

**CHRIST**(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)
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Notice for the PhD Viva Voce Examination

Ms Anjana Sabu, Registration Number: 2090038, PhD Scholar at the Department of Economics, School of Social Sciences, CHRIST (Deemed to be University) will defend her PhD thesis at the public viva-voce examination on Monday, 03 August 2026 at 11.00 am in Room No. 044, Ground Floor, R&D Block, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru - 560029, Karnataka, India.

Title of the Thesis	:	Impact of International Remittances on Households in Kerala: An Analysis of Consumption Patterns and Living Standards Across Migrant Job Categories
Discipline	:	Economics
External Examiner - I	:	Dr Ritika Jain Associate Professor Department of Economics Centre for Development Studies Trivandrum - 695011 Kerala
External Examiner - II	:	Dr K S Hari Professor & Dean Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics Deccan Gymkhana Pune - 411004 Maharashtra
Supervisor	:	Dr Vineeth M Associate Professor Department of Economics School of Social Sciences CHRIST (Deemed to be University) Bengaluru - 560029 Karnataka

The members of the Research Advisory Committee of the Scholar, the faculty members of the Department and the School, interested experts and research scholars of all the branches of research are cordially invited to attend this open viva-voce examination.

Registrar (Academics)**Place:** Bengaluru**Date:** 24 July 2026

ABSTRACT

Historically, Kerala is one of India's most prominent remittance-receiving regions, largely due to the large-scale migration of its labour force, especially to the Gulf countries. Remittances have played a major role in shaping the state's economy by influencing household income, consumption behaviour, and overall living standards. This study examines the relationship between migration, remittances, and household welfare in Kerala based on the 2018 Kerala Migration Survey (KMS). The New Economics of Labour Migration (NELM) framework and Djajić's (1986) model provide a framework for the current research. The framework informs how migration outcomes influence both the economic and social dimensions of migrant households.

Here, the thesis examines (i) the overall effect of remittances on Kerala's economy, including the post-COVID-19 period. (ii) the effect of migrants' job experience on the remittances inflow, (iii) the effect of remittances on household consumption patterns across occupational categories, (iv) remittances impact on the standard of living among migrant households, and through an analysis of these objectives, the study systematically examines how remittance inflows reshape household income dynamics, consumption patterns, and welfare outcomes in Kerala. The robust econometric frameworks like ARDL, regression including dummy variables, robust regressions etc, using STATA, EViews help in the analysis. These models also address issues of multicollinearity and heteroskedasticity to ensure fair estimation of the effects of migration and remittances. Going further, the thesis examines the linkages between remittances and regional development. This assessment starts from the macroeconomic and narrows down to the microeconomic aspects within Kerala's socio-economic landscape. It reveals the relevance of the migrant occupational category to remittance inflows and consumption. Also, the results throw light into the living standards across various job categories as well. Thus, the findings contribute to the broader literature on migration economics by providing policy-relevant insights. This research is also aimed at enhancing the developmental gains of remittances and informing evidence-based public policy within Kerala's subnational context.

Keywords: Remittances, International migration, household welfare, household consumption pattern of remittances, household living standards, MSLI.

Publications:

1. **Anjana Sabu**, Vineeth Mohandas. A Call for Timely Census.Economic and Political Weekly(2025).EID:2-s2.0-105004936646.PartofISSN:00129976 23498846.<https://doi.org/10.71279/epw.v60i19.44154>.
2. **Anjana Sabu**, Vineeth Mohandas. The Impact of International Remittances on Public Debt Sustainability in Kerala: Evidence from the FMOLS Approach. Statistics, Politics and Policy, 16(3), 331-358 (2025).EID: 2-s2.0-105017133729 Part of ISSN: 21946299 21517509 <https://doi.org/10.1515/spp-2025-0004>.
3. **Anjana Sabu**. Econometric investigation of sectoral contributions to remittance inflows in Kerala using the VECM framework. Discover Global Society, 4(1), 34. (2026). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s44282-026-00354-1>.