

Position: Research Associate

Duration: 4 months (extendable), start immediately

Location: New Delhi (with travel to field sites)

Application Deadline: 13 February 2019 (considered on a rolling basis)

Project Description

A number of analysts have become concerned that Whatsapp and social media are being used to spread fake news or other misinformation, which may heighten communal and/or caste tensions. The goal of the study is to understand sources of political information during the election as well as how they shape sometimes incendiary beliefs that may heighten social tensions. Our study will consist of two rounds of surveys administered to approximately 1000-2000 people before and after the election in our study site. During the study, we will offer respondents the opportunity to sign up to receive fact-checking information. We are particularly interested in measuring respondents' beliefs about factual issues related to politics. As such, we will also ask respondents to evaluate the accuracy of a series of factual claims about politics.

About the Team

We are a team of political scientists who study political behavior and information around the world: Brendan Nyhan and Michael Lerner at the University of Michigan; Jason Reifler at the University of Exeter; and Neelanjan Sircar at Ashoka University and the Centre for Policy Research.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Collaborate with the Principal Investigator(s) and fellow Research Associate(s) to finalize and implement the research design as intended; support recording, documentation and analysis; and support the creation of reports and articles related to the study for various stakeholders.
- Help train and monitor survey operations in the field.
- Provide qualitative field insights and reports on information environment and plausible sources and types of misinformation.
- Other related tasks as necessary.

Qualifications

- Spoken and written fluency in Hindi (required; native speakers preferred)
- Proficiency in English (required)
- Social science background (B.A. or higher; in-progress degrees will be considered)
- Prior fieldwork experience (required)
- Experience working on surveys and the Open Data Kit (ODK) platform (desired)
- Willingness to travel within assigned state (required)

This is a great opportunity to get first-hand exposure to cutting edge political science research, especially in survey and research design, in a dynamic work environment. Salary is highly competitive.

In order to apply, please send a cover letter and a CV to applicationsashokacpr@gmail.com. The deadline to apply is **13 February 2019**, but applications will be considered on a rolling basis.