Position: Senior Research Associate

Research and Statistics Unit

ASER Centre, Pratham Education Foundation

Deadline: 28th April 2018

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About ASER Centre: ASER Centre (www.asercentre.org), is the independent research wing of Pratham Education Foundation (www.pratham.org) and seeks to use simple yet rigorous methods to generate evidence on scale, on social sector programs. The aim of the organisation is to strengthen the link between evidence and action by building the capacity of individuals and institutions to design, conduct and understand assessments that focus on key outcome indicators. One of ASER Centre's main activities is the design and facilitation of the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER), one of the largest household surveys of children's basic learning levels in reading and arithmetic.

About the Research and Statistics Unit (RSU) at ASER Centre: Apart from conducting the ASER survey, the Centre has also conducted several research studies on education ranging from teaching and learning processes in government primary schools, teacher education and training, early childhood education, elementary and secondary education. The Research and Statistics Unit of ASER Centre is responsible for the design and implementation of such studies along with the analysis and reporting of its findings. You can read about the research studies we have done at www.asercentre.org/p/119.html.

We seek applications from candidates with a strong background in quantitative research to join this team as a Senior Research Associate.

As a Senior Research Associate, the candidate will work in a team on research and evaluation studies conducted in different parts of India. This will entail both overall project management as well as data management and analysis. The candidate will be expected to possess both project management and analytical skills required to lead research studies in the field. Following is a (non-exhaustive) list of tasks that are part of the role:

- Designing and piloting of tools based on project goals and indicators.
- Creating process and training manuals on survey methodology.
- Coordination and delivery of trainings to field investigators in project sites.
- Monitoring of data collection and managing teams in the field.
- Conducting secondary research on specified domains.
- Cleaning and analysis of data (Most of the datasets that we work on are large primary datasets obtained from field surveys).
  Writing and presenting findings in various forms (reports, policy briefs, presentations, and other related documentation).
- Grant and proposal writing.

Qualifications and competencies:

- **Educational and professional qualifications:** Candidates with a post-graduate degree in Economics, Statistics or related social science disciplines and 1-2 years of work experience in quantitative research should apply. Candidates who have an undergraduate degree and longer work experience)of 2-3 years(in the same field are also encouraged to apply.

- **Competencies:** Candidates should possess a strong background in quantitative research and analysis. Candidates should be comfortable with traveling extensively to rural locations across the country and should be able to work with a wide variety of people (state team associates, partner organizations in states, government officials, personnel from INGOs, academicians). We also expect a minimum 2-year commitment from the candidate. Some specific skills include:
  - ➢ Experience of working with datasets)data cleaning and analysis(.
  - ➢ Proficiency and experience in conducting statistical analysis on STATA.
  - ➢ Proficiency in M.S. Office (Excel, PowerPoint and Word)
  - ➢ Strong communication skills in English and Hindi (written and oral) to effectively correspond with a diverse audience. Proficiency in any other Indian language will be an advantage.

Consultancy Fees: Consultancy for this position will be in the range of Rs. 36,000-41,000 per month. The following factors will be considered while making the final offer to selected candidate: a) Academic qualifications b) professional experience c) skills possessed d) performance in the interview.

Application process: Interested candidates should email the following documents in their application

1. CV (Not exceeding 2 pages)
2. Cover Letter (500 words) explaining your motivation and suitability for the position

Please send completed applications to Purnima Ramanujan at purnima.ramanujan@asercentre.org and Afshan Parveen afshan.parveen@asercentre.org with the following subject line: Application to the Research and Statistics Unit. **The deadline for applications to this role is 28ᵗʰ April 2018.**

Selected candidates will be invited for an interview followed by a short test to ascertain skills and aptitude. Candidates invited for a second round of interview will be expected to provide professional references prior to the same.

Please note that due to the high volume of applicants, only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.