





### THE

## ARTHA संचारिका



## NEWSLETTER DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS



We are excited to present this edition of our newsletter, which highlights the ongoing activities and achievements of our department. From engaging lectures and workshops to innovative research projects and student initiatives, this newsletter aims to keep you informed about our vibrant community.

VOLUME I

### **Message From The Director**



Dear Readers,

We are thrilled to welcome you to Arth Sancharika, the official newsletter of the Economics Department, a platform curated by students to bring you fresh perspectives on the dynamic world of economics.

Our dedicated group of students has put in a lot of effort to examine the various aspects of economics, aiming to make it understandable and significant for all individuals, whether you have a passion for economics or are just curious about the influences affecting our planet. This edition covers different achievements of Faculty members and students of Department of Economics. Through this initiative we would like to present insightful columns, Alumni Messages, research highlights and exciting department updates.

We believe that economics is not just a subject confined to classrooms but a vital part of everyday life, and we aim to bridge that gap through Arth Sancharika.

Thank you for being part of this journey. We hope to ignite your curiosity, deepen your understanding, and foster a sense of community through the power of knowledge.

Best Wishes!

Prof (Dr) Trishu Sharma
Director, School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Manipal University Jaipur.

### Message From The Head Of The Department



Greetings to my Dear Students and Faculty members! It gives me immense pleasure & privilege while writing about the Second Issue of Newsletter of Department of Economics 'ArthSancharika'. I appreciate the contributions of the editorial and technical team of students and their mentor Dr Namrata Bhardwaj.

'ArthSancharika' is all about the perspectives of our students and faculty members on various economic & policy issues. It presents the various department activities at student and faculty level to make learning an experiential affair.

In our endeavour to cultivate a holistic learning education ecosystem, ArthSancharika gives glimpses of efforts made at all levels. In today's uncertain world, Indian economy is growing at an exceptional rate, and understanding the dynamics pertaining to that becomes imperative for the students.

I encourage all my students to express their ideas through 'ArthSancharika' that nurtures the culture of critical thinking.

I wish the team of students and faculty a good luck for the current and coming issues.

**Best Wishes!** 

Dr Monika Mathur
Associate Professor & Head of the Department
Department of Economics
Manipal University Jaipur

### Insider's Insight: Editor's Take



I am thrilled to launch the second issue of our departmental newsletter, an initiative aimed at showcasing the remarkable achievements and advancements within our Economics Department. This newsletter is not just a platform for sharing information; it's a testament to the collective efforts and dedication of each team member.

As the Chief Editor, I want to express my gratitude to the Head of the Department of Economics, Dr. Monika Mathur for giving me the opportunity to contribute to the department's newsletter. I want to express my gratitude to the editorial team who have contributed their time, expertise, and creativity to make this newsletter a reality. Your hard work and commitment have been instrumental in bringing this project to fruition, and I am confident that together, we can make it a resounding success.

Our newsletter will serve as a comprehensive resource covering every aspect of our department, from groundbreaking research to student achievements and faculty accolades. It is designed to update and educate not only our students but also the wider community across Manipal University's campus about the exciting developments in the field of economics.

I encourage everyone to continue collaborating and contributing to the newsletter, sharing your insights, ideas, and experiences. Together, we can ensure that it remains a dynamic and informative platform that reflects the vibrancy and excellence of our Economics Department.

Thank you once again for your dedication and commitment. Let's work together to make our departmental newsletter a valuable resource for all!

Chief editor,
Dr Namrata Bhardwaj
Assistant Professor,
Department of Economics
Manipal University Jaipur

## NEWSLETTER DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS SESSION: 2024-25





Edited By

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Student Council

Gaurika Singh

Taneesha Puri

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Alok Prabhu

Akus Kaur

## **BEHIND THE SCENES: MEET THE** ARCHITECTS OF ARTHA SANCHARIKA





TANEESHA PURI



ALOK PRABHU



VANI BHATNAGAR



HARSH DADHICH



**AKUS KAUR** 

## VISION AND MISSION OF THE DEPARTMENT



### VISION

The department aims to develop a conducive education ecosystem of global standards fulfilling three-fold objective of teaching, learning and research. It is geared towards promoting principled, positive, interactive, and experiential educational experience for an all-round personality development of students.

### **MISSION**

Cultivation of a holistic learning and education ecosystem. Fostering original intellectual growth of students and faculty. Encouraging critical thinking. Application of economics to solve societal problems.

#### DR. MONIKA MATHUR

#### ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AND HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT

Dr. Monika Mathur is a leading expert in Development and Health Economics. Her research focuses on improving healthcare systems and understanding socioeconomic factors affecting public health. Her guidance drives academic excellence. She shapes programs and fosters research initiatives, making her an influential figure.



## DR. SHILPI GUPTA ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR



Dr. Shilpi Gupta, an expert in Environmental economics, mathematical Economics, and Statistics, brings a unique blend of theory and practice to her research. Her focus on environmental issues and economic modeling contributes to discussions on sustainability. Her expertise in quantitative analysis makes her a valuable asset to both students and the academic community.

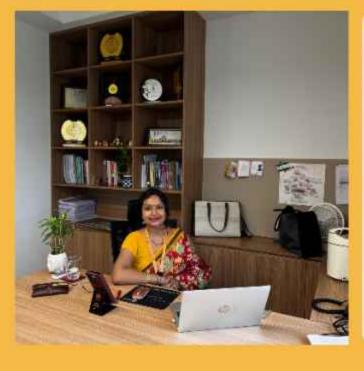
### MS. VARUNI SHARMA

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR (Senior Scale)

Ms. Varuni Sharma specializes in econometrics, public finance, and welfare economics. She believes in applying statistical and mathematical knowledge to enhance understanding of key economic concepts and contribute to societal betterment. Her interest focuses on green technologies and sustainable development.



## Dr. MINALI BANERJEE ASSISTANT PROFESSOR (Senior Scale)



Dr. Minali Banerjee is an expert in community-based participatory research, with additional specializations in education and health economics. Her work focuses on engaging communities in research processes, addressing education systems, and analyzing economic factors related to public health.

#### DR. POONAM MISHRA

#### ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Dr. Poonam Mishra specializes in sustainable development and tourism. With 6+ years of experience, she has supervised one PhD and is currently guiding two. Her research focuses on understanding the dynamics of India's economic structure with a particular emphasis on the tourism sector, rural development, and broader macroeconomic trends.



### DR. NAMRATA BHARDWAJ

#### ASSISTANT PROFESSOR



Dr. Namrata Bhardwaj specializes in Development Economics, Economics of Human Development, Energy Economics, Macroeconomics, and the Indian Economy. Her doctoral research focuses on the power sector crisis, and she has worked on various developmental projects. She aspires to contribute to sustainable economic development and drive meaningful policy reforms.

### DR. GARIMA SINGH

#### ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Dr. Garima Singh specializes in financial inclusion, banking and finance, women entrepreneurship, and women empowerment. Her work contributes significantly to understanding how microfinance can drive regional development and improve economic outcomes for marginalized communities. Through her teaching and research, Dr. Singh is dedicated to fostering a more equitable and inclusive economic landscape.



## DR. ASHISH KUMAR MEHER

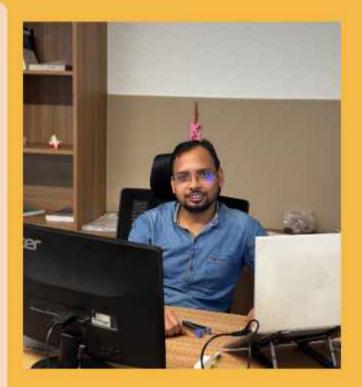
#### ASSISTANT PROFESSOR



Dr. Ashish Kumar Meher specializes in microeconomics, development economics, labor economics, rural development, and mathematical economics. Dr. Meher's expertise in applying mathematical models to economic problems allows him to provide deep insights into complex economic dynamics, making him a valuable asset to both academia and policy discussions.

## DR. PUSHP KUMAR ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Dr. Pushp Kumar specializes in Climate Change Economics, Applied Econometrics, Agricultural Economics, and International Trade. With a robust academic background and a commitment to impactful research, Dr. Kumar investigates the economic implications of climate change on agricultural productivity and trade dynamics. His expertise in applied econometrics equips him to analyze complex data sets, providing insights that inform policy decisions and foster equitable trade relations.



## SPOTLIGHT ON EVENTS

## **GUEST LECTURES**

### Professor P.C. Padhan

The Department of Economics hosted a lecture by Professor P.C. Padhan of the Department of Economics at XLRI Jamshedpur. The discussion was centred around the applications of panel data econometrics. Because panel data analysis can capture both cross-sectional and time-series variation, it is extremely important for research because it makes for more thorough and reliable analysis than other approaches. Attendees gained a stronger understanding of panel data analysis's potential and use in empirical research thanks to Professor Padhan's insightful explanations of its nuances. Overall, the talk clarified how crucial panel data econometrics are to expanding our knowledge of intricate economic processes.



## SPOTLIGHT ON EVENTS

## **GUEST LECTURES**

### Dr. Naresh Chandra Sahu

The Department of Economics, Manipal University Jaipur, organized a guest lecture on Introduction to the Stock Market. Dr. Naresh Chandra Sahu from IIT Bhubaneswar, a renowned expert in finance who shared insights with the students. He explained different types of stocks, the dynamics of the market, including buying and selling processes, and various investment strategies for portfolio diversification. Concluding with a humorous remark about the risk-return relationship, Dr. Sahu left the audience with a better understanding of the stock market. The students found the lecture informative and engaging, and many expressed their interest in learning more about the stock market.

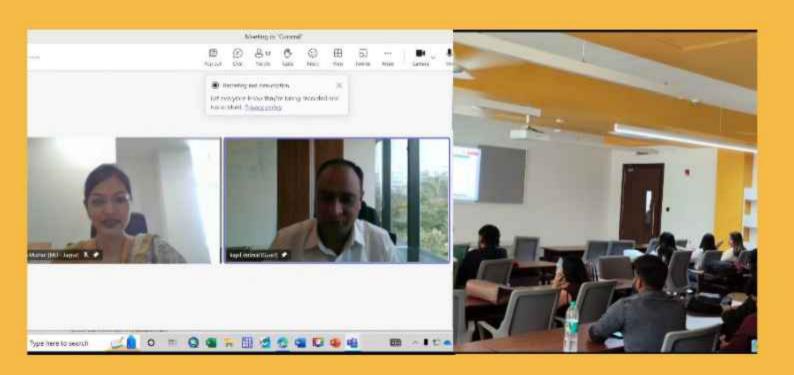


## SPOTLIGHT ON EVENTS

## **GUEST LECTURES**

## Dr. Kapil Shrimal

The Department of Economics organized a guest lecture on the topic "Financial Markets" for final-year students, featuring Dr. Kapil Shrimal, Associate Professor at the National Institute of Securities Markets, as the distinguished speaker. Dr. Shrimal provided comprehensive guidance on key terminologies associated with financial markets, the mechanics of securities trading, and strategies for making informed investment decisions. Such lectures are regularly organized by the department to offer students practical insights into real-world challenges and to enhance their understanding of the financial sector.



## FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

## ATMANIRBHAR BHARAT THROUGH ENTREPRENEURIAL START-UPS

The Department of Economics in collaboration with Atal Incubation Centre - Manipal University Jaipur and NITTTR Chandigarh, organized a One-Week Faculty Development Programme on "Atmanirbhar Bharat through Entrepreneurial Start-ups." The program aimed to equip faculty with essential knowledge of startups and entrepreneurship, aligning with India's growing emphasis on innovation and entrepreneurship. Recognizing the critical role of faculty in guiding students and fostering innovative teaching, the initiative provided participants with the skills and insights needed to contribute to the entrepreneurial ecosystem.



### INDUSTRIAL VISIT

### **BHAMASHAH TECHNO HUB**

In collaboration with NITTTR Chandigarh, the Department of Economics organized a field visit as part of the Faculty Development Program on "Atmanirbhar Bharat." Faculty explored the Bhamashah Techno Hub in Jaipur, Rajasthan's largest startup incubation hub, to learn about government-supported resources for emerging startups and promote entrepreneurship. They also visited The Digital Museum and Tinkering Lab, which featured interactive technologies like VR and robotics. The visit offered valuable insights into fostering innovation, economic empowerment, and self-reliance.



## SOCIAL CONNECT ACTIVITY

### Vikasini Vittiya Saksharta

A social connect activity on financial literacy for women of the slums called Vikasini Vittiya Saksharta was organised by the Department of Economics, Manipal University, Jaipur, on 15 April, 2024. In addition to interacting with the women from 14 slums, the students performed a nukkad natak for them. Additionally, they learned about the women's familiarity with a variety of government programs, contemporary legal documents, and fundamental bank operations. The women participated fully in all activities that were assigned to them and were highly engaging. For everyone involved, it was a brandnew, educational, and incredible experience.



### DR. MONIKA MATHUR

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AND HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT



#### Message for the upcoming batch:

Students have chosen a contemporary and promising field with economics, offering not only strong career prospects but also enhancing critical thinking and practical understanding of the real world. It impacts all aspects of life, not just calculations. By dedicating full effort, students will see positive outcomes. Welcome to the Department of Economics, Manipal University Jaipur.

#### Initial attraction to Economics:

I was initially not well-informed and pursued both Economics and English literature. Over time, I found economics to be practical and engaging, which led to pursuing a Master's in economics. A natural inclination towards teaching, evident through peer instruction during undergraduate and postgraduate years, ultimately directed me towards an academic career over corporate opportunities.

#### Influence of professors or mentors:

A first-year professor, now the Vice Chancellor of the University of Rajasthan, greatly influenced me by encouraging me to pursue honors in economics. During the Master's program, two professors played key roles in providing a thorough understanding of the subject, emphasizing the importance of practical and accurate knowledge.

#### Key positions held in the field:

I handled various administrative roles, including managing timetables, exams, and coordinating with universities. I served as Deputy Director of the Entrepreneurship Cell, overseeing start-up applications and mentoring students. Additionally, I am the faculty coordinator of the Enactus Club and have served as the Head of the Department for three years.

#### Pivotal moments in the career:

Deciding not to move outside of Rajasthan slowed career progression, but I have no regrets, as this decision was made in favor of personal happiness and work-life balance over a purely career-driven path.

#### Significant research projects:

I have conducted a research study on immunization policy, in collaboration with a scholar, which was a pioneering cost-benefit analysis in India. This study highlighted the issue of undervaccination in the country, despite the Universal Immunization Program. My Ph.D. in Health Economics also involved significant expenditure analysis based on primary data collected from hospitals.

#### Important career lessons learned:

I always emphasize on pursuing work which is driven by passion, as genuine efforts are recognized. I believe positivity and altruism are important in fostering respect and betterment for others, with personal integrity at the core of professional interactions.

#### Advice on staying updated in Economics:

Students should prioritize in-depth reading from reliable news sources over social media and quick articles. Developing the ability to distinguish between relevant and irrelevant information is essential. Reading and traveling can broaden perspectives, and returning to foundational knowledge is critical.

#### Future career goals:

Currently, I do not have specific long-term career goals; instead, my focus is on continuous work with dedication and sincerity. I am satisfied with my current position and open to future opportunities, whatever they may be.

#### DR. SHILPI GUPTA

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR



During my undergraduate studies in Economics with a minor in Statistics, I had the privilege of being mentored by an exceptional faculty whose dedication to teaching deeply influenced my academic path. Their blend of theoretical knowledge with practical application was transformative. Through rigorous coursework, projects, and insightful discussions, they ensured that we not only understood key concepts but also learned how to apply them in real-world contexts. What distinguished my education was the strong emphasis on cultivating a research-oriented mindset. My professors encouraged us to engage deeply with academic literature, prioritizing books and scholarly articles over quick online searches, fostering critical thinking and an appreciation for thorough research. Their unwavering support and commitment to our growth were evident in every lecture and piece of feedback, shaping my academic excellence. I am deeply grateful for the foundation they provided, which has equipped me to tackle challenges with confidence and curiosity.

## Pioneers of Knowledge: Research Scholar Reflections

#### **ASHIMA SHARMA**

As a child, I was always wanting to become a teacher. I would often drape myself in my mother's saree, standing in front of the class and delivering lectures. Those moments of imaginary teaching were my earliest steps toward the dream I now live. When I was in 9th grade, I first encountered the subject of Economics, and the first lesson on "demand and supply" immediately resonated with me. It was exciting for me to think about all the times I have seen the rise in onions or potato prices and finally learn the "why" behind it all. With each new concept, my excitement in the subject grew further. Economics wasn't just on the pages of my book, but it was in my daily routine every time I was shopping or overhearing discussions about money, markets, or resources.



After my 12th grade, I knew I had to opt for Economics, and I was admitted for Economics Honours at MCM DAV College Chandigarh. Little did I know it would set me on a path full of excitement and learning. By the time I was about to complete my Honours, I knew I had to crack Panjab University for my master's in economics. The journey wasn't that smooth. I had to constantly challenge myself. I prepared for everything that could lead me to get admission to the prestigious University.

My hard work paved the way when I finally got admission in the Panjab University. Walking onto the campus and sitting on the same bench where Dr. Manmohan Singh once sat, studied, and later taught, achieved great success from there, this thought motivated me even further to pursue Economics. After my master's I cleared UGC NET exam and taught for a short span at ICFAI University Himachal Pradesh. I then took a leap and joined Manipal University Jaipur as a researcher.

It's amazing to see a choice that I made in my 12th standard has developed into a rewarding journey. From the classrooms of MCM DAV to the halls of Panjab University and now teaching and researching at Manipal University, Economics has been the constant thing.

The journey is far from over, there is still so much to answer. I look forward to where this journey will take me next.

## Pioneers of Knowledge: Research Scholar Reflections

#### **DEVANSHI KAPOOR**

As a little girl after coming back from school, I would bring all my stuffed toys, make them sit on my bed on their assigned seats, note down their names in my notebook, dress up like my teacher and teach my students all I had learnt in school that day. As time passed my inclination towards teaching and learning new concepts and ideas grew manifold.

I am someone who believes that one should have a strong 'Why' before taking any important decision of life as that is something which drives us to go ahead on days when we lack motivation and struggle to perform our basic tasks like getting up from the bed. As it is well said, "The only way to do great work is to love what you do." With that said pursuing



PhD was one of the quickest decisions I made because I was confident that my passion and desire to contribute original and meaningful insights to the field of economics is something that not only excites me but makes me happy at the end of the day. Pursing a PhD is like sitting on a roller-coaster, not wearing a seat belt and having absolutely no clue about the top speed of the ride. As a researcher I face new challenges and hurdles each and everyday. Somedays I am confused with the difference between 'references' and 'bibliography', somedays I don't understand the difference between a 'variable' and an 'indicator'; the list goes on and on. As a research scholar there are endless opportunities for intellectual growth and specialisation along with various platforms to collaborate and learn from the leading experts provided you are ready to step out of your comfort zone and stay optimistic.

As a PhD scholar at Manipal University Jaipur, I am and will forever be grateful to my guide Dr. Shilpi Gupta and each and every member of the Department of Economics for their exceptional support and guidance. MUJ's dedication and diligence towards academics has been instrumental in shaping my academic journey. I strongly feel that in the current times one should try and grow academically but should also work on acquiring the required skillset to become ready for the challenging future ahead.

# From Aspiration to Achievement: My Academic Voyage

#### JYOTIRMAY SINGH RATHORE

Hey there! I'm Jyotirmay Singh Rathore, a 5th-semester student pursuing a bachelor's degree in economics with a minor in statistics at Manipal University. Confession time: I wasn't exactly a star student in school. More of a middle-bencher, content to observe the class from a comfortable distance. Extracurricular activities were my jam, the stage where I truly came alive. But there was one subject that struck fear in my heart - math. It felt like a devil in disguise, filled with formulas that danced around my head like taunting gremlins.

However, overcoming challenges is what makes life interesting, right? As I grew older, the fear of math slowly dissipated.

This newfound confidence became crucial when I made a lifealtering decision: pursuing the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IBDP) after 10th grade.



While the journey wasn't always smooth sailing, I emerged with a newfound respect for math and, more importantly, a clearer vision for my future. This newfound clarity had a name: economics. The credit goes entirely to my phenomenal high school economics teacher. Her classes were anything but boring. They were vibrant discussions, battlegrounds of ideas where we dissected the world around us. It was in these discussions that economics transformed from a subject to a captivating story – a story about how societies function, resources are allocated, and decisions are made.

This spark of interest led me to Manipal University, where I'm currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in economics with a minor in statistics (yes, even more mathl). The professors here share the same passion for interactive learning. Gone are the days of rote memorization. Instead, we embark on educational trips, participate in seminars with industry experts, and even delve into the real world through research projects. Take, for instance, our current assignment in welfare economics. Divided into teams, we've been assigned different government policies. Our mission? To head out to nearby villages and assess their impact firsthand. Are people even aware of these policies? How are they affecting lives on the ground? This hands-on approach is what makes learning at Manipal so rewarding. We bridge the gap between theory and practice, understanding how economic concepts play out in real communities.

But Manipal isn't just about academics. It is about transformation. Here, the introvert I once was has blossomed into an active participant in the university community. My classmates would probably laugh out loud if they heard this now, but trust me, it's truel I've found a home in various clubs, each one pushing me outside my comfort zone and helping me develop new skills.

### From Aspiration to Achievement: My Academic Voyage

Marksoc, on the other hand, brought out my business acumen. As the Promotion and Membership Head, I spearheaded campaigns to promote events ranging from hilarious stand-up comedy shows to thought-provoking seminars featuring international speakers. Leading a team, ensuring sold-out events, and brainstorming innovative ways to boost the club's presence - these were just some of the challenges I tackled. Marksoc wasn't just about marketing; it was about building connections and honing leadership skills.

My involvement didn't stop there. I also had the privilege of being part of the Directorate of Alumni Relations (DOAR). Here, I connected with successful Manipal alumni, gaining valuable insights and building a network that will undoubtedly benefit me in the future. Adding to this diverse experience, I served as the Marketing Head (Core Committee) of Oneiros'24, our college's annual fest.

Currently, I'm part of the organizing team for a university-organized international conference. Participating and organizing in such a wide range of activities – from department-driven seminars to modeling, debates, stand-up shows, and conferences – has been instrumental in shaping me into the person I am today. Even debates, which used to terrify me with stage fright, became an opportunity to confront my fears. Sure, I didn't win every debate, but the act of standing up there and fighting for my points, well, that was a victory in itself.

These experiences haven't just helped me hone my skills and personality, but they've also led to countless connections that I'll always be grateful for.

Looking ahead, the future is an open canvas. I have plans, but I'm choosing the right path carefully. Perhaps, like Robert Frost, I'll take the road less travelled. One thing's for sure, this journey from middle bench to economics enthusiast has been incredible. Who knows, maybe I'll be back at Manipal someday, inspiring others! The possibilities are endless, and I'm ready to embrace them all with the same enthusiasm and gratitude I have now.





# Echoes of Excellence: Alumni Reflections

## MOHIT KUMAR (2020-23)

"Gratitude is the fairest blossom which springs from the soul."

In the journey of academic pursuit, there are milestones that leave an indelible mark, shaping our path forward with clarity and purpose. To the Department of Economics at Manipal University Jaipur, i extend my heartfelt appreciation for being the architects of such milestones in my academic odyssey.



Manipal's commitment to excellence in infrastructure, meticulously crafted syllabi, and the brilliance of of faculty of economics dept. have not only imparted knowledge but have ignited a passion for the subject of economics within me. It is through my teachers guidance and support that i have not only conquered competitive exams but continue to thrive in the realms of economic marketplace and analysis.

As I reflect on my journey thus far, I am reminded of the countless hours spent delving into economic theories, analyzing real-world phenomena, and engaging in intellectually stimulating discussions—all made possible by the nurturing environment Manipal has cultivated, along with progressive connections with faculties and their helping nature.

In this season of gratitude, I pause to express my deepest thanks for the invaluable experiences, the unwavering support, and the endless opportunities manipal has provided from academic as well as non - academic realms ,teachers dedication to academic excellence has equipped me with the tools to navigate the complexities of the economic landscape with confidence and conviction.

As I embark on new adventures and embrace the challenges that lie ahead, I carry with me the lessons learned and the wisdom imparted by the Department of Economics at Manipal University Jaipur. With profound gratitude, i extend our sincerest thanks for shaping not only our academic journey but our future endeavors as well.

## The Thought Lab: Scholarly Articles

#### Behavioral economics as a discipline.

#### What is behavioral economics?

Behavioral economics is grounded in empirical observations of human behavior, which have demonstrated that people do not always make what neoclassical economists consider the "rational" or "optimal" decision, even if they have the information and the tools available to do so.

For example, why do people often avoid or delay investing in 401ks or exercising, even if they know that doing those things would benefit them? And why do gamblers often risk more after both winning and losing, even though the odds remain the same, regardless of "streaks"?

By asking questions like these and identifying answers through experiments, the field of behavioral economics considers people as human beings who are subject to emotion and impulsivity and who are influenced by their environments and circumstances.

Several principles have emerged from behavioral economics research that have helped economists better understand human economic behavior. From these principles, governments and businesses have developed policy frameworks to encourage people to make particular choices.

#### Applications of Behavioral Economics:

#### Financial Markets

One field in which behavioral economics can be applied to is behavioral finance, which seeks to explain why investors make rash decisions when trading in the capital markets. Much like how poker professionals not only study the mathematics and odds of poker, they also attempt to capitalize on the irrational nature of other players. The same can be said of financial markets.

#### Game Theory

When a decision made leads to error, heuristics can lead to cognitive bias. Behavioral game theory, an emergent class of game theory, can also be applied to behavioral economics, as game theory runs experiments and analyzes people's decisions to make irrational choices. This concept attempts to override illogical behavior to predict consumption outcomes.

#### Product Packaging and Distribution

Consider a soap manufacturer who produces the same soap but markets them in two different packages to appeal to multiple target groups. One package advertises the soap for all soap users, the other for consumers with sensitive skin. The latter target would not have purchased the product if the package did not specify that the soap was for sensitive skin. They opt for the soap with the sensitive skin label even though it's the exact same product in the general package.

In Conclusion, Behavioral economics is the study of psychology as it relates to the economic decision-making processes of individuals and institutions. Behavioral economics is often related with normative economics. It draws on psychology and economics to explore why people sometimes make irrational decisions and why and how behavior diverges from the predictions of economic models.

Mahi Ghosh

B.A. (Hons.) Economics Vth Semester

## The Thought Lab: Scholarly Articles

#### INVEST IN THE INDIA STORY

Amid growing global economic uncertainty, several major economies are facing significant challenges. The UK has been dealing with prolonged economic weakness and has been under a constant threat of recession. Similarly, larger economies like Japan and the USA are struggling with persistent inflation, which has pushed interest rates higher and strained their economic systems. Meanwhile, China continues to grapple with post-COVID recovery challenges, further complicating its path to sustained growth.

On the other hand, Indian economy had grown at a rate of 8.4% during the October-December quarter of FY24, as per the data released by the Statistics Ministry on 29 February. India is currently the fifth largest economy in the world by nominal GDP and is expected to become world's third largest economy by 2027.

The robust GDP growth of the nation shows its economic strength and potential. This will also have a positive impact on corporate earnings and eventually on the stock market.

India's stock market, the fifth largest in the world, currently stands at a market capitalization of US\$4,574.606 billion and is expected to reach US\$10 trillion in market size by 2030.

The key benchmark indices of the Indian stock market, namely BSE and NIFTY 50, surged to record high levels in FY24 by increasing 26% & 30%, respectively. Whereas midcap and small cap stocks have emerged as favourites among Indian retail investors in FY24, and as a result, midcap and small cap indices have reached unprecedented levels by surging over 65% & 75%, respectively.

As the world's fastest-growing global economy with the world's largest young population, India is an attractive consumer market and high-growth domestic companies with strong governance and attractive valuations are a big draw for foreign investors.

More important, the market has emerged to become "Atmanirbhar" as the domestic institutional investors (DII's) continue to play the role of "The Wall" for the Indian equity market. The rise in participation of retail investors in domestic stock markets cushioned the impact of FII selling post-Covid. At times of foreign selling, MF, a strong stem of DII, has generated ₹17,000 crore per month on average through the systematic investment plan (SIP) route in FY24, which has emerged as the top instrument for the equity exposure for the average retail investors. The Indian investors have shown a great deal of faith in the Indian stock market despite the contrary beliefs of the foreign investors.

So the message to every Indian stands very evident: INVEST IN THE INDIA STORY!

Harsh Dadhich B.A.(Hons.) Economics IIIrd Semester

## MOMENTS IN TIME



## **DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS**

