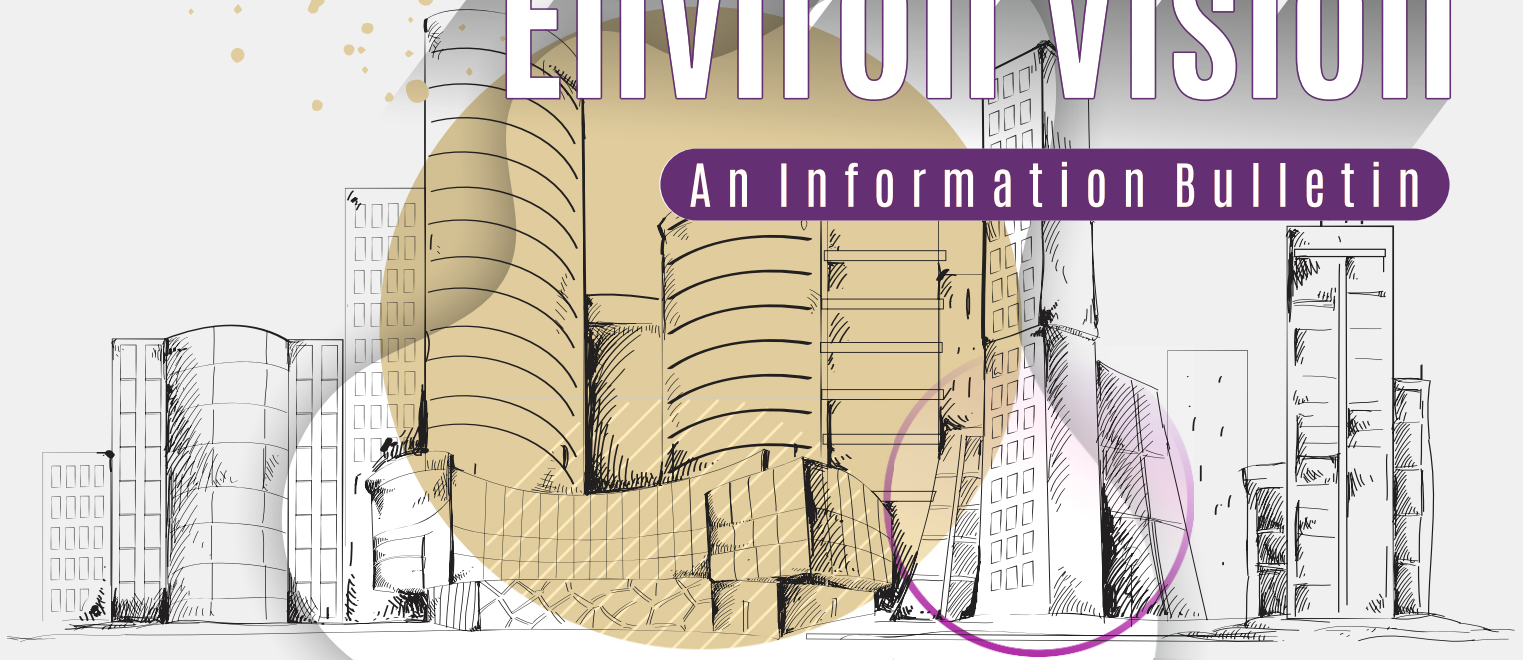


Vol - 20 No. 11 November 2025

**RCUES, Mumbai**  
Enabling better cities...

# Urban Environ Vision

An Information Bulletin



Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies  
All India Institute of Local Self-Government, Mumbai  
Established in the year 1968, supported by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India

*Urban Environ Vision aims to take its readers through offline and online training programs of RCUES, Mumbai while providing encouragement and knowledge to its participants and displays the efforts undertaken by RCUES, Mumbai.*

# Table of CONTENT

## RCUES Programs

01

Regional Specialized Training Programs on  
**Capacity Building of Mission Functionaries in Implementation of  
City Livelihood Action Plan (C-LAP)**

21<sup>st</sup> November 2025  
24<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Page 07

02

Seminar on  
**Clean India 2030: Transforming Waste Management &  
Urban Sanitation**

27<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Page 18

## Other than RCUES Programs

03

**National Seminar on Public Procurement Policy for MSMEs, 2025**

04<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Page 25

04

**National Urban Conclave 2025**

08<sup>th</sup> - 09<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
New Delhi.

Page 28

# Table of CONTENT

## Other than RCUES Programs

05

**Roundtable Conference on 'Adaptation and Resilience: Future Proof against the Impacts of Climate Change'**

12<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Page 31

06

**Bharat Recycling Show 2025**

13<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Page 33

07

**Leader's Roundtable Conference on 'Integrating Waste and Economic Growth: Advancing Recycling through EPR Policies and Sustainable Financial Pathways - 1st Edition '**

14<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Page 36

08

**International Conference on 'Fire Fighting & Disaster Management'**

18<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Vadodara, Gujarat.

Page 39

# Table of **CONTENT**

## Other than RCUES Programs

09

### **Middle East: Waste & Recycling Awards (MEWAR) 2025**

21<sup>st</sup> November 2025  
Dubai.

Page 42

10

### **National Master Trainer Orientation Program: Solid Waste Management**

24<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
New Delhi.

Page 44

11

### **Youth Engagement for National Clean Air programme (NCAP): Green Living Better Tomorrow**

28<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Page 46

12

### **Framing the Future**

Page 49



## Regional Specialized Training Programs on **Capacity Building of Mission Functionaries in Implementation of City Livelihood Action Plan (C-LAP)**

21<sup>st</sup> November 2025

24<sup>th</sup> November 2025

Mumbai, Maharashtra.

### Key Highlight

**The key highlight of the training programs was the enhancement of participants' capacities in implementing DAY-NULM initiatives through interactive sessions, practical exercises, and experience sharing. The programs promoted cross-learning, collaborative approaches, and strengthened understanding of C-LAP, SHG development, livelihood schemes, and community engagement, enabling effective and inclusive urban livelihood opportunities.**

## BACKGROUND

The City Livelihood Action Plan (C-LAP) is an important initiative of the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI), aimed at strengthening urban livelihood ecosystems. It provides a city-specific roadmap to enhance sustainable livelihood opportunities for the urban poor and vulnerable groups. The framework emphasizes mapping existing livelihood conditions, identifying emerging opportunities, and designing targeted interventions through a participatory and inclusive approach. C-LAP aligns with

national livelihood programs such as Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM), Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM - SVANidhi), and SVANidhi se Samridhhi, supporting income generation, credit access, and linkages to social welfare schemes. It follows a 'Whole of Government Approach', focusing on workers in informal and vulnerable occupations such as street vendors, construction workers, transport workers, domestic workers, waste workers, women, migrants, and other marginalized groups.

Under the new mission mandate, Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) are required to prepare a five-year C-LAP integrating economic development with climate and disaster resilience, ensuring sustainable and future-ready livelihood planning.

Considering this background, the Regional Centre for Urban and Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai, organized two Regional Specialized Training Programs on 'Capacity Building of Mission Functionaries in Implementation of City Livelihood Action Plan (C-LAP)' on 21<sup>st</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at Mumbai, Maharashtra. These training programs were supported by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI).

## KEY OBJECTIVE

The key objective of these training programs was to build capacities for preparing a demand-driven, inclusive, and sustainable livelihood action plan that strengthens urban economic resilience.

## PARTICIPATION

A total of 200 participants attended these training programs. The attendees included the mission functionaries of DAY-NULM, Chairpersons, Secretaries, Treasurers, Members and Representatives of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) from Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC), Maharashtra. The following table indicates participation in each training program.

Sr. No.	Date of the Specialized Training Programs	No. of Participants
1	21 <sup>st</sup> November 2025	78
2	24 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	122
	Total	200

## INTRODUCTION

On 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025, the training program commenced with an introductory session led by Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES of AIILSG, Mumbai, who extended a warm welcome to the participants, resource persons, and mission functionaries of DAY-NULM, BMC, Maharashtra.



**Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES of AIILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.**

In her opening remarks, Ms. Ansari highlighted the significance of the DAY-NULM in promoting inclusive and sustainable urban development. She emphasized the importance of strengthening

community institutions, promoting financial inclusion, and enhancing livelihood opportunities for urban poor households through structured capacity-building initiatives.

Ms. Ansari encouraged participants to actively engage in all sessions and contribute to the collective effort of improving livelihood planning at the city level through evidence-based approaches and community-driven frameworks.

Similarly, on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025, the training program was commenced by Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES of AIILSG, Mumbai.



**Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES of AIILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.**

## INAUGURATION

On 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025, the training program was inaugurated by Ms. Archana Kamble, Chairperson, City Level Federation,

Mumbai City, Maharashtra, in the presence Ms. Vibha Jadhav, City Mission Manager (CMM), Social Mobilizations and Institution Development (SM&ID), BMC, Maharashtra, Mr. Subhash Khake, CMM, Social Development & Infrastructure (SD&I), BMC, Maharashtra, Ms. Anila Chaudhari and Ms. Jaya Nadar, both ALF Chairperson, Mumbai, and Ms. Ansari.



**Ms. Archana Kamble, Chairperson, City Level Federation, Mumbai City, Maharashtra inaugurated the training program by lighting the lamp. (L to R) Ms. Vibha Jadhav, CMM, SM&ID, BMC, Maharashtra, Ms. Anila Chaudhari, ALF Chairperson, Mumbai, Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES of AIILSG, Mumbai, Ms. Jaya Nadar, ALF Chairperson, Mumbai.**

In her inaugural address, Ms. Kamble commended RCUES, Mumbai for organizing a focused training program aimed at empowering mission functionaries and strengthening the implementation of DAY-NULM. She highlighted the vital role of SHGs, community cadres, and women-led institutions in driving economic inclusion and social empowerment at the grassroots level.

She further emphasized the need for robust livelihood planning through C-LAP and encouraged ULBs to adopt participatory and community-centric approaches. Her address underscored the importance of collective action, financial discipline, and coordinated efforts in achieving sustainable community development outcomes.

On 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025, the training program was inaugurated by Dr. Ajit Salvi, Director, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai in the presence of Ms. Jadhav, Ms. Janhvi Rane and Ms. Veena Lad, both CLF President, Mumbai and Ms. Hardikar.



**Dr. Ajit Salvi, Director, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai inaugurated the training program by lighting the lamp. (L to R) Ms. Janhvi Rane, CLF President, Mumbai, Ms. Vibha Jadhav, CMM, SM&ID, BMC, Maharashtra, Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai, Ms. Veena Lad, CLF President, Mumbai.**

## TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The first technical session, 'Emerging Urban Livelihood Mission Framework & Introduction to C-LAP', was delivered by

Ms. Jadhav. She provided an in-depth overview of the evolving urban livelihood framework under DAY-NULM, emphasizing the central role of the C-LAP in strengthening livelihood interventions at the city level. She highlighted how C-LAP serves as a structured and strategic tool for assessing livelihood gaps, understanding community vulnerabilities, and designing targeted, need-based interventions for urban poor households.



**Ms. Vibha Jadhav, CMM, SM&ID, BMC, Maharashtra addressing the participants.**

During the session, Ms. Jadhav elaborated on the core components of C-LAP, including its purpose, methodological steps, and the critical role of community institutions in participatory livelihood planning. She underscored how a well-developed C-LAP enhances the effectiveness of mission initiatives by improving employability, fostering entrepreneurship, and expanding financial inclusion. The session enriched participants' understanding of holistic livelihood

strategies, equipping them with practical insights to strengthen local-level implementation under DAY-NULM.

The second session on 'Deendayal Jan Aajeevika Yojana - Shahari (DJAY-S) Scheme & Convergence Opportunities' was delivered by Mr. Khake. The session covered key aspects such as central and state-level livelihood schemes, eligibility requirements, documentation processes, and the integration of these schemes into the C-LAP. He also elaborated on PM SVANidhi, microenterprise development, skill training initiatives, and social security schemes, including Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), and Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan (PMSYM), along with Maharashtra-specific livelihood programs.



**Mr. Subhash Khake, CMM, SD&I, BMC, Maharashtra addressing the participants.**

Mr. Khake highlighted how effective convergence enhances financial security, expands livelihood opportunities, and strengthens long-term poverty alleviation efforts. By aligning

multiple welfare schemes with community needs, ULBs can improve outreach, maximize coverage, and ensure meaningful impact at the grassroots level. Participants were encouraged to apply these insights in their work with SHGs and vulnerable groups to optimize scheme implementation and promote sustainable livelihood development within their jurisdictions.

The third session on 'Building Strong Groups, Savings Culture, and Financial Discipline' was conducted by Mr. Sanjit Nair, Consultant, Rotary Club, Mumbai. Mr. Nair focused on the pivotal role of women's collectives and SHGs in strengthening community-based financial systems and enhancing economic resilience among urban poor women. He underscored how savings-led community institutions serve as platforms for empowerment, mutual support, and collective progress.



**Mr. Sanjit Nair, Consultant, Rotary Club, Mumbai addressing the participants.**

He emphasized that consistent savings, accountability, and financial literacy contribute significantly to long-term stability

and improved participation of women in income-generating activities. The session enabled participants to appreciate the transformative potential of SHGs in advancing economic independence and community empowerment.

Ms. Jadhav also led the fourth session, 'Leadership, SHG Concepts & Communication Skills for Mission Functionaries'. Building on her earlier presentation, Ms. Jadhav focused on developing leadership abilities and enhancing the interpersonal effectiveness of mission staff engaged in community-level facilitation. She explained the fundamental concepts of SHGs and the strategies required to strengthen community institutions for improved collective action and livelihood transformation.

Ms. Jadhav highlighted key competencies essential for effective field engagement, including motivating SHG members, managing group-level conflicts, and applying communication techniques that encourage participation and trust-building. She emphasized the importance of fostering ownership, ensuring transparent decision-making, and adopting problem-solving approaches while working with communities. The session equipped participants with practical behavioural and communication skills that are critical for nurturing strong SHGs and ensuring successful mobilisation under DAY-NULM.

## GROUP ACTIVITY

In both programs, the fifth session featured an interactive team-building activity titled 'Together We Achieve More: Team

Building for Successful Scheme Implementation'. In the participatory learning exercise, all participants were engaged in strengthening key competencies essential for effective mission implementation. The exercise highlighted the importance of collaboration, clear communication, problem-solving, and role clarity within teams engaged in livelihood promotion and community development initiatives.



**Participants engaged in group activity.**

Participants were divided into groups and assigned a balloon-based task, in which each group received a set of balloons and was instructed to coordinate roles for inflating, collecting, and managing the balloons to achieve the highest score. The activity simulated real-life field challenges requiring coordination, delegation, and collective effort. Through this exercise, participants experienced the value of teamwork, shared responsibility, and strategic planning in achieving mission outcomes. The sessions were effectively coordinated by Ms. Ansari and Ms. Hardikar, respectively, ensuring meaningful engagement and an enriching learning experience for all participants.

## SUMMING UP

On 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025, the training program concluded with closing remarks by Ms. Ansari after the certificate distribution. She briefly highlighted the key takeaways from each session and appreciated the meaningful contributions of all resource persons and participants. Ms. Ansari emphasized the need to translate the learnings into actionable efforts for strengthening community institutions, expanding livelihood opportunities, and ensuring effective implementation of C-LAP initiatives at the city level. She expressed gratitude to the speakers and participants for their active engagement and for contributing to the overall success of the training program.

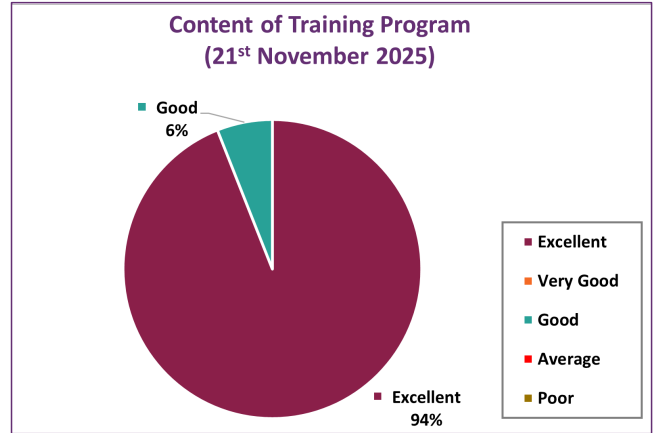


**Certificate Distribution to the participants at Mumbai.**

On 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025, the training program was concluded by Ms. Hardikar by proposing Vote of Thanks after the feedback session.

## TRAINING EVALUATION

### Training Program (21<sup>st</sup> November 2025):



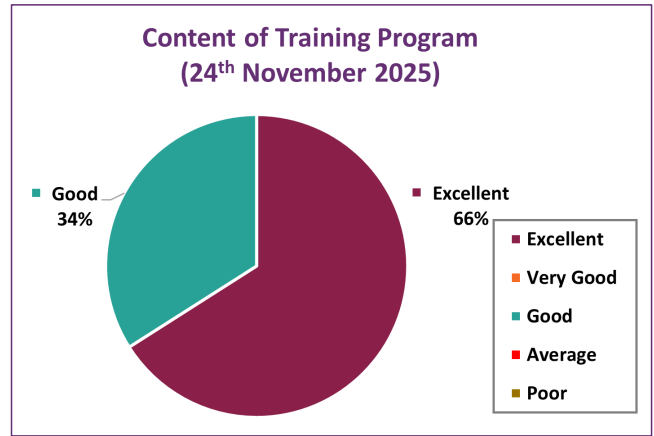
The above chart shows an overwhelmingly positive assessment of the training content. A majority of participants (94%) rated the content as Excellent, indicating high relevance and quality. Only 6% rated it as Good, reflecting minor scope for improvement. Taken together, the findings confirm that the training content was highly effective.

The next chart indicates an overall highly positive response across all sessions, with 'Excellent' ratings consistently ranging between 64% to 77%. The Group Activity stands out with the highest 'Excellent' score at 77%, reflecting strong participant engagement. Sessions 3 and 4 also show good responses, with more than 70% of respondents rating them as 'Excellent.' Further, the gradual decline in 'Very Good' ratings reflects a positive shift toward higher satisfaction, with participants

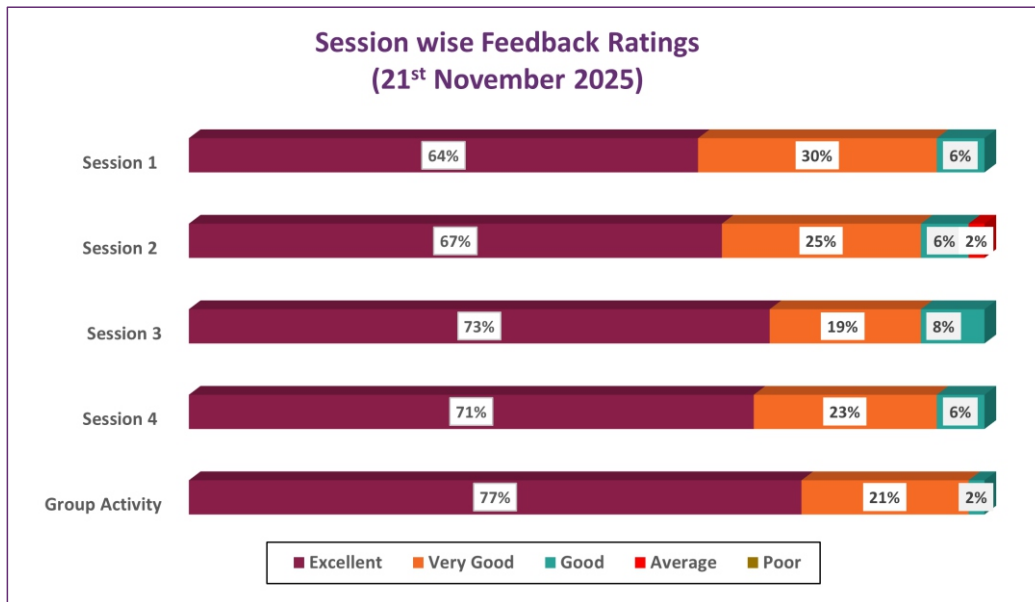
increasingly rating sessions as 'Excellent'. There are barely any responses recorded for average and poor categories. The bar graph highlights that the training sessions were highly impactful in fulfilling participant expectations.

**Training Program (24<sup>th</sup> November 2025):**

The chart indicates overall a very positive assessment of the training program content. Many participants (66%) rated the content as Excellent, reflecting high levels of satisfaction with its relevance and quality. The remaining 34% of respondents rated it as Good, suggesting that the content met expectations for all participants. This indicates that the training content was effectively structured and successfully met the specified objectives.



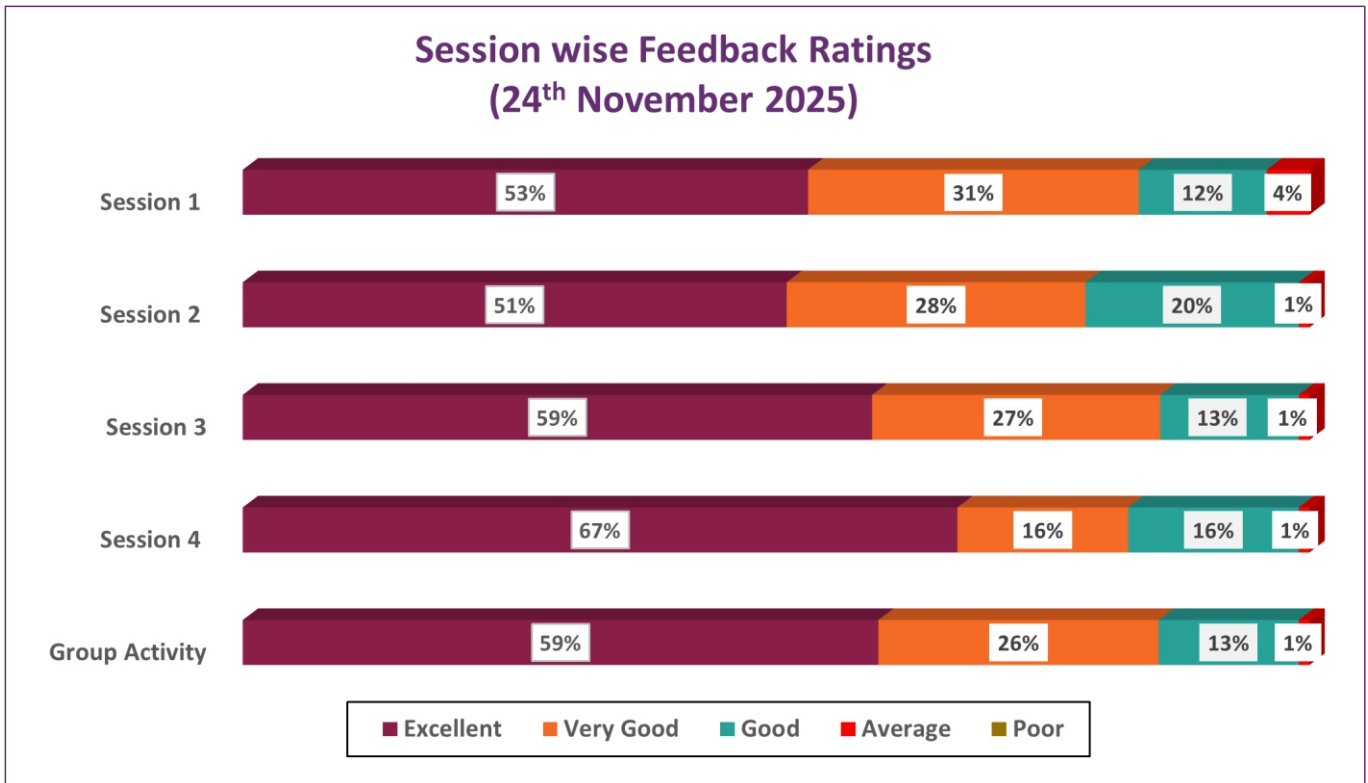
In the next chart, the session-wise feedback indicates consistently high satisfaction across all sessions of the training program.



In Session 1 and Session 2, over half of the participants rated the sessions as Excellent (53% & 51% respectively), with a significant share marking them as Very Good. Session 3 showed improved performance, with 59% of respondents rating it as Excellent, reflecting strong content delivery and engagement. Session 4 received the highest Excellent rating at 67%, indicating it was the most impactful session.

The Group Activity was also well received, with 59% rating it as Excellent and 26% as Very Good, highlighting the effectiveness of participatory learning.

Overall, the bar graph demonstrates that the training sessions were highly effective, well-received, and successful in meeting participant expectations.



## GLIMPSES OF THE SPECIALIZED TRAINING PROGRAMS





Seminar on

# Clean India 2030: Transforming Waste Management & Urban Sanitation

27<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Mumbai, Maharashtra.

## BACKGROUND

The Clean India Show 2030 serves as a national platform dedicated to accelerating India's transition toward cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable cities. Positioned at the intersection of Solid Waste Management (SWM), Public Health and Hygiene, Healthy Cities, and Sustainable Sanitation, the initiative convenes government institutions, industry leaders, academic experts, and civil society organizations to exchange knowledge, showcase emerging innovations, and catalyze policy and technological integration. It underscores the centrality of scientific waste management, resource recovery, smart sanitation systems, and evidence-based hygiene practices in achieving national and global sustainability objectives, including improved health outcomes, reduced environmental degradation, and enhanced climate resilience.

Through its multi-stakeholder approach, the Clean India Show 2030 aims to strengthen urban infrastructure, governance mechanisms, and institutional capacity to advance clean, safe,

and equitable urban environments. The platform places particular emphasis on circular economy principles, data-driven planning, and active citizen participation as critical enablers for long-term sustainability. By encouraging innovation, fostering capacity building, and facilitating investments in next-generation sanitation and waste management technologies, the initiative aspires to position India's cities as exemplars of environmental stewardship and inclusive growth. Collectively, these efforts establish a strong foundation for realizing a modern, hygienic, and resilient nation aligned with India's developmental vision for 2030.

Considering the above, the Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai, conducted a Seminar on 'Clean India 2030: Transforming Waste Management & Urban Sanitation' in collaboration with The Clean India show on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at Bombay Exhibition

Centre, Mumbai, Maharashtra. This seminar was supported by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (Gol).

In all 32 participants comprising Director, Sr. Research Officers, Research Associate, Associate Professor, Sr. Executive Facility Management, Executive Facility Management, Sr. Manager, Assistant Engineer, Sub Engineer, Assistant Head Supervisor, Supervisor, Waste Management Manager, and Consultants from Maharashtra, attended this seminar.

## INTRODUCTION



**Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.**

The seminar commenced by Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai who presented a brief overview of the RCUES Mumbai's key functions, and contributions to

capacity building, research and urban governance. She highlighted the purpose of the organized seminar is to create a focused platform for discussing emerging priorities in waste management and urban sanitation under the Clean India 2030 vision and to equip the participants with practical insights for strengthening city-level implementation.

## INAUGURATION



**Mr. Ramdas Kokare, Deputy Municipal Commissioner, Kalyan-Dombivali Municipal Corporation (KDMC), Maharashtra addressing the participants.**

The seminar was inaugurated by Mr. Ramdas Kokare, Deputy Municipal Commissioner, Kalyan-Dombivali Municipal Corporation (KDMC), Maharashtra, who highlighted the critical importance of multi-level segregation at source as the foundation for efficient waste processing, resource recovery, and overall system sustainability. Dr. Ajit Salvi, Director, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai in his keynote address, set the tone for a day

of solution-oriented discussions aligned with national priorities and the evolving challenges of urban sanitation and waste management. His remarks underscored the need for innovation, institutional strengthening, and coordinated action across the sector.



**Dr. Ajit Salvi, Director, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.**

## KEY DISCUSSIONS

Dr. Milind Kulkarni, Director, Prakruti Education & Research Foundation, Mumbai, Maharashtra delivered a comprehensive session on 'Innovations in Circular Economy and Recycling: Transforming Solid Waste into Valuable Resources', highlighting how India can move from conventional waste disposal to resource-oriented systems. He outlined the growing relevance of advanced recycling technologies, improved material recovery methods, and innovations such as AI-enabled sorting,

plastic-to-plastic recycling, and modern e-waste processing solutions. Dr. Kulkarni emphasized that a significant portion of municipal waste has strong recovery potential, and effective segregation, decentralized processing, and scientifically managed recycling pathways can substantially reduce landfill dependence. He underscored that adopting circular economy principles supported by policy alignment, city-level planning, and community participation can help urban areas transition toward low-waste, resource-efficient models. His session reinforced the broader message that waste, when managed scientifically, can serve as a valuable input for creating cleaner, healthier, and economically productive cities.



**Dr. Milind Kulkarni, Director, Prakruti Education & Research Foundation, Mumbai addressing the participants.**

Ms. Rosy Joseph Pullan, PhD Scholar & Public Health Expert, National Institute of Public Health Training & Research (NIPHTR), Mumbai under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, GoI, delivered an insightful session on 'Urban Sanitation & Public

Health: Advancing Clean and Healthy Cities', highlighting the strong interdependence between public health outcomes and urban sanitation systems. Drawing from national WASH priorities, she emphasized the need for integrated sanitation planning, improved wastewater management, and universal access to safe water and hygiene services to reduce disease transmission and strengthen urban resilience. She outlined the persistent challenges faced by rapidly growing cities, ranging from inadequate sanitation infrastructure and water contamination risks to gaps in hygiene behavior and service delivery. She called out for coordinated, multi-sectoral action essential to address them effectively. Her discussion reinforced that robust, well-planned sanitation systems are not only a foundational public service but also a critical public health requirement, essential for lowering disease burden, protecting vulnerable populations, and enabling healthier, more equitable urban communities.



**Ms. Rosy Joseph Pullan, PhD Scholar & Public Health Expert, NIPHTR, Mumbai addressing the participants.**

Mr. Manish Kelshikar, Founder & CEO of The Woo Loo, Mumbai, Maharashtra presented an innovative decentralized sanitation model that demonstrates how community-centric, sustainable systems can enhance service delivery and promote circularity. He showcased The Woo Loo's operational framework, illustrating how decentralized units reduce pressure on centralized infrastructure, support resource recovery, and create livelihood opportunities. His session highlighted the role of entrepreneurship and local participation in driving scalable sanitation solutions for diverse urban contexts.



**Mr. Manish Kelshikar, Founder & CEO of The Woo Loo, Mumbai addressing the participants.**

## PANEL DISCUSSION

The panel discussion on 'Segregation, Community Engagement, and Sustainable Health Solutions' was moderated by Dr. Salvi, brought together a multidisciplinary group of experts comprising

Mr. Kokare, Dr. Prashant Bhawe, former Head of Department, Veermata Jijabai Technological Institute (VJTI), Dr. Mangala Gomare, former Executive Health Officer, Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC), Mr. Pankaj Gonge, Executive Engineer, SWM Department, BMC, and Adv. Ashvini Borude, President, Shree Astha Mahila Federation, Mumbai, Maharashtra.



(L to R) Dr. Ajit Salvi, Director, RCUES of AIILSG, Mumbai, Mr. Ramdas Kokare, Deputy Municipal Commissioner, KDMC, Maharashtra, Dr. Prashant Bhawe, former Head of Department, VJTI, Mr. Pankaj Gonge, Executive Engineer, SWM Department, BMC, Mumbai and Adv. Ashvini Borude, President, Shree Astha Mahila Federation, Mumbai, Dr. Mangala Gomare, former Executive Health Officer, BMC, Mumbai.

The panel explored the foundational role of segregation at source in streamlining downstream waste processing, improving material recovery efficiency, and reducing reliance on landfills. Speakers highlighted that technological upgrades in collection, monitoring, and processing systems must be paired with strong behavioral change efforts and continuous

citizen engagement to ensure long-term effectiveness. Discussions also emphasized the significance of interdepartmental coordination, capacity building within Urban Local Bodies, and the integration of women-led and community-based organizations to strengthen last-mile implementation. The session further highlighted the growing relevance of Public-Private Partnership models for enabling scalable, financially viable, and community-aligned solutions.

Collectively, the panel emphasized that India's journey toward cleaner, healthier, and self-sustaining cities requires a balanced approach that unites technology, governance reforms, and active community participation.

After the panel discussion, Dr. Salvi felicitated speakers and panelists by presenting a memento to acknowledge their esteemed presence and contribution in the sector.

## SUMMING UP

Ms. Hardikar concluded the seminar with a Vote of Thanks, expressing gratitude to the esteemed speakers, participants, and organizers of Clean India Show for their valuable support and contribution.

## GLIMPSES OF THE SEMINAR





# National Seminar on Public Procurement Policy for MSMEs, 2025

04<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Mumbai, Maharashtra.

The Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of the All India Institute of Local Self-Government (AIILSG), Mumbai, collaborated as a Knowledge Partner with the Ministry of MSME – Development & Facilitation Office (DFO), Mumbai, by organising the National Seminar on Public Procurement Policy for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at Mumbai, with the support of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India.

The Seminar was designed to raise awareness of procurement opportunities available to Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) under the Public Procurement Policy. The inauguration began with a lamp-lighting ceremony by Dr. Jairaj Phatak, IAS (Retd.), Director General, AIILSG in the presence of Mr. Praful Umare, Assistant Director, MSME–DFO, Mumbai, Dr. Divya Rathod, CEO, WISE–SNDTWU Incubation Centre, Mumbai, and Dr. Ajit Salvi, Director, RCUES of AIILSG, Mumbai.

In his inaugural remarks, Dr. Phatak emphasised the importance of strengthening institutional capacity and implementing transparent procurement systems to enhance the participation of MSMEs. Mr. Umare emphasized the need for stronger industry-government coordination and improved

awareness of procurement norms, particularly among new and small entrepreneurs. Dr. Rathod stressed the role of incubation and mentorship in enabling women-led and early-stage enterprises to access public procurement opportunities.

Dr. Salvi, in his session 'Technologies and Solutions: Procurement Trends in Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and the Role of RCUES, Mumbai', highlighted how the shift towards digital governance, e-procurement platforms, and performance-based contracting is transforming municipal service delivery. He emphasized the growing adoption of green procurement and circular economy approaches in sectors such as waste management, sanitation, water reuse, and climate-resilient infrastructure. The session showcased how platforms like Government e-Marketplace (GeM), MSME Samadhaan, and integrated MIS systems are reducing entry barriers, enhancing transparency, and enabling timely payments, thereby creating new and scalable opportunities for MSMEs to participate effectively in ULB projects. Dr. Salvi also underscored RCUES of AIILSG Mumbai's potential in capacity building, model tender development, and pilot implementation, positioning RCUES of AIILSG, Mumbai as a key enabler in linking MSME innovation with urban governance priorities.





# National Urban Conclave 2025

08<sup>th</sup> - 09<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
New Delhi

The Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai was invited to the National Urban Conclave (NUC) 2025, organized by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI) in New Delhi, held on 8<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> November 2025. The Conclave was inaugurated by Mr. Manohar Lal Khattar, Hon'ble Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs, MoHUA, GoI. This event brought together leading voices across key themes, including Urban Governance, Circular Economy, Capacity Building, Transit-Oriented Development, Urban Livelihood, and the Housing Ecosystem. Representing AIILSG, Dr. Jairaj Phatak, Director General, was invited as a panelist in the 'Capacity Building' breakout session, highlighting the pivotal role played by RCUES and AIILSG in strengthening municipal institutions through continuous training and capacity enhancement. He presented RCUES of AIILSG Mumbai's recent efforts, including the specialized capacity-building program conducted for officials and staff of Nashik Municipal Corporation, Maharashtra, in preparation for the upcoming Kumbh Mela, an example of proactive and mission-ready urban governance.

Dr. Ajit Salvi, Director, RCUES of AIILSG, Mumbai participated in both the Circular Economy and Capacity Building breakout

tracks, where insights on integrating resource recovery, waste valorization, and institutional preparedness to accelerate sustainable and resilient urban transitions were shared. The Conclave also showcased a vibrant 'Viksit Bharat' exhibition with innovations and best practices from cities across India, reflecting the nation's forward-looking urban vision toward Viksit Bharat 2047.

On the second day, RCUES of AIILSG, Mumbai was present for the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing between the MoHUA, GoI, and AIILSG, Mumbai, which was formally exchanged, with Mr. S. P. Singh, IAS, Additional Secretary, representing MoHUA, GoI, and Dr. Ajit Salvi representing AIILSG, Mumbai. The MoU was exchanged in the presence of Mr. Tokhan Sahu, Hon'ble Minister of State, MoHUA, GoI, Prof. S. Mahendra Dev, Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, and Mr. Srinivas Katikithala, Secretary, MoHUA, GoI, along with other senior dignitaries. This renewed collaboration reinforces RCUES of AIILSG, Mumbai's commitment to strengthening urban governance, research, and capacity building in India.

Supported by MoHUA and backed by AIILSG's long-standing credibility, RCUES of AIILSG, Mumbai reaffirms its dedication

to advancing India's national urban development agenda through innovation, research, collaboration, and continuous capacity building. Together, the NUC participation and the MoU

signing reflect RCUES Mumbai's integral role in shaping future-ready, capable, and empowered urban institutions across the country.

## GLIMPSSES OF THE CONCLAVE





05

# Roundtable Conference on 'Adaptation and Resilience: Future Proof against the Impacts of Climate Change'

12<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Mumbai, Maharashtra.

The Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai participated in the Roundtable Conference on 'Adaptation and Resilience: Future Proof against the Impacts of Climate Change' held on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at Jio Convention Centre, Mumbai. The event, hosted by the Department of Business and Trade, British High Commission, marked a significant step forward in strengthening UK-India collaboration on climate action.

The inaugural session was addressed by Jinoos Shariati, First Secretary, Department of Business and Trade, British High Commission, and Mr. Praveen Pardeshi, IAS (Retd.), CEO, Maharashtra Institution for Transformation (MITRA), who emphasized the urgency of embedding climate resilience and adaptive systems into India's urban development trajectory.

Dr. Ajit Salvi, Director, RCUES of AIILSG, Mumbai represented the institution at this platform, highlighting RCUES's mandate in advancing climate-resilient urban governance through evidence-based planning, research, and capacity-building initiatives. His participation reinforced RCUES Mumbai's commitment to strengthening the institutional capacities of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and integrating resilience thinking into city systems.

This conference facilitated high-level dialogue on adaptation strategies, opportunities for UK-India cooperation, and pathways for building climate-ready cities. It also opened avenues for future partnerships focusing on resilience planning, data-driven decision-making, and urban sustainability. This engagement underscored RCUES Mumbai's ongoing efforts to align global climate insights with local government training, knowledge exchange, and policy innovation. RCUES, Mumbai looks forward to leveraging these learnings to support Indian cities in transitioning towards resilient, inclusive, and sustainable urban futures.





# Bharat Recycling Show 2025

13<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Mumbai, Maharashtra.

The Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai participated in the Bharat Recycling Show (BRS) 2025 on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2025, at Bombay Exhibition Centre, NESCO, Mumbai, where Dr. Ajit Salvi, Director, RCUES of AIILSG, Mumbai was present for the inauguration and also served as a distinguished panelist.

During the inaugural session, Mr. Siddhesh Kadam, Chairman, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB), emphasized that plastics recycling is no longer optional but a vital necessity for climate resilience, noting that resource depletion is rapidly turning “garbage into the future gold.” It was a matter of great privilege that Dr. Salvi shared the dais with Mr. Kadam. Dr. Salvi, in his speech, emphasized that sustainability and resilience cannot be achieved without strengthening systems of recycling, resource recovery, and efficient waste management.

In the panel discussion on 'Rethinking Recycling: Pathways to a Resilient and Circular Future', Dr. Salvi highlighted that true circularity is impossible without empowering Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) financially, institutionally, and operationally. He advocated for the creation of dedicated

Municipal Circularity Funds, adoption of outcome-linked performance indicators, and expansion of Green Public Procurement to support cities in transforming from mere waste-disposal agencies into resource-recovery enterprises. Dr. Salvi also emphasized the indispensable role of waste pickers and kabadiwalas, calling for their formal recognition, social protection, and structured inclusion through cooperatives and partnership-based models to ensure both equity and efficiency in recycling systems.

Looking ahead, RCUES of AIILSG, Mumbai is committed to strengthening ULB capacities, advancing evidence-driven circular economy research, supporting inclusive and efficient waste systems, and facilitating the integration of informal workers into formal value chains so that circularity delivers environmental benefits alongside livelihood security.

## GLIMPSES OF THE SHOW





# Leaders' Roundtable Conference on Integrating Waste and Economic Growth: Advancing Recycling through EPR Policies and Sustainable Financial Pathways - 1<sup>st</sup> Edition'

14<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Mumbai, Maharashtra.

The Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIIILSG), Mumbai collaborated as a Knowledge Partner with the Bharat Recycling Show (BRS) 2025 by organizing the Leaders' Roundtable Conference on 'Integrating Waste and Economic Growth: Advancing Recycling through EPR Policies and Sustainable Financial Pathways – 1<sup>st</sup> Edition' on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at Bombay Exhibition Centre, NESCO, Mumbai.

Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES of AIIILSG, Mumbai opened the session with a warm welcome and addressed the representatives. The inauguration started with a lamp-lighting ceremony by Dr. Jairaj Phatak, IAS (Retd.), Director General, AIIILSG, in the presence of Mr. Taher Patrawala, Managing Director, Media Fusion L.L.C. India; Mr. Matthew Barber, Global Events Director, Crain Communications; and Dr. Ajit Salvi, Director, RCUES of AIIILSG, Mumbai. In the inaugural address, Dr. Phatak underscored the need for strong municipal leadership, Mr. Patrawala called for industry-government collaboration to scale recycling innovation, and Mr. Barber emphasized the importance of

global knowledge exchange for sustainable circular ecosystems. Dr. Salvi, while setting the context, highlighted the alarming statistics on plastic pollution in India and outlined the key challenges that continue to hinder effective plastic waste management, emphasizing the urgent need for stronger systems, innovation, and collective action.

The thematic discussion was moderated by Dr. Salvi and Mr. Umesh Unnikrishnan, Director, Theistic Business Consultants. The roundtable included representatives from Municipal Corporations of Thane, Navi Mumbai, Mumbai, Pune, and Daman Municipal Council, along with experts from the State Climate Action Cell, Environment & Climate Change Department, and the Textile Department, Government of Maharashtra, and representatives from Material Recycling Association India, Indian Plastics Institute, Alfa Laval, Attero Recycling, Prakruti Foundation and Veermata Jijabai Technological Institute (VJTI). The discussion focused on strengthening policy frameworks, improving technology adoption, enhancing municipal governance, mainstreaming climate action, and accelerating cross-sector collaboration to

advance circularity across India's urban systems. The session concluded with a vote of thanks by Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES of AIILSG, Mumbai reaffirming RCUES of AIILSG Mumbai's leadership in enabling knowledge exchange and supporting India's transition toward resilient and sustainable circular cities.

#### Way Forward:

- RCUES of AIILSG, Mumbai can design Information Education & Communication (IEC) and Behavior Change Communication (BCC) campaigns for ULBs in partnership.
- Document and disseminate best practices from roundtable discussions to strengthen cross-city learning.
- Collaborating to develop simple, public-facing dashboards for agencies to make climate and circularity data easily understandable.
- Tap into research related to under-pressured yet important topics, such as textile waste, and include this in ULBs' capacity building on circular textile systems.
- Partner with academic institutions to co-develop research, field studies, and student-led urban circularity projects.
- Support the upcoming BRS initiatives in creating and evaluating ULBs' Recycling Awards to recognize municipal innovation and impact.

## GLIMPSES OF THE CONFERENCE





# International Conference on Fire Fighting & Disaster Management

18<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Vadodara, Gujarat

The Regional Centre for Urban and Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self-Government (AIIILSG), Mumbai participated in the International Conference on 'Fire Fighting and Disaster Management', organized by the National Fire Academy, AIIILSG, Vadodara, Gujarat in collaboration with The Japan Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (J.CLAIR) on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at Vadodara, Gujarat. The conference brought together senior government officials, fire service professionals, municipal administrators, and international experts to strengthen India-Japan cooperation in advancing fire safety, disaster readiness, and local governance capacity.

The event commenced with the welcome address by Ms. Hansa Patel, Chief Executive Advisor, AIIILSG, followed by the ceremonial lamp lighting and special address by the Chief Guest, Mr. Narasimha Komar, IPS, Commissioner of Police, Vadodara, who underscored the increasing importance of integrated fire services, risk reduction planning, and community-level preparedness. Representing AIIILSG Mumbai, Dr. Ajit Salvi, Director, RCUES of AIIILSG Mumbai, delivered the opening remarks, highlighting AIIILSG's century-long legacy in empowering Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), its national contributions across various national missions, and its global

collaborations through United Nations (UN) agencies, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), CITYNET, and J.CLAIR. He emphasized the importance of the Specialist Dispatch Project and Japan's globally recognized disaster management expertise in strengthening India's preparedness and institutional resilience. Dr. Salvi also reflected on the leadership of Mr. Ranjit Chavan, President AIIILSG, and Ms. Patel, whose vision and commitment shaped the National Fire Academy into a premier national institution for professional fire training and safety governance.

The RCUES of AIIILSG Mumbai's participation reaffirmed its mandate to strengthen institutional capabilities, advance urban resilience, and promote global knowledge exchange for safer, better-prepared cities. The conference concluded with an exchange of souvenirs and a Vote of Thanks, marking a successful platform for collaboration between Indian and Japanese institutions in building a robust and future-ready disaster management ecosystem.

## GLIMPSES OF THE CONFERENCE





# Middle East: Waste & Recycling Awards (MEWAR) 2025

21<sup>st</sup> November 2025  
Dubai

The Regional Centre for Urban and Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai has significantly elevated its presence on international platform at the Middle East: Waste & Recycling Awards (MEWAR) 2025 held on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025 in Dubai, where the RCUES of AIILSG Mumbai, received special recognition as the Strategic Knowledge Partner for its outstanding contribution in advancing recycling innovation and sustainable waste management practices for Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) across India. Dr. Ajit Salvi, Director, RCUES of AIILSG Mumbai, accepted the recognition on behalf of RCUES of AIILSG, Mumbai highlighting the ongoing efforts to build resilient urban systems through policy guidance, municipal strengthening, and continuous knowledge dissemination.

The RCUES of AIILSG, Mumbai continues to demonstrate exemplary leadership in strengthening India's urban development ecosystem through its research-driven initiatives, national collaborations, and global engagements. This honor reaffirms RCUES of AIILSG Mumbai's role as a trusted technical institution that supports evidence-based planning, capacity building, and implementation frameworks aligned with India's national sustainable urban development priorities.

This recognition at MEWAR 2025 comes at a crucial time when Indian cities are increasingly adopting circular economy principles, and RCUES of AIILSG, Mumbai has been at the forefront of shaping this transition by offering structured training, advisory support, sectoral research, and implementation strategies to urban institutions nationwide. Through an expanding portfolio of partnerships, field experience, and sectoral expertise, RCUES of AIILSG, Mumbai remains fully dedicated to strengthening ULBs, enhancing national and international collaboration, and contributing to the vision of creating smarter, cleaner, and more sustainable cities across India.





# National Master Trainers Orientation Program: Solid Waste Management

24<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
New Delhi

The National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA), New Delhi organized the National Master Trainers (NMT) Orientation Program on 24<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> November 2025, at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. This orientation, designed to strengthen master trainers in enhancing capacity building at the state and city levels within the Solid Waste Management (SWM) framework, brought together experts and officials from various organizations. Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai was nominated to represent RCUES, Mumbai to attend this orientation program.

The sessions under the orientation focused on improving technical knowledge, promoting consistent training methods, and reinforcing effective implementation of national SWM policies, which covered key SWM modules. This enabled the participants to have an end-to-end understanding of SWM planning and implementation, with practical exposure to legacy waste remediation, SLFs, and bio-CNG projects. Participants also strengthened skills in community engagement, IEC/BCC, monitoring frameworks, and effective use of PPPs, procurement, and contract management.

The way forward includes rolling out state-level training modules to build the capacities of municipal staff and

strengthen compliance, contract evaluation, and monitoring systems. Successful pilot initiatives will be scaled up for wider replication across cities to accelerate sustainable and efficient SWM implementation.

Overall, this orientation program was highly impactful, equipping participants with actionable insights, practical tools, and strategies for sustainable SWM implementation. It strengthened capacities to enhance urban sanitation, promote scientific waste disposal, and achieve improved environmentally sustainable outcomes.





# Youth Engagement for National Clean Air Programme (NCAP): Green Living Better Tomorrow

28<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Mumbai, Maharashtra.

The Regional Centre for Urban and Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self-Government (AIILSG), Mumbai, organized a city-level youth engagement programme on 'Youth Engagement for Clean Air: Green Living Better Tomorrow' as a part of the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP), a project entrusted by the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC), Maharashtra on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at the Vivekanand Education Society Institute of Management and Research (VESIM), Chembur, Mumbai. This initiative aimed to strengthen youth participation in clean air action and reinforce behavioral change through structured engagement.

The event was inaugurated by Dr. Ajit Salvi, Director, RCUES of AIILSG Mumbai, along with Ms. Revati Shidhaye, Executive Engineer, BMC, in the presence of senior officials from BMC, RCUES of AIILSG Mumbai, and VESIM. In the inaugural address, Dr. Ajit Salvi highlighted the growing urgency of addressing urban air pollution and emphasized the importance of engaging students in environmental action under NCAP. Ms. Shidhaye also addressed by outlining the city's clean air priorities and encouraged students to actively contribute through community engagement. A thematic knowledge session titled 'Youth for Clean Air: From Awareness to Action'

was conducted, emphasizing the role of youth in translating awareness into practical action at community levels.

The exhibition showcased models, creative displays, and communication material on clean air and sustainable urban living. Students presented their work directly to dignitaries, explaining the concepts and potential impacts. The programme also featured screenings of winning student films and digital content, highlighting youth perspectives through visual storytelling.

A felicitation and prize distribution ceremony was held in the presence of Mr. Avinash Kate, Deputy Municipal Commissioner, BMC along with senior officials from BMC and RCUES of AIILSG Mumbai. Winners from various activities were honored, with dignitaries commending students for their creativity, initiative, and commitment to clean air goals.

The programme concluded with a tree plantation, symbolizing translating awareness into tangible environmental action. Overall, the event integrated knowledge, creativity, participation, and recognition under the NCAP framework, strengthening collaboration among academia, civic authorities, and knowledge partners.

## GLIMPSES OF THE PROGRAMME





## Framing the Future



*Dr. Ajit Salvi, Director, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai, held a discussion with Mr. Siddhesh Kadam, Chairman, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai.*

*The discussion focused on exploring potential avenues for a strategic joint venture. The interaction laid the foundation for collaborative initiatives aimed at strengthening environmental governance and sustainability.*

*Dr. Ajit Salvi, Director, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai, held discussions with Ms. Smita Kale, Dy. Municipal Commissioner, Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation, Maharashtra to explore avenues for collaboration. The dialogue focused on strengthening institutional partnerships for research-driven urban development and capacity building. The engagement envisioned a future of joint initiatives aimed at innovative, inclusive, and sustainable urban governance.*



## Advisory Committee, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai

**Dr. K. H. Govinda Raj, IAS**  
**Ex-Officio Chairperson**

Addl. Chief Secretary,  
Urban Development Department,  
Government of Maharashtra,  
Mantralaya, Mumbai.

**Mr. Vaibhav Galriya, IAS**  
**Member**

Principal Secretary,  
Urban Development & Housing Dept.,  
Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur,  
Rajasthan.

**Mr. Abhishek Singh, IAS**  
**Member**

Secretary,  
Urban Development Department,  
Government of Tripura,  
Agartala, Tripura.

**Dr. Jairaj Phatak, IAS (Retd.)**  
**Member**

Director-General  
All India Institute of  
Local Self-Government,  
India.

**Mr. Satinder Pal Singh, IAS**  
**Member**

Addl. Secretary (LSG & UD),  
Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs,  
Government of India,  
New Delhi.

**Dr. Sanjay Goel, IAS**  
**Member**

Commissioner-cum-Secretary,  
Urban Development Department,  
Government of Goa, Porvorim,  
Bardez, Goa

**Mr. Surendra Nath Tripathi, IAS (Retd.)**  
**Member**

Director-General,  
Indian Institute of Public Administration,  
Indraprastha Estate,  
New Delhi.

**Dr. Ajit Salvi**  
**Member-Secretary**

Director,  
Regional Centre for Urban &  
Environmental Studies, All India Institute  
of Local Self-Government, Mumbai.

**Mr. Ashwani Kumar, IAS**  
**Member**

Principal Secretary,  
Urban Development & Urban Housing  
Department, Government of Gujarat,  
Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

**Ms. Kavitha Padmanabhan, IAS**  
**Member**

Commissioner & Secretary,  
Urban Development Department,  
Government of Assam,  
Guwahati, Assam.

**Dr. Liyaqat Ayub Khan,**  
**Member**

Professor & Head,  
Department of Civics & Politics,  
University of Mumbai, Vidyanagari,  
Mumbai.

Since 1968 the RCUES, Mumbai is supported by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, Government of India

Printed by All India Institute of Local Self-Government, Mumbai.

**Disclaimer**

The views expressed in the articles, briefs and news in this publication are those of the respective authors and researchers. They do not depict, in any way, the views and policies of the RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai and Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, Government of India.



**RCUES, Mumbai**  
Enabling better cities...



<https://twitter.com/in/RCUESMumbai>



<https://www.linkedin.com/in/rcues-mumbai-583598132>



<https://www.facebook.com/rcuesmumbai>

---

**Regional Centre for Urban and Environmental Studies  
All India Institute of Local Self Government, Mumbai**

M. N. Roy Human Development Campus, Plot No.6, 'F' Block,  
Opp. Bandra Colony Metro Station (Aqua Line 3, Gate No. A2), Near Uttar Bhartiya Sangh,  
Bandra (East), Mumbai – 400051.

Tel. No. : 8657622550 / 51 / 52 / 54

Email.: [dir.rcues@aillsg.org](mailto:dir.rcues@aillsg.org) ; [rcuestraining@aillsg.org](mailto:rcuestraining@aillsg.org)

Website: [www.aillsg.org/rcues](http://www.aillsg.org/rcues)