

Timeline

April - October 2020

Study Type

Randomized Evaluation

Research Implemented by IPA

No

Understanding the Response to and Recovery from the COVID-19 Crisis among Informal Sector Workers in Urban India

Researchers

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Abstract

In an ongoing randomized control trial, we study the impact of social networks on take-up of a job aggregator service in Delhi, India, with subsequent implications on women and their spouses' employment outcomes, income, attitudes, and other outcomes. The baseline survey of approximately 1,500 participant households is complete. Our ongoing midline survey (conducted over phone) has now been expanded to also study the response and recovery to the COVID-19 crisis and the current nationwide lockdown among our study sample. In particular, we are interested in studying: 1) the humanitarian response to COVID-19 by examining how the crisis and lockdown has affected the lives and livelihoods of these families living in such densely populated areas, and typically employed in the informal sector, and the effectiveness of government assistance in mitigating these effects 2) how their social networks might have helped our study participants to cope with the COVID-19 crisis and lockdown, both in economic/financial terms, as well as by influencing their behavioural response to the government's health directives (e.g. social distancing, washing hands etc.) to contain the spread of the disease.

Project Outcomes of Interest

Employment status, income, food security, health status, receipt of government assistance, mental health outcomes, behavioural responses to COVID-19 (social distancing, washing hands etc.)

Partners

IFMR-LEAD

Impact Goals

- Build resilience and protect the financial health of families and individuals
- Build resilient and adaptable businesses and employment opportunities
- Improve social-safety net responses
- Improve women's health, safety, and economic empowerment

Link to Pre-Registration

<https://www.socialscienceregistry.org/trials/5153>

Results Status

No Results Yet