NCA-F

NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS ACADEMY-FINANCE (NCA-F)

Centre for Policy Studies & Research (CPSR)

Journal of Communications Finance

E-ISSN: 3139-1915

VOLUME III, ISSUE II

CALL FOR PAPERS

December 2026

About National Communications Academy-Finance

National Communications Academy-Finance (NCA-F), formerly known as NICF, is a premier Central Training Institute (CTI) under the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Ministry of Communications (MoC). NCA-F was awarded the prestigious Sarvotkrisht (5-Star) accreditation by the Capacity Building Commission under the NSCSTI 2.0 framework, recognising its excellence in training, governance, infrastructure, and digital pedagogy.

Located on a 53-acre campus in Delhi NCR, NCA-F offers modern infrastructure, including a 220-room hostel, sports facilities, computer labs, and a well-stocked library. In the last year, NCA-F trained 8,474 officers, generating 45,003 training man-days. Under Mission Karmayogi, it has published 118 courses on the iGOT platform and 15,50,206 learner enrolments.

As the designated cadre training institute, it imparts trainings in the areas of financial management, revenue assessment, HR & Personnel matters, Finance Advise, Auditing, AI for Office Use and other related areas including behavioral skill enhancement. NCA-F has MoUs with premier CTIs and collaborates with national and global institutions, including ITU, NLSIU, IIMs, IITs, IISc, NSIC, and the Capacity Building Commission for enhancing the competency in generic subjects and skill upgradation in contemporary areas of government manpower.

About Centre for Policy Studies & Research (CPSR)

CPSR, as a research wing of NCA-F, aims to enhance expertise in communications policy through joint research and capacity-building initiatives. It seeks to evolve into a leading think tank addressing key challenges in the telecommunications and postal sectors — including communications finance, spectrum management, telecom regulation, and digital inclusion — while also exploring the policy dimensions of emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, cloud computing, and satellite broadband.

CPSR generates high-quality, evidence-based research to inform policymaking,

grounded in the values of equity and inclusivity, working with government bodies, think tanks, and academic institutions to deliver actionable insights for public and private stakeholders.

About the Journal & Scope

The Journal of Communications Finance (E-ISSN: 3139-1915) is a biannual, peer-reviewed publication of CPSR under NCA-F. It publishes original research papers, articles, case studies, and commentaries on the evolving landscape of postal, telecommunications, communications finance, and related public policy areas — including spectrum economics, telecom licensing, postal and public finance, and the regulatory and legal frameworks governing these fields.

The Journal particularly welcomes interdisciplinary work — on digital governance, financial inclusion, fintech, Indian Knowledge Systems, climate resilience, sustainable development, artificial intelligence, welfare architectures, and digital public infrastructure — provided the submission has a clear, substantive connection to the communications sector, digital economy, public administration, or associated regulatory frameworks. Empirical, doctrinal, theoretical, comparative, and policy-oriented contributions are all welcome.

Sub-Themes for Volume III, Issue 2

The following themes are illustrative and not exhaustive. Interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral submissions relevant to the Journal's scope are particularly encouraged.

Communications Policy, Regulation & Governance

- Digital transformation in the postal and telecommunications sector
- Role of the communications sector in Viksit Bharat
- Consumer behavior in telecom services
- Communications finance, policy, and regulation
- Spectrum valuation, pricing, and management
- Telecommunications licensing and regulatory frameworks; international trade
- Legal and regulatory frameworks for the digital economy
- Policy evaluation and evidence-based policymaking
- Public administration, ethics, governance, and policy design

Digital Economy, Emerging Technologies & Cybersecurity

- Cybersecurity and emerging threats in the digital space
- Ethical dimensions of, and responsible, AI; AI in public procurement and contract management
- Blockchain applications in governance, with a focus on digital communications

- Data economy — data centres, cloud services, content delivery networks
- Labour law and employee rights in the digital economy
- Data privacy and cyber law
- Satellite communications: financing, viability, use cases, and investment

Finance, Markets & Digital Inclusion

- Public finance and budgeting
- Financial inclusion, FinTech, and digital payments
- Forensic accounting, risk, and fraud analytics
- Behavioral finance and investor decision-making
- Corporate governance and financial performance
- Infrastructure financing and investment in communications and digital infrastructure

Development, Sustainability & Society

- Climate resilience, Sustainability-driven strategy (circular economy, ESG integration) and green finance
- Implementation of ICT in governance — challenges, learnings, outcomes
- Finance, governance, and ethics through the lens of Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS)
- Capacity building, skill development, and welfare architectures for Viksit Bharat

People, Behavior & Institutions

- Leadership & Organizational Culture
- Employee Engagement & Motivation
- Mental Wellbeing & Resilience at Work

Manuscript Categories

Research Papers	Up to 4,000 words	Original empirical, doctrinal, theoretical, comparative, or policy research supported by appropriate methodology and evidence.
Articles	Up to 3,000 words	Substantive analytical contributions on significant policy, regulatory, institutional, financial, or sectoral issues.
Case Studies	Up to 2,500 words	Documented analysis of a specific policy, programme, institution, or implementation experience, with lessons of wider relevance.
	Up to	

Commentaries	1,500 words	Concise, evidence-based perspectives on current developments, policies, or emerging debates.
Book Reviews	Up to 1,000 words	Critical reviews of recent academic publications relevant to the Journal's thematic focus.

** Word limits exclude references.*

What we look for: a clearly defined research question or issue; originality; engagement with relevant literature or policy material; sound methodology or analysis; and clear implications for policy, regulation, governance, or practice, where relevant.

Submission Guidelines

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1. **Originality:** All submissions must be original, unpublished work not currently under review elsewhere. Authors must submit the signed Author Declaration Certificate (Annexure I).
2. **Manuscript Format:** Times New Roman, 12 point, double-spaced, justified alignment. Submit as a Microsoft Word (.docx) file.
3. **Referencing:** APA 7th edition style must be used consistently, including in-text citations and the reference list. For formatting and examples, see the official APA sample papers and the APA guidance on footnotes and page order (footnotes should be used sparingly, only for supplementary content or copyright attribution — never as a substitute for in-text citation).
4. **Abstract & Keywords:** Include an abstract of 150–250 words followed by 4–6 keywords.
5. **Covering Letter:** Must identify the corresponding author with full contact and institutional details, the manuscript category, word count, and relevant disclosures (Annexure II).
6. **Double-Blind Submission:** The manuscript file must not contain the author's name, affiliation, acknowledgements, or other identifying information; author details go in the covering letter only.
7. **Figures, Tables & Permissions:** Follow APA 7 guidelines; images at a minimum of 300 dpi. Authors are responsible for obtaining permission to reproduce any copyrighted third-party material and for acknowledging the source.
8. **Language:** Manuscripts must be in English. Authors whose first language is not English are encouraged to have their manuscript professionally edited before submission.
9. **Ethics, Authorship & Disclosures:** Manuscripts involving human participants or sensitive data must comply with applicable ethical requirements. All listed authors must have made a substantive contribution

and approved the submission. Authors must disclose any conflicts of interest and any funding or institutional support received.

10. **Numerals & Units:** Spell out numbers one to nine; use figures for 10 and above, except for exact measurements (e.g., 3 km, 9%). Usage of Numerals, unit and currency should be uniform throughout the manuscript.

Use of Artificial Intelligence & AI-Assisted Tools

Authors must disclose any use of generative AI or AI-assisted tools in preparing the manuscript. AI tools must not replace the author's responsibility for the originality, accuracy, or conclusions of the work, and any AI-assisted material must be verified by the authors. AI tools cannot be listed as authors. Where used, authors should briefly state the nature and purpose of that use in the covering letter.

Review & Editorial Process

All manuscripts undergo double-blind peer review, in which the identities of authors and reviewers remain confidential throughout. Manuscripts are assessed on originality, rigour, relevance to the Journal's scope, clarity, and quality of writing. The Editorial Board reserves the right to desk-reject manuscripts that do not conform to these guidelines or fall outside the Journal's thematic scope. Following review, manuscripts may be accepted, accepted subject to revisions, or rejected; the final decision rests with the Editorial Board.

Plagiarism & Research Integrity

The Journal of Communications Finance is committed to publishing original, high-quality research and maintains a strict policy against plagiarism in all its forms. All submitted manuscripts will be subjected to plagiarism screening using standard detection software prior to peer review. Kindly note:

1. A similarity index of more than 10% (excluding references, bibliography, and quoted material) will render the manuscript liable to rejection.

2. Authors are expected to properly cite and acknowledge all sources. Manuscripts found to contain plagiarised content at any stage will be rejected or retracted.

How to Submit

Each submission must include the following three documents, sent together in a single email as attachments:

- **The Manuscript:** the full text, submitted as a Microsoft Word (.docx) file, anonymised for double-blind review.
- **The Covering Letter (Annexure II):** addressed to the Editor-in-Chief, confirming the manuscript has not been submitted elsewhere and including

the corresponding author's details, manuscript category, word count, and disclosures.

- **The Signed Author Declaration Certificate (Annexure I):**print, sign, scan, and attach. Submissions without a signed declaration will not be processed.

Submission and inquiry email: cpsr-nicf@gov.in

Submission Deadline

All manuscripts must be submitted latest by 15th November, 2026

This Call for Papers is for Volume III, Issue II. Manuscripts received after the deadline may, at the discretion of the Editorial Board, be considered as a subsequent issue. For inquiries regarding submission guidelines, thematic scope, or the review process, authors may write to cpsr-nicf@gov.in.

Author Submission Checklist

- Manuscript falls within the scope of the Journal.
- Correct manuscript category selected; word limit complied with.
- Abstract (150–250 words) and 4–6 keywords included.
- Times New Roman, 12 pt, double-spaced, justified formatting followed.
- APA 7 referencing followed consistently throughout.
- Manuscript anonymised for double-blind peer review.
- Figures, tables, and images comply with stated requirements; permissions obtained where needed.
- Authorship, conflict-of-interest, funding, and AI-use disclosures addressed.
- Covering Letter (Annexure II) is complete.
- Signed Author Declaration Certificate (Annexure I) is attached.
- All three submission documents are being sent together in a single email.

We look forward to receiving original and thought-provoking contributions from academics, policymakers, practitioners, researchers, and other professionals working across the communications, finance, technology, governance, and public policy ecosystem.

ANNEXURE I

Author Declaration Certificate

I/We certify that I/we am/are the author(s) of the manuscript titled:

_____

I/We agree to submit this manuscript for publication in the Journal of Communications Finance by CPSR, NCA-F. I/We confirm that the manuscript is original, has not been published elsewhere, and is not currently under consideration elsewhere.

I/We confirm that appropriate acknowledgement and citation have been provided for all sources, ideas, data, figures, tables, and extracts used, and that, to the best of my/our knowledge, the manuscript does not infringe the copyright or other rights of any third party.

I/We confirm that all listed authors have made a substantive contribution, approved the final version, and consented to its submission, and have disclosed relevant conflicts of interest, funding or institutional support, and any use of generative AI or AI-assisted tools.

I/We understand that, upon acceptance for publication, the author(s) will be required to grant the Journal the necessary rights to publish, reproduce, distribute, and communicate the manuscript in accordance with the Journal's applicable copyright and licensing policy.

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Date of Submission:

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Signature:

ANNEXURE II

Covering Letter

[Your Name]

[Your Affiliation]

[Your Address]

[Date]

Dear Editor-in-Chief,

I/We wish to submit an original manuscript entitled “[Title]” for consideration for publication in the Journal of Communications Finance, Volume III, Issue 1, June 2026.

Manuscript category: _____

Word count (excluding references): _____

I/We confirm that this manuscript is original, has not been published elsewhere, and is not currently under consideration elsewhere. I/We confirm that all authors have approved the manuscript and consent to its submission.

Use of generative AI or AI-assisted tools: ☐ None ☐ Details disclosed

Corresponding Author: _____

Institutional Email: _____

Telephone: _____

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[Name of Corresponding Author]

[Designation & Institution]