

Asrar Alam

➤ **Current Position & Employer**

Associate Fellow, National Council of Applied Economic Research

➤ **Professional experience** (>13 years)

Positions held:

Associate Fellow | Since October 2023 – till date | National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), Delhi, India

Senior Research Analyst | Since January 2019 – September 2023 | NCAER, New Delhi

Research Analyst | June 2013 – December 2018 | NCAER, New Delhi

Research Associate | January 2011 – May 2013 | NCAER, New Delhi

➤ **Education**

M.A. Economics from Jamia Millia Islamia (Central University) (2010)

Bachelor of Arts (Honors) Economics from Jamia Millia Islamia (Central University) (2007)

➤ **Work experience in NCAER**

Experience of few major survey based studies:

1. Concurrent Monitoring and Impact Assessment of PMKVY 4.0 (2024 – ongoing)
Expected role in the project: Deputy Project Leader

2. All India Citizen Survey of Police Services (2023 – ongoing): Study sponsored by Bureau of Police Research and Development, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. Of India

Expected role in the project: Survey and data in-charge, conducted pre-testing and pilot survey, data management, trainer in training programs, data analysis, etc.

3. Monitoring and Impact Evaluation of Scholarship Scheme for students belonging to Minority Community (2022 – ongoing): Study sponsored by Ministry of Minority Affairs (MoMA), GoI

Role in the project: Contributed in designing the questionnaire, data analysis, organized and participated in FGDs, ToT and regional trainings, report writing.

4. Skilling in India (2022): Study sponsored by the CBSE

Role in the project: Contributed in designing the questionnaire and working on the methodological part (data analysis) to answer research questions.

5. Evaluation of India's Faceless Assessment Scheme (2020-22): Study commissioned by Directorate of Economic Affairs and CBDT.

Role in the project: Questionnaire designing, contributed in developing sampling methodology and final sample selection, Survey and data in-charge of the project, Data Management, Presentation on a usage of dashboard to CBDT, Data Analysis and report writing.

6. Education Satellite Account of Himachal Pradesh for RP 2017-18 (2020-21), Study Commissioned by Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Himachal Pradesh

Role in the project: Data Analysis (using primary and secondary data), data management, data cleaning, report writing, designing questionnaire

7. Education Satellite Account of Uttarakhand for RP 2017-18 (2020-21), Study Commissioned by Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Uttarakhand

Role in the project: Data Analysis (using primary and secondary data), data management, data cleaning (data range, consistency and logic check), report writing, designing questionnaire

8. Study of Gems and Jewellery Sector of India: This study was sponsored by the Gems and jewellery export promotion council of India.

Role in the project: Survey in-charge of the project, contributed in questionnaire design, training of field staff, used statistical software's like STATA and SPSS for data management, data cleaning (data range, consistency and logic check) and data analysis, generated many tables using NSS, enterprise survey and other data sets for the study, involved in report writing.

9. Concurrent monitoring and evaluation of handloom schemes study: Study commissioned by DC (Handloom), Ministry of Textiles (2017 - 2018).

Role in the project: Survey in-charge of the project, designed questionnaire, training of field staff, report writing, used statistical software's like STATA and SPSS for data management, data cleaning (data range, consistency and logic check) and for data analysis purposes. Prepared excel based dashboards, prepared observatory field notes. Used CAPI as a data collection method. Report writing.

10. The NCAER State Investment Potential Index: Study commissioned by Department for International Development – UK Government – (2015-2016).

Role in the project: Involved in analysis and listing of parameters for an index, helped in developing index methodology, survey in-charge of the project, designed questionnaire, training of field staff, used SPSS for data analysis purposes.

11. National survey of household income and expenditure (NSHIE, 2011-12): Self Sponsored.

Role in the project: Monitoring of survey in a few states, headed a team of 25 coders to check and clean the filled-in questionnaires manually, data cleaning or preparation of data consistency or logical checks using STATA, data analysis of various survey reports, report writing, prepared a excel based dashboard.

Other studies

1. Health Satellite Account of Himachal Pradesh for RP 2017-18 (2020-21), Study Commissioned by Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Himachal Pradesh
Role: Tabulations using NSS data, questionnaire designing
 2. Tourism Satellite Account of Himachal Pradesh for RP 2017-18 (2020-21), Study Commissioned by Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Himachal Pradesh
Role: Tabulations using NSS data
 3. Health Satellite Account of Uttarakhand for RP 2017-18 (2020-21), Study Commissioned by Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Uttarakhand
Role: Tabulations using NSS data, questionnaire designing
 4. Tourism Satellite Account of Uttarakhand for RP 2017-18 (2020-21), Study Commissioned by Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Uttarakhand
Role: Tabulations using NSS data
 5. Third Tourism Satellite Account for India and for all the states/UTs of India, Study Commissioned by Ministry of Tourism (2018-2020)
Role: Developed TSA dashboard with hired vendor, data analysis and tabulations using NSS and other data sets, report writing, a presentation on Data Sources used in the compilation of TSAs in a TSA workshop
 6. Role of the Public Distribution System in Shaping Household Food and Nutritional Security in India (2015-16)
Role: Literature review and tabulations
 7. Fiscal Implications and Macroeconomic Impact Analysis of the Gas Price Pooling Policy of the Government of India (2014-15)
Role: Helped in methodology development, tabulations, literature review, interviewed different stakeholders
 8. Mobile India Revisited: Understanding the Role of New Communication Technologies as Instrument to in Shaping the Lives Indian Populace, sponsored by Nokia India Pvt. Ltd. – (2011)
Role: Literature review
 9. Assessing the Effectiveness of Small Borrowing in India, sponsored by Microfinance Institutions Network (MFIN) – (2011)
Role: Literature review
-

➤ Publications

Op-eds

- “Have we created a fertile ground for women to flourish?” by Asrar Alam, The QRIUS, 08 January 2024
- “A digitally unprepared workforce” by Asrar Alam, The Hindu Business Line, 02 May 2023
- “Skilling in schools: How do we make Indian youth self-reliant?” by Poonam Munjal and Asrar Alam, QRIUS, December 08, 2022
- “Skilling Atmanirbharta” by Poonam Munjal and Asrar Alam, Financial Express, August 8, 2022

Journal articles

- "Demographic Dividends and Challenges Socio-religious Disparities in India's Youthful Workforce" by AbuSaleh Shariff, & Asrar Alam is published in the Economic & Political Weekly, APRIL 20, 2024 (vol lix no 16.), [Demographic Dividends and Challenges | Economic and Political Weekly \(epw.in\)](#)
- Human Development, Per capita income differentials and English as a source of demographic dividends amongst the youth in India, Journal of Development Policy and Practice, SAGE publishing India; with Dr Abusaleh Shariff (Sage Journal), Vol. 6 (1), 2021, <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/2455133321998807>
- Education Satellite Account for Uttarakhand, Income and Wealth (I & W), Vol. 43, No. 1, Jan-Dec, 2021; with Dr Poonam Munjal, Senior Fellow, NCAER & Dr. Manoj Pant, Additional Chief Executive Officer, Department of Planning, Govt of Uttarakhand, <https://indianjournals.com/ijor.aspx?target=ijor:jiw&volume=43&issue=1and2&article=008>

Blogs

- 7th July, 2021: Blog entitled ‘Human Development, Per Capita Income Differentials and English as a Source of Youth in India’ published in Journal of Development Policy and Practice, Sage India Digest, Web link: <http://blog.sagepub.in/2021/07/human-development-per-capita-income.html>

➤ Expertise and experience

Data Analysis & management: Expertise in handling large and complex data basis, data quality assessment, data cleaning, data analysis, visualization of data insights

Statistical Software’s – STATA, SPSS, R Studio (basic), MS excel VBA (basic) and advanced MS excel functions

Data base knowledge and experience: Various rounds of NSS, Economic Census, Census of India, ASI, Enterprise Survey, PLFS, IHDS, etc.

Dashboards: Expertise in constructing dashboards

Handling Surveys: Experience of handling large scale household and industry surveys. Survey in-charge of many big survey based projects.

Other expertise and experience: Preparing and designing the Questionnaire, providing offline and online training to survey teams.

➤ **Workshop & Training programme**

- Participated in exchange of technical expertise in the development of National and sub-national Tourism Satellite Accounts organized by Tourism Research Australia, within the Australian Trade and Investment Commission in association with the Australian Bureau of Statistics and Griffith University during Canberra on January 14, 2019 and Brisbane on January 16, 2019.
 - Attended “**International Training on Survey Data Analysis**” conducted at the Institute for Social and Environmental Research-Nepal, Fulbari, Chitwan, in collaboration with the Population Studies Center of the University of Michigan, USA. December 24-28, 2017
 - Participated in five days training program on Blaise 5 software which is a platform for survey data collection work on CAPI, imparted by Statistics Netherlands (CBS). - 2018
 - Participated in a **two week World Bank workshop on “South Asia Regional Impact Evaluation and Survey Methods**” in 2013. The two-week workshop, funded by SIEF with the generous support from the British government’s Department for International Development (DFID).
The purpose of the workshop was to build knowledge on the use of impact evaluation among policy makers and program managers and allow operational teams to apply this knowledge to the design and implementation of program-specific impact evaluations. - 2013
 - Conducted survey in Business Expectation Research for National Council of Applied Economic Research (3rd & 4th Quarter 2009).
-

Presentations in Workshop/conference

- Paper titled 'State Education Account for Uttarakhand' presented in the 39th Annual conference of Indian Association for Research in National Income and Wealth held (virtually) at New Delhi during 06-07 March, 2021.
- 6th September, 2019: Presentation on "Data Sources used in the compilation of TSAs", Project – Tourism & Satellite Account for India – 2015-16, Event: **TSA Workshop**
- 25th September, 2018: Presentation on "Methodology for Concurrent Monitoring and Evaluation of Handloom Clusters in India", Project - Concurrent Monitoring and Evaluation of Handloom Clusters, Event: **Brown bag NCAER**
- 27th December 2016: Presented the progress of block level clusters in **Regional workshop of handloom clusters at Kolkata** held under the Chairmanship of DC (Handloom).
- September, 2015: Presentation on "Survey methodology – N-SIPI Industry Survey", Project - 'NCAER-State Investment Potential Index – (2015-2016)', Event: **N-SIPI first workshop**

Projects presentation to external stakeholders

- 29th July, 2021: Presented the usage of a NCAER survey dashboard to Central Board Direct Taxes (CBDT) officials, Study 'Evaluation of India's Faceless Assessment Scheme'.
- 30th January, 2019: Presented quarterly progress and survey findings of northern and southern states handloom clusters to the team of DC (Handloom) in DC (Handloom) office, Ministry of Textile, Project 'Concurrent Monitoring and Evaluation of Handloom Clusters' (Quarter 6, Phase-II).
- 20th September, 2018: Presented quarterly progress and survey findings of northern and southern states handloom clusters to the team of DC (Handloom) in DC (Handloom) office, Ministry of Textile, Project 'Concurrent Monitoring and Evaluation of Handloom Clusters' (Quarter 4, Phase-II).
- 25th May, 2018: Presentation on observatory notes of northern and southern states handloom clusters to the team of DC (Handloom) in DC (Handloom) office, Ministry of Textile, Project 'Concurrent Monitoring and Evaluation of Handloom Clusters'
- 16th April, 2018: Presented quarterly progress and survey findings of northern and southern states handloom clusters to the team of DC (Handloom) in DC (Handloom) office, Ministry of Textile, Project 'Concurrent Monitoring and Evaluation of Handloom Clusters' (Quarter 3, Phase-II).

- 19th February, 2018: Presented quarterly progress and survey findings of northern and southern states handloom clusters to the team of DC (Handloom) in DC (Handloom) office, Ministry of Textile, Project ‘Concurrent Monitoring and Evaluation of Handloom Clusters’ (Quarter 6, Phase-I).

Personal Details

Date of Birth : 4th June, 1985
Permanent Address : G- 61, Muradi Road, Batla House, Okhla, New Delhi- 110025
Mobile number : 8527339568
Email id : aalam@ncaer.org
