

CDSA-IIMA X ORSI Competition on Practice of Management Science and Analytics

Call for Entries 2026–27

The Brij Disa Centre for Data Science and Artificial Intelligence at the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (CDSA-IIMA), in collaboration with the Ahmedabad Chapter of the Operational Research Society of India (ORSI), continues its industry-wide competition to promote and celebrate impactful applications of **Operations Research, Management Science, and Analytics in India**. Inspired by the Franz Edelman Award of INFORMS (USA), the initiative seeks to recognise and reward exemplary practice-oriented work.

The award will be conferred **on the client organization rather than individuals**. Authors of all finalist and winning entries will receive certificates of recognition.

Rules for Entry

1. The prize is **for application and practice, not for theory or methodology**. Therefore, a project demonstrating significant financial impact and/or policy change will have a higher chance of winning than one that focuses mainly on methodology with limited practical relevance.
2. The prize contest is a pro bono activity focused on improving **analytics practice in India**. The work must be **carried out in India by an organization located in India**. Multinational companies operating in India may enter the contest, provided the **work was done primarily in India and the first OR lead corresponding author is from India**.
3. **The name of the client organization where the work was carried out must be disclosed. Anonymous company names will not be eligible.**
4. By entering the competition, the organization must submit a declaration confirming that it will provide **a technical paper of about 8,000 words**.
5. The paper will be published in a technical journal after several rounds of editing and review.
6. If selected as a semifinalist, the selection panel will contact the client organization to verify the authors' claims in order to choose the finalists. **This process will typically take one to two weeks and may involve two or three online interactions. Senior management must be present in at least one of these interactions.**

7. The client organization must provide a letter from senior management, preferably from a board member or CEO/CXO, confirming that the **work has been implemented in practice and has generated significant financial impact. This impact letter will form part of the paper.**
8. If selected as a finalist, the company/client organization must deliver a 35-minute presentation of their work in January 2027 in a prescribed format. The presenters and/or senior management must respond to the judges' queries. **The presentation will be videotaped.** The video will be kept in the IIMA library and may be used as teaching material.
9. A **maximum of five contributions/projects will be selected as finalists**, and only one will be declared the winner. All finalist organizations will be recognized.
10. An organization/company may submit a maximum of three entries.
11. There is no entry fee, and the decision of the judges will be final.

Entry Procedure

1. Please submit a summary of 1500 words describing the work carried out in your organization. The summary should clearly indicate the problem, the OR/MS/Analytics methodology used, how the problem was solved, and the impact of the work in terms of financial gains and policy changes.
2. The senior management representative(s) should preferably hold the rank of CEO, MD, CTO, or Board Member and **may not be listed as an author.** The representative will certify the impact and current use of the project.
3. Please also provide the name, designation, mobile number, and email ID of all authors, along with **similar details of one or two senior management representatives of the organization.**

Kindly email the 1,500-word summary by 30 June 2026 to the contacts listed below.

Submission Contacts

Dr. Siddhartha Sengupta	Prof. Goutam Dutta
Role: Chair of Prize Committee	Role: General Chair
TCS/IIT-Bombay (Retd.)	Professor (Retd.) Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad
Email: sid_tilin@yahoo.com	Email: goutam@iima.ac.in
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General Correspondence: Dr. Neaketa Chawla, Centre Coordinator, CDSA, cdsa@iima.ac.in

Deadlines

Milestone	Date
Last date for entry	30 June 2026
Selection of semifinalists	26 July 2026
Selection of finalists	5 September 2026
Submission of first draft of paper	5 October 2026
Submission of second draft of paper	5 November 2026
Submission of final paper	1 December 2026
Presentation at IIMA	10 January 2027
Declaration of winner	10 January 2027
Publication of special issue(s)	TBA