

## Conference Speakers



**Honorable Nitish Kumar** is the Chief Minister of Bihar. He was first elected to the Bihar Legislative Assembly in 1985. In 1989 he was elected to the Lok Sabha, where he was subsequently re-elected for six consecutive terms. Besides being a member of numerous parliamentary committees during his stint in the Lok Sabha, he also served as the Union Cabinet Minister for Railways, Surface Transport, and Agriculture. He was elected Chief Minister of Bihar in 2005, and in that position he has placed great emphasis on development and governance by emphasizing infrastructure projects like bridges and roads, and by appointing teachers and doctors. He has a B.Sc. in Engineering from Bihar College of Engineering, Patna.



**Honorable Sushil Kumar Modi** is the Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar. He also holds the Finance and Commercial Tax department portfolio. During 1990-2004 he was a member of the Bihar Legislative Assembly for three terms. During 1996-2004 he was the leader of the Opposition in the Bihar Legislative Assembly. In 2000 he was the minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Government of Bihar. In 2004 he was elected to the 14th Lok Sabha where he was a member of the Committee on Water Resources and the Committee on Public Undertakings. He has a B.Sc. (Honors) degree from Patna University.



**Honorable N.K. Singh** is a Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) from Bihar. Prior to this, he was the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Board of Bihar in the rank of Cabinet Minister. While in the Indian Administrative Service (I.A.S.), he served in the central government and Bihar including as Member of the Planning Commission of India, Secretary to the Prime Minister and the O.K.'s Economic Advisory Council, Revenue and Expenditure Secretary of India, Secretary of Industrial Development and Irrigation in Government of Bihar, and Chairman of the Group for economic strategy for U.P., Uttaranchal, Maharashtra and Sikkim. He has a B.A. from University of Delhi and an M.A. in economics from Delhi School of Economics.



**Anup Mukerji** is the Chief Secretary of Bihar. He belongs to the 1974 batch of the Indian Administrative Service (I.A.S.). He has served in many districts of the state including Ranchi, Hazaribag, Samastipur, Lakhisarai and Gaya. He has worked as the Development Commissioner of Bihar and the Principal Secretary of many state departments including Rural Development, Food and Civil Supplies. He has also served as an Additional and Joint Secretary in many departments in Government of India including Defense, Industry and Commerce. He has a B.Sc. (Honors) degree, a Masters in Physics, and a Masters in Finance.



**Navin Kumar** is the Development Commissioner of Bihar. He belongs to the 1975 batch of the Indian Administrative Service (I.A.S.). He has served in many districts of the state including West Champaran. He has been the Principal Secretary and Secretary of many state departments including Finance and Program Implementation. He has also served as a Joint Secretary in many departments in Government of India including Finance and Industry, and as the Director General of Doordarshan. He has a Masters degree in Physics.



**Bhanu Pratap Sharma** is the Principal Secretary, Finance department of the Government of Bihar. He belongs to the 1981 batch of the Indian Administrative Service (I.A.S.). He has served in many districts of the state including Samastipur. He has been the Principal Secretary of state departments including Health, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries, Agriculture and Sugarcane. He has also served as a Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in Government of India and Director in Cabinet Secretariat. He has a B.Sc. (Honors) degree, a Post Graduate Diploma in Business Administration and an M.Phil. from Madras University.



**Rameshwar Singh** is the Principal Secretary, Planning and Development department of the Government of Bihar. He belongs to the 1983 batch of the Indian Administrative Service (I.A.S.). He has served in many districts of the state including Begusarai and Bhagalpur. His experience at the state government level has been mainly in Finance, Planning and Electricity Board. He has B.A. and M.A. degrees in Economics and Masters in Public Economic Management.

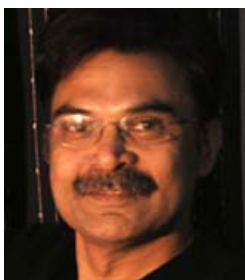


**Rajesh Bhushan** is the Director of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and the Secretary of Information and Public Relations Department of the Government of Bihar. He belongs to the 1987 batch of the Indian Administrative Service (I.A.S.). He has served in many districts of the state including Kaimur (Bhabua), and Saran. He has worked in many state departments including Transport, Tourism and Urban Development. He has also served as a Director in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in Government of India. He has B.A. and M.A. degrees in History.

### *Other than Government of Bihar:*



**Michael Anderson** is Head of the India Program for the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID), where he is responsible for grants of \$500 million a year devoted to achieving the Millennium Development Goals. He is a keen visitor to Bihar, which is one of DFID's key focal states in India. Before joining DFID in 2003 he taught at the London School of Economics, was Director of Studies at the British Institute of International and Comparative Law, and co-founded Bazian Ltd., a company specializing in evidence-based policy.



**Gyanendra Badgaiyan** is the Director of J-PAL's South Asia Office. He is a member of the Indian Administrative Service (I.A.S.) from where he is currently on deputation to J-PAL South Asia at IFMR. In the I.A.S., he has served in numerous positions including as the head of the district administration in Dadra Nagar Haveli and Delhi. Subsequently, he served as Secretary to a Chief Minister and as Secretary to many departments in various administrations in the country. Prior to joining J-PAL he was the executive head of a prominent national level non-profit trust in Delhi. He did his M.A. in economics at the Delhi School of Economics, and M.Phil. in economics from Trinity College, Cambridge, U.K. before joining the I.A.S. After working for about a decade or so in the I.A.S. he earned his M.P.P. and Ph.D. in Public Policy from Princeton University.



**Abhijit Banerjee** is the Ford Foundation International Professor of Economics at M.I.T. In 2003 he founded J-PAL, along with Esther Duflo and Sendhil Mullainathan and remains one of the Directors of the lab. He is a past president of the Bureau for the Research in the Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD), a CEPR research fellow, a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Econometric Society and has been a Guggenheim Fellow and an Alfred P. Sloan Fellow. In 2009 he was awarded the inaugural Infosys Prize for outstanding contribution to scientific research in India. He has served as an Honorary Consultant to the Planning Commission of India. His areas of research are development economics and economic theory. He has authored two books as well as a large number of articles and is the editor of a third book. He was educated at the University of Calcutta, Jawaharlal Nehru University and Harvard University, where he received his Ph.D. in economics in 1988.



**Rukmini Banerji** is the Director of Programs for the Pratham Mumbai Education Initiative. Initially trained as an economist in India, Rukmini was a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University and completed her Ph.D. at the University of Chicago. Currently, Rukmini is responsible for Pratham's work in several major states in north India. She is also a lead member of the team that conducts ASER (Annual Status of Education Report), the largest annual study ever done by Indian citizens to monitor the status of elementary education in the country. In 2008, this citizen's audit reached over 7,04,000 children in 16,198 villages of India and has been widely recognized for its innovative use of citizens' participation in understanding and improving the delivery of basic services.



**Anjali Bhardwaj** is the Director of Satark Nagrik Sangathan (SNS), which is a part of the Right to Information (RTI) movement in India and is a member of the Working Committee of the National Campaign for Peoples' Right to Information. Before setting up SNS, she worked on development issues at various organizations including the World Bank. She received her M.Sc. in Environmental Management at Oxford and her M.A. in economics from the Delhi School of Economics. In 2009 she was awarded the Ashoka Fellowship in recognition of her work using the RTI Act to ensure transparency and accountability.



**Robin Burgess** is the Director of the Economic Organization and Public Policy Program and a Professor of Economics at the London School of Economics, and a member of J-PAL. His areas of research interest include development economics, public economics, political economy, labor economics and environmental economics. He has published on a variety of topics – natural disasters, mass media, rural banks, land reform, labor regulation, industrial policy, taxation, poverty and growth. He is co-Director of the International Growth Center (IGC), Program Director of the Development Economics Program at the Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR), a Senior Fellow of the Bureau for Research in the Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD), and a Faculty Research Fellow at the National Bureau for Economic Research (NBER). He received a B.Sc. in Biological Sciences from Edinburgh University, a M.Sc. in economics from the LSE and a D.Phil. in economics from Oxford University.



**Iqbal Dhaliwal** is the Director of Policy for J-PAL globally. He works with policy makers in governments, international development organizations, and NGOs to communicate the policy implications of J-PAL's research, identify new field evaluations and implement the scale-up of successful programs. He works with J-PAL researchers to create cost-effectiveness analyses that compare the policy outcomes and costs of various development programs. Earlier, he was a Director in the Economic Analysis practice of a global consulting firm, and a member of the Indian Administrative Service (I.A.S.) where he worked as the Chairman of a state company, Director of a Welfare department, Deputy Secretary in the Secretariat, and Sub Collector in the field. He received the Director's Gold Medal for standing 1<sup>st</sup> in the All India Civil Services exam for selection into I.A.S. and training at the LBS National Academy of Administration. He received a B.A. (Honors) degree in economics from University of Delhi, an M.A. in economics from the Delhi School of Economics and an M.P.A. from Princeton University.



**Esther Duflo** is the Abdul Latif Jameel Professor of Poverty Alleviation and Development Economics at M.I.T., and a founding director of J-PAL. She is an NBER Research Associate, serves on the board of the Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD), and is Director of the Center of Economic Policy Research's development economics program. Her research focuses on microeconomic issues in developing countries, including household behavior, education, finance, and health. She has received numerous academic honors and prizes including a MacArthur Fellowship (2009), the American Economic Association's Elaine Bennett Prize for Research (2003), the "Best French Young Economist Prize" (2005), the Médaille de Bronze (2005), and the Prix Luc Durand-Reville (2008). She completed her undergraduate studies at L'Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris, received an M.A. from DELTA, and completed a Ph.D. in economics at M.I.T.



**Rachel Glennerster** is the Executive Director of J-PAL. Her research includes randomized evaluations of health and education in India, girls' empowerment in Bangladesh, and community driven development in Sierra Leone. She oversees J-PAL's work to translate research findings into policy action and helped establish Deworm the World, of which she is a board member. She sits on the U.K. government's Department for International Development's (DFID) Independent Advisory Committee on Development Impact. Before joining J-PAL, she worked on debt relief and the reform of the international monetary system at the International Monetary Fund (I.M.F.), and financial regulation at the Harvard Institute for International Development and the U.K. Treasury. In the mid 1990s she was part of the U.K. delegation to the I.M.F. and World Bank. She has a Ph.D. in economics from Birkbeck College, University of London, and is coauthor of "Strong Medicine: Creating Incentives for Pharmaceutical Research on Neglected Diseases."



**Neelima Khetan** is the Chief Executive of Seva Mandir, an NGO based in Udaipur, which focuses on governance, livelihoods, and human capabilities in tribal villages. She has an advanced degree from the Institute of Rural Management, Anand, and has served on the boards of numerous NGOs and government committees. For her sustained contribution to the field of development, she has been awarded the Laxmipat Singhania-IIM Lucknow National Leadership Award, as well as the Maharana Mewar Award for work of permanent value to society through service and philanthropy.



**Karthik Muralidharan** is a faculty member in the Department of Economics at the University of California, San Diego and a member of J-PAL. He is an NBER Faculty Research Fellow and an affiliate of the Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD), and the Center of Evaluation for Global Action (CEGA). His research focuses on microeconomic issues in developing countries, including human capital, education, health, public service delivery, and policy evaluation. He completed his undergraduate studies in economics at Harvard University (*summa cum laude*) in 1998, received an M.Phil in economics from Cambridge University (UK) where he was ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in the degree program, and his Ph.D. in economics at Harvard University in 2007. He has received numerous honors and fellowships including the Justice, Welfare, and Economics Fellowship, the Bradley Fellowship, the Spencer Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, and the Stevenson Prize at Cambridge University.



**Rohini Pande** is the Mohammed Kamal Professor of Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School and a member of J-PAL. She is an NBER Research Associate and serves on the board of the Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD) and the Committee on the Status of Women in the Economic Profession (CSWEP). Her research focuses on the economic analysis of the politics and consequences of different forms of redistribution, principally in developing countries. Prior to joining Harvard University, she was an Associate Professor of Economics at Yale University. She has taught at Yale University, M.I.T., and Columbia. A Rhodes Scholar, she is the recipient of several NSF and other research

grants. She holds a Ph.D. and M.Sc. in Economics from the London School of Economics, an M.A. in Philosophy, Politics and Economics from Oxford, and a B.A. in Economics from St. Stephens College, Delhi University.



**Nina Singh** is a 1989 batch IPS officer currently posted as Inspector General of Police (Planning and Welfare) in Rajasthan Police where her responsibilities include resource management, modernization and welfare of the state police. She has worked in various assignments across the state and acquired in-depth knowledge of police administration, crime investigation and maintenance of law and order. She also worked as Member-Secretary of Rajasthan State Commission for Women, a watchdog to protect the rights and interests of women. She has been closely associated with various police reform initiatives in Rajasthan. She has been decorated with the

President's Police Medal for Meritorious Service and is recipient of the Indira Gandhi Priyadarshini Award for outstanding contribution to the society and Nari Shakti Samman for being a symbol of womanpower. She did her M.A. from Jawaharlal Nehru University and M.P.A. from Harvard University, and has attended courses on evaluation of social programs at J-PAL, M.I.T.



**Sanjay Kumar Singh** completed his Masters degree from the Department of Labour and Social Welfare of Patna University in 1999, and joined Pratham. While with Pratham, he had the opportunity to study Education Technology at the University of Twente in Holland. Sanjay has been part of the core team that has taken Pratham from being a small urban program to a large-scale statewide partnership with the government in elementary education. He has headed Pratham's work in Bihar since 2005. He has extensive field experience both in program implementation

as well as content development, curriculum design and training.



**L.V. Subramanyam** is the Principal Secretary, Health, Medical and Family Welfare department of the Government of Andhra Pradesh. He belongs to the 1983 batch of the Indian Administrative Service (I.A.S.). He has served as the Collector and SDM in many districts of the state including Mahabubnagar. He has worked in many state departments including Infrastructure and Investment, Urban Development, and Youth Affairs and Sports. He has a B.A. degree in economics, and an M.A. in Political Science.



**Roberto Zaghera** is the Country Director for India for the World Bank. He was previously Senior Advisor in the World Bank Vice Presidency in charge of economic policies and poverty reduction strategies. His recent work consisted of a review of the growth experience of the 1990s, a two-year program whose results are summarized in three reports which review growth experiences, explore the current thinking on growth and the role of policies in growth strategies. Previous assignments in the Bank include Director for South Asia for the Bank department in charge of economic policies and poverty reduction in South Asia, Lead Economist for India, and several assignments in Central and East Africa, India, Sri Lanka, Argentina and Bolivia. He also was part of the core team for the World Development Report of 1991. Prior to joining the Bank Roberto Zaghera taught at the university of Sao Paulo, Brazil, and worked as senior economist in the Economic Research Institute associated to that university in areas related to taxation and fiscal policies.