

DR. POORNIMA M

CONTACT DETAILS

Official Address: Council for Social Development, 53, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi - 110003

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EDUCATION

Ph.D (2013)	Centre for the Study of Law & Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University Title: New Public Management in Educational Reforms: A Case Study of Rajasthan
M.Phil (2008) 6.78 FGPA	Centre for the Study of Law & Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University Title: Role of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Basic Education: A Study of NGOs in Chennai District of Tamil Nadu
M.A. (2005) 74.4% Public Administration	Presidency College Affiliated to University of Madras, Chennai
B.Com (2003) 82.2%	Holy Cross College affiliated to Bharathidasan University, Trichy
Others:	
Summer Course 13-17 July 2015	Central European University, Budapest, Hungary in Collaboration with the Education Support Program of the Open Society Foundation. Course Title: 'Innovative Financing for Education: Arguments, Options and Opportunities

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

NET (National Eligibility Test), University Grants Commission, 2006

Rank Holder in M.A. Public Administration, Presidency College, University of Madras, 2005

Certificate for 'Selfless Service' for contribution towards school development activities, 2000

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2014-till date	Assistant Professor, Council for Social Development (CSD), New Delhi <i>Role:</i> Headed about 12 research and evaluation studies in the areas of school education, digital literacy, access to justice, etc.; Coordinated Training workshops, Global Conclave and National Seminars
2023-till date	National Sub-Coordinator, Right to Education Cell, CSD, New Delhi <i>Role:</i> Undertake projects on key themes and issues related to RTE Act and organise Annual Review Conference on RTE Implementation, capacity building workshops for SMCs, etc.

Since 2013	Approved Course writer for the School of Gender and Development Studies and Faculty of Public Administration, Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi <i>Role:</i> engaged in development of Self-Learning Modules on topics such as education, gender sensitive policies, sustainable development goals, organizational and leadership theories, etc.
2012-2014	Consultant, Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), New Delhi <i>Role:</i> Research assistance for the Project on Panchayat Devolution Index and was engaged in designing survey instruments, carrying out field visits, data analysis and report writing.
2009-2010	Program Manager, Voice to the Voiceless Trust (V2V), New Delhi <i>Role:</i> Managed Urban knowledge Centres for enhancing the well-being of Slum dwellers; engaged in community profiling and need assessment survey, organizing training program for slum ambassadors, networking with partnering organizations
2009	Research Associate, Institute for Human Development (IHD), New Delhi <i>Role:</i> Research assistance for a Project on 'Baseline Survey of Minority Concentrated Districts'
2008-2009	Junior Project Fellow, National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT), New Delhi <i>Role:</i> Research assistance for a Project on 'International Diploma Course in Guidance and Counseling' in collaboration with Commonwealth of Learning and contributed in development of course module

PUBLICATIONS

- Poornima M; Kaur, Ramandeep & Dhiman, Mehak. (2024). 'Implementation of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009: A Status Review'. In. Poornima, M; Kaur, Ramandeep & Sastry, Amrita (Ed.) *Implementation of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009: Where do we Stand?*, New Delhi: CSD and Max Weber Stiftung. pp. 3-36.
- Pankaj, Ashok & Poornima M. (2021). 'Public vs. Private Provisioning of Elementary Education in India: A Trend in Privatization', In. Saxena, K.B. (Ed.) *Private Sector Participation in Public Services*, New Delhi: Aakar Books. (ISBN: 978-9-350-02762-2).
- Poornima M. (2021). 'Kothari Commission Report 1964-66'. In. Dubey, Muchkund & Mitra, Susmita. (Ed.) *Vision of Education in India*, New Delhi: Routledge. pp. 108-125. (ISBN: 978-03-6764-390-4).
- Govinda, R & Poornima M (ed.). (2020). *India's Social Sector and SDGs: Problems and Prospects*, New York: Routledge.(ISBN: 978-1-138-36151-5)
- Pankaj, Ashok & Poornima M. (2019). 'Unequal Access to Elementary Education in India: Government vs. Private Schools'. In. Haque, T & Reddy, Narasimha D. *Rising Inequalities in India: Social Development Report 2018*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press. pp.203-215 (ISBN: 978-0-199-49436-1)
- Poornima M. & Jaya Nair. (2019). 'Universalisation of Secondary Education', *Social Change*, 49 (3): 538-550.

- Poornima M (2016). 'Indian Perspectives on Social Sector Issues and Sustainable Development Goals', *Social Change*, 47 (2): 281-293.
- Poornima M (2016). 'Role of NGOs in Public Administration', in Dhameja, Alka & Misra, Sweta, *Public Administration in India: Approaches and Applications*, New Delhi: Pearson Education, pp.288-301. (ISBN: 978-93-325-5507-5)
- Poornima M (2015). 'Book Review on Ethnographies of Schooling in India edited by Meenakshi Thapan', *Social Change*, 45(2).
- Poornima M & Mitra, Susmita (2015). *Right to Education in BRICS Countries: Ensuring Equity, Equality and Social Justice*, in Islam, K M Baharul & Iftekhhar, S N (ed.) *International Perspectives on Comparative Education Policy*, New Delhi: Bloomsbury. pp. 58-74 (ISBN: 978-93-848-9882-3)
- Poornima M (2015). 'Teacher Involvement in Policy Making for a Successful Reform in Education', in *Transforming School Education: Role of Teachers*, New Delhi: Phoneme. pp.47-56 (ISBN: 978-93-83669-18-9)
- Poornima M & Menon, Rajini (2014). 'Gender Equality and Capability Approach in the Context of Education: Issues of Social Exclusion', in Hussain, Sabiha. *Pervasive Exclusion and the Challenge of Inclusion: Gender Patterns in South and Central Asia*, New Delhi: Serials Publication. pp.193-214 (ISBN: 978-81-8387-82-3)
- Poornima M (2010). 'Poverty, Social Exclusion and Basic Education: The Tamil Nadu Experience' in Chinna Rao, Yagati and Karakoti, Sudhakara, *Exclusion and Discrimination: Concepts, Perspectives and Challenges*, New Delhi: Kanishka Publishers. pp. 293-327 (ISBN No. 978-81-8457-224-7).

RESEARCH PROJECTS & REPORTS

On-going Project

- Pankaj, Ashok K; Poornima, M; Sastry, Amrita; Kanal, Senthamizh; Kaur, Ramandeep. (2025). *Equitable Education for a Viksit Bharat: Exploring School Dropout and Exclusion of Vulnerable Sections for Policy Suggestions*, sponsored by ICSSR [Project Director]

Completed Projects

- Poornima M, Kaur, Ramandeep & Sastry, Amrita. (2024). *Fifteen Years of Implementation of the Right to Education Act: Where do we Stand?*, sponsored by Max Weber Stiftung [PI]
- Kelkar, Govind and Devnathan. (2023). *Witch Hunts and Ritual Attacks: Gender, Culture and Capital in Northeast India*, sponsored by RLS South Asia [Part of Research Team]
- CSD. (2023). *Impact Assessment Study of the Assam State Initiative (Education Program): Addressing Concerns of Out-of-school Children in Assam*, sponsored by Centre for Micro-Finance and Livelihood (CML), An Associate of Tata Trusts [Principal Investigator]
- CSD. (2022). *Status and Pathways for Portability of Cash and In-Kind Transfers in India*. Sponsored by KFW German Financial Cooperation [Part of Research Team].
- Poornima, M, Mitra, S & Kaur, R. (2022). *Study on the Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Children in Four States in India*. Sponsored by Tata Education and Development Trust [Principal Investigator].

- Pankaj, A & Poornima M. (2022). Reach and Role of Private Schools in India, sponsored by Malaysian Trust for Cambridge University [Co-Principal Investigator].
- CSD. (2021). *Training Manual on SDGs for NGOs*, sponsored by Konrad Adenauer Stiftung [Part of Research Team]
- Poornima, M & Kaur, R. (2020). Reviving Government Schools: Capturing the Best Practices of Government Schools in Improving Public Education, sponsored by Indian Council for Social Science Research [Principal Investigator].
- Sharma, N, Kaur, R & Poornima. (2020) *Financial Inclusion of Rural Citizens: Assessing the Impact of Investor Awareness Programme on Potential Investors in Rural India*. Sponsored by CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd., Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology [Co-PI].
- Poornima M. & Kaur, Ramandeep. (2020). *Advancing the Menstrual Health and Hygiene of Girls and Women: Assessing the Impact of Stree Swabhiman Initiative in Rural India*. Sponsored by CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd., Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology. [Project Director].
- Poornima M. (2019). *Digital Literacy Initiative to Empower Rural India: Impact Evaluation of the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan*, Sponsored by CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd., Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology. [Project Director].
- Sachdeva, Suman, Kaul, Venita & Pranipe, Sandhya. (2018). *What works for Teachers*, sponsored by The Echidna Giving Fund & New Venture Fund, USA [part of Research Team].
- Poornima M. (2018). *Digital Empowerment of Citizens through Digital Literacy Training: Impact Assessment of the Digital Saksharta Abhiyan*, Sponsored by CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd., Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology. [Project Director].
- Poornima M. (2017). Legal Awareness and Access to Justice for the Marginalised Sections: Impact Assessment of the Legal Literacy Programme in Rajasthan. Sponsored by CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd., Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology. [Project Director].
- Poornima M. (2017). *Capacity Building and Livelihood Generation for Rural Women: An Assessment of e-Swavlambika in Seven States*, Sponsored by CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd., Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology. [Project Director].
- Poornima M. (2016). *Digital Literacy Training to Non-IT Literate Citizens: Impact Assessment of the National Digital Literacy Mission*, Sponsored by CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd., Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology. [Project Director].
- Poornima M & Pankaj, Ashok. 2008. Baseline Survey of Minority Concentrated Districts of India: Darbhanga District, New Delhi: Institute for Human Development. Available at [www.icsr.org/Darbhang\(1\).pdf](http://www.icsr.org/Darbhang(1).pdf) [Team Member]
- Poornima M & Pankaj, Ashok. 2008. Baseline Survey of Minority Concentrated Districts of India: Purnia District, New Delhi: Institute for Human Development. Available at [www.icsr.org/Purnia\(1\).pdf](http://www.icsr.org/Purnia(1).pdf) [Team Member]

COURSE MODULE DEVELOPMENT

- Poornima M. (2022). 'Unit 5: Issues of Decentralisation' in BPAC-114 Contemporary Issues and Concerns in Indian Administration, New Delhi: IGNOU, (ISBN: 978-93-5568-474-5), available at <https://egyankosh.ac.in/bitstream/123456789/89575/1/Unit-5.pdf>
- Poornima M. (2019). 'Unit 15: Public Choice Approach, in BPAC-131 Perspectives in Public Administration, New Delhi: IGNOU (ISBN: 978-93-89969-07-8).
- Poornima M. (2019). 'Unit 16: Public Interest Approach, in BPAC-131 Perspectives in Public Administration, New Delhi: IGNOU (ISBN: 978-93-89969-07-8).
- Poornima M (2014). '5 Units on 'Organizational Policies and Practices' (MGSE-004) and 'Concept of Leadership' (MGSE-007) – Gender, Organization and Leadership, New Delhi: IGNOU
- Poornima M. (2012). 'Units 12 to 15 on Gender Sensitive Policies and Programmes' in MGS-004-Gender Sensitive Planning and Policy Making, New Delhi: IGNOU. ISBN No. 978-81-266-6052-0.
- Poornima M. (2011). 'Unit 2: Education, Development Goals and Upgradation of Skills, in MGS-002- Gender, Development Goals and Praxis: Development, Facets and Issues, New Delhi: IGNOU. ISBN No. 978-81-266-5708-7. Available at <http://www.egyankosh.ac.in/handle/123456789/36051>
- Developed Modules for a Certificate Programme in Common Service Centres, Centre for Extension Education, IGNOU in collaboration with telecentre.org

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- National Summit on RTE Act: Fifteen Years of Implementation of the Right to Education Act: Where do we Stand? by the RTE Cell, Council for Social Development in collaboration with the RTE Forum and Max Weber Stiftung held in the Constitution Club of India, New Delhi on April 1, 2024 [as Organizer]
- Guest Editorial Board Member for the Special Issue of *Education and Society* (UGC Care Listed Quarterly Journal)
- Invited Speaker at the Social Development Forum of the Council for Social Development and delivered a talk on 'School Leadership in Strengthening Public Schools: Case Study of Bihar and Tamil Nadu', on 22 February 2024 at DDML Hall, CSD
- Invited as External Expert for the Review-cum-Revision Committee Meeting for the Diploma in Women's Empowerment and Development (DWED) held on February 2, 2024 at the School of Gender & Development Studies, Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi
- Global Conclave on Education 2023: Schools for the Future. Organized by Kyra Global, Dubai, American University in the Emirates and the Council for Social Development, New Delhi held in Hotel DoubleTree by Hilton M Square, Dubai, UAE on 19 January 2023 [as a Coordinator]
- Guest Speaker at the Mittal School of Business, Lovely Professional University, Phagwara, Punjab and delivered a lecture on 'Public Policy Formulation and Implementation: Discussion on Education Policy' on 11 December 2021.

- Invited Speaker at the National Seminar on Good Governance and Sustainable Development organized by the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Savita School of Law, SIMATS, Chennai and made a presentation on the topic 'Local Self Governance and Sustainable Development' on 5 October 2021
- Guest Speaker at the Lockdown Webinar Series conducted by Department of Public Administration, Sri Krishna Arts and Science College, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu and delivered a lecture on the topic 'New Public Management' on 15 April 2020
- Special Guest for Live Streaming of National Centre for School Leadership at the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi and shared my ideas on 'Good Practices of School Leadership in Bihar and Tamil Nadu' on 20 March 2020
- Invited for Evaluation in the 1st Refresher Course on Teacher Educators, coordinated by Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies, on behalf of UGC-Human Resource Development Centre, Jawaharlal Nehru University on 18 April 2018

PAPER PRESENTATION IN SEMINARS & CONFERENCES

- Presentation on 'Clean Cooking Fuel for All: Access and Portability Barriers of the Migrant Households' at the 'International Conference on Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Development in Global South' Organized by Institute for Human Development (IHD), NITI Aayog, Government of India and University of Florida in Partnership with Centre for the Study of Regional Development (CSRD), JNU and National Institute of Urban Affairs, 10-12 August 2023.
- Presentation on 'Global Conclave on Education 2023: Schools for the Future – Conclave Programme' in the Global Conclave on Education, Organized by Kyra Global, Dubai, American University in the Emirates and the Council for Social Development, New Delhi held in Hotel DoubleTree by Hilton M Square, Dubai, UAE on 19 January 2023.
- Presentation on 'Unequal Access to School Education in India: Government vs. Private Schools', in the Two-Days National Seminar on 'Social Empowerment and Inclusion through Education: Role of Sarva Siksha Abhiyan', organized by G.B.Pant Social Science Institute, Allahabad, 10-11 March 2018.
- Presentation on 'Unequal Access to Government and Private Schools in India: A Study of 4 States', in the National Seminar on 'Challenges of Growing Inequalities in India', organized by the Council for Social Development, New Delhi, 14-15 July, 2017.
- Presentation on 'Elementary Education in Rural India: Challenges of Privatisation', in the National Workshop on 'Convergence of Rural Institutions and Socio-Economic Development Programmes' organized by National Council for Rural Institutes (NCRI), Hyderabad, 19-20, October 2015.
- Presentation on 'Gender Equality and Capability Approach in the Context of Education: Issues of Social Exclusion' in the International Conference on Gender Equity and Exclusion in South and Central Asia: Emerging Challenges, organized by Dr. K. R. Narayanan Centre for Dalit and Minorities Studies, Jamia Milia Islamia, New Delhi February 2012.

- Presentation on “Governance for Development: Information and Communication Technology and its Implication in Basic Education” in the International Conference on Digitalizing Administration: Challenges and Issues in e-Governance organized by Presidency College, Chennai March 2009.

REFEREES

Dr. Ashok K Pankaj, Professor, Council for Social Development, New Delhi, ashokkpankaj@gmail.com, Mobile: +91-9910717787

Prof. R. Govinda, Distinguished Professor, Council for Social Development and Former Vice-Chancellor, National Institute of Educational Planning & Administration, New Delhi, aargovinda@gmail.com, Mobile: +91-9810699956

Prof. Amita Singh, Retired Professor, Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, amita.singh3@gmail.com, Mobile: +91- 9910170904

Place: New Delhi

Date: 16.05.2025

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