



# **REGIONAL CENTRE FOR URBAN & ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES, LUCKNOW**

**(MINISTRY OF HOUSING & URBAN AFFAIRS, GOVT. OF INDIA)**

**(ACCREDITED AS 'UTKRISHT' BY CAPACITY BUILDING COMMISSION, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA)**

## **NEWSLETTER**

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The Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) Lucknow, established in 1968 by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India, is one of four such centers in the country. It provides expertise, advisory, and consultancy services to urban local bodies and parastatal agencies. Having completed over 50 years of service, RCUES Lucknow continues to uphold its role as a Centre of Excellence, driving progress in urban governance and development.

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# ONLINE TRAINING ON CONTRACT MANAGEMENT & PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

## BACKGROUND

Effective contract management and well-structured Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) are critical for the timely delivery of urban infrastructure and services. With increasing reliance on private sector participation in urban projects, Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) require strong institutional capacity to design, manage, monitor, and regulate contracts and partnerships efficiently. Strengthening the understanding of municipal officials on contractual frameworks and PPP models is therefore essential to ensure transparency, risk mitigation, and value for money in urban development initiatives.

In this context, **two Online Training Programmes on Contract Management & Public Private Partnership (PPP)** were organized to enhance the technical and managerial capacities of ULB officials and mission functionaries involved in urban project implementation.

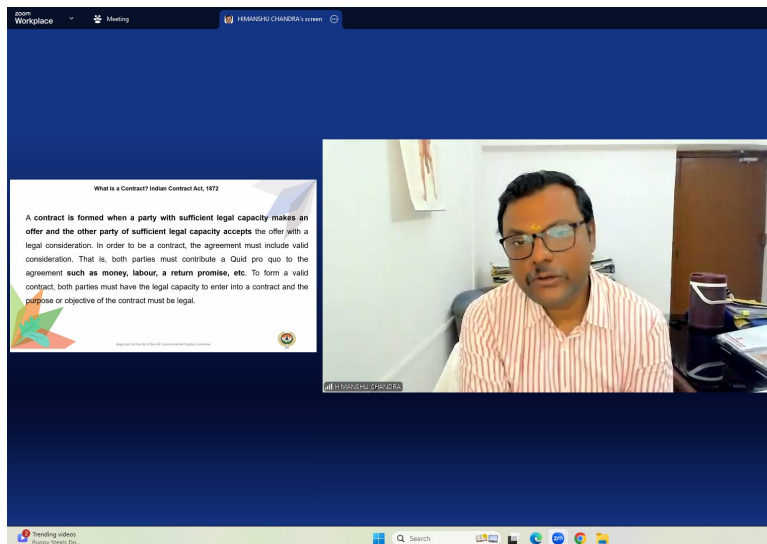
## OBJECTIVES OF THE TRAINING PROGRAMME

The training programmes aimed to:

- Build conceptual clarity on contract management principles and lifecycle stages
- Enhance understanding of Public Private Partnership models and their applicability in urban projects
- Strengthen capacity in drafting, monitoring, and managing contracts

## List of Trainings

Date	No of Participants
04-Oct-24	34
18-Oct-24	28



- Promote risk assessment, role clarity, and accountability in PPP projects
- Enable participants to address operational challenges through practical insights and case discussions

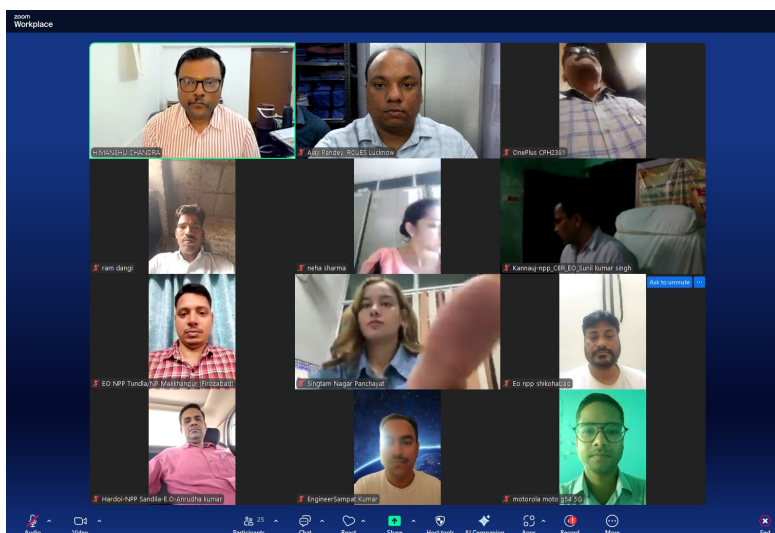
## TRAINING PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

The two online training sessions were conducted on **14 October 2025** and **17 October 2025**, ensuring wider participation and flexibility for urban functionaries. The programmes focused on key aspects of contract administration, PPP frameworks, risk sharing mechanisms, and compliance requirements relevant to urban infrastructure and service delivery.

The interactive virtual sessions facilitated experience sharing, clarification of doubts, and discussions on real-life implementation challenges faced by ULBs. The online format enabled participation from multiple cities while maintaining structured and focused engagement.

## PARTICIPANTS

A total of **61 participants** attended the two online training programmes. Participants included



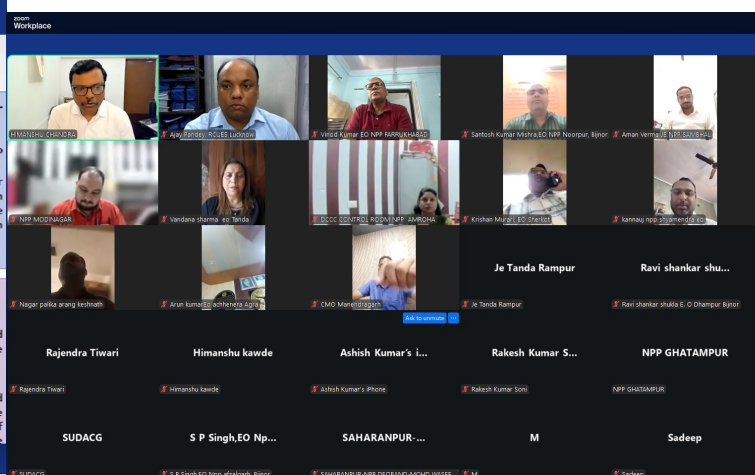
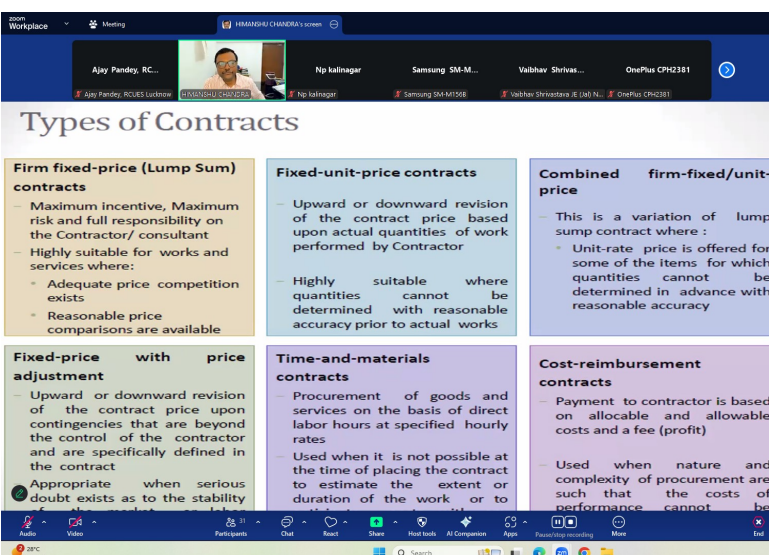
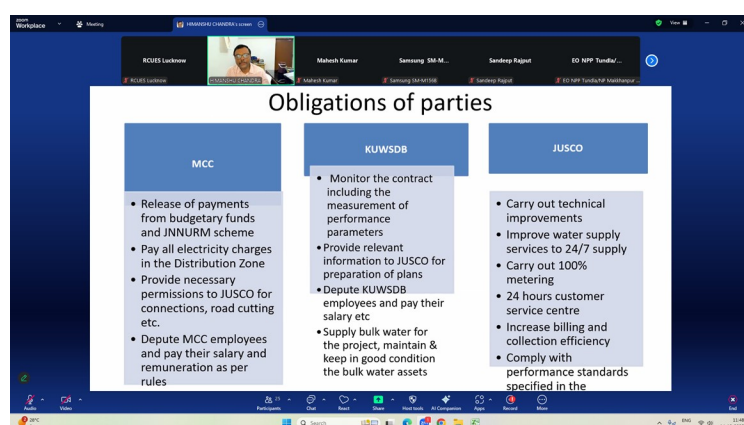
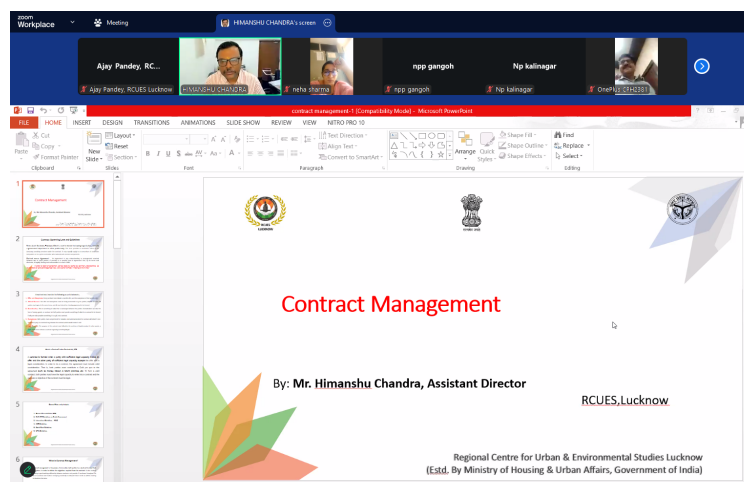
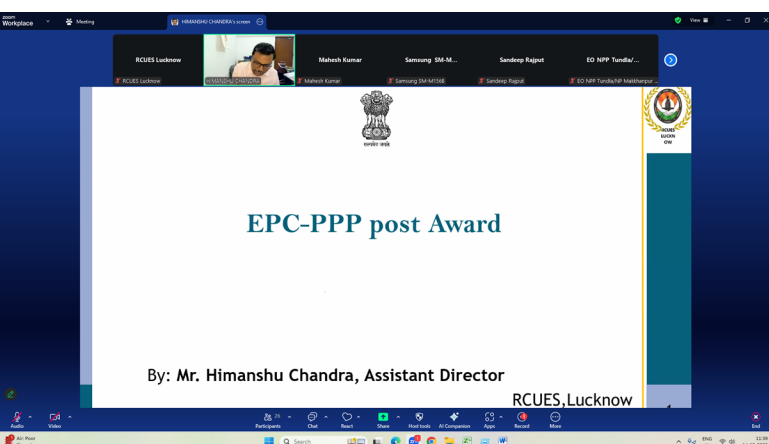


officials and functionaries from various cadres, such as: Executive Officers, Junior Engineers, Nodal Officers, City Managers, City Mission Managers, Clerks, Community Organizers, IT Consultants. The diverse representation ensured multi-disciplinary perspectives and enriched learning outcomes.

## COORDINATOR

The training programmes were coordinated by Mr.

Himanshu Chandra, Assistant Director, whose effective coordination ensured smooth conduct and successful completion of both online sessions.



## ONLINE TRAINING ON SOCIAL AUDIT IN URBAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

### BACKGROUND

Social Audit has emerged as a powerful tool for ensuring transparency, accountability, and citizen participation in urban development projects. With increasing public investment in urban infrastructure and service delivery, it is essential for Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) to institutionalize social audit processes to monitor project implementation, ensure effective utilization of resources, and enhance public trust. Capacity building of officials and technical experts involved in planning, execution, and monitoring is therefore critical for the successful integration of social audit mechanisms in urban governance. In this context, three Online Training Programmes on Social Audit in Urban Development Projects were organized to strengthen the understanding and practical application of social audit principles among urban functionaries and mission professionals.

### OBJECTIVES OF THE TRAINING PROGRAMME

The training programmes aimed to:

- Build conceptual clarity on the importance and scope of social audit in urban development
- Enhance understanding of social audit frameworks, processes, and methodologies
- Clarify roles and responsibilities of ULB officials and technical experts in conducting social audits
- Promote transparency, accountability, and community participation in urban projects
- Enable participants to identify gaps, risks,

and corrective measures through structured audit processes

### TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS

### PROGRAMME

The three online training sessions were designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of social audit mechanisms applicable to urban development projects. The programmes covered key aspects such as planning and conducting social audits, stakeholder engagement, documentation, disclosure, and follow-up actions.

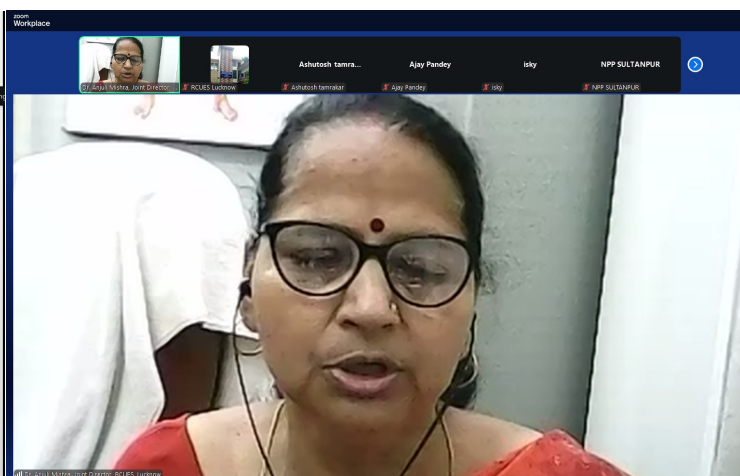
### PARTICIPANTS

A total of 136 participants attended the three online training programmes. The participants represented a wide spectrum of urban functionaries and technical experts, including: Executive Officers, MIS Experts, Sub Engineers, Senior Assistants, Civil Engineers, CLTC Professionals, SDS Experts, Senior Social Development Experts, Sanitary Inspectors. The diverse participation enriched discussions and promoted cross-functional learning.

### COORDINATOR

The training programmes were coordinated by Dr. Anjali Mishra, Joint Director.

List of Trainings	
Date	No of Participants
28-Oct-25	47
30-Oct-25	73
25-Nov-25	16



## ONLINE TRAINING ON MICRO CREDIT TO STREET VENDORS IN URBAN POOR

### BACKGROUND

Street vendors form a vital part of the urban informal economy, contributing significantly to employment generation and last-mile service delivery. However, limited access to formal credit often restricts their ability to sustain and expand livelihoods. Recognizing the need to strengthen financial inclusion among urban poor, focused capacity building of Urban Local Body (ULB) officials and mission functionaries is essential for effective implementation of micro-credit initiatives for street vendors.

In this context, an **Online Training on Micro Credit to Street Vendors in Urban Poor** was organized on 27 November 2025 to enhance understanding of micro-credit mechanisms, implementation processes, and the role of ULBs in facilitating access to financial services for street vendors.

### OBJECTIVES OF THE TRAINING PROGRAMME

The training programme aimed to:

- Build awareness on the importance of micro-credit for livelihood enhancement of street vendors
- Strengthen understanding of policies and schemes related to micro-credit for the urban poor
- Clarify the roles and responsibilities of ULB officials in identification, facilitation, and monitoring
- Promote effective coordination among field-level functionaries for smooth implementation
- Address operational challenges and share practical insights from the field

### TRAINING PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

The online training was conducted on **22 August 2025** and witnessed active participation from

officials and functionaries associated with urban poverty alleviation and municipal service delivery. The session focused on the concept, scope, and implementation framework of micro-credit support for street vendors, highlighting its role in improving income security and financial resilience.

Interactive discussions enabled participants to share field-level experiences, challenges, and best practices in reaching eligible beneficiaries. The virtual format ensured wider participation while maintaining focused engagement, making the programme both accessible and effective.

### PARTICIPANTS

A total of **41 participants** attended the online training programme. The participants represented a diverse group of urban functionaries, including: Executive Officers, Bill Collectors, City Mission Managers, Clerks, Community Organizers, Computer Operators. The diverse composition ensured cross-functional perspectives and enriched discussions.

### COORDINATOR

The training programme was coordinated by Dr. Anjuli Mishra, Joint Director, whose guidance and leadership ensured smooth conduct and effective knowledge dissemination during the session.



## ONLINE TRAINING ON CLIMATE ACTION FOR CITIES SDG-13

### BACKGROUND

Cities are at the forefront of climate change impacts, facing increasing risks from extreme weather events, rising temperatures, and environmental degradation. Aligning urban development with Sustainable Development Goal–13 (Climate Action) is critical for building climate-resilient, inclusive, and sustainable cities. Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) play a key role in integrating climate considerations into planning, infrastructure development, and service delivery. Strengthening the capacity of urban officials is therefore essential to translate climate action commitments into effective local-level interventions.

In this context, an Online Training on “Climate Action for Cities – SDG 13” was organized to enhance awareness and understanding of climate-responsive urban governance among ULB officials.

### OBJECTIVES OF THE TRAINING PROGRAMME

The training programme aimed to:

- Build understanding of climate change impacts on urban areas
- Sensitize ULB officials to the objectives and targets of SDG-13
- Promote integration of climate action into urban planning and infrastructure projects
- Strengthen institutional capacity for climate-resilient service delivery
- Encourage informed decision-making for sustainable urban development

### TRAINING PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

The online training was conducted on 7 November 2025 and provided a focused platform for discussing climate action strategies relevant to cities. The session highlighted the role of ULBs in mitigating and adapting to climate change through policy alignment, resilient infrastructure, and sustainable urban practices.

The virtual format facilitated interactive discussions, allowing participants to share experiences, raise queries, and explore practical

approaches to mainstream climate considerations in their respective urban local bodies. The programme emphasized the importance of coordinated action and long-term planning to achieve SDG-13 at the city level.

### PARTICIPANTS

A total of 22 participants attended the online training programme. Participants included officials and functionaries from diverse technical and administrative backgrounds, such as: Executive Officers, Executive Engineers, Assistant Engineers, Junior Engineers, Sub Divisional Engineers, Sub Engineers, City Managers, City Mission Managers, Tax Collectors.

The multidisciplinary participation enriched discussions and strengthened collective understanding of climate action for cities.

### COORDINATOR

The training programme was coordinated by Dr. Alka Singh, Joint Director, whose guidance ensured smooth conduct and effective delivery of the online session.

The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting interface with a grid of participants. Below the grid, a presentation slide titled "Mobility and Air Quality" is displayed. The slide includes a table for "Performance Evaluation Levels: Clean Technologies Shared Vehicles" and a diagram of a car with passengers.

Progression Level	1	2	3	4	5
Re-use technology shared vehicles available	<5%	5% to <15%	15% to <25%	25% to <35%	>35%
Score	1	2	3	4	5

**Methodology:**  
The city has to calculate the ratio of annual number of clean technologies shared vehicles to total shared vehicles.





## ONLINE TRAINING ON REJUVENATION OF WATER BODIES

## BACKGROUND

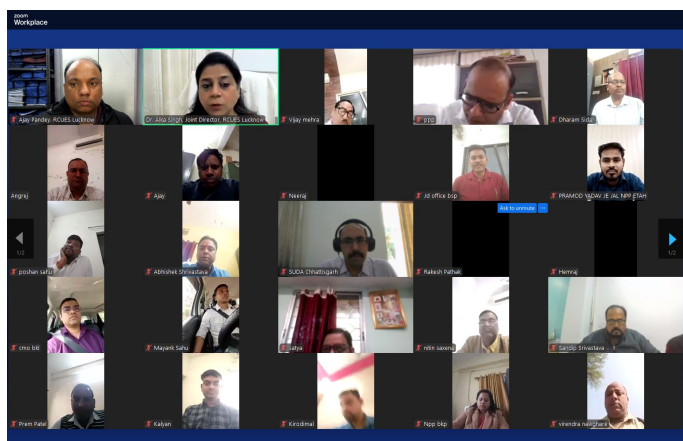
Urban water bodies play a crucial role in groundwater recharge, flood mitigation, biodiversity conservation, and overall environmental sustainability of cities. Rapid urbanization, encroachments, pollution, and inadequate maintenance have led to the degradation of many urban water bodies, impacting both ecological balance and urban resilience. Strengthening the technical and managerial capacities of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) is essential for planning and implementing effective strategies for rejuvenation and sustainable management of water bodies.

In this context, an **Online Training on Rejuvenation of Water Bodies** was organized on 17th November 2025 to enhance awareness and technical understanding among urban officials and sector experts involved in water resource management and urban planning.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE TRAINING PROGRAMME

The training programme aimed to:

- Build understanding of the importance of rejuvenating urban water bodies
- Enhance knowledge of planning, technical, and regulatory aspects related to water body restoration
- Promote integrated and sustainable approaches to water resource management
- Strengthen inter-departmental coordination at the city level
- Support informed decision-making for water-sensitive urban development



## TRAINING PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

The online training programme provided a comprehensive overview of challenges and strategies related to the rejuvenation of urban water bodies. The sessions focused on best practices, technical interventions, and policy perspectives for restoration, conservation, and sustainable use of water bodies in urban areas.

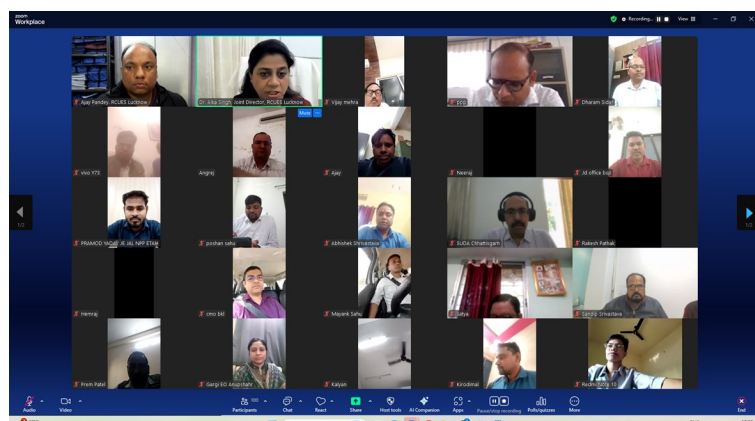
The virtual format enabled wide participation and facilitated knowledge sharing among officials, engineers, and subject experts from multiple disciplines. Interactive discussions allowed participants to exchange field experiences, address operational challenges, and explore practical solutions applicable to their respective cities.

## PARTICIPANTS

A total of 85 participants attended the online training programme. Participants represented a broad spectrum of administrative, technical, and environmental expertise, including: Executive Officers, Chief Municipal Officers, Executive Engineers and Assistant Engineers, Junior Engineers and Sub Engineers, Accountants and Section Officers, AREs and Design Engineers, Chemists and Environmental Experts, Mission Managers and Reform Experts, Lekhpals and Computer Operators, Team Leaders and Water Resource Experts. The diverse participation ensured multidisciplinary perspectives and enriched the learning process.

## COORDINATOR



The training programme was coordinated by Dr. Alka Singh, Joint Director, whose leadership and guidance ensured the smooth conduct and effective delivery of the programme.



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(RCUES LUCKNOW)**

**MINISTRY OF HOUSING & URBAN AFFAIRS, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
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## Rejuvenation of Urban Water Bodies

Sessions	Speakers
Urban Water Bodies: Challenges & Framework for Rejuvenation	Dr. Alka Singh, Joint Director, RCUES Lucknow

**Water Quality Management**

- Industrial, domestic, and agricultural effluents degrade water quality, cause algal blooms, reduce oxygen, and harm aquatic life.
- Regular monitoring of water quality (weekly by ULBs) is essential to maintain standards.
- Prevent direct discharge of untreated sewage/effluents; allow only treated effluent as per State Pollution Control Board norms.
- Implement measures to maintain potability and ecological health of the waterbody.
- Provide separate immersion tanks for religious/cultural festivities to avoid pollution of the main waterbody.

**Assessing Water Body Pollution in India**

**Cause**

- Domestic Sewage
- Industrial Effluent
- Agricultural Runoff
- Municipal Solid Waste
- Untreated Sewage

**Effect**

- Oxygen Depletion
- Algal Blooms
- Fish Mortality
- Reduced BOD
- Increased Turbidity

**Water Testing**

- Collect Water/Water samples and tests to assess the Effluents/Pollutants present in the water and its sources. The details of parameters to be tested are:-
  - BOD or Chemical Oxygen Demand (mg/L)
  - COO (mg/L)
  - D.O (mg/L)
  - TDS (mg/L)
  - Turbidity (NTU)
  - Heavy Metals (Chromium, Copper, Cadmium, Lead, etc.) to understand the presence of industrial waste.

**Priyanshu Singh | Researcher**

**Key Implementation Strategies For Urban Water Body  
Rejuvenation and case studies**

**Priyanshu Singh**  
**Research and Documentation Expert**



## ONLINE TRAINING ON RESOURCE MOBILISATION IN FINANCIAL PLANNING IN ULBS

### BACKGROUND

Efficient resource mobilisation and sound financial planning are fundamental to the sustainability and effective functioning of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs). With growing responsibilities in infrastructure development, service delivery, and implementation of urban missions, ULBs must strengthen their own-source revenues, improve financial management practices, and ensure optimal utilisation of available funds. Capacity building of municipal officials involved in finance, revenue, and accounts is therefore essential to enable informed decision-making and fiscal resilience at the city level.

In this context, three Online Training Programmes on Resource Mobilisation in Financial Planning in ULBs were organized to enhance the financial management capabilities of ULB officials and support effective urban governance.

### OBJECTIVES OF THE TRAINING PROGRAMME

The training programmes aimed to:

- Strengthen understanding of resource mobilisation strategies in ULBs
- Enhance knowledge of financial planning and budgeting processes
- Improve awareness of own-source revenue mechanisms and fund utilisation
- Build capacity in financial reporting, accounting, and revenue management
- Support informed and sustainable financial decision-making at the municipal level

### TRAINING PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

The three online training sessions provided focused insights into financial planning frameworks and practical approaches to resource mobilisation in ULBs. The programmes covered key aspects such as revenue enhancement, efficient fund management, and financial discipline

### List of Trainings

Date	No of Participants
18-Nov-25	35
19-Nov-25	23
20-Nov-25	62

required for sustainable urban development.

The virtual format enabled wide participation from finance, accounts, and revenue functionaries across multiple urban local bodies. Interactive discussions facilitated experience sharing, clarification of operational challenges, and exchange of best practices relevant to municipal financial management.

### PARTICIPANTS

A total of 120 participants attended the three online training programmes. The participants included officials and staff from various financial, technical, and administrative roles, such as:

Chief Municipal Officers, Account Officers and Accountants, Accountants-in-Charge, Assistant Grade-02 and Assistant Grade-03, Cashiers, Community Organisers, Sub Engineers, Data Entry Operators, Sahayak Rajaswa Nirikshaks. The diverse participation strengthened cross-functional understanding of financial planning and resource mobilisation.

### COORDINATOR

The training programmes were coordinated by Mr. Ajit Mishra, Assistant Director, whose effective coordination ensured smooth conduct and successful completion of all sessions.

## ONLINE TRAINING ON GIS-BASED MASTER PLAN, LOCAL AREA PLAN & TOWN PLANNING SCHEME IN URBAN AREAS

### BACKGROUND

Spatial planning is a cornerstone of orderly and sustainable urban development. The integration of Geographic Information System (GIS) tools with statutory planning instruments such as Master Plans, Local Area Plans (LAPs), and Town Planning Schemes (TPS) enables Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) to make informed, data-driven decisions for land use management, infrastructure planning, and service delivery. Strengthening the capacity of urban officials and planners to adopt GIS-based planning approaches is therefore essential for improving efficiency, transparency, and long-term urban resilience.

In this context, an Online Training on GIS-Based Master Plan, Local Area Plan & Town Planning Scheme in Urban Areas was organized to enhance technical understanding and practical application of GIS-enabled planning tools among urban functionaries.

### OBJECTIVES OF THE TRAINING PROGRAMME

The training programme aimed to:

- Build conceptual clarity on GIS-based spatial planning in urban areas
- Enhance understanding of Master Plans, Local Area Plans, and Town Planning Schemes
- Promote data-driven decision-making in urban planning and development control
- Strengthen technical capacity of ULB officials and planners in GIS applications
- Support integrated and sustainable urban development practices

### TRAINING PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

The online training programme was conducted on 21 November 2025 and focused on the role of GIS in strengthening statutory planning and urban management processes. The session highlighted how GIS-based tools can support land use analysis,

infrastructure planning, development control, and monitoring of urban growth.

The virtual format facilitated interactive discussions and experience sharing among planners, engineers, and municipal officials. Participants actively engaged in deliberations on practical challenges and explored ways to integrate GIS-based planning approaches in their respective urban local bodies.

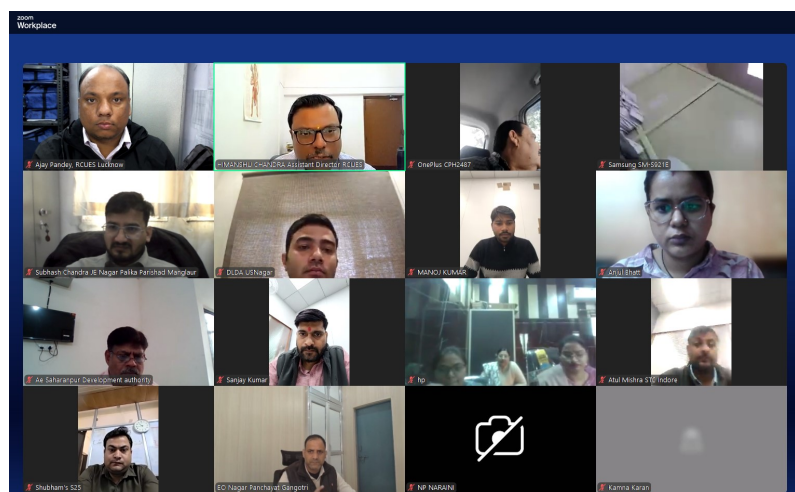
### PARTICIPANTS

A total of 39 participants attended the online training programme. The participants represented a wide range of administrative, technical, and planning backgrounds, including: Assistant Municipal Commissioners, Executive Officers, Executive Engineers and Assistant Engineers, Assistant Town Planners (ATP), Chief Town Planning Officers (CTP) and CTAOs, GIS Experts and Urban Planners, Junior Engineers and Junior Assistants, Computer Operators, Reform Experts and Tax Collectors.

The multidisciplinary participation enriched the learning experience and strengthened collaborative understanding of GIS-based urban planning.

### COORDINATOR

The training programme was coordinated by Mr. Himanshu Chandra, Assistant Director, whose effective coordination ensured smooth conduct and successful delivery of the online session.



## TRAINING ON CLEAN CITIES AND SANITATION : SDG-6

### BACKGROUND

Clean cities and safe sanitation systems are fundamental to public health, environmental sustainability, and improved quality of urban life. Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)—particularly those related to sanitation, waste management, water resources, and inclusive urban services—requires well-informed planning, robust institutional mechanisms, and effective community participation. Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) play a critical role in translating national and global sanitation goals into actionable and sustainable city-level interventions.

In this context, a Training Programme on “Clean Cities & Sanitation: Achieving SDGs” was organized to strengthen the capacities of ULB officials and sanitation functionaries in adopting integrated approaches for cleaner, healthier, and more inclusive urban environments.

### OBJECTIVES OF THE TRAINING PROGRAMME

The training programme aimed to:

- Enhance understanding of SDG goals related to clean cities and sanitation

- Strengthen technical and managerial capacity in solid waste and used water management
- Promote sustainable practices for water bodies rejuvenation
- Share best practices and successful case studies in urban sanitation
- Support planning and implementation of Garbage Free Cities and legacy waste management
- Encourage IEC initiatives and participatory planning approaches
- Sensitize participants on integrated social support systems such as One Stop Centres, Women Helpline, and Child Helpline

### TRAINING PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

The two-day training programme was conducted on 09–10 December 2025 and covered a wide range of thematic sessions aligned with SDG-linked urban sanitation priorities. Key sessions included:

- SDG Goals for Clean Cities & Sanitation





- Solid Waste Management and Garbage Free Cities
- Used Water Management and Water Bodies Rejuvenation
- Legacy Waste Management
- IEC and Participatory Planning
- Case Studies of Best Practices
- One Stop Centre (OSC), Women Helpline, and Child Helpline

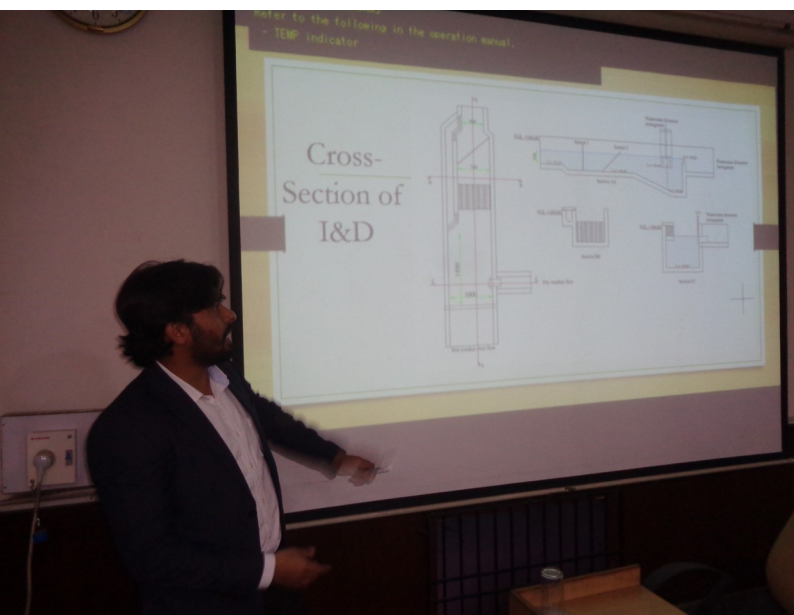
The programme featured expert-led technical sessions, interactive discussions, and experience



The participants represented Urban Local Bodies from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, fostering cross-state learning and exchange of best practices.

### COORDINATOR

The training programme was coordinated by Dr. Anjali Mishra, Joint Director, whose leadership and guidance ensured smooth execution and effective learning outcomes.



sharing, enabling participants to understand both policy frameworks and practical implementation strategies. The multidisciplinary nature of the sessions encouraged holistic thinking on sanitation, environmental management, and social inclusion.

### PARTICIPANTS

A total of 33 participants attended the training programme. Participants included:

Executive Officers, Chief Municipal Officers, APSWMOs, Assistant Engineers and Junior Engineers, Sanitary and Food Inspectors, SBM Nodal Officers, Sub Engineers, Tax Superintendents.



## TRAINING ON REJUVENATION & RESTORATION OF WATER BODIES

### BACKGROUND

Urban water bodies are vital ecological assets that support groundwater recharge, flood mitigation, biodiversity conservation, and climate resilience in cities. However, rapid urbanization, pollution, encroachments, and unplanned development have led to the degradation of many lakes, ponds, and wetlands. Rejuvenation and restoration of urban water bodies require an integrated approach combining technical solutions, policy frameworks, community participation, and climate-resilient planning. Strengthening the capacities of Urban Local Body (ULB) officials is therefore essential to ensure sustainable management and long-term conservation of urban water resources.

In this context, a Training Programme on “Rejuvenation & Restoration of Water Bodies” was organized to equip ULB officials with practical knowledge, planning tools, and exposure to best practices in water body restoration.

### OBJECTIVES OF THE TRAINING PROGRAMME

The training programme aimed to:

- Enhance understanding of the current status and challenges of urban water bodies
- Familiarize participants with guidelines and frameworks for water body rejuvenation
- Promote the role of wetlands as natural systems for water body restoration

- Build capacity in action planning, technology selection, and implementation strategies
- Integrate climate resilience and SDG-linked approaches in water body restoration projects
- Encourage community participation and innovative financing models for sustainability

### TRAINING PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

The two-day training programme was conducted on 18–19 December 2025 and featured a comprehensive mix of technical sessions, practical learning, and field exposure. Key sessions included:

- Urban Water Bodies: Current Scenario and Key Challenges in Restoration
- Guidelines and Frameworks for Rejuvenation of Urban Water Bodies
- Wetlands as Natural Rejuvenators of Water Bodies
- Water Body Rejuvenation Initiatives of Lucknow City
- Treatment Technologies for Wastewater in Drains
- Use of Geospatial Technologies for Restoration of Urban Water Bodies
- Integrating Climate Resilience Strategies for Achieving SDG-6 and SDG-11







- City-Level Action Planning for Nature-Based Solutions, Financing, and Implementation
- Innovative Community-Led Rejuvenation Models and Best Case Studies

A key highlight of the programme was the site visit to the Butler Lake Rejuvenation Project, Lucknow, which provided participants with first-hand exposure to on-ground restoration practices and implementation challenges. The group activity on preparing a Water Body Rejuvenation Action Plan for a ULB encouraged collaborative learning and practical application of concepts discussed during the sessions.

## PARTICIPANTS

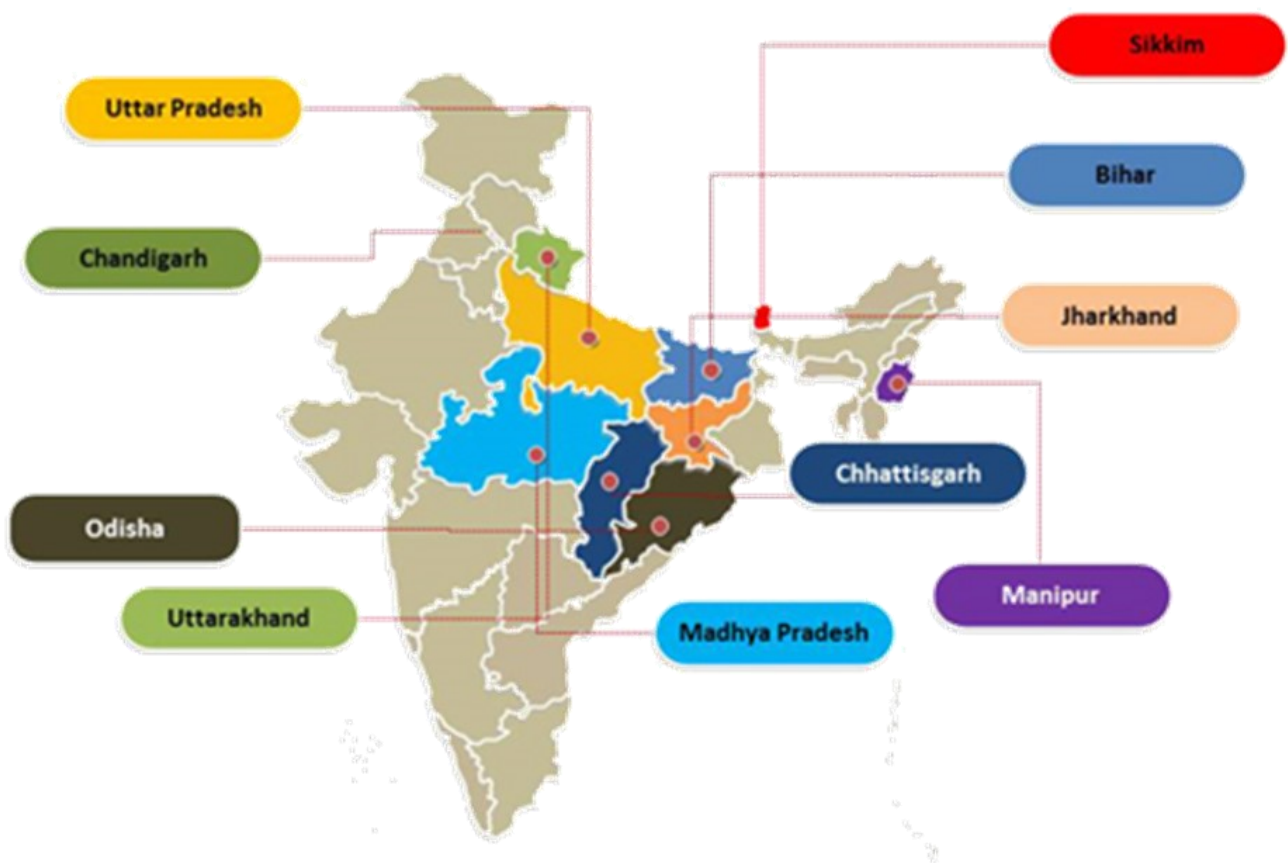
A total of 33 participants attended the training programme. Participants included officials and staff such as: Executive Officers, Junior Engineers, Sanitary and Food Inspectors, JalKal Supervisors, Clerks, Computer Operators. The diverse representation ensured meaningful discussions and practical exchange of field-level experiences.

## COORDINATOR

The training programme was coordinated by Dr. Alka Singh, Joint Director, whose leadership and guidance ensured effective programme delivery and a rich learning experience for all participants.



# OUR REACH





# Upcoming Campus of RCUES at Indira Nagar, Lucknow



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(आवासन एवं शहरी कार्य मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)

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