

Job Description for Research Fellow, Cashrelief.org

About Cashrelief.org

Cash Relief is a project of Agrani India Foundation, a non-profit trust based out of Delhi. Agrani is working towards fighting poverty and disadvantage in India.

Conditional cash transfers have been used for quite a long while now for development outcomes. This has been done in various forms, some of which are unemployment allowance, senior citizens' pensions, and more recently payments for children attending schools and getting immunized.

Unconditional cash transfer on the other hand has only recently gained traction. Givedirectly.org, an international non-profit has been experimenting with unconditional cash transfers in Kenya since 2010. Several studies have been done on their work. In India, UBI (Universal Basic Income) got a whole chapter in the Economic Survey of India, 2017

Against this backdrop, a small pilot "Unconditional Wealth Transfer" is proposed. The use of the word "wealth" instead of "cash" is deliberate as the amount we plan to give to an ultra poor household is both large (Rs.96000/- per household) as well as it will be transferred within a period of 90 days. Such a large transfer of cash over such a short period has not been attempted anywhere to the best of our knowledge. Additionally this will be given universally to every household in the selected location.

We believe people are unique and so are their needs. Cash allows people to use it in ways they think is best.

About Position

The one of a kind pilot, will require multi-disciplinary baseline, mid, and end-of-project studies over a 4-month period. The Fellow would periodically visit the location of the project, interview the 30 households members through both a structured questionnaire (developed with the support of Dr. Laveesh Bhandari, Indicus Foundation) and conduct a few ethnographic studies during the course of the project.

The position therefore entails interaction with house-holds under a both structured and unstructured format, basic tabular data analysis and also qualitative in-depth interviews with some of the villagers. The studies would be conducted under the overall guidance of experts from Indicus Foundation Centre for Financial Inclusion (indicus.org).

Researcher Background

The fellow would have a post graduate degree in economics, sociology, anthropology or related fields from a globally recognized institution. He/She would have had 1-2 years of experience of independently conducting some research or as a post-doctoral fellow in a developing country. Graduates in any discipline with over

2 years work experience in the social sector and an interest in research can also apply even if they have no prior research experience.

Hard Skills

Computing word-processing and MS Excel or similar software.
Demonstrated skills of planning and putting together research reports/studies

Soft Skills

Very good written communication skills in English
Expertise in writing research studies
Having been published would be an added advantage
Comfortable in verbal communications in Hindi or Mewari
Ability to complete quality work within a time-frame

Remuneration and Terms

The research output would include the name of the Research Fellow as one of the primary authors, though all data and information collected and associated research would be the property of cashrelief.org.

The researcher would need to be present in the project habitation at least thrice or more for a period of a week each.

The compensation for a period of four months would commensurate with the skills and experience of the research fellow.

How to Apply

To apply email your resume to rahul@cashrelief.org