, Christian Gunadi, Deepak Singhanian, Matthew Taylor, and Evan Wigton-Jones. "Month of birth and child height in 40 countries." *Economics Letters* 157 (2017): 10-13.

Kathuria, Vinish, and **Anaka Aiyar**. "Link between Exporting and Productivity: Firm Level analysis for Indian Chemical Industry." *Science, Technology and Society* 16, no. 3 (2011): 309-331.

BOOKS

Pingali, Prabhu, **Anaka Aiyar**, Mathew Abraham & Andaleeb Rahman (2019), *Transforming Food Systems for a Rising India*, Open Access: Palgrave Studies in Agricultural Economics and Food Policy, Palgrave Macmillan [120,000+ Downloads](#)

WORKING PAPERS

Structural Determinants of India's Transition to an Overweight Nation, (with *Sunaina Dhingra & Prabhu Pingali*); *RnR*

A Food Security Kuznet's Curve? (with *Dennis Wesselbaum; Michael D. Smith, Christopher B. Barrett*)

The effectiveness of insurance in improving child health: A study from India, (with *Naveen Sunder*)

Processed foods or sedentary lifestyles: What contributes to poor nutritional outcomes among women in peri-urban settings, (with *Anjali Katiganere Purushotham & Stephan von Cramon-Taubadel*)

(Papers can be made available on request)

WORK IN PROGRESS

The effectiveness of insurance in reducing health spending: A study from India, (with *Srinivas Venugopal, Madhumita S, Anita Christopher*)

Insurance as an effective climate adaptation tool: A study from India, (with *Dilek Uz, Katherine Lacy*)

Gendered impacts of health shocks on time-use in agricultural households, (with *Vidya Vemireddy*)

SES determinants of Covid19 spread in India - a view of the first 100 days (with *Madhumita S, Anita Christopher*)

The role of safety nets in slowing Covid19 spread: Does the past matter? (with *Dominique Brewer*)

REPORTS

Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojna (A Study of Karnataka), (with *Prakhya Bhat, Nehal Jain, Jyotsna Jha, Shreekanth Mahendiran, Kavitha Narayanan, Varun Sharma*), *Global Development Network*, (2013)

Review of Processes and Institutional Mechanisms of Programme Implementation and Service Delivery, *Government of Karnataka*, 2013

Analysis of Health Expenditures by the Government of Karnataka (with *Achala Yaareseme*), *Centre for Budget & Policy Studies*, (2010)

Case Study: Connecting Rural India with Broadband Wireless, (with *Ashok Jhunjhunwala*), *International Telecommunication Union, Development (ITU-D)*, 2010

Reproductive and Child Health Services - How much do they cost? A Preliminary Analysis of 2 districts in Karnataka, (with *Poornima Vyasulu*), *Centre for Budget & Policy Studies*, (2007)

BLOGS

Pandemics and Food Systems – Towards a Proactive Food Safety Approach to Disease Prevention & Management	Read Here
Rising obesity in rural India, under the growing urban shadow	Read Here
Migration Mess: Using a Food Systems Lens to Understand India’s Migrant Crisis after COVID-19	Read Here
Tackling India’s Food Systems Challenges in the Era of Climate Change	Read Here
Examining the Indian nutrition transition: Reducing the risks for obesity by 2050	Read Here
Promoting equitable growth for 2050	Read Here
Gender Recap in Light of #MeToo	Read Here
The Incentive Mechanisms of the Rashtriya Swastha Bima Yojana (RSBY) – are they geared for service delivery? The Case of Karnataka	Read Here
The Elephant in the Insurance Controversy Room	Read Here
Mother’s Day, a Reflection	Read Here

AWARDS AND HONORS

Postdoc Achievement Award for Excellence in Leadership, Cornell University	<i>2019</i>
Dissertation Year Fellowship, UC, Riverside	<i>2016</i>
Travel Grant, Department of Economics, UC, Riverside	<i>2014 & 2015</i>
Graduate Student Travel Grant, Graduate Student Association, UC, Riverside	<i>2014</i>
Grant in Aid, Taraknath Das Foundation, Columbia University	<i>2013</i>
Dean’s Distinguished Fellowship Award, UC, Riverside	<i>2011 to 2016</i>
Merit Scholarship, Madras School of Economics, Anna University	<i>2005 & 2006</i>

SELECT PRESENTATIONS

The effectiveness of insurance in improving child health: A study from India - Cornell University; University of Vermont, Burlington; Indian Institute of Management (Bengaluru, Udaipur, Ahmedabad); Madras School of Economics; Winter School of the Delhi School of Economics (2019); Indian Institute of Technology (Kanpur); University of Nevada, Reno; University of Auckland, New Zealand; (2020); Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (Health Seminar), 3rd UNR College of Business–SGH Warsaw School of Economics Joint Symposium; International Health Economics Association Annual Conference (2021), University of Nevada, Las Vegas (Scheduled 2021)

Pandemics and Food Systems: Towards a proactive food safety approach to disease prevention & management: Cornell University (2020); USAID brown bag seminar - Pandemics & Food Systems (2020)

India’s rural transformation and rising obesity burden: Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (2020)

Transforming Food Systems for a Rising India - Plenary session of ReSAKSS-Asia International Conference in Yangon, International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington D.C, Centre for Budget & Policy Studies (CBPS) and Society for Community Health Awareness Research and Action (SOCHARA), Bengaluru, India (2019); Cornell University, (2017, 2018, 2019)

Unintended consequences of targeted health insurance on intra-household resource allocations - Macromarketing Conference (2019); Annual meetings of the American Society of Health Economists 2019; Indian Institute of Management, Udaipur, India (2019); 14th Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development, ISI Delhi (2018); Madras School of Economics, Chennai (2018); University of Vermont, Burlington (2017); Cornell University (2016); University of Southern California, Southern Economic Association 2015 Annual Meeting; UC Riverside; 90th Annual Western Economic Association International Conference (2015)

Age Profile Estimates of the Relationship between Economic Growth and Child Health - St Michael’s College (Colchester, VT), Eastern Economic Association Conference, Boston (2018), North Eastern Universities Development Conference - Tufts University (2017)

Diversity in Development: Inter-State Differences in the India Growth Story - Cornell University (2017)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor: Health Economics, Principles of Statistics (II), Applied Econometrics (Graduate)

Instructor: International Trade, Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory

Teaching Assistant: Introduction to Econometrics, Introduction to Statistics, Introduction to Macroeconomics, Introduction to Microeconomics, Macroeconomic Theory

Invited Speaker: *Implications of climate change on households: China's role in preparing for climate change* - Cornell Summer Program: Session on Crop Nutrition and Climate Change; Cornell University (2018)

SERVICE

Awards Committee Member: Committee on Women in Agricultural Economics (CWAE) for 2020-2021

Reviewer: World Bank Economic Review (1), Agricultural Economics (2), Journal of Consumer Affairs (4), Biological Conservation (1), Global Food Security (3), Socio-Economic Planning Services (1), World Development (1)

Conference Reviewer: American Society of Health Economists, Annual Conference (2018, 2019, 2020), North East Universities Development Conference (2018)

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant: University of California, Riverside *Spring 2015*

Research Associate: Center for Budget & Policy Studies *2009 - 2011*

Manager (Social Research): IITM's Rural Technology & Business Incubator *2007 - 2009*

Senior Research Analyst: ICRA's Management and Consulting Service *2006*

RESEARCH GRANTS

Enhancing Community Resilience and Food Security in Remote Forest Villages in Light of the COVID-19 Pandemic (2020-2022), (CoPI - Varun Goswami & Srinivas Venugopal, \$65,000 (at Rs 75/\$))

Strengthening Institutions to improve Public Expenditure Accountability – Global Development Network, 2010-2011, (Principal Investigator - Jyotsna Jha, Co-PI – Anaka Aiyar, Subhashansha Bakshi & Sandeep MS), £3000 (at Rs 70/£)

Review of Processes and Institutional Mechanisms of Programme Implementation and Service Delivery – Government of Karnataka, 2010-2011, (Principal Investigator – Dr. Vinod Vyasulu, Co-PI – Harini Rajesh, CBPS Team), \$12000 (at Rs 50/\$)

MEDIA MENTIONS

Rising obesity in rural India, under the growing urban shadow [See Here](#)

Indian diet changed, but not for the better, say expert [Read Here](#)

What is on India's plate? Both undernutrition and obesity [Read Here](#)

It takes a Village [Read Here](#)

Book Launch: Coverage by Cornell Media [Read Here](#)

Book Launch Event: International Food Policy Research Institute [See Here](#)

Transforming Food Systems for a Rising India [See Here](#)

Interstate differences in the Indian Growth Story [See Here](#)

Must- and Should-Reads: September 14, 2017, By Brad DeLong [Read Here](#)

Paying to be Treated Well, By Arathi Mohan [Read Here](#)

Up Goes the Economy, Down Slips Healthcare, Special Correspondent [Read Here](#)