



# SGI 2030 Newsletter



Issue No.4 September 2025

## Local Government Division's Annual City Governance Assessment

To measure governance improvements in City Corporations (CCs), the Local Government Division (LGD) has initiated an annual City Governance Assessment (CGA). The CGA evaluates CCs based on indicators on core administrative, financial, and citizen engagement functions, defined through C4C 2\*.

During the half-yearly meeting of the LGD-chaired Steering Committee on the Strategy for Governance Improvement of CCs 2030 (SGI) held on 24 July 2025, LGD recognized the top three performers from the 1st and 2nd CGAs conducted over the past two financial years.

Mr. Md. Rezaul Maksud Jahedi, Secretary of LGD, affirmed the value of the CGA as a highly effective initiative that incentivizes CCs to pursue better governance. He reiterated LGD's commitment to institutionalizing the CGA annually and expressed interest in expanding its scope to include service delivery outcomes.

## LGD-JICA Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) Meeting

On the same day, the LGD-JICA Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) convened, where Mr. Mohammad Saiful Islam Mazomder, Joint Secretary of LGD and Project Director of C4C 2, and Ms. Naoko Anzai, Team Leader of C4C 2, presented project progress and highlighted notable practices such as:

- LGD's issuance of a Budget Management Manual and updated Annual Reporting Guidelines
- NILG's training programs for the CCs aligned with LGD's Medium-Term Training Plan
- Standardized budget management and systematic annual reporting by the CCs
- Enhanced citizen engagement, including citizen budgets, taxpayer awareness campaigns and an online citizen survey pioneered by Narayanganj CC

Mr. Eiji Yamada, Senior Representative of JICA Bangladesh Office and co-chair of the JCC, commended the leadership and dedication of LGD, NILG and the CCs.

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



### City Governance Assessment Results

#### 1st CGA FY 2022-2023

- 1 Rangpur
- 2 Chattogram  
Sylhet  
Cumilla
- 3 Narayanganj

#### 2nd CGA FY 2023-2024

- 1 Chattogram
- 2 Cumilla
- 3 Sylhet



## Strengthening Citizen Engagement and Budget Management in City Corporations

Handover of Training Materials

From July to August 2025, the National Institute of Local Government (NILG) once again delivered training programs on **citizen engagement** and **budget management** for CC officials. Building on last year's successful courses with C4C 2 support, this year's programs reached a broader group of officials across multiple departments. The **Citizen Engagement** training equipped participants with practical tools for communicating with citizens, involving them directly in decision-making processes, and gathering feedback to improve service delivery. Meanwhile, the **Budget Management** course strengthened officials' capacity to prepare budgets and accounting documents in line with the Budget and Accounting Classification System (BACS). After the training, C4C 2 provided the CCs with BACS-based accounting forms it developed and printed such as cash books, ledger sheets, and monitoring registers.



Citizen Engagement Training



Budget Management Training



Handover of Books of Accounts

Both training initiatives reflect LGD's strong commitment to implementing the Training Plan for City Corporations, approved in June 2024.

To ensure the sustainability of these efforts, Mr. Md Saiful Islam Mazomder, Project Director, formally handed over the training materials to Mr. Md Abdul Quaiyum, Director General of NILG, in the presence of Mr. Md Rezaul Maksud Jahedi, Honorable Secretary of LGD. Recognizing LGD and NILG's keen interest in strengthening the capacity of CC officials in **holding tax assessment and collection**, C4C2 also provided training materials developed for this purpose.

Together, citizen engagement, budget management, and holding tax administration form the foundation of effective CC service delivery. With the new materials in hand, NILG is now well-positioned to expand its training reach, equipping more CC officials with the skills they need to serve their citizens more effectively.