

CV of

ACHIN CHAKRABORTY

Designation Professor of Economics (formerly Director)

Institutional Address: Institute of Development Studies Kolkata
DD 27/D Salt Lake, Sector-I
Kolkata – 700064, India
E-mail: achinchak@gmail.com
Website: www.idsk.edu.in

Date of Birth: 10 June, 1960.

Academic Qualification:

1. PhD in Economics, University of California at Riverside, USA, 1995. Dissertation title: *The Concept and Measurement of the Standard of Living*.
2. Master's in Economics, University of Calcutta, 1983.
3. BSc with Honours in Economics, University of Calcutta (St Xavier's College), 1981.

Awards:

1. CICOPS (Centre for International Cooperation) Scholarship by the University of Pavia, Italy, 2010-11 to spend six weeks at the University.
2. The dissertation fellowship for 1994-95 by the Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation (IGCC), USA.
3. Teaching Assistantship by the Department of Economics, University of California, Riverside, USA, 1990-1994

Areas of Interest: Welfare economics, human development, health economics, environmental economics, political economy, methodology of social science.

Employment history:

2013 – 2023 Director, Institute of Development Studies Kolkata, India
2004 – present Professor of Economics, Institute of Development Studies Kolkata
1996 – 2004 Associate Professor, Centre for Development Studies,
Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India
1990 – 1995 Teaching assistant and graduate student, University of California at
Riverside, USA.
1985 – 1990 Lecturer in Economics, West Bengal Education Service, India

Visiting professor: Sciences-Po, Paris, in 2007.

Publications:

Books:

1. (Jointly edited with Simantini Mukhopadhyay) *Revisiting Inequality: Theoretical and Methodological Advances with Empirical Examples from India*, Routledge, 2024.
2. (Jointly edited with Indrani Chakraborty) *Business Groups and other Corporations*, Springer, 2023.
3. (Jointly edited with Anthony P D'Costa) *Changing Contexts and Shifting Roles of the Indian State: New Perspectives on Development Dynamic*, Springer, 2019
4. (Jointly edited with Anjan Chakrabarti, Byasdeb Dasgupta and Samita Sen) *Capital in the East: Reflections on Marx*, Springer, 2019
5. (with Subhanil Chowdhury, Supurna Banerjee and Zaad Mahmood) *Limits of Bargaining: Capital, Labour and the State in Contemporary India*, Cambridge University Press, 2019
6. (Jointly edited with Anthony D'Costa) *The land question in India: State, dispossession, and capitalist transition*, Oxford University Press, 2017.

Articles:

1. 'Unequal Inequalities in India: Income and Non-Income Dimensions', in Ajitava Raychaudhuri and Arpita Ghosh (eds) *Managing Pandemic and Correcting Development Fundamentals*, Springer, 2023.
2. 'Changing Private-Public Mix in School Education and Its Implications for Policy', in Jandhyala B.G. Tilak (ed) *Universal Secondary Education in India*, Springer, 2020.
3. 'Inter-group Disparities in Growing Economies: India Among the BRICS' [with Simantini Mukhopadhyay], in Biju Paul Abraham, Partha Ray and Soo Yeon Kim (eds) *BRICS: The Quest for Inclusive Growth*, Volume 1 of *The Political Economy of the BRICS Countries*, World Scientific, 2020.
4. 'Self-Reported Morbidity and Self-Rated Health among the Elderly in India: Revisiting the Puzzles' [with Simantini Mukhopadhyay, Stephen Cullati, Stefan Sieber, Claudine Burton-Jeangros], *Journal of Population Ageing*, 2020.
5. 'Changing Wealth Inequalities in Child Nutrition in Indian States' [with Simantini Mukhopadhyay], *Economic and Political Weekly*, 55(10), 2019.
6. 'Methodological or Epistemological Issues in Social Research', in Rajat Acharyya and Nandan Bhattacharya (eds) *Research Methodology for Social Sciences*, Routledge, 2019.

7. 'Class Processes and Cooperatives' [with Manas Ranjan Bhowmik], in Achin Chakraborty, Anjan Chakrabarti, Byasdeb Dasgupta and Samita Sen (eds) *'Capital' in the East*, Springer, 2019.
8. 'In Search of "Gandhian Economics"', *Journal of the Asiatic Society*, Vol LXI, No 3, 2019.
9. 'Caste-Gender Intersectionalities and the Curious Case of Child Nutrition: A Methodological Exposition' [with Simantini Mukhopadhyay] in Supurna Banerjee and Nandini Ghosh (eds) *Caste and Gender in Contemporary India: Power, Privilege and Politics*, Routledge, 2018.
10. 'Is the Single Self-rated Health Item Reliable in India? A Construct Validity Study', [with Simantini Mukhopadhyay, Stéphane Cullati, Stefan Sieber and Claudine Burton-Jeangros] *BMJ Global Health*, Volume 3, Issue 6, 2018.
11. 'Structural Limits to Equitable Urbanization' in Jenia Mukherjee (ed) *Sustainable Urbanization in India*, Springer, 2018.
12. 'In Search of Non-tangential Premises: The Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill 2016' [with Pragna Paramita Mondal], *Economic and Political Weekly*, 53(14), 2018.
13. 'Elementary Education in West Bengal: Issues in Governance and Political Economy' in Rakhahari Chatterji and Partha Pratim Basu (eds) *West Bengal Under the Left 1977-2011*, Levant Books, 2018.
14. 'Decomposing Nutritional Inequality by Caste and Class: A Quantitative Approach to Reckon Intersectionality' [with Simantini Mukhopadhyay], *Economics Bulletin*, Vol 37(2), 2017.
15. 'Decentralisation and Health in West Bengal: A study with Reference to Community Health Care Management Initiative' [with Subrata Mukherjee] in Pranab Kumar Das (ed) *Decentralisation, Governance and Development: An Indian Perspective*, Orient Blackswan, 2017.
16. 'Living Arrangement and Capability Deprivation of the Disabled in India' [with Subrata Mukherjee] in Nandini Ghosh (ed) *Interrogating Disability in India: Theory and Practice*, Springer, 2016.
17. 'Reforming Labour Markets in States: Revisiting the Futility Thesis', *Economic and Political Weekly*, May 16, 2015.
18. 'Elementary Education in India: Disentangling Quantity-Quality and Public-Private', *Journal of Social and Economic Studies*, Vol XXV(1-2), 2015.
19. 'From Passive Beneficiary to Rights Claimant: The Changing Face of the Capability Deprived in India, and the Primacy of Politics' in Sarkar, D. (ed) *Human Rights*, Loreto College and Levant Books, 2014.

20. 'Revealed allocation priorities in the budget', *Economic and Political Weekly*, 30 March, 2013
21. 'Human Development: How Not to Interpret Change', *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol XIV (51), 2011.
22. 'Female Work Participation and Gender Differential in Earnings in West Bengal' [with Indrani Chakraborty], *Journal of Quantitative Economics*, Vol 8(2), July, 2010.
23. 'Reckoning Inequality in Education in India', in *Development, Equity and Poverty: Essays in Honour of Azizur Rahman Khan*, Macmillan, 2010.
24. 'Some Normatively Relevant Aspects of Inter-State and Intra-State Disparities', *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol XLIV (26 & 27), 2009, pp 179-184.
25. 'In Search of Constitutive Plurality in Development Discourse', in *Contemporary Issues and Ideas in Social Sciences*, August, 2008.
26. 'On the Mean of Squared Deprivation Gaps', *Economic Theory*, Vol 34#1, January, 2008 [with Prasanta K. Pattanaik and Yongsheng Xu]
27. 'A Critique of the Approach Paper to Eleventh Plan', *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. XLI (31), pp.3346-3350, August 5-11, 2006 [with Amiya Kumar Bagchi and Debdas Banerjee].
28. 'The Rhetoric of Disagreement in Reform Debates', in Jos Mooij (ed) *The Politics of Economic Reforms in India*, Sage, New Delhi, 2005.
29. 'Kerala's Changing Development Narratives', *Economic and Political Weekly*, February 5, 2005.
30. "Health Care in West Bengal: Confused Policy for Public-Private Partnership", *Economic and Political Weekly*, January 29, 2005.
31. 'The Irrelevance of Methodology and the Art of the Possible: Reading Sen and Hirschman', in Ananta Kumar Giri (ed) *Creative Social Research: Rethinking Theories and Methods*, Lexington Books, Maryland, 2004.
32. 'Environmental Costs and their Impact on the Net Present Value of a Hydroelectric Project in Kerala, India', *Environment and Development Economics*, Vol 8, 2003 [with V. Santhakumar].
33. 'Making Inter-Country Comparison of Life Expectancy Inequality Sensitive', *Social Indicators Research*, Vol. 64, 2003 [with U. S. Mishra].

34. 'Health Care in West Bengal: What Is Happening?' *Economic and Political Weekly*, Nov 29 – Dec 5, 2003 [with Subrata Mukherjee].
35. 'Issues in Social Indicators, Composite Indices and Inequality', *Economic and Political Weekly*, March 30, 2002.
36. 'Human Rights and Human Development' (a review essay on the Human Development Report 2000), *Economic and Political Weekly*, Sept.23, 2000.
37. 'Reckoning Improvement in Living Standards across Countries', *Journal of Quantitative Economics*, Vol.14#1, January 1998.
38. 'Amartya Sen and Our World of Exaggerated Opposites', *Economic and Political Weekly*, Dec.19, 1998.
39. 'On the Possibility of a Weighting System for Functionings', *Indian Economic Review*, Vol.XXXI#2, July-Dec.1996.

Select book reviews and other publications:

1. 'Economic Perspectives on the Environment and Climate Change', review of *Environmental Economics in Developing Countries: Issues and Challenges* (Routledge), edited by Achiransu Acharyya, *Economic and Political Weekly*, July 13, 2024
2. 'Confirmation Bias on Overdrive in Economic Survey 2020-21', *The India Forum*, May 7, 2021 [with Simantini Mukhopadhyay]
3. 'Debunking the Population Myth', review of *The Population Myth: Islam, Family Planning and Politics in India* (HarperCollins), *The Telegraph*, 16 April, 2021.
4. 'Labour and Perspectives on the Indian State', *Anveshi Broadsheet*, March 2021-6.
5. 'Capturing the Essential Ideas of Amartya Sen's Work', review of *How to Read Amartya* by Lawrence Hamilton (Penguin) *The Wire*, 04 November, 2020.
6. 'Intellectual Tour de Force', review of *Selected Papers of Partha Dasgupta*, Volumes 1 & 2 OUP, *Economic and Political Weekly*, July 27, 2013.
7. 'Of Measures and Mismeasures', review of *Poverty, Inequality, and Population* by D. Jayaraj and S. Subramanian in *Economic and Political Weekly*, Oct 1, 2011.
8. 'Summary Report on Social Protection Policies in South Asia', UNESCO-ICSSR Research Meeting, 2010.
9. Review of *Human Development in south Asia 2007* by The Mahbub ul Haq Development Centre, and *Human Development in the Indian Context: A Socio-Cultural Focus* by Margaret Khalakdina, in *The Book Review*, March, 2009.
10. 'On Quality-Equality Trade-off in Health Policy', in *The Soul*, January, 2009.

11. Review of *The Republic of Hunger and Other Essays* by Utsa Patnaik, in *The Book Review*, January, 2008.
12. 'The Primacy of Politics' in *Seminar*, December, 2006.
13. 'Bad Health at High Cost', review of *Pratichi Health Report* in *Economic and Political Weekly*, Feb 11, 2006.
14. 'Rationality, Freedom and Reason', review of *Rationality and Freedom* by Amartya Sen, in *Economic and Political Weekly*, July 2, 2005.
15. Review of *Savage Money* by C.A. Gregory in *Contributions to Indian Sociology*, 38,1&2, 2004.
16. 'The Concept and Measurement of Group Inequality', CDS Working Paper 315, May 2001 (unpublished).

Sponsored research projects:

1. *Early Marriage among Girls in West Bengal: An Investigation through Triangulation of Available Data*, sponsored by the Department of Women and Child Development and Social Welfare, Government of West Bengal, 2023.
2. *Health Inequalities in India and Switzerland: Measurement and Distribution of Well-Being and Vulnerability* (jointly with Simantini Mukhopadhyay, Claudine Burton-Jeangros and Stephane Cullati) under Indo-Swiss Joint Research Programme in Social Sciences funded by ICSSR and Swiss Government, 2015-17.
3. *An Assessment of Implementation of MGNREGA in West Bengal*, sponsored by Department of Panchayats and Rural Development, Government of West Bengal, 2017.
4. *Trade Unions and Collective Bargaining in Urban Labour Market: The Case of West Bengal* sponsored by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), 2016.
5. *Investment Requirements for Provision of Core Services and Own Resource Generation by the Panchayats in West Bengal* commissioned by the 4th State Finance Commission of West Bengal, 2015.
6. *Teachers Training in West Bengal: Bridging the Supply-Demand Gap*, sponsored by the Department of School Education, Government of West Bengal, 2011.
7. *Mid-Term Appraisal of the 11th Five year Plan of Tripura*, sponsored by the Planning Commission, Government of India, 2010.
8. *MDG-Based Poverty Reduction Strategy for West Bengal*, sponsored by UNDP and Planning Commission, India, 2009.
9. *Women, Work, Education, and Disparities*, sponsored by Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, Berlin, 2008.
10. *Birbhum District Human Development Report* sponsored by the Development and Planning Department, Government of West Bengal, 2008.
11. *An Evaluation Study on Advocacy of Safe Motherhood under Community Health Care Monitoring Initiative*, sponsored by the Department of Panchayats and Rural Development, Government of West Bengal, 2007.

12. *Allocation and Utilization of Resources for Social Sector Programmes in Purulia District*, sponsored by UNICEF, Kolkata, 2007
13. *An Assessment of In-Service Teachers' Training Programmes in Five Districts of West Bengal*, sponsored by the State Project Office of West Bengal District Primary Education Programme, 2005.
14. Coordinated the team of CDS faculty members preparing *Kerala Human Development Report* sponsored by the UNDP and Indian Planning Commission, till February 2004.
15. *Poverty Impact Assessment of the Structural Adjustment Loans to Kerala*, sponsored by the Asian Development Bank, 2003.
16. *Social and Environmental Costs and Benefits of Puyankutty Hydroelectric Project, Kerala*, sponsored by Kerala State Electricity Board, 2002.
17. The financial and economic analyses part of the project on *Coastal and Marine Resources Management and Poverty Reduction in South Asia*, coordinated by IUCN and funded by the Asian Development Bank, 2002.

Teaching and theses supervision:

1. Taught/Teach courses in Development Economics for MPhil/PhD in Development Studies at IDSK.
2. Taught MPhil/PhD level courses on Welfare Economics and Distributive Justice, at the Department of Economics, University of Calcutta.
3. As a Visiting Professor, taught a course on the India Economy at Sciences-Po, Paris, in May, 2008.
4. Before joined the present position at IDSK in April 2004, had worked at the Centre for Development Studies in Kerala, India, as Associate Fellow from February 1996 to March 2004 (was subsequently offered Fellow position, equivalent to Professor), teaching courses in microeconomics, cost-benefit analysis, economics of the public sector, and development indices for the students of M.Phil. in Applied Economics at CDS affiliated to Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.
5. Designed, and taught for three years, a course in Health Economics for students of Master's in Public Health at the Achutha Menon Centre for Health Science Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
6. Taught Refresher/Orientation Courses for College and University teachers in Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.
7. As teaching assistant held discussion sessions on various undergraduate and graduate courses at the University of California at Riverside while doing doctoral research between 1990 and 1995.
8. From 1985 to 1990 taught in Govt. Colleges in West Bengal as Lecturer in Economics, West Bengal Educational Service. In 1996 selected for the post of Professor in West Bengal Senior Educational Service.

Doctoral theses supervision (all awarded)

1. Manas Ranjan Bhowmik: *Alternative Governance Structures: The Case of Handloom Cooperatives in West Bengal*, awarded in 2023, by the University of Calcutta.
2. Hari Krishna Dwivedi: *Measurement of Fiscal and Debt Sustainability in Indian States: An Alternative Approach*, awarded in 2021, by the University of Calcutta (through IDSK).
3. Anjan Raychaudhuri: *Horizontal Inequality: The Concept, Measurement and Determinants*, awarded in 2015, by the University of Calcutta.
4. Simantini Mukhopadhyay: *Aspects of Child Undernutrition in India*, awarded in 2014, by the University of Calcutta.
5. Subrata Mukherjee: *Importance of Quality and Price in Choice in Health care: A Study of West Bengal*, awarded in 2006, by Jawaharlal Nehru University (Centre for Development Studies).
6. Deepita Chakravarty: *Technological Change, Organization of Work, and Employment Contracts: Emergence of Decentralized Bargaining in the Indian Textiles*, awarded in 2003, by Jawaharlal Nehru University (Centre for Development Studies).

Doctoral theses supervision (ongoing): Seven.

Select recent conferences and invited lectures

1. Spoke on ‘Economics and Politics of Public Policies for Human Development in India’, as an invited Panellist in the plenary session of the *Global Conclave on SDGs*, organised by Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, 6-7 March, 2024.
2. Invited lecture on ‘Normative Measurement in Theory and Practice’, at Global Conclave 2024, on *Advancing Human Development in the Global South*, organised by Institute of Human Development, New Delhi, 11-13 January, 2024.
3. Invited paper titled “Structural limits to equitable urbanisation” presented at the conference on *Governing Urbanizing India: Citizenship, Policy and Politics*, organised by the Centre for Development and the Environment of the University of Oslo, Oslo, 8-9 June, 2017.
4. Presentation on ‘Health inequalities in India and Switzerland: Measurement and distribution of well-being and vulnerability’ at the 4th Joint Seminar under Indo-Swiss Joint Research Programme in Social Sciences, Basel, 4-6 September, 2017.
5. Invited paper titled “Institutions for Distributive Justice: Between Transcendental and Comparative”, presented at the IEA-IGIDR Conference on *Social Sector Development in India: Emerging Issues and Policy Perspectives*, IGIDR, Mumbai, October 6-7, 2017.
6. Invited paper titled “Market, State and Human Development in India” presented at the International Seminar on *Cohesive Development* organised by A N Sinha Institute of Social Studies, Patna, 24-25 February, 2017.
7. Invited paper titled “How Misleading is Self-Reported Morbidity: Revisiting Amartya Sen’s ‘Positional Objectivity’” at South Asian University, New Delhi, 12 February, 2017.

8. Presented invited paper ‘Inter-Group Disparities in Rapidly Growing Economies’ at the Conference on *Political Economy of Emerging Market Countries: The Challenges of Developing More Humane Societies*, organized by Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance, Princeton University, in partnership with Georgetown University India Initiative and Indian Institute of Management Calcutta, held at Santiniketan, 02-03 January, 2017.
9. Presented paper ‘Inter-Group Disparities in India during the Rapid Growth Process’ at Department of Sociology, University of Geneva, Switzerland, 29 November, 2016.
10. Keynote paper titled “Understanding inequalities in self-reported morbidity in India” at the 2nd Joint Seminar of the Indo-Swiss Research Programme in the Social Sciences, University of Lausanne, 9-10 September, 2015.

Others

1. Reviewed research papers for a number of national and international journals.
2. Reviewed book manuscripts for Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, Springer, Routledge.
3. Currently serving as a member of the Boards of Studies in Economics at Presidency University, Visva-Bharati University and Ramakrishna Mission Vidyamandira; external member of PhD Committee in Economics at Jadavpur University and St Xavier’s University.