

Call for Papers for publication in a special issue

Rethinking Urban Services Delivery: Institutions, Innovations, and Policy Perspectives for Vikshit Bharat 2047

Increasing urbanization has transformed cities into dynamic centres of economic growth and innovation. However, it has also intensified challenges related to equitable access to and efficient management of essential urban services. The growing demand for housing, water supply, sanitation, solid waste management, public transportation, healthcare, education, energy, digital connectivity, and environmental sustainability has placed unprecedented pressure on cities. Ensuring inclusive, resilient, and sustainable urban service delivery has therefore become a critical priority in developing and emerging economies. The issues are closely linked to SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), and the current Indian policy context.

Centre for Urban Economic Studies and Department of Business Management, University of Calcutta, invite original research papers on the theme **‘Rethinking Urban Services Delivery: Institutions, Innovations, and Policy Perspectives for Vikshit Bharat 2047’**. The objective is to bring together researchers, practitioners, policymakers, and development professionals to explore emerging issues, evidence-based solutions, and innovative approaches for improving urban service delivery. Submissions are invited in the form of original theoretical or empirical research papers, policy analyses and evaluation studies, comparative and interdisciplinary research, case studies, good practices, systematic literature reviews and meta-analyses focusing on urban India.

Selected papers will be published in a Supplementary Issue of the Urban India Journal with ISSN 0970-9045.

Sub-Themes of Interest

Submissions may address, but are not limited to, the following themes:

- Urban governance for service delivery
- Equity, Inclusion, and Universal Access to Urban Services of Water and wastewater management
- Affordable housing and informal settlements
- Sustainable urban mobility and public transportation
- Urban Healthcare, Education and Social Infrastructure: Access, Quality and Inclusion
- Digital governance and technology-enabled urban services
- Artificial Intelligence, Big Data and Emerging Technologies for Transforming Urban Services
- Climate resilience and environmentally sustainable urban services
- Public-private partnerships and innovative models for financing urban services
- Impact evaluation of policies for urban service delivery
- Circular Economy, Resource Recovery and Sustainable Waste Management in Indian Cities
- The Gig Economy, Platform-Based Services and Urban Service Access
- CSR , citizen participation, community engagement, and co-production of urban services
- Social Media, Urban Branding and City Competitiveness to enhance service delivery

Submission Guidelines

Authors are invited to submit original, unpublished manuscripts in word document format, that are not under consideration elsewhere. Submissions should clearly state the research objectives, methodology, findings, and policy implications, along with an abstract of 200 words maximum and 5 key words. The length of the papers should not exceed 6500 words, including tables, figures and references. The paper should be in word format, with tables and figures listed after the manuscript before references, while indicating the positions of respective tables and figures in the manuscript. All manuscripts will undergo a double-blind-peer-review process for originality, methodological rigor, relevance, and contribution to the knowledge base and literature. The manuscript will also undergo plagiarism screening and assessment for AI-generated content.

Important Dates

- Full Paper Submission Deadline: 30.9.2026
- Confirmation of acceptance: 31.10.2026
- Submission of final paper: 30.11.2026

Submission Procedure

Authors should submit their manuscripts electronically to email id urbanindia.splcall.cu@gmail.com following the prescribed formatting guidelines.

Contact

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