

## Urban Governance – Research Internship

Over the last two decades Praja has been working towards enabling accountable governance. We conducted data driven research on civic issues, and inform key stakeholders such as elected representatives (ER), citizens, media, and government administration and work with ERs to equip them to address inefficiencies in their work processes, bridging the information gaps, and mobilising them in taking corrective measures towards advocating for change.

The hallmark of Praja’s work has been extensive use and analysis of data to highlight trends and gaps across various issues concerning citizen’s lives in order to guide policy recommendations. In the last ten years in Mumbai and five years in Delhi, we have analysed more than 4.5 Cr unique data points on urban governance, collected through Right to Information (RTI) and citizen survey. The in-depth insights have been instrumental in creating evidence to inform our key stakeholders, equip them with ground realities and advocate for reforms.

In the year 2020, Praja Foundation started its first batch of Research internship for three months (July to September 2020). An overwhelming number of 369 applications were received from all over India, out of which 12 interns were finally selected. These interns had worked for 3 months in research and analysis work of urban governance issues such as health, housing & transport, municipal finance and municipal services. The second batch of Urban Governance Internship will be rolled out in the month of February 2021 for a duration of three months. The research themes planned for the internship are the indicators of Urban Governance Index – Municipal Finance, Citizen participation, WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) & Health, Civic issues, Development Plan, affordable housing, urban transport, & Health. More details on the research & projects have been mentioned in the project detail section below.

The Research Internship at Praja aims to engage graduates and postgraduates to work on research projects and live projects in Praja. The internship provides an opportunity to work on topical issues in urban local governance and to contribute to the publication of research papers and reports. The internship will only require the interns to work remotely. Also, please note that there is no stipend included in this internship. The other purpose of the internship is to create a pool of youths to make them aware of the urban governance related issues and build their capacity to further advocate for reforms.

The overall outcome envisaged is the gain of understanding and ability to combine, academic experience and practical knowledge into projects. The research intern will also develop strong research skills involving various research methods, data compilation and analysis and research writing. The internship will also ensure that the interns gain in-depth knowledge on various aspects relating to the research topics or live projects they work on.

### Qualification/Background –

Graduate/Postgraduate in Urban Development & Management/Planning/Housing/Public Policy/Law/Political Science/Public Administration/MSW/Sociology.

---

## Timeline for Research Internship

Time line for research internship	
Application forms	6 <sup>th</sup> Feb – 14 <sup>th</sup> Feb
Application Deadline	14 <sup>th</sup> Feb
Interview of selected applicants	16 <sup>th</sup> Feb
Announcement of final result	17 <sup>th</sup> Feb
Joining date (orientation)	19 <sup>th</sup> Feb
Duration	3 months/12 weeks 30 hours per week

Kindly find the project details mentioned below.

### Project Details:

#### 1. Research Theme: Urban Finance

**Topic:** Thematic Project to Assess the Fiscal Empowerment of City Governments.

**Number of interns:** 2 (Urban Development/Planning/Habitat/Public Policy).

**Duration:** 3 months.

**Scope and Objective of the study:** To create a database of indicators pertaining to Fiscal Empowerment of City Government and determining key insights on the theme.

1. To list down robust compilation of indicators.
2. Data Entry for finalised indicators.
3. Data analysis and developing key insights.
4. Preparation of Final Report.

**Methodology:** The study will be done through secondary research and collection of data from government sources. Studying various policies and acts related to urban finance.

**Outcome of the study:** Comprehensive database on Fiscal Empowerment of City Government will be built including compilation of key insights.

#### 2. Research Theme: WASH & Health

**Research Topic:** Determining correlations between indicators of WASH & Health and Citizen Participation/Fiscal Empowerment.

**Number of interns:** 2 (Urban Development/Planning/Habitat/Public Policy).

**Duration:** 3 months

**Scope and Objective of the study:** To create a database of indicators pertaining to WASH & Health services, and determining correlations with that of indicators of structural themes relating to Urban Governance.

1. To list down robust compilation of indicators.
2. Data Entry for finalised indicators.
3. Data analysis and developing key insights.
4. Preparation of Final Report.

**Methodology:**

1. Secondary data collection.
2. Data entry and quantitative analysis.
3. Studying various policies and acts related to WASH and Health

**Outcome of the study:** Comprehensive database on WASH & Health services will be built including determining the correlations with structural themes of Urban Governance.

### **3. Research Theme: Citizen Participation**

**Research Topic:** Thematic Project to Assess the Citizen Participation in City Governance.

**Number of interns:** 2 (Urban Development/Planning/ Public Policy).

**Duration:** 3 months.

**Scope and Objective of the study:**

1. To find data of 11 cities on the indicators finalised.
2. Analysis of the indicators.
3. Report preparation.
4. Qualitative analysis of data points and issues under citizen participation.

**Methodology:** City government website for data and Internet search. Studying various policies and acts related to citizen services, urban development, planning etc.

**Outcome of the study:** Understanding of the status of citizen participation in the 11 cities across 6 states.

### **4. Research Theme: Research on Civic Issues**

**Research Topic:** Research on civic vertical, help for symposium live project for April- May civic launch.

**Number of interns:** 2 (Urban Development/Planning/Habitat/Public Policy).

**Duration:** 3 months.

**Scope and Objective of the study:** To research and analyse data on key civic indicators of water, sanitation, solid waste management, complaint management system, etc. in Mumbai and Delhi as a part of the live project for launch of annual Praja reports. Logistics and management of symposium event for civic issues and open government data in Delhi.

1. Research on open government in Delhi.
2. Data analysis and white paper making for civic Mumbai and Delhi reports.

**Methodology:** Secondary research and data analysis, logistics and event management. Studying various policies and acts related to citizen services, urban development, planning etc.

**Outcome of the study:** Launch of Civic White papers Mumbai and Delhi, and Symposium in Delhi.

## **5. Research Theme: Housing**

**Research Topic:** Research on rental housing, vacant housing etc., help in symposium planning-live project for July launch.

**Number of interns:** 2 (Urban Development/Planning/Habitat/Public Policy).

**Duration:** 3 months.

**Scope and Objective of the study:** To understand the various possibilities for achieving adequate housing for all in Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR).

1. Research on bringing vacant housing to use, lease/rental housing in the MMR.
2. Preparation of recommendations report.
3. Support in Interactions/follow-ups with external stakeholders (MLAs, housing experts).
4. Management of logistics support for organising symposium.

**Methodology:** Secondary research and data analysis, interactions with external stakeholders, event management. Studying various policies and acts related to urban housing.

**Outcome of the study:** Comprehensive recommendations report on short term strategies for housing and symposium with key stakeholders for deliberations on the same.

## **6. Research Theme: Health**

**Research Topic:** Research on health policies, data analysis and report making for August launch.

**Number of interns:** 2 (Urban Development/Planning/Habitat/Public Policy).

**Duration:** 3 months (if willing, can extend).

**Scope and Objective of the study:** To research and analyse data on key health indicators based on health policies in Mumbai and Delhi, as a part of the live project for launch of annual Praja reports.

1. Research on health policies in Mumbai and Delhi.
2. Data analysis and white paper making for health Mumbai and Delhi reports.

**Methodology:** Secondary research and data analysis. Studying various policies and acts related to health and health facilities.

**Outcome of the study:** Launch of Health White Papers in Mumbai and Delhi.