



INSTITUTE OF ECONOMIC GROWTH

University Enclave, University of Delhi (North Campus), Delhi-110 007, INDIA

August 9, 2019

SEMINAR NOTICE

- Topic:** “What's the beef with beef? The Persistent Health Effects of Cattle Slaughter Bans in India”
- Speaker:** Dr. Aparajita Dasgupta,
Assistant Professor,
Ashoka University
- Chair:** Professor Ajit Kumar Mishra, Director, IEG

The seminar details are as follows:

Date & time: Friday, August 16, 2019 at 3.30 p.m.

Venue: A.M. Khusro Room
Institute of Economic Growth,
University Enclave, North Campus,
Delhi-110 007

All are welcome.


(Oindrila De)

Abstract:

This paper uses the state-level rollout of cattle slaughter bans in India as a natural experiment in beef availability around birth and its effects on anemia decades later. We compile rich historical data on cattle slaughter ban legislation by state and harmonize it with household and individual level data on beef consumption (National Sample Surveys) and biomarkers (Demographic and Health Surveys) for this purpose. Using a difference-in-differences strategy along with an event study design, in the short term we show that cattle slaughter bans reduce the consumption of beef and women's hemoglobin (Hb) in communities that traditionally eat beef. Furthermore, we document that early life exposure to cattle slaughter bans leads to lower levels of Hb among women from these communities, who are up to 10% more likely to be anemic decades after birth.