

# Ajit Phadnis

#J-202, Academic Block, Indian Institute of Management Indore, Rau-Pithampur Road,  
Indore – 453556. (0731) 2439413

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## **ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

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| June 2021- present   | Associate Professor, Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Management Indore, Indore |
| July 2017- June 2021 | Assistant Professor, Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Management Indore, Indore |
| Dec. 2016- May 2017  | Senior Lecturer, School of Policy & Governance, Azim Premji University, Bangalore                  |

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## **EDUCATION**

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| 2011- 2017 | <i>Ph.D. in Public Policy</i><br>Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Bangalore, Bangalore<br>Fulbright-Nehru Doctoral Research Fellowship 2014-15 at Duke University |
| 2005 - 07  | <i>Post Graduate Diploma in Management (MBA)</i><br>Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Bangalore                                                                    |
| 2000 – 04  | <i>Bachelor of Technology (B.Tech) Electrical Engineering</i><br>Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay                                                          |

## **PUBLICATION**

### Articles in refereed journals

Phadnis, A., Priyadarshi, A., & Mishra, S. (2026). Historical revisionism in contemporary India: an analysis of the Mann Ki Baat broadcasts. *Commonwealth & Comparative Politics*, 64, 19 - 45.

Phadnis, A., Aggarwal, S., & Naveen, K. (2025). Evolution of public policy education in the global South: The case of India. *Journal of Public Affairs Education*, 31(1), 18–40.

Phadnis, A., & Priyadarshi, A. (2024). Do the policy proposals of the BJP and Congress differ from each other? An analysis of election manifestos. *Economic and Political Weekly*, 59(48), 53-63.

Phadnis, A., & Khandelwal, A. (2022). The rise of political consultancy in India. *India Review*, 21(2), 249-276.

Phadnis, A., & Bhaskara, M. (2021). Disruptions in the legislature: An insider's view from legislators in India. *India Review*, 20(3), 348-371.

Phadnis, A. (2021). Party discipline and disruptions of legislative business: evidence from India, *The Journal of Legislative Studies*, 27(3), 381-399.

Phadnis, A., & Gupta, A. (2019). The Politics of Farm Loan Waivers. *Economic & Political Weekly*, 54(23), 51-56. – Article cited in the Economic Survey of India 2019-20.

### Articles Under Review

Phadnis, A., & Sivanandham, S. (n.d.). *The Effect of Broadcasting Parliamentary Proceedings on the Functioning of the Legislature: Evidence from India*. R&R with Political Communication.

Grover, M., & Phadnis, A. (n.d.). *Party Nationalization and Sub-National Development in Federal Democracies*. Under Review.

Kumari, P., & Phadnis, A. (n.d.). *Descriptive Representation, Assignment Rules, and Political Voice of Marginalized Groups*. Under Review.

### Working paper

Phadnis, A. & Aggarwal, S. (n.d.). *Do Democracies give more Recognition to Minority Religions: Comparison of National Holidays in 230 countries*, presented at the American Political Science Association Virtual Research Meeting, Australian Political Science Association Annual Conference.

Phadnis, A., Ahluwalia, S., Agrawal, U., & Reddy, B. V. (2024). How to Enable a Vibrant Ecosystem for Impact Investment: Lessons from India. Available at SSRN 5065677.

Phadnis, A., & Kudligi, S. (2020). How context affects policy response to COVID-19. Available at SSRN 3596295.

### Book chapter and Teaching Cases

Phadnis, A. (2019). Benefits from chaos: The political incentive behind the disruption of parliament, in *Constitutional and Democratic Institutions in India: A Critical Analysis*. eds. Sudha Pai. Orient Blackswan.

Phadnis, A. & Pachori, R. (2026). *Implementing KHEL: Pedagogical Reform in India's Public Schools*. Conditional Acceptance with Emerald Emerging Markets Case Studies.

### Book review

Phadnis, A. (2026). [Review of the book *A Logic of Populism: India and Its States* by Srikrishna Ayyangar (Cambridge University Press)]. *The Book Review Journal*, 50(2).

*Nobody's People: Hierarchy as Hope in a Society of Thieves* by Anastasia Piliavsky (Stanford University Press)]. *The Book Review Journal*, 45(9).

Phadnis, A. & Srivastava, R. (2021). [Review of the book *Nobody's People: Hierarchy as Hope in a Society of Thieves* by Anastasia Piliavsky (Stanford University Press)]. *The Book Review Journal*, 45(9).

Phadnis, A. & Arya, S. (2021) [Review of the book *Making India Great Again: Learning From Our History* by Meeta and Rajivlochan (Manohar)]. *The Book Review Journal*, 45(5), 9.

Phadnis, A., & Pathak, M. (2021) [Review of the book *Election Commission of India: Institutionalising Democratic Uncertainties*. by Ujjwal Kumar Singh and Anupama Roy (Oxford University Press)]. *Economic & Political Weekly*, 56(5), 27-28.

Phadnis, A. (2019). [Review of the book *Dissent on Aadhar: Big Data Meets Big Brother*. eds. Reetika Khera (Orient Blackswan)]. *The Book Review Journal*, 22.

Phadnis, A. (2019). [Review of the book *How India Votes: A State-by-State Look*. eds. Ashutosh Kumar and Yatindra Singh Sisodia (Orient BlackSwan)]. *The Book Review Journal*, 43(4), 16.

Phadnis, A. (2018). [Review of the book *The Indian Parliament and Democratic Transformation*. eds. Ajay. K. Mehra (Routledge)]. *The Book Review Journal*, 42(12), 10.

Phadnis, A. (2016). [Review of the book *Politics of Welfare - Comparisons across Indian States*. eds. Louise Tillin, Rajeshwari Deshpande, and K.K. Kailash (Oxford University Press)] *Studies in Indian Politics*, 4(2), 249–250.

Phadnis, A. (2013). [Review of the book *A Half-Century of Indian Higher Education: Essays* by Philip G Altbach. eds. Pawan Agarwal (Sage)], *IIMB Management Review*, 25(4), 257-258.

### **CONFERENCE (last 5 years)**

2026 American Political Science Association (APSA), Annual Meeting, Boston, Sep. 3-6.

Conference on Policy Process Research (COPPR), Virtual, Jan. 20-23.

2025 Australian Political Science Association (APSA), Annual Conference, Melbourne, Nov. 25-27.

International Political Science Association (IPSA), World Congress, Seoul, Jul. 12-16.

American Political Science Association (APSA), Virtual Research Meeting, Apr. 10-11.

University of Hyderabad, National Seminar on ‘Understanding Electoral Outcomes in Indian States: Lok Sabha Elections 2024’, Jan. 9.

2024 American Political Science Association (APSA), Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, Sep. 5-8.

2023 Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA), Annual Meeting, Chicago, Apr. 13-16.

IIM Bangalore, Eighteenth International Conference on Public Policy & Management, Aug.22-24

American Political Science Association (APSA), Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, Aug. 31- Sep. 3.

2022 European Political Science Association (EPSA), Annual Meeting, Prague, Jun. 23-25 (invitation).

IIM Bangalore, Seventeenth International Conference on Public Policy & Management, Aug.22-24

IIM Ahmedabad, India Public Policy Network (IPPN) Annual Conference 2022, Dec. 13-14.

2021 International Political Science Association (IPSA), Annual Congress, Lisbon, Jul. 10-14.

IIM Bangalore, Sixteenth International Conference on Public Policy & Management, Aug. 23-25.

### **CONSULTING**

2020 Madhya Pradesh State Education department for designing ‘Pedagogical training modules’

2010 Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU): National Consultant for study on parliament and Millennium Development Goals

2009-10 Lok Sabha Secretariat: Research fellow under the Lok Sabha Internship Programme

2007-09 PricewaterhouseCoopers Pvt. Ltd.: Social sector consultant with government division:

- Karnataka State Planning Board: Vision document for Karnataka, education sector
- Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Development & Financing Corporation: Concept note for poverty alleviation in North Karnataka
- Education Department, Government of Karnataka: Evaluation of mid-day meal programme

2007 Karnataka state education department: Evaluation study of Vocational education

## **TEACHING**

Research in public policy (PhD course)  
Public policy analysis (PhD course)  
Sustainability in Practice (post graduate course)  
Introduction to the Constitution of India (post graduate course)  
Indian politics and public policy (undergraduate course)  
Research methodology (undergraduate course)

## **ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

Member, Board of Studies (Management Department), Aditya University  
Associate Editor, Journal of Contemporary Business Research  
Member, Board of Advisors, Public Policy India  
*Reviewer*

Journals: Economic & Political Weekly, Studies in Indian Politics, India Review, Journal of Public Affairs Education, Humanities and Social Sciences Communications.

Fellowships: Fulbright-Nehru Doctoral Fellowship

### *At IIM Indore*

Member, Career Services Committee, 2026 to present.  
Member, HSS Area Faculty Recruitment Committee between 2024 to present.  
Member, Research and Publication Committee between 2024 and 2026.  
Member, Fellow Programme in Management (FPM/ PhD) Executive Committee between 2021 and 2023.  
Area Chair for Humanities and Social Science Area between 2021 and 2023  
Coordinator of the Rural Engagement Programme at IIM Indore between 2019 and 2021.  
Member of Integrated Programme in Management (IPM) Executive Committee between 2019 and 2021.  
Member of Ad-hoc committees: Committee to Review the Executive Post Graduate Programme in Management (EPGP), Committee to develop curriculum for Executive Fellow Programme in Management and Governance (EFPMG).

### *Association Membership*

American Political Science Association (APSA), International Political Science Association (IPSA), Association for Public Policy Education (APPE)

## **TRAINING**

Coordinator, Academic Leadership Programme for Directorate of Higher Education, Government of Goa, July 13 - 16, 2026.  
Coordinator, Mid-Career Training Program-II for National Communications Academy – Finance (NCA-F), January 5-9, 2026

Coordinator, Certificate programme on ‘Corporate and Public Leadership in a VUCA World’, 2023, 2024 and 2026.

Coordinator, Management Development Programme for MP CM's Young Professionals Programme, June 8-10, 2022

Trainer, Management Development Programme for officers (IAS, IPS & IFS) of MP Cadre, Feb. 7-8, 2022.

### **FELLOWSHIP/ AWARD**

- 2017 Brown University International Advanced Research Institutes (BIARI) Fellowship
- 2014 Fulbright- Nehru Doctoral Research Fellowship 2014-15
- 2011 Recognized '*Emerging Influential*' by Daily News & Analysis newspaper, Anniversary Issue.
- 2009 Recognized '*IIM Alumni: Rocking to a different beat*' in IMPACT, IIM Alumni newsletter
- 2007 ‘Community Service Award 2007’ at IIM Bangalore
- 2006 Elected member of Student Affairs Committee (SAC) of IIM Bangalore
- 2005 Percentile of 99.63 in Common Admission Test (CAT) 2005 for admission to IIMs
- 2004 Selected Best Office Bearer as General Secretary of Hostel at IIT Bombay
- 2000 All India Rank (AIR) of 226 from over 120,000 candidates in IIT-JEE 2000
- 1999 Best Outgoing student at Air Force School, Hebbal
- 1997 Top 0.1% Certificate of Merit for Mathematics for Grade X<sup>th</sup> Examination of the Central Board of Secondary Education

### **MEDIA**

Abhishek Priyadarshi and Ajit Phadnis. April 25, 2026. ‘In poll promises, BJP and TMC agree on a lot. The difference is in what they emphasise as ‘Bengali culture’ *The Indian Express*.

Abhishek Priyadarshi and Ajit Phadnis. July 30, 2025. ‘Where BJP and Congress agree, and where they differ’ *The Indian Express*.

Ajit Phadnis. June 5, 2025. ‘RTE quotas have failed to make school education inclusive’ *The Indian Express*.

Ajit Phadnis. March 25, 2025. ‘Delimitation without winners and losers: A middle path.’ *The Indian Express*.

Himanshu Rai and Ajit Phadnis. July 28, 2020. ‘Easing the policy uncertainty associated with lockdowns.’ *Free Press Journal*.

Ajit Phadnis. 2018. ‘The roots of Parliamentary dysfunction in India.’ *IIM-In-sights*. Vol. 1, May.

Ajit Phadnis. August 13, 2013. ‘Decoding Election Manifestos: What are the policies for the future?’ *Oxford University India policy blog*.

Ajit Phadnis. April 22, 2013. ‘New parties can leverage clout for a larger agenda.’ *Times of India*.

Ajit Phadnis. April 10, 2011. ‘The Fight for Lokpal brought us together.’ *Deccan Chronicle*

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16<sup>th</sup> September 2026