



WORKSHOP ON Urban Environment of Kolkata: Problems and Prospects

**Organized by
School of Environment and Disaster Management
Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute
(Deemed to be University)**

**6-7 July 2026
IRDM Faculty Centre, Narendrapur, Kolkata**



In Collaboration with



**School of Planning and
Architecture, Nw Delhi**



**West Bengal
Pollution Control Board**



**Jadavpur University
Kolkata**

1. Background

Rapid urbanization has emerged as one of the defining challenges of the 21st century, significantly transforming the environmental, social, and economic landscapes of cities worldwide. In India, metropolitan regions are experiencing unprecedented urban expansion, resulting in increased pressure on natural resources, infrastructure, ecosystems, and public health.

As one of India's largest and historically significant metropolitan areas, Kolkata Metropolitan Region has undergone substantial spatial expansion over recent decades, accompanied by changing land use patterns and increased environmental stress. The complex urban system of Kolkata is facing multiple environmental challenges, including deteriorating air and water quality, suboptimal solid waste management system, inadequate drainage and resultant flooding of the low lying areas, depleting green cover and biodiversity losses, shrinking wetlands and water bodies, and above all, the worsening the impacts of climate change, which is reflected in intensifying urban heat island effects on the health of the city and its suburbs.

These transformations have intensified concerns regarding sustainable urban development, resilience building, and environmental governance. Addressing these issues requires interdisciplinary approaches involving scientific research across disciplines, technological innovation, policy intervention, and active stakeholder participation.

To discuss these complex issues, the School of Environment and Disaster Management of the Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute (Deemed to be University), in collaboration with West Bengal Pollution Control Board, School of Planning and Architecture New Delhi and Jadavpur University Kolkata, intend to organize a two-day Workshop at its Narendrapur Campus on 6-7 July 2026.

2. Objectives

The workshop will bring together scientists, researchers, scholars, policy makers and practitioners working on diverse issues of urban environment of Kolkata to discuss the complexity of the issues, the emerging scenarios and the challenges and opportunities of finding innovative and sustainable solutions for building a resilient and inclusive Kolkata.

3. Structure

The Workshop will be structured in nine Technical Sessions besides Inaugural and the Valedictory Sessions. Each Technical Session shall have one or two speakers followed by a panel discussion with experts. The speakers and panelists will be subject matter specialists having done considerable scientific and academic research and practical experience on the field.

4. Expected Outcomes

The workshop will be the first of its kind to focus exclusively on the urban environmental issues of Kolkata across multiple disciplines including urban planning and architecture, geography, environmental science, environmental engineering, climate science, disaster management, environmental health besides urban policy, management and governance. The expected outcome of the workshop will be

- a) Promotion of inter-disciplinary approach for study and research on urban environmental issues;
- b) Enhanced understanding of the challenges and opportunities of the urban environment in Kolkata;
- c) Development of networking platform to foster collaborative research and project formulation

5. Venue

The venue of the workshop is the Seminar Room of the IRDM Faculty Centre, Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute, Narendrapur Campus, Kolkata- 700103. The campus is located on Garia-Baruipur Road, 3 km south of Garia (Kavi Nazrul) Metro Station.

6. Tentative Programme

Day 1:	
9:30 AM to 10:00 AM	Registration and Tea
10:00 AM to 11:00 AM	Inaugural Function and Keynote Speech on Urban Environmental Challenges in Kolkata
11:00 AM to 12:00 PM	Technical session- 1: Pattern and Trend of Spatial and Demographic Growth of Kolkata and its Impact on Environment
12:00 AM to 1:00 PM	Technical session-2: Air Quality of Kolkata – Spatial-Temporal Analysis with Future Projections
	Lunch Break
2:00 PM to 3:00 PM	Technical session-3: Water Quality of Kolkata – Issues, Challenges and Solutions
	Tea Break
3:30 PM to 5:00 PM	Technical session-4: Waste and Wastewater Management of Kolkata - Problems and Prospects
Day 2:	
10:00 AM to 11:30 AM	Technical session-5: Drainage and Flooding in Kolkata – Looking Back and Moving Ahead
11:30 AM to 1:00 PM	Technical session-7: Dwindling Green Space, Water Bodies, Wetland and Biodiversity of Kolkata
	Lunch Break
2:00 PM to 3:00 PM	Technical session-8: Climate Change and Urban Heat Island Effect in Kolkata
3:00 PM to 4:00 PM	Technical session-9: Environment Related Health Issues in Kolkata – Emerging Trends and Challenges
4:00 PM to 5:00 PM	Valedictory Function and Certificate Distribution
5:00 PM to 5:30 PM	Feedback and High Tea

7. Registration

Only registered candidates shall be allowed to attend this workshop. Registration can be done online through the link <https://narendrapur.rkmvu.ac.in/national-workshop-on-urban-environment-of-kolkata-july-2026/>

Registration fees of Rs. 500 shall be charged for attending the workshop, which will be conducted in a hybrid mode. Candidates joining physically shall be required to pay an additional Rs. 500 for tea, snacks, and lunch for two days in the canteen of the University.

Accommodation shall be provided on request to outstation candidates at Narendrapur Ramakrishna Mission Guest House, for which an amount of Rs 1000 per night shall be charged for a single-bed AC room. The charge shall be inclusive of breakfast and dinner.

All lecture sessions shall be conducted in a physical mode. Online participants shall be provided with a Zoom link to attend the sessions remotely. Soft copies of the presentation and reading materials shall be provided to all participants. Certificates shall be issued to all the registered participating candidates.

8. Further Details:

For further details, please contact

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