Curriculum Vitae

Dr. Irfan Ahmad Sofi
Assistant Professor
Department of Economics
Islamic University of Science and Technology, Awantipora (J&K)
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Academic Qualification

Post-doctorate.:	Indian Institute of Technology (Guwahati)
Ph.D. Economics (2015):	Indian Institute of Technology (Indore)
UGC-NET Economics:	Qualified in 2012

Research Interests:

Labour and Industry; Development Economics

Fellowships

- Post-doctoral fellowship at IIT Guwahati.
- IIT Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) and IIT Senior Research Fellowship (SRF).

Post-PhD Teaching/Research Experience

- Assistant Professor (Permanent), IUST, Awantipora (J&K) from 17-11-2020 to till date.
- *Assistant Professor (*Permanent*),* BGSB University, Rajouri, Jammu & Kashmir, 30/08/2017 to 16-11-2020.
- *Economist,* Just Jobs Network, Green Park, New Delhi, 01/05/2017 to 28/08/2017.
- *Post-doctoral fellow,* IIT Guwahati, 02/05/2016 to 15/04/2017.
- *Assistant Professor (on contract),* Department of Economic Studies and Planning, Central University of Karnataka, 10/08/2015 to 15/03/2016.

Research Projects/Awards

S.N.	**Title of Research Project/Award**	**Grant/Award Amount in Rs.**	**Role**	**Funding Agency**
1	Skill gaps and evolving production structure: Evidence from India's pharmaceutical industry		PI	IIT Bombay under NPEI
2	Community-based home-stay tourism in Kashmir: Exploring its potential, vulnerabilities and challenges	15,00,000	PI	ICSSR, New Delhi
3	Examining the impact of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) on cooking fuel choice and the health of women in Jammu and Kashmir	7,55,000	PI	National Commission for Women, New Delhi
4	Impact of hiring and firing laws on factor productivity: A unit level analysis using judicial outcome Index	Rs. 6,00,000	PI	Azim Premji University, Bangluru
5	What role does the employment protection legislation play in wage determination under segmented labour markets? A state-level analysis	Rs. 10,00,000	PI	ICSSR, New Delhi
6	Labour Economics Award for Young South	Rs. 70,000	PI	South Asia

	Asian Scholars, 2015			Research Network

Publications (in Web of Science/Scopus)

1. Sofi, I. Hassan, R., Fazili, A.I. & Qadiri, M. (2025). Impact of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana: Evidence from Jammu and Kashmir. ***Economic and Political Weekly,*** Vol. 60(30), 53-60. https://shorturl.at/4DbDs

2. Sofi, I.A. (2025). Endogenous employment protection and total factor productivity: Plant-level evidence from India. ***Review of Development Economics.*** Publisher: Wiley https://doi.org/10.1111/rode.13247

3. Sofi, I.A., Ahmed, S., & Pazir, D. (2025). Gender diversity at the workplace and industrial productivity: Empirical evidence from Indian formal manufacturing sector – using unbalanced panel data and propensity score matching. ***The Journal of Quantitative Economics***, Vol. 23, 1-15. Publisher: Springer. https://rb.gy/l7eqh5

4. Bairwa, A.K. & Sofi, I.A. (2025). Unveiling social disparities in employment and wages: A labour market segmentation analysis of India's IT sector. ***International Journal of Social Economics,*** Vol 52, 1-20. Publisher: Emerald. https://rb.gy/voczq2

5. Sofi, I.A. (2022). What role does EPL play in wage determination under segmented labour markets? A state-level analysis from India's formal manufacturing sector. ***Margin – The Journal of Applied Economic Research,*** Vol. 16(3-4), 327-366. Publisher Sage. http://surl.li/otdomo

6. Sofi, I.A; Mehrotra, S; Reshi, A.H. (2022). Employment protection legislation and labour market outcomes: A unit analysis of the Indian manufacturing sector. ***Asian Journal of Law and Economics***, Vol. 13 (1):101-122. Publisher: Walter De Gruyter. https://rb.gy/b9jrrk

7. Sofi, I.A. &Kunroo, M.H. (2018). Demand shocks and employment adjustments: does employment protection legislation create rigidity? ***International Labour Review***, Vol. 157(3). *Publisher: Wiley-Blackwell.* https://goo.gl/6btuE6

8. Imran, A., Kunroo, M.H., &Sofi, IA. (2018). An RCA Analysis of India-China Trade Integration: Present, potential and prospects. ***Foreign Trade Review***, Vol. 53 (1), 1-10. *Publisher: Sage.* https://goo.gl/gNTXWV

9. Kunroo, M.H., Sofi, I.A., Khurana, M., &Mogha, S.K. (2017).Re-visiting the impact of the Euro on trade flows: new evidence using gravity equation with poisson count-data technique. ***Advances in Intelligent Systems and Computing***, Vol. 547, 229-239. *Publisher: Springer.* https://goo.gl/zyytA8

10. Kunroo, M. H., Sofi, I.A. & Ali, N. (2016).Trade implications of euro in EMU countries: A panel gravity analysis. ***Empirica – Journal of European Economics***, *Vol. 43* (2), 391-413. *Publisher: Springer.* https://goo.gl/mJKyAT

11. Sofi, I. A., Khan, M. I., & Kunroo. M. H. (2016). Labour market regulations and in- formalization of migrant worker: Evidence from Indian manufacturing sector. ***Asian Journal of Law and Economics,*** Vol. 7(2), 169-195. *Publisher: Walter De Gruyter.* https://goo.gl/jhbPZ6

12. Sofi, I.A. & Sharma, P. (2015). Does employment protection legislation matter in dualistic labour market? Panel evidences from Indian manufacturing sector. ***Labor Studies Journal***, Vol. 40 (2), 149-168. *Publisher: Sage.* https://goo.gl/bR7aKH

13. Sofi, I. A. & Sharma, P. (2015). Labour regulations, contractualisation, and industrial performance: three-dimensional panel evidences from Indian manufacturing sector. ***South Asia Economic Journal***, Vol. 16 (1), 122-144. *Publisher: Sage.* https://goo.gl/5ymSva

14. Sofi, I. A. & Sharma, P. (2015). Labour laws and informalisation of employment: evidences from formal Indian manufacturing sector. ***Asian Journal of Law and Economics***, Vol. 6 (1), 65-84.

Publisher: WalterDe Gruyter. https://goo.gl/tSCfVY

Selected Book Chapters with reputed Publishers

1. Mehrotra, S. & Sofi, I. (2024-25). "Education and the low-level equilibrium trap of UP Muslims: Are we mis-specifying the nature of the problem?" In ***Muslims in Uttar Pradesh: Demographic Features and Socio-Economic Inequalities (****Accepted by Routledge****).***

Selected Articles (Op-Eds) in Newspapers

2. "Vulnerabilities of marginalized castes and shortcomings of labour law", in ***The Wire***, 23 September 2025. https://shorturl.at/05gl7
3. "Trump's Tariff Threats: How should India respond?" in ***The Wire***, 23 August, 2025. https://shorturl.at/w9yGJ
4. "Adopt formalisation to power productivity growth" in ***The Hindu,*** *30 July, 2025*. https://shorturl.at/SOwu7
5. "Myth of meritocracy, caste-based disparities in IT Sector" in ***The Hindu***, 25 December, 2024". http://surl.li/xjhpnu
6. "Impact of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana in Jammu and Kashmir" in ***The Hindu***, 14 November, 2024. http://surl.li/umsldy
7. "Declining Women's Participation in a Growing Economy" in ***Greater Kashmir***, 5 July, 2019. https://urlzs.com/LDJD4
8. "No Respite from Poverty for Muslims" in ***The Hindu***, 06 October 2018. https://goo.gl/2hXKZL
9. "The Uniform Labour Code: Striking an optimal balance of power between workforce and capital" in ***Greater Kashmir***, 30 January 2018. https://goo.gl/qFp1Le
10. "Will fixing labor regulations help solve India's employment woes?" in ***Just Jobs Network Blog Series***, 09 May 2017. https://goo.gl/CuY9eJ

Reviewer Engagements

- Journal of Applied Economics (Rutledge)
- Journal of Quantitative Economics (Springer)
- Asian Journal of Law and Economics (De Gruyter)
- Humanities and Social Sciences Communications (Springer)
- Journal of Development Policy and Practice (Sage)

Administrative Role in the Department/University (Ongoing)

- I/C Head, Department of Economics from May 2025.
- Departmental Research Coordinator.
- Served as Departmental Coordinator for DIQA/NIRF related activities.
- Served as Departmental Coordinator for Library Affairs.
- Member of the Departmental Academic Integrity Panel (DAIP).
- Member of the Departmental Budget Committee.
- Served as Departmental Coordinator for Academic Bank of Credits.

- Member of Entrepreneurship/Skilling/Innovation/Technology Enablers Committee.
- Member of the Committee for Validation of Research Data Collected through MIS/ERP.

Research Guidance (Ph.D. scholars under my supervision)

- Mr. Abrar Rehman Rather – *Thesis title: Impact of labour segmentation on Industrial Perforance and Job Mobility: A study in India's manufacturing sector*.
- Mr. Mir Audil Bashir – *Impact of Covid-19 induced economic shocks on employees and firms: A state-level empirical analysis in India.*
- Ms. Sheeba Rasool – *Female Labour Force Participation and its Determinants: A case study of Kashmir.*
- Mr. Sahil Manzoor – *Efficiency in Job Search and Matching: Examining its Determinants and role in economic growth (Tentative).*

Research Guidance (M.A. Dissertations supervised)

S. No	Name of the Student	Title of the Study
1.	Mudasir Ahmad Shah	A study on population estimation and projections of countries Bangladesh, China, India, and Pakistan
2.	Iqra Gull	Women empowerment in India
3.	Tanzeel Ahmad Bhat	A study on Status of education in Jammu and Kashmir with special reference to Pulwama District.
4.	Irrum Saba	An economic analysis of women and unpaid household work: A case study of District Bandipora
5.	Sheeba Rasool	Education and labour market indicator: A comparative analysis of northern states
6.	Inbisat Ahmad Yattoo	Planning and implementation of national rural employment guarantee act: A case study of District Pulwama, Jammu and Kashmir
7.	Parrey Munaza	Status of education in Jammu and Kashmir
8.	Rifat Nazir	Growth of contract workers in India: A comparative analysis of contract labour in manufacturing industries of J&K and HP.
9.	Shakir Manzoor	Wage inequality in Industries: A comparative analysis of textile and healthcare sectors.
10	Adil Ishaq	Performance of labour market indicators in Jammu and Kashmir
11	Aarifa Hussain	Dynamics of Factor inputs in the manufacturing sector
12	Chesfeeda Jan	Output growth in India's manufacturing sector 2019-2020
13	Iqra Manzoor	Dynamics of manufacturing sectors of India: A comparative analysis

Papers Presented in National/International Conferences (Latest)

- Impact of contractualisation on labour productivity: A factory level analysis of the Indian manufacturing sector. *4th Annual Conference of the Indian Economics and Allied Sciences Association* during 27-10-2023 to 29-10-2023 at *University of Kashmir*.
- Impact of hiring and firing laws on factory productivity: A unit level analysis using judicial outcome index. One-day seminar funded by *Azim Premji University, Banguluru*, conducted at IUST, Awantipora on 11-03-2024.
- Unveiling social disparities in employment and wages: A labour market segmentation analysis of India's IT industry. 64th *Annual conference of the Indian Society of Labour Economics* during 29-31 March, 2024 at *University of Hyderabad*.
- Impact of hiring and firing laws on total factor productivity: A unit level analysis using judicial outcome index. *64th Annual conference of the Indian Society of Labour Economics* during 29-31 March, 2024 at *University of Hyderabad*.

- Measuring the impact of hiring and firing laws on total productivity: A quantitative analysis using judicial outcomes. *First 10-day online international research methodology workshop in social sciences* during 20-29 June, 2024 organised by *J&K Economic Association*.

Conferences/Seminars/Workshops/Outreach Organized (Latest)

- Organised a Two-day national seminar on sustainable tourism development on 24-25 February, 2025 (funded by ICSSR) under Vision Viksit Bharat@2047 project.
- Organized a one-day seminar on "Impact of hiring and firing laws on total factor productivity: A unit level analysis using judicial outcome index" at Department of Economics, IUST, funded by Azim Premji University on 29-03-2024.
- Coordinated a One-week workshop on Resent Discourse in Political Economy at the Department of Economics, IUST during 07-12 February, 2022. Funded by IUST.
- Coordinated one-day workshop on Econometric Analyses using STATA at the Department of Economics, IUST during 20-03-2023, 2022.
- Acted as a committee member for organizing One-day seminar on Rise and Lead: Young Women Pioneering Technology, Business and Public Life at IUST, Awantipora on 08-05-2024.
- Conducted a local *community outreach on Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Awarness Program* in collaboration with Government Higher Secondary School Lethpora, Pulwama on 21-11-2022.

Invited Talks (Latest)

- Delivered a talk on *Panel Data analysis & Hands on Training* at Srinagar Women's College on 28th May, 2020.
- Delivered a talk on Measuring the impact of hiring and firing laws on total productivity: A quantitative analysis using judicial outcomes. *First 10-day online international research methodology workshop in social sciences* during 20-29 June, 2024 organized by *J&K Economic Association*.
- Delivered a talk on *Dummy variable and qualitative response Variable Models II* at One Week National Workshop on Research Methods in Applied Economics from 5-12 June, 2023 at the Department of Economics, University of Kashmir.
- Delivered a session on *"Hands on Training*" at *One Week National Workshop on Research*

Methods in Applied Economics from 5-12 June, 2023 at the Department of Economics, University of Kashmir.

FDPs/Orientation/Refresher Courses Attended

- Attended UGC-sponsored online refresher course in Teaching and Research in Social Sciences at Punjab University, Chandigarh from 14-27 January, 2025.
- Attended *Online 4-Week faculty induction/Orientation Programme for Faculty in Universities/Colleges/Institutes of Higher Education*. Organized by Teaching Learning Centre, Ramanujan College, University of Delhi during 21-01-2024 to 20-02-2024.
- Attended *three Week UGC-sponsored orientation programme* at Punjani University, Patiala during 06-25 January, 2020.
- Attended online *two-week refresher course/Faculty Development Programme* of Teaching Learning Centre, Ramanujan College, University of Delhi during 29-04-2021 to 13-05-2021.
- Attended *One week FDP on Research Methodology with a focus on hands-on Experience of Econometric Modeling* at SMVDU during 18-23 March, 2024.
- Attended *two week Interactive workshop on Research Methodology in Management, Commerce and Social Sciences* at Department of Management Studies, IUST during 21-02-2022 to 04-03-2022.
- Attended 44th *Biannual One-week Research and Training Workshop* of SNDEE ICIMOD at Kathmandu Nepal during 12-16 December, 2022.

Role in NEP-2020 Implementation

- Contributed to the course structure development for B.Sc. Economics (Quantitative vertical) NEP-2020 compliant.
- Contributed to the course structure development for B.Sc. Economics (General Vertical) NEP-2020 compliant.
- Contributed to the syllabus/curriculum development of eight courses of the B.Sc. Economics progarmme (NEP 2020).

References

Aditya Bhattacharjea
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Santosh Mehrotra
Ph.D. (Cambridge University)
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