



International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS)

14th Professor P. N. Mari Bhat Memorial Lecture

on

29th March, 2022 at 04:00 PM on Virtual Platform

by

Prof. Ashwini Deshpande

on the topic

Nakusha: Son preference, unwanted girls and gender gaps in Education

Dr. Ashwini Deshpande is Professor of Economics and the Founding Director of Centre for Economic Data and Analysis (CEDA) at Ashoka University, India. Her Ph.D. and early publications have been on the international debt crisis of the 1980s. Subsequently, she has been working on the economics of discrimination and affirmative action, with a focus on caste and gender in India. She has published extensively in leading scholarly journals. She is the author of "Grammar of Caste: economic discrimination in contemporary India", Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2011 (Hardcover) and 2017 (Paperback); and "Affirmative Action in India", Oxford University Press, New Delhi, Oxford India Short Introductions (OISI) series, 2013. She is the editor of several volumes and is currently editing the "Handbook of Economics of Discrimination and Affirmative Action" to be published as a part of the Springer Major Reference Works. She received the EXIM Bank award for outstanding dissertation (now called the IERA Award) in 1994, and the 2007 Dr. VKRV Rao Award for Indian economists under 45.



Prof. P.N. Mari Bhat (1951-2007) had a very distinguished academic career. He obtained his Ph.D. in Demography from University of Pennsylvania under the guidance of Dr. Samuel Preston, a renowned mathematical demographer. Prior to joining IIPS as its Director in 2005, Dr. Bhat worked as a Professor at the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi, as Director of PRC at Dharwad, and as Associate Professor at Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum and also at ISEC, Bangalore. His research works reflected a unique combination of statistical acumen and social science perspectives in demographic research. He was pioneer in providing fertility and mortality estimates for colonial India and for the early decades of independence. For a detailed discussion on Prof. Bhat's research contribution to Indian demography, see "P.N. Mari Bhat: An Intellectual Tribute" by M. Das Gupta, S.H. Preston, V. Rao and T.V. Sekher, Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. XLII (36), 2007.

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