

Office of the Chief Public Relations Officer
Jamia Millia Islamia

Press Release

JMI and SPA, Delhi sign MoU to conduct advanced research in Urban Planning and Design

New Delhi, June 19, 2025

Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) and the School of Planning & Architecture (SPA), Delhi, yesterday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to promote advanced research and training in the field of urban planning and urban design. Prof. Md. Mahtab Alam Rizvi, Registrar of JMI, and Prof. V.K. Paul, Director, School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi, signed the MoU on behalf of their respective institutions. Prof. Hina Zia, Head, Department of Planning; Prof. Nisar Khan, Department of Architecture; and Prof. Saima Saeed, Chief Public Relations Officer, JMI, were present during the signing of the MoU.

Expressing his happiness over this collaboration, the Vice Chancellor Prof. Mazhar Asif said, "This partnership between the two reputed institutions will contribute towards achieving the vision and mission of *Viksit Bharat*. He emphasized that the two institutions will particularly focus on advancing research about Indian Knowledge Systems so as to make our cities more livable. He added that the collaboration will open new vistas in the field of urban planning and urban design, as well as serve as a springboard for high-quality teaching and research in this highly specialized field."

Prof. V.K. Paul, Director, School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi, stated, "India is rapidly urbanizing, and cities are the destinations of the aspirations of our fellow countrymen. He highlighted the significance of research and academic collaborations between higher education institutes in facilitating the journey of growth of this unique country, which has tremendous potential and knowledge to take the road less traveled towards sustainable growth and development." Prof. Paul further highlighted that under this MoU, the Centre of Excellence in Urban Planning & Design of SPA and JMI will work together towards achieving the goal of sustainable cities for all.

Prof. Md. Mahtab Alam Rizvi, Registrar of JMI, said, "This collaboration will foster the organization of studies, seminars, trainings, and joint research, which will not only benefit the students and faculty of both the institutions but will also facilitate the implementing agencies and local authorities to make our cities resilient and smarter."

The School of Planning and Architecture is an Institution of National Importance, and the Government of India has created a Centre of Excellence in Urban Planning & Design at SPA with the objective of developing India-specific knowledge in urban planning and urban design and delivering certified training in these areas. This MoU between SPA and JMI, which is a leading central university and ranked 3rd in the NIRF rankings, will develop and offer expertise on sustainable, resilient, net-zero, and low-carbon solutions to resolve contextually relevant urban planning and urban design issues at urban and regional scales.

Prof. Saima Saeed
Chief Public Relations Officer

