



SGI 2030 Newsletter



Issue No. 3

June 2025



Sylhet



Mymensingh



Gazipur

Strengthening Accountability: City Corporation's Annual Report



Barisal



Narayanganj



Chattogram

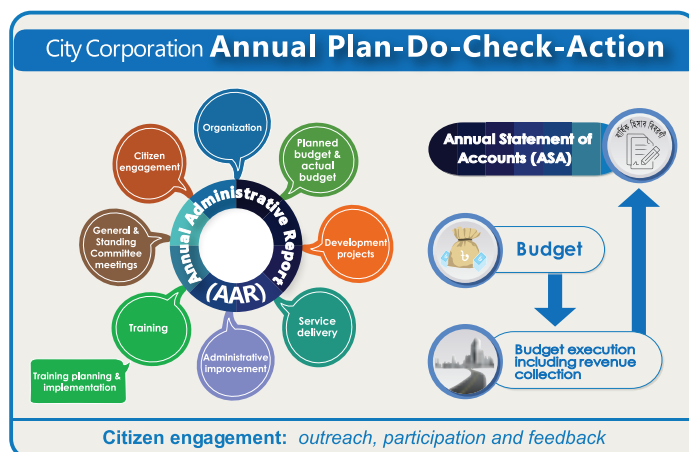


Rangpur

The Annual Administrative Report (AAR), together with the budget and the Annual Statement of Accounts (ASA), serves as a vital tool for the CC to uphold its accountability to citizens. The 12 City Corporations (CCs) have been working on it following the format of the Local Government Division (LGD) and with C4C 2 technical support for the last several years. The CCs are now gearing up for the AAR FY 2024/25, which needs to be completed and made publicly available by the end of September as per the law.

In April and May 2025, Rangpur, Mymensingh, Barisal, Chattogram, Narayanganj, Sylhet, Khulna, Gazipur and Cumilla CCs conducted internal staff training sessions on the updated AAR format recently issued by the LGD and for addressing weaknesses in each CC's past reports. About 30 officers of different departments and sections took part in the training facilitated by C4C 2 city governance specialists. "We now understand the full scope of the report and how each department contributes to it," said the Executive Engineer of Barisal CC.

Secretary of Narayanganj CC emphasized the importance of strengthening the CC's communication, stating, "We need to improve information sharing both internally and with citizens, who are often unaware of the wide range of services the CC provides." Rangpur CC's Chief Executive Officer said, "This collaborative approach to report preparation will strengthen internal coordination and enhance service delivery."



*C4C 2: the 2nd phase of "capacity for cities", LGD's capacity development project for City Corporations with JICA technical cooperation.

NILG's Budget Management Training



As part of the LGD's Training Plan for CCs, the National Institute of Local Government (NILG), with C4C 2 support, organized a budget management training in April 2025. Chief Accounts Officers and Accounting Officers from the 12 CCs participated in the training. It is one of a series of efforts by the LGD, in line with the SGI, to standardize budget preparation, accounting, monitoring and reporting based on the government's Budget and Accounting Classification System (BACS). The LGD recently approved a budget management manual developed with C4C 2 support, following consultations with the Finance Division, the Office of Comptroller and Auditor General (OCAG), the Financial Reporting Council, the NILG, and the CCs.

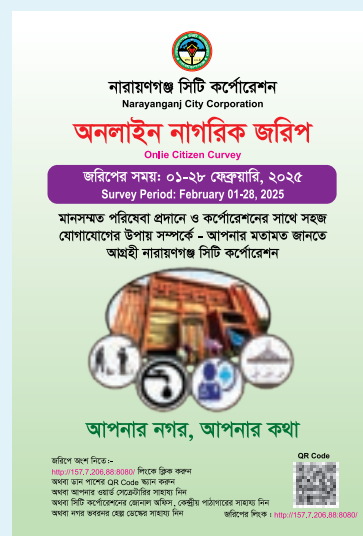
The purpose of the training was to provide CC officials with guidance on the details of the budget management manual, which covers the BACS, CC-specific accounting codes, budget preparation, accounting, monitoring and reporting. Through a series of exercises, the participants learned how to prepare new BACS-based budget documents and accounting forms. In addition, they practiced how to present the annual budget to the citizens using the Citizen Budget format prepared by the C4C 2 team.

The training was organized in cooperation with the OCAG. The NILG's continued cooperation will greatly help more CC officials to become familiar with the new system and improve their budget management practices.

Voices of Citizens -Online Citizen Survey in Narayanganj City Corporation

Listening to the voices of citizens is critical for local governments to make decisions and improve their services, operations, and policies. Citizen surveys are recognized as an effective tool for this purpose. Narayanganj City Corporation (NCC), with the support of C4C 2, initiated the first-ever online citizen survey conducted by a city corporation in Bangladesh!

The survey covered four areas - satisfaction with services, awareness of CC's administrative functions, communication with CC, and participation in civic activities. 909 citizens participated in the survey in February and March. NCC officials are now reviewing the survey results and considering measures to improve their services in some areas such as public toilet management, infrastructure development, and their interaction with citizens through a more effective communication strategy.



NCC's Flyer for Online Citizen Survey