



FROM THE DEAN'S DESK

During orientation for our new scholars, the Class of 2027, we found ourselves discussing the Cockroach Janta Party's protest. It had already claimed one significant victory: the resignation of the education minister. But its larger purpose remained unmet — to fix the exam system and reform education so that it truly serves the needs of our youth.

I asked the scholars a simple question: what ideas had they heard or read — from CJP's pronouncements, from the wall of media commentary — that offered any real guidance on what reforms were actually needed? The answer, tellingly, was almost nothing. A movement that many intellectuals and commentators had hailed as revolutionary had produced remarkably few concrete ideas for solving the problem it was protesting.

That gap is precisely the work we do at ISPP: understand the challenges on the ground, and design and implement policies that actually address them. What we call direct action at ISPP — the street protest, the public mobilisation — rarely delivers lasting results on its own. It builds awareness, applies pressure, shapes public opinion. But without policy action alongside it, the struggle simply repeats itself, year after year, without resolution.

So, I gave our scholars a challenge: the next time you find yourself at a protest, form a side group right there to work through policy options — the long-term, sustained answers to the problem you're protesting. It was a fitting reminder, on their very first days with us, of why public policy education matters.



"At ISPP, we bridge the gap between understanding challenges on the ground and designing policies that deliver meaningful solutions."

Parth J Shah
Dean and FA Hayek Professor of Spontaneous Order

CELEBRATING THE PDM CLASS OF 2026



The Indian School of Public Policy celebrated the graduation of the PDM Class of 2026, with 59 scholars completing the Post Graduate Programme. The ceremony was graced by Chief Guest Mr. Nadir Godrej, Guest of Honour Ms. Vidya Shah, and distinguished guest Mr. Avinash Satwalekar, CEO of Franklin Templeton Asset Management (India) Pvt. Ltd. Together with the ISPP community, they celebrated the graduating cohort and encouraged scholars to lead with purpose and contribute to meaningful public impact.

[Relive the Convocation](#)

RESEARCH CENTRE HIGHLIGHTS



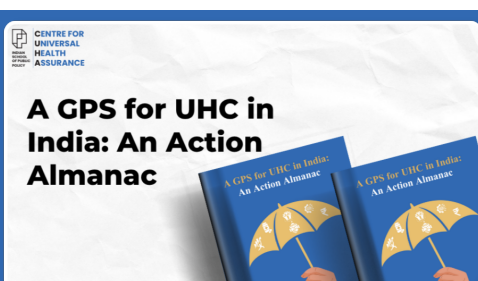
[Read the Report](#)

Review of The National Urban Transport Policy of 2006

To mark two decades of the National Urban Transport Policy (2006), ISPP, through the Centre for Urban Transitions (ICUT), launched a comprehensive review of the policy and convened leading experts to reflect on its impact and future direction.

A GPS for UHC in India: An Action Almanac

The Centre for Universal Health Assurance (CUHA) at ISPP launched A GPS for UHC in India: An Action Almanac, an evidence-informed roadmap for equitable, accessible, and financially protective healthcare. Authored by Dr. K. Srinath Reddy, Dr. Shalini Singh, and Ms. Prapti Sharma, the report outlines priorities for strengthening health systems and advancing Universal Health Coverage.



[Read the Report](#)

PROGRAMME SPOTLIGHTS

Executive Education Programmes

LokNeeti

The LokNeeti Class of July 2026 held its second in-person session with workshops, policy seminars, practicum presentations, and discussions on advocacy, public health, persuasion, and networking. The programme concluded with a convocation addressed by Ms. Mona Singh, IRS (Retd.), who encouraged the cohort to lead with purpose in public policy.



[Know More](#)



Policy Writing & Communication Workshop

In collaboration with the Public Affairs Forum of India, ISPP concluded the Policy Writing & Communication Workshop, a two-weekend online programme led by Vincy Davis. The workshop equipped participants with practical tools to craft clear, evidence-based policy narratives and communicate effectively with diverse stakeholders.

Financing Urban Infrastructure

ISPP, through the Centre for Urban Transitions (ICUT), in collaboration with Janaagraha, launched Financing Urban Infrastructure: Learning to Access Private Capital, a three-day Executive Education programme focused on strengthening urban infrastructure finance. The programme equipped practitioners with practical insights into municipal bonds, PPPs, project appraisal, and revenue generation.



[Know More](#)

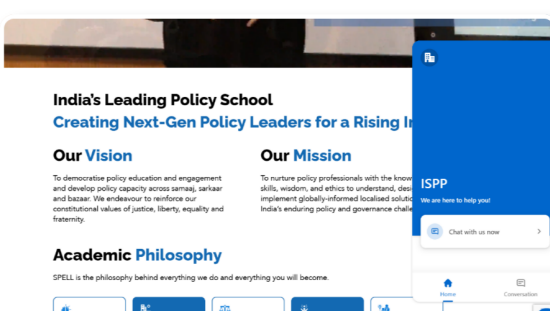


[Know More](#)

Understanding Government

ISPP concluded the latest edition of Understanding Government, a two-day practitioner-led programme exploring how public policy is shaped and implemented in India. Sessions on policymaking, stakeholder engagement, government decision-making, advocacy, and investment offered participants practical insights from senior policymakers and industry leaders.

NEETI Admissions Chatbot



[Explore Now](#)

ISPP launched NEETI, its online admissions chatbot, to simplify the admissions process for prospective applicants. From programme information and eligibility to application guidance and career pathways, NEETI offers instant support, helping aspiring policy professionals take their first step towards a career in public policy.

POLICY CAREERS IN ACTION



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The PDM Class of 2026 has secured opportunities across consulting, education, organisations, and social impact. Graduates have joined organisations including EY, Prosperiti, The Education Alliance, and Centre Square Foundation, contributing to policy research, programme implementation, and public sector innovation.

ALUMNI IN ACTION

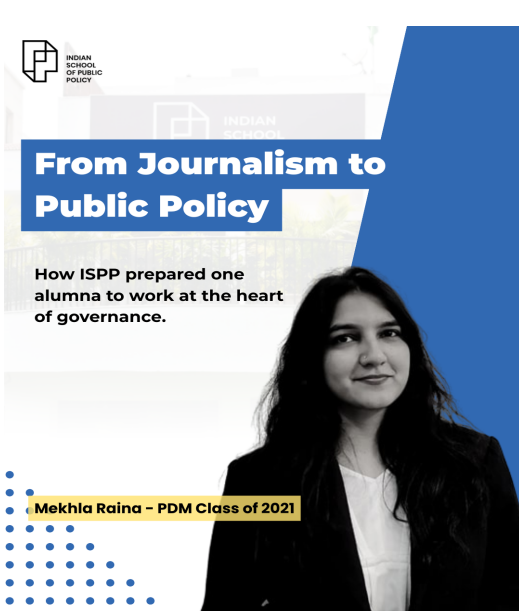
Alumni Council Elections 2026

ISPP's newly elected Alumni Council and Batch Alumni Representatives (BAR) will lead efforts to strengthen alumni engagement through mentorship, collaboration, and practitioner-led learning. The coming year will see initiatives such as the Dilli Dialogue series, Mock Parliament simulations, Policy Learning Labs, and outreach programmes that bring alumni and scholars together.

[Meet the Alumni Council](#)

Alumni Impact Story

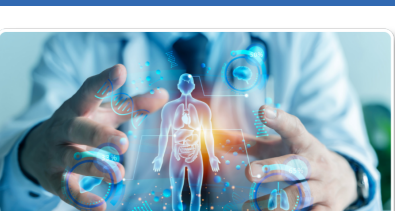
What does it take to move from reporting on public systems to helping shape them? Mekhla Raina (PDM Class of 2021) reflects on her journey from journalism to public policy and how ISPP prepared her for a career in government. Today, as a Lieutenant Governor's Sustainable Development Fellow with the Government of Jammu & Kashmir, she has worked on policy initiatives spanning tourism, education, and technology, contributing to reforms such as the J&K Homestay Policy and the J&K Private Universities Act. Her journey reflects how ISPP alumni are applying policy thinking to solve real-world governance challenges across India.



[Read Mekhla's Reflections](#)

[Know an ISPP alum making an impact? Tell us their story.](#)

ISPP INSIGHTS HUB



Screening with AI, sharpening with statistics



Indian School of Public Policy Celebrates the Graduation of the PDM Class of 2026 at its Convocation Ceremony



Experts call for new urban transport policy as India's vehicle fleet crosses 413 mn

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