

OPEN CALL FOR ESSAY COMPETITION ON *CITIES, MIGRANTS AND INSECURITIES*

Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group (CRG)

The Calcutta Research Group (CRG – www.mcrg.ac.in) as part of its CIFAR (Canadian Institute for Advanced Studies) fellowship activities invites original essays from individuals up to 40 years of age around the theme “Cities, Migrants and Insecurities” (7000-8000 words including references and bibliography) for the Pradip Bose Memorial Award 2025. Participants should not use AI tools for writing the essay.

Prize Money: 25,000 INR

Essays can be submitted till 30 September 2025 through the following link:

<https://forms.gle/XdW7C9DGmT6qQVgUA>

OPEN CALL FOR PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION ON *MIGRANTS, KOLKATA, AND INSECURITIES*

Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group (CRG)

The Calcutta Research Group (CRG - www.mcrg.ac.in) as part of its CIFAR (Canadian Institute for Advanced Studies) fellowship activities, invites entries for a photography competition on the theme of “Migration, Kolkata, and Insecurities,” exploring the interconnectedness of migration with the city space and the ensuing precarities a city endures and engenders during and after displacement. Interested individuals are requested to apply through the google form below by July 31, 2025. The photographs should be original works and not previously shared on any social media platforms or used for any commercial purpose. After applying, please send five to seven (minimum five, maximum seven) original black and white photographs in jpeg/jpg format in minimum 600 dpi by September 10, 2025 to the email id given in the application form. The photographs must form a series, be accompanied by explanatory captions/titles, and narrate an interconnected story, history, or idea.

These photographs will be utilised by CRG for future developmental, research, and creative pursuits in urban studies, while recognising the creative rights of the photographer/artist who can use it for own purpose. CRG expects an equivalent professional ethical attitude from the photographer/artist regarding the shared entitlements of the photographs with CRG. This condition is applicable solely to the awarded photographs/photo series, which will be a part of the exhibitions organised by CRG.

Participants are expected to refrain from submitting the photographs elsewhere before the announcement of the award(s).

This call invites exploration of the fragmented concepts of home/shelter, precarity, identity, and belonging within the ‘migrant city’ of Kolkata. Applications should interrogate the layered meanings of a city, through migrants and migration, displacement, spatial reorganisation, informal labour, urban infrastructure and ‘development’, and the urban poor and the violence they face.

Important information and deadlines

Age Limit: 40 years

Link for Google Form: <https://forms.gle/bmgrPEPrXksqPNW57>

Last Date of Application: July 31, 2025

Last Date of Submission: September 10, 2025

Email Your Submissions to: <subhashree@mcrg.ac.in>, director@mcrg.ac.in, and <sucharita@mcrg.ac.in> with the subject line, “CRG Photography Competition”

Total Prize Amount: INR 30,000

The decision of the selection committee will be final. Winners will be intimated by the third week of October, 2025.