



## Curated Voices

### Guidelines for Contributing Authors

#### About SPRF

We are a public policy think tank focused on collating non-partisan and objective social and political research. Through this, we aim to better facilitate dialogues on democracy. Headquartered in New Delhi, we work through our research, outreach, and events to deliberate the idea of an India where public policy is strengthened by fact and not steered by opinion. Anchored in the democratic ideas that emerged post-independence, we ensure that public policy understanding resonates with India's youth, the largest demographic group.

#### About Curated Voices

The Curated Voices project is a platform for graduate and post-graduate students, early-career scholars, academics, development professionals, and policy enthusiasts to publish work that embodies our mission to democratise public policy. Through this, SPRF strives to build a network of researchers from diverse backgrounds, which will underpin the diversity of discourse we seek to cultivate.

The submissions must cover at least one of the five thematic areas that SPRF focuses on:

1. Environment
2. Economy
3. Governance
4. Human Rights
5. Security
6. Legislation

Data must back the research, be original to the author, and be referenced accurately.

The submissions can be either:

1. Short topical pieces
  - Commentaries or blog posts on topical and current policy issues.
  - Reviews (books, documentaries, essays, movies, among others).
  - Photo essays and illustrations depicting ongoing public policy concerns.
  - Anecdotal narrative accounts tied to a broader policy issue. For instance: Exploring questions of education and accessibility for people with disabilities.



2. Research papers
  - Discussion papers focusing on policy concerns and potential recommendations.
  - Issue briefs with a fact-based overview and in-depth research of a particular public policy.

### **Editorial Guidelines**

- All papers should state a clear hypothesis. This should be mentioned and underlined in the first paragraph.
- All citations will be in [APA 7th edition](#) format. Papers with improper referencing will not be considered.
- Avoid unnecessary jargon and academic language wherever possible. Your writing needs to be as accessible as possible.
- The submissions should be well-researched and grounded in public policy issues yet be easily understandable for the lay audience.
- The paper should have the following structure:

1. Abstract
2. Keywords
3. Introduction
4. Body (subheads and flow are per the author's discretion)
5. Conclusion
6. Bibliography

\*Please read the style sheet before writing/proofreading your paper to adhere to SPRF's in-house style.

### **Submission Guidelines**

- Please refer to work previously published on [www.sprf.in](http://www.sprf.in) as examples of the Curated Voices Projects to better understand the tone and manner of writing we publish.
- Papers can be anywhere between 1500-3500 words.
- While the shorter 500-800 pieces can be submitted directly, for longer discussion papers and issue briefs, please send a 300-word abstract. Drafts of full-fledged research papers will only be accepted once the SPRF team has reviewed the abstract.
- Ensure that your submissions are sent in a Word format. Please do not send PDFs.
- Please mention a short author bio of yourself at the beginning of the paper.
- Do not share pieces that have been previously published elsewhere. If you want to submit an article that needs to be published on a particular day, for instance, World Doctors' Day, please ensure that the piece is sent at least a month prior.
- There is no deadline. We accept submissions throughout the year.



Submissions will be made to [contributions@sprf.in](mailto:contributions@sprf.in).

*We strongly encourage individuals from all marginalised communities to share their work. We request you to highlight this in your submission for our easier discernment.*

**Note**

1. Please note that we reserve the right to refuse publication if the article fails to meet our minimum editorial requirements.
2. The guidelines need to be strictly followed for us to consider your applications.
3. Any form of plagiarism or AI-generated content will be dealt with strictly and will lead to the cancellation of the submission.

For more queries, please write to [contributions@sprf.in](mailto:contributions@sprf.in)