

# MEENAKSHI SHEKHAR

C-8, Bandra Kurla Complex Rd, E Block BKC, Bandra East, Mumbai, India 400051

✉ [meenakshi.shekhar@cafral.org.in](mailto:meenakshi.shekhar@cafral.org.in)

🌐 [Personal Website](#)

🌐 [LinkedIn](#)

🌐 [ORCID](#)

## EMPLOYMENT

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2025–Present    📌 [Assistant Professor \(Research Director\), Centre For Advanced Financial Research And Learning \(CAFRAL\), RBI.](#)

## EDUCATION

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2019 – 2025    📌 [Ph.D. in Economics Iowa State University \(ISU\), Ames, IA, USA](#)  
2011 – 2013    📌 [PGDM \(MBA\) in Finance Indian Institute of Management \(IIM\), Kozhikode, India](#)  
2008 – 2011    📌 [B.A. in Economics Shri Ram College of Commerce, University of Delhi, India](#)

## RESEARCH INTEREST

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📌 *Structural Transformation, Growth and Development, Macroeconomics, International Trade*

## SKILLS

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Economics    📌 Macroeconomics, Economic Modelling, Structural Calibration, Quantitative Analysis  
Software    📌 MATLAB, Mathematica, Stata, R,  $\LaTeX$ , Origin  
Databases    📌 WIOD, PWT, GGDC ETD & PLD, KLEMS Data, OECD Database  
Languages    📌 Hindi (native), English (fluent)

## WORKING PAPERS

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📌 [Shekhar, M. \(2024\), "Sluggish Growth or Premature Decline? A Comparative Study of Indian Industrialization with China" \[Job Market Paper\]](#)  
📌 [Shekhar, M. \(2023\), "Stagnant Manufacturing in India: The Role of TFP and Trade"](#)

## WORK IN PROGRESS

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📌 [Shekhar, M., \(2025\) "Policy Distortion, Misallocation and Aggregate Productivity"](#)  
📌 [Salat, M., & Shekhar, M., \(2025\) "Do Food Imports Perpetuate Subsistence Agriculture in SSA?"](#)  
📌 [Shekhar, M., Roy, S., & Salat, M., \(2025\) "Excessive External Debt and Economic Growth in Low-Income Countries"](#)

## SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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2025    📌 [2025 Midwest Macroeconomics Meeting](#) May-2025;  
2024    📌 [Southern Economic Association](#) Nov-2024; [The Missouri Valley Economic Association](#), Oct-2024; [Annual Conference on Economics and Public Policy \(ACEP\), O.P. Jindal Global University](#), Jun-2024; [Canadian Economics Association](#) May 2024; [Economics Graduate Student Association, ISU](#), Apr-2024; [Midwest Economic Association](#), Mar-2024;  
2022    📌 [Macro Study Group, ISU](#), Sep-2022

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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- **Research Assistant** Enrollment Research and Analytics, Iowa State University 2019–2025  
Advisor: [Gregory R Forbes](#)  
Projects: *Developing econometric models to analyze the impact of cost, financial support, demographics, academic performance, and socio-economic status on decisions to apply, matriculate, & persist in students' college/continued education*

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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- **Course Instructor** [Department of Economics, Iowa State University](#), Spring 2023, Fall 2022  
Intermediate Macroeconomics (ECON 3020, Mandatory for Undergrad Econ Major)
- **Lab Instructor** [Department of Economics, Iowa State University](#), 2020–2024  
Macroeconomics (ECON 5020, Graduate Class): Spring 2021, Spring 2024  
Microeconomics (ECON 5010, Graduate Class): Fall 2023  
Applied Economic Optimization (ECON 2070, Undergrad Class): Fall 2020, 2021, 2023
- **Teaching Assistant** [Department of Economics, Iowa State University](#), 2020–2024  
International Finance (ECON 5570, Graduate Class): Spring 2024, Spring 2022  
Managerial Economics (ECON 5320, Graduate MBA Class): Fall 2021  
International Finance (ECON 4570, Undergrad Class): Spring 2024, Spring 2022  
International Trade (ECON 4550, Undergrad Class): Spring 2022.

## INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

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- **Senior Manager, Corporate Finance & Strategy** [Transcon Group](#), Mumbai, India, 2016–2019  
Key Responsibilities: *Deal structuring, Pitchbook preparations, Deal Negotiations, Deal Execution, Fund Planning, Fund Management, Financial Projections preparation, Compliances under the RERA, Business Plans, and Growth Strategy Formulation.*
- **Senior Manager, Corporate Finance and Strategy** [Sugee Group](#), Mumbai, India, 2013–2015  
Key Responsibilities: *Investor Relations, Financial Feasibility Study, Information Memorandum Preparation, Financial Modeling, Project Valuation, MIS reports, and Weekly Newsletter Preparation*
- **Summer Internship** [OPC Assets Solutions Private Limited](#), Mumbai, India, May-Jun 2012  
Project: *"Prospects of leasing as the financial solution for Indian Solar Power Sector."*

## AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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- 2025 ■ Notable Graduate Student Paper, [MVEA Annual Meetings 2025](#)
- Research Award 2025, [Graduate and Professional Students Senate](#), Iowa State University
- Most Engaging Presentation Award 2024, EGSA, Iowa State University
- James R. Prescott Scholarship 2023 in Economics, Iowa State University
- Teaching Award 2023, [Graduate and Professional Students Senate](#), Iowa State University
- Teaching Excellence Award 2021, [Graduate College](#), Iowa State University
- Winner, FiNNiX Valuation 360, 2012, Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode
- Finalist, Clinch the Deal 2012, Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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- Referee Service: [Economics Bulletin](#), [Economics Letters](#)
- Professional Membership: American Economic Association (AEA), Canadian Economic Association (CEA), Midwest Economic Association (MEA), Southern Economic Association (SEA)

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES (continued)

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📖 Articles and Blogs: [Ask An Economist Forum](#), Iowa State University

## REFERENCES

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### **Dr. Juan Carlos Cordoba**

PhD Committee Co-Chair  
Professor, Dept. of Economics  
Iowa State University

✉ [cordoba@iastate.edu](mailto:cordoba@iastate.edu)

### **Dr. Rajesh Singh**

PhD Committee Co-Chair  
Professor, Dept. of Economics  
Iowa State University

✉ [rsingh@iastate.edu](mailto:rsingh@iastate.edu)

### **Dr. Gary Lyn**

PhD Committee Member  
Senior Economist  
Federal Reserve Board

✉ [gary.a.lyn@frb.gov](mailto:gary.a.lyn@frb.gov)