Behavioural Insights for Policy
Fellowship

CLASS OF 2021

A 3-month immersive leadership development programme in theoretical and applied behavioural insights.

15 October 2021 - 15 January 2022

Led by the Behavioural Insights Unit at NITI Aayog

Aanchal Sharrma
Busara Center for Behavioral Economics
Aanchal Sharrma is an Economics and Psychology graduate from Ashoka University. She has a background in economic and policy research, data analysis, behavioural design, analytical strategy, advisory and consulting. Her professional interests lie in applying behavioural science in development, public health, energy, and sustainability. Outside of this, she is interested in all things social work, visual arts, cold-brewed coffee, and deep-sea diving.

Akanksha Pandey
Gartner
Akanksha Pandey is a senior research specialist at Gartner and has a background in Sociology. Her work involves conducting research to identify and address people and process challenges that stall digital transformation at organisations. Over time, she would like to work in the public health sector, specifically contributing to efforts that better women and child development. She enjoys reading, watching movies of all kinds, and exploring unusual places to eat in her spare time.

Akarshik Banerjee
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Akarshik Banerjee has a Master's in Economics. He has experience in strategy consultation and ML model development in the domains of retail and media at EXL. He also has experience with AIRB and IFRS9 model development projects for wholesale portfolios across major European regions at HSBC. Currently, he is pursuing a PhD in Consumer Behaviour and Family Economics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Ayushi Biyani
Quicksand Design Studio
Ayushi Biyani is a design researcher and strategist and believes in an interdisciplinary and human-centred approach to solving complex social problems. Her experience of working at the grassroots, combined with her background in economics and liberal studies, drove her towards the field of public policy and social innovation. She currently works across multiple domains with a deep interest in driving impact at scale while focusing on the voices of underserved communities.

Bhaveshi Agarwal
India Behavioural Economics Network (IBEN)
Bhaveshi Agarwal is passionate about going beyond traditional economic models by combining insights from multiple social science disciplines. Being an avid researcher, she is zealous about converting research results into real-life interventions. With her interest in behavioural science research, she has authored several research projects over 4 years. Helping people and organisations tell their stories by making sense of data is what motivates her.

Ishwari Sonawane
The Behavioural Science Dialogues
Ishwari comes from an intersectional background in sociology, political science and economics, and is completing her last year of graduation at St. Xavier's College. She works with The BSDialogues and is the Indian representative at SAESM 2021. Her research interests lie in fields like governance, welfare, gender and human behaviour. She has a keen interest in behavioural science, experimental economics, policymaking processes and hopes to explore the field of evidence-based policymaking.

Manish Ratna
Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI)
Manish is an Associate with CHAI, where he supports the Bihar government's health department to strengthen the immunisation system. He has previously helped the government of Madhya Pradesh and NCCVMRC-NIHFW undertake initiatives to improve the immunisation supply chain. Before CHAI, Manish was a Business Analyst at Tata Strategic Management Group (TSMG) and has a rich consulting experience with large industrial clients. He graduated with a B.Tech. from IIT Bombay in 2015.

Mihika Sharma
Piramal Corporate Services Ltd.
Mihika has been passionate about behavioural economics since her undergraduate days and has actively sought opportunities to do research in this domain. In behavioural finance, she has explored the role of home country bias in foreign investments. In public policy, she has worked on projects to devise behavioural interventions to address cleanliness issues and increase women's financial inclusion. Currently, she works as a macroeconomist. To rejuvenate, she watches documentaries and listens to podcasts.

Mudita Agarwal
Icarus Nova Pvt. Ltd.
Mudita is a Graphic Designer by degree but prefers not being siloed into any specific role. She is a strong believer in the power of co-creation, especially with communities that can help make design richer, and hence more impactful - culturally and contextually. Mudita enjoys exploring visual mediums and making sense of learnings from the field as an 'embryonic' researcher. When away from her desk, you can find her learning Spanish or indulging in board games.

Nilanjana Bargotra
LEAD, Delhi
An economist by training, with dual masters from LSE and MSE.

Payaswani Sanadhya
India Behavioural Economics Network (IBEN)
Payaswani Sanadhya is a third-year economics undergrad at NMIMS Mumbai. She trained in behavioural science for three months training at 1001 Stories and currently holds the position of Director of Events Execution at IBEN. Besides that, she is the Editor-in-Chief of her college magazine and also runs a personal blog. She enjoys nourishing a growth mindset, training herself in asking the right questions, presenting ideas in an organised form, and observing and listening to people.

Pritha Chakraborty
K.R. Mangalam University
Pritha Chakraborty is an Economics graduate from New Delhi who seeks to understand the causes and effects of economic underprivilege to strike a balance between the needs and possibilities in policymaking, especially in areas of unequal access. A research internship on the demographic and fiscal imbalance in North-East India and thesis on "Correlation between India's female labour force and fertility rate" widened her exposure to the neglect faced by certain sections of society.

Puloma Chakrabarty
Central Square Foundation
Puloma Chakrabarty was a Management Consultant at PwC India and worked there for 3 years. She is currently a Project Consultant at Central Square Foundation. She is one of the youngest in the cohort for CSF's Education Impact Leadership Program (EILP) to drive Foundational Literacy & Numeracy under the National Education Policy 2020. Puloma is a former professional dancer with 10+ years of experience and was selected by Y-Combinator for an invite-only Future Female Founders Conference.

Rutuja Rajesh Morankar
Aditya Birla Group
Rutuja is a passionate corporate economist working with one of the leading conglomerates in India. Previously, she worked with a ratings agency and a foreign policy think tank. Rutuja is a novice and enthusiast of behavioural economics. In her free time, she loves backpacking and ballroom dancing.

Sarah Tanishka Nethan
Vihara Innovation Network
A Social Design Researcher, Sarah works at the intersection of participatory design and Behavioral Science. Over the years, she has developed human-centric solutions for various development challenges around MNCH, SRH, planetary health, gender, education and sustainability. An advocate for inclusion and Human-Centered Design, she is deeply passionate about building pragmatic solutions at the confluence of local wisdom and Design that bridge the social-development equity gap within communities.

Sarayu Agarwal
Aga Khan Foundation

Sarayu is an innovation consultant who brings human-centred design and systems thinking to complex problems for social impact and international development. She is a recent graduate of Royal College of Art, London and currently works at the Aga Khan Foundation, USA. She is passionate about championing the end communities, bringing their lived experiences to the forefront to inform decision-makers, building a shared understanding of ambiguous problems, and co-designing breakthrough innovations.

Sravan Patchala
Qualcomm India

Sravan is a graduate of IIT Bombay who majored in Electrical Engineering. He is currently working in an engineering role at Qualcomm Bangalore in the ADAS DSP team. His research interests are in the areas of learning, game theory, and network economics. He is extremely passionate about technology and football, frequently tinkering at the intersection of both.

Sundus Usmani
NCAER

Sundus Usmani is a Research Analyst at the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), in the Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF) Chair Unit on Regulation and Programme of Economic and Regulatory Research. She is an economist by training and a public policy professional. Her research interests include public finance, regulation and development economics. Sundus holds a master's degree in economics from Jamia Millia Islamia Islamia, New Delhi.

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