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**Jindal School of Government  
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# JINDAL JOURNAL OF PUBLIC POLICY

APRIL 2023

VOLUME 7

ISSUE I

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## REVIEW PANEL

### **Jessica A. Field**

Professor  
Institute for Risk & Disaster  
Reduction  
University College London  
(UCL)  
PhD (University of Manchester)  
jessica.field@ucl.ac.uk

### **Prof. Sumeet Mhaskar**

Professor  
Jindal School of Government &  
Public Policy (JSGP)  
M.A., M.Phil. (Jawaharlal Nehru  
University)  
D.Phil [PhD] (University of Oxford)  
smhaskar@jgu.edu.in

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Professor and Associate Dean  
(Research)  
Jindal School of Environment and  
Sustainability  
B.Sc.; M.Sc. (Calcutta University)  
Ph.D. (IIT Dhanbad)  
achowdhury@jgu.edu.in

### **Prof. Raffaella Puggioni**

Associate Professor  
Jindal School of International Affairs  
(JSIA)  
M.A. (University of Kent)  
Ph.D. (University of Kent)  
rpuggioni@jgu.edu.in

### **Prof. Sugandha Nagpal**

Associate Professor  
Jindal School of International Affairs  
(JSIA)  
M.A. (Sociology) (York University,  
Toronto Canada)  
M.A. (Sociology and Social  
Anthropology) (Central European  
University, Budapest Hungary)  
Ph.D. (International Development)  
(University of East Anglia, Norwich UK)  
snagpal@jgu.edu.in

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Assistant Dean & Assistant Professor,  
Environmental Law,  
Jindal School of Environment &  
Sustainability (JSES)  
PhD (Pace University, USA)  
tmehta@jgu.edu.in

### **Prof. Kumar Manish**

Assistant Professor  
Jindal School of Environment &  
Sustainability (JSES)  
B.Sc.; M.Sc.; Ph.D. (University of Delhi)  
kumar.manish@jgu.edu.in

### **Divya Bhatnagar**

Lecturer  
Jindal School of Government & Public  
Policy  
B.Tech. (Gautam Budh Technical  
University);  
M.P.P. (The University of Chicago)  
dbhatnagar@jgu.edu.in

## **EDITORS**

### **Indranil Mukhopadhyay (Co-editor)**

Professor

Jindal School of Government and Public Policy (JSGP)  
B.Sc.(Hons.) (University of Calcutta);  
M.A.; M.Phil.; Ph.D. (Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi)  
Email: imukhopadhyay@jgu.edu.in

### **Manini Ojha (Co-editor)**

Associate Professor

Jindal School of Government and Public Policy (JSGP)  
B.A. (Hons.) (University of Delhi);  
M.A. (Jawaharlal Nehru University)  
M.A.; Ph.D. (Southern Methodist University)  
Email: mojha@jgu.edu.in

### **Aseem Prakash (Co-editor)**

Professor

School of Public Policy and Governance  
Tata Institute of Social Sciences  
Hyderabad  
M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D (Jawaharlal Nehru University)  
Email: prakash@tiss.edu

### **Meenuka Mathew (Assistant editor)**

Senior Research Fellow

Jindal School of Government and Public Policy (JSGP)  
BA Humanities (Aquinas, Colombo)  
M.A. Public Policy (O. P. Jindal Global University)  
Email: meenuka@jgu.edu.in

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## EDITORIAL

**Dear Readers,**

Most regional and global issues are rooted in local realities, and so are their solutions and responses. At present, more than 100 million people are displaced and forced to flee their homes, accounting for 1 in every 78 people globally. As wars, conflicts, health emergencies, and climate and economic crises accelerate, migrants (including displaced people) face enormous challenges related to safety, access to basic needs, and integration. Furthermore, the pandemic and the failure of effective local and international responses to protect migrant rights have exposed the injustice faced by the displaced communities during this health crisis. We want to call attention to the fact that when migrants are in a crisis, all levels of society are affected. As such, understanding the problems and solutions in international and local groups through discussions, deliberations, and evidence are crucial and essential. There is a need for rigorous research to fill in the evidence gaps between policymaking and the ground reality of intersecting issues of migration.

We are glad that the Jindal Journal of Public Policy, through this Special Issue on Migration, aims to contribute to the migration literature that could influence policymaking. This Issue comprises articles from various aspects of migration and public policy reflecting India's migration issues. We also bring to you a few insightful public policy-focused articles as part of this issue.

India continues to host people seeking safety due to the growing political, economic and climate crises in neighbouring countries and regions while tackling continuous challenges in responding to internal migration issues. The COVID-19 pandemic-induced problem was limited not only to health but also led to an unanticipated crisis of reverse mass labour movement from cities where the devastation continues to reflect today. In this regard,

Deepanjli Saraf and Milindo Chakrabarti, through their paper, **Migration and Growth: Lure of Urbanisation in India**, study the role of the Indian informal sector in the process of urbanisation and examine whether models of migration curated by economists are applicable in explaining their part in reducing the dualism that hinders development.

While India is the largest migrant-sending country and the largest remittance-receiving country in the world, the Indian migrants in the Gulf are at the risk of wage theft. We bring you a commentary by Rejimon Kuttappan, in **The Great Gulf Heist**. The article narrates the realities of the victims of wage theft, with stories of Indian migrants who were employed for building Qatar's FIFA World Cup Stadium. The article also highlights India's role in addressing the wage theft that exploits Indian Gulf migrants.

Chhaya Bhardwaj highlights the urgency to respond to India's climate change-induced displaced persons situation. The article, **Protection of people displaced from India's sinking islands: A human rights perspective**, analyses the human rights involved in climate-change-induced displacements and the importance of protection, rehabilitation, and relocation that need to be addressed through a human rights approach.

No aspect of life remains unaffected by displacement. In this Issue, we share with you an interesting and vital analysis of the **Lived Experiences of Kashmiri Pandit Women** where Ashani Dhar, highlights how displacement impacts various facets of life, including health, education, living conditions (camps), security, access to livelihood and the disruption in the creation of social capital.

In her article, **Visibilising the Underbelly of Global capitalism: Transnational Movements of Labour as Commodity**, Rita Manchanda reviews three books that are considered significant contributions to the

growing interdisciplinary field of migration studies. The books *Uncertain Journeys: Labour Migration from South Asia*, edited by A.S. Panneerselvan (2018); *Undocumented: Stories of Indian Migrants in the Arab Gulf* by Rejimon Kuttapan (2021) and *Gender, Identity and Migration in India*, edited by Nasreen Chowdhory and Paula Banerjee (2022), bring scholarly perspectives and policy analyses from the global south.

Life-threatening circumstances arise not only from man-made strife such as terrorism or wars, they also emerge from changes in the environment and climate, sudden or prolonged. Rajnish Wadehra, Sasank Aramsetty and Armin Rosencranz draw attention to climate refugees through the paper **Cognizing Climate Refugees and Proposing Measures for Their Relief**. The paper highlights the vital need for recognition of people displaced by environmental crises and the inhumanity of ignoring them in the conventional refugee systems.

Furthermore, in the paper, **Urban Energy Systems in India: Insights from Complex Systems Thinking**, Naresh Singh and Poorva Israni present an understanding of urban energy systems through the lens of complexity theory that contributes to identifying each element and their interactions within the system and beyond. Besides, the paper **Impact of Ideology on Public Policy and Governance: India at 75** by Kartik Kishore and Satya Narayan Misra takes the readers through an analysis of the impact of changed economic ideology on structural transformation, and high GDP growth coupled with a dissonance between the growth and development of Independent India and the Free-market economy-dismantling of the LPQ (License, Permit, Quota) Raj. Further, the paper also shows how parties in power with different political ideologies have shown remarkable congruence in economic ideology by pursuing the free market philosophy and makes solid recommendations for institutional independence, capacity build-up, and proper free market regulation.



We appreciate the overwhelming submission we received for this special Issue. The response indicates the need for more space and platforms to share scientific studies done in migration studies. We look forward to creating opportunities to disseminate vital research through our journal in the coming issues.

Volume 7 Issue I of the Jindal Journal of Public Policy has been possible due to the generous support of many in the process. Our special gratitude goes to the expert review board, Prof. Jessica A. Field, Prof. Sumeet Mhaskar, Prof. Abhiroop Chowdhury, Prof. Raffaella Puggioni, Prof. Sugandha Nagpal, Prof. Tarini Mehta, Prof. Kumar Manish and Divya Bhatnagar for taking immense efforts to review the papers carefully and for providing essential comments and suggestions to authors. We are grateful to Prof. Sudarshan, Dean of the Jindal School of Government and Public Policy, for his constant support and for providing opportunities for advancing the journal.

Special thanks to the talented Shweta Venkatesh for providing us with her copyediting expertise and for her continued collaboration with the journal. We appreciate the consistent support offered by Mani Mala, Manager & Academic Co-Ordinator of the Jindal School of Government and Public Policy. The efforts taken by Joydeep Mukherjee and Anil Kumar in designing the Issue are commendable. Our international board of advisors' mentorship has been an asset in maintaining and advancing quality outcomes through the journal.

As you may be aware, we have shifted the submission portal and access to the journal to a new online platform. We especially thank M. Madhan, Director of Global Library and his team for maintaining the site and providing technical and expert support for the journal. The journal can be accessed on the [new webpage](#), and we invite you to connect with the journal through our social media handles, [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

We look forward to connecting with you through our next Issue on Problems, Policies and Politics. Till then, stay well!

Happy Reading!

**Meenuka, Indranil, Manini, and Aseem**

Assistant Editor and Co-Editors,

Jindal Journal of Public Policy

Jindal School of Government and Public Policy

O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonapat,

Haryana-131001