



জাতীয় স্থানীয় সরকার ইনস্টিটিউট (এনআইএলজি)

গবেষণা ও পরিকল্পনা বিভাগ

২৯, আগারগাঁও, শের-ই-বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭।

অগ্রগতি প্রতিবেদন

১.১ গবেষণা কার্যক্রম:

২০২৩-২০২৪ অর্থবছরে মোট ৭টি গবেষণাকর্ম গবেষণা কমিটির বিগত ১১/২/২০২৪ খ্রি. তারিখের সুপারিশের ভিত্তিতে বিগত ১৫/২/২০২৪ খ্রি. তারিখে মহাপরিচালক মহোদয় কর্তৃক অনুমোদিত হয়েছে। ৭টি গবেষণাকর্মের মধ্যে মোট ৩টি গবেষণা, গবেষণা ও পরিকল্পনা বিভাগের অনুষদ সদস্যগণ এবং ৩টি গবেষণা এনআইএলজি বহির্ভূত:গবেষকগণ কর্তৃক পরিচালিত হয়েছে। একটি গবেষণাকর্ম চলতি অর্থবছরে সম্পন্ন করা হবে।

এনআইএলজি কর্তৃক ২০২৩-২০২৪ অর্থবছরে বাস্তবায়িত গবেষণাকর্ম

No.	Title of the Research Works	Name of the Researcher(s)	Approve Budget	Actual Expenses
278	Dynamics and Challenges of Participation in Paurashava Governance	Mr. Nurul Islam, Resrarch Officer, NILG	=2,12,960/-	=2,12,960/-
279 ¹	Impact Assessment of Financial and Administration Management Training for the Employees of Upazila Parishad and Office of Deputy Director Local Government: A study on	Mr. Md. Imranur Rahman, Research Officer, NILG and Mr. Md. Mahfuzar Rahman, Asstt. Research Officer, NILG	=2,47,000/-	0
280	Urbanization Challenges of C-category Paurashava: An Assessment	Mr. Md. Moti Ahamed, Asstt. Research Officer, NILG	=1,88,960/-	=1,88,960/-
281 ²	পৌরনির্বাহী কর্মকর্তাগণের বুনয়াদি প্রশিক্ষণের প্রভাব মূল্যায়ন	Mr. Md. Nazim Uddin, Documentation Officer, NILG and Mr. Mohammad Abdul Jalil Mollik, Publication Officer (C.C.), NILG	=2,54,978/-	=2,54,978/-
282	Gender Responsive Plan and Budget in LGIs in Bangladesh: A Case of four Union Parishads and Paurashava	Dr. Abdul Karim, Additional Director General, BARD, Cumilla	=4,00,000/-	=4,00,000/-
283	Pure Water Supply and The Capacity of Municipalities to Meet Citizens' Expectations.	Mr. Ranjan Kumar Guha, Director, BARD, Mr. Azma Mahmuda, Joint-Director, BARD and Mr. Md. Abu Taleb, Joint-Director, BARD, Cumilla	=4,00,000/-	=4,00,000/-
284	Building Smart Local Government for Smart Bangladesh: Challenges and Way Forward For Municipalities	Mr. Md. Rakibul Islam, Assistant Professor, Kabi Nazrul Islam University, Mymensingh	=4,00,000/-	=4,00,000/-
Total			=21,03,898/-	=18,56,898/-

¹ অনিবার্য কারণবশত চলতি অর্থবছরে (২০২৪-২০২৫) বাস্তবায়ন এর জন্য অনুমোদিত।

² মুদ্রণকৃত গবেষণা প্রতিবেদন পাওয়া যায়নি।

Dynamics and Challenges of Participation in Paurashava Governance

Mr. Nurul Islam,
Research Officer, NILG

The overall objective of this study is to analyze the state of citizens' inclusiveness in the decision making process of Paurashava in the light of the act of 2009.

Specific Objectives

In order to attain the above mentioned general objectives a number of following specific objectives have been drawn:

1. To explore the institutional mechanisms of participation in the decision making process of the Paurashava;
2. To explore whether citizens' participations have been ensured in the process of decision making of the Paurashava; and
3. To reveal the factors (structural, social and cultural) that are hindering the process of citizens' inclusion in the decision making process.

Recommendations

By reviewing the relevant documents and field level data analysis and research findings, the study makes the following recommendations for further improvement of the existing situation:

- a) Organize training for the public representative;
- b) Arrange orientation workshop or seminar for committee members;
- c) Evaluate public opinion appropriately;
- d) Rearrange the formation and ToRs of WC and TLCC;
- e) Prescribing the inclusion of still images with minutes of open meetings as a condition for receipt of annual appropriations;
- f) Strengthening of monitoring system;
- g) Nomination of appropriate persons in Ward Committee and TLCC meetings;
- h) Proper notification to the public about municipal bye-laws; and
- i) Ensure sufficient fund allocation in the budget for organizing various meeting

Conclusion

There are various mechanisms for public participation in municipal decision-making processes. Apart from the municipality, the people are benefiting from these platforms in various ways. Especially municipalities are able to take projects with public opinion. People are happy to participate in the municipal activities and municipality is successfully carrying out its work. As a result, proper utilization of municipal resources and sustainable development is ensured.

Urbanization Challenges of C-category Paurashava: An Assessment

Mr. Md. Moti Ahamed,
Asstt. Research Officer, NILG

Research Objectives

The objectives of the research are:

1. To identify the factors of urbanization;
2. To discover the challenges of urbanization faced by Paurashavas.
3. To suggest the way forward of existing challenges.

Recommendations

Based on the quantitative and qualitative findings, the recommendations can be as follows-

1. One of the major functions of paurashavas is waste management. Several paurashavas located nearby can coordinate their waste management activities. For this, paurashavas can jointly build a large dumping station and dump waste there. Advanced technology and modern equipment should be applied in waste management activities.
2. Formulation and implementation of Master Plans may be made mandatory for each paurashava. Construction of all types of building and infrastructure in the paurashava should be according to the master plan. The master plan shall contain information relating to the development or expansion of any place in the paurashava.
3. Paurashavas should increase public awareness to prevent pollution. People should be made aware so that they do not throw garbage anywhere. Besides, the paurashava monitoring system should be strengthened to prevent pollution.
4. Paurashava hotlines can be launched for quick delivery of essential municipal services such as Birth and Death Registration Certificate, Citizen Certificate, Warishan Certificate, Trade License etc. Apart from this, by updating the citizen charters of the paurashava, the services described in CC should be delivered within the stipulated time.
5. Elections should be held as soon as possible after the establishment of a new paurashava and the responsibility of running the paurashava should be transferred to the hands of the elected Municipal Council.
6. There is no alternative of training to run the paurashava well and efficiently. The more paurashava officials are trained, the more the paurashava will benefit. If various aspects of paurashava management related session are discussed in the training, the public representatives and officials will be able to perform the duties assigned to them very efficiently. Therefore, adequate subject based training should be provided for the paurashava officials.

Gender Responsive Plan and Budget in Local Government Institutions in Bangladesh: A Case of Four Union Parishads and Pourashavas

Dr. Abdul Karim,
Additional Director General, BARD, Cumilla

Research Objective

The objectives of this research include:

- To analyze existing planning and budgeting process of Union Parishads and Pourashavas from gender responsive perspective.
- To assess perceptions of elected local government representatives and community people regarding gender sensitive planning and budgeting.
- To assess equality in distribution of resources, equality of voice, equality of opportunities in different development activities undertaken by Union Parishads and Pouashavas; and.
- To identify the potentials and challenges of gender responsive planning and budgeting at the Union Parishads and Pourashavas.

Recommendations

- Gender segregated data base is essentially needed to make gender responsive planning and budgeting. There is a serious limitation, particular at the local level because it has been not adequately considered in the current planning, either financial or non-financial planning. Government can provide instructions to keep gender segregated data at all levels. • At the national level, it is observed that 34.11% of the national budget has been allocated for gender responsive development issues according to Gender Budget Report, 2024-25. In this regard, at the local level, at least 30% of total budget allocation should be kept separate for gender responsive planning in Union Parishads and Pourshava. Government might think the potential heads of 73 budget as pointed out in the study which could be included in current budget formal.
- Gender sensitivity training could be organized at the local level. Both government and NGOs can organize this sort of training programme in order to change prevailing negative attitude to womenfolk in Bangladesh.
- One female representative for three wards could be re-organized. In this regard, one Vice Chairman in Union Parishad and one Vice-Mayor in Pourshava could be introduced through direct election and each ward can elect one male and one female representative by direct election.
- At the local level, Union Parishad and Pourshava can have a Gender Action Plan and this could be done through organizing workshop at the local level with participation of cross-sections of community people.

Safe Drinking Water: Citizens Expectations and Response of Municipalities

Mr. Ranjan Kumar Guha, Director, BARD,
Mr. Md. Abu Taleb, Joint-Director, BARD, Cumilla

Mr. Azma Mahmuda, Joint-Director, BARD and

Objectives

The study's general objective is to investigate municipalities' technical, administrative, and financial capabilities in various hotspots to supply safe drinking water and capture the citizens' expectations for safe drinking water. The specific objectives are as follows:

1. to explore the issue of safe water from the standpoint of citizens;
2. to assess the coverage of safe water supply by sources and category of Pourashava; and
3. to assess the competency of Pourashava to respond according to the expectations of a citizen.

Recommendations

- ✓ A shift in leadership focus towards utilizing surface water resources is crucial to ensuring an adequate water supply. This shifting will address the seasonal variation in water availability and the increased risk of groundwater contamination in the future. There might be instructions from the Local Government Division for preserving the existing water bodies in the respective Pourashava areas as an alternative water source to meet future challenges. Moreover, some incentive packages can be announced for using surface water as a feasible source.
- ✓ Water systems need to be developed to cover all command areas of the Pourashava to address equitable access to safe water. Moreover, the system should consider the future water needs in the water supply network to ensure adequacy. Community participation can be encouraged in managing and operating street hydrants to avoid waste of water and informing about pipeline leakage.
- ✓ A reliable water distribution system using drum trucks can also be established for areas outside the pipe network and water supply during emergencies. Furthermore, it's important to have an alternate power source for water pumping during outages.
- ✓ It is crucial to raise public awareness about their responsibility to protect water sources and implement a doable work plan for preventing, mitigating, and eliminating contaminants to address drinking water quality. Frequent testing of supplied water and responding quickly to complaints about leakage, all Pourashavs should concentrate more on the capacity development of the water department with adequate and capable staffing and financial allocation.
- ✓ People outside the piped water supply network can be served through a drum truck to ensure accessibility and provide services for maintaining water quality from their preferred source. The drum truck water supply facility may ensure water accessibility during emergencies and natural disasters. The municipality's fund can support the disadvantaged section of people who cannot connect with the piped network due to financial problems.
- ✓ Quick responses to complaints made by residents, ensuring the quality of work during installation and maintenance, frequent water testing, and responding to solve the issues, if there are any, will increase the reliability of the water supply. Besides, exploring and using smart technology to identify pipe leakage and consistent water supply throughout the year will also address the reliability issue. Pourashava's water supply plan should address these issues. The capacity development of the staff needs special attention to implement committed activities.
- ✓ Developing ownership of the water distribution system and regular maintenance of the pump machine and water distribution channel will increase the life span of the water distribution system. Some of the A category Pourashava can be given full responsibility for taking the project from the installation to supplying the water at residents' doorsteps with proper responsibility and authority. There should be a plan for continuing the operation after the expiration of the water distribution system by developing a depreciation fund. The amount of the depreciation fund will be used as a contribution from the Pourashava with the government's donation for expanding, overhauling, or restructuring the whole system in the future. This initiative will ensure the sustainability of the water system.

Building Smart Local Government for Smart Bangladesh: Challenges and Way Forward For Municipalities

Mr. Md. Rakibul Islam,
Assistant Professor, Kabi Nazrul Islam University, Mymensingh

Objectives of the Study

Major goals of the study are

1. Identify the potential challenges of digital transformation at municipalities in Bangladesh.
2. Recommend strategies to overcome the challenges.

Objectives under major goal 1

- a) Assessing the state of capability and readiness of the functionaries of paurashava for digital transformation.
- b) Identifying the state of digital infrastructures of municipalities.
- c) Identifying the potential obstacles for capacity development for digital transformation.

Objectives under major goal 2

- a) Recommend a strategy for capacity development of the functionaries of municipalities.
- b) Suggesting strategy for ensuring accessible and affordable digital infrastructure.
- c) Endorse a mechanism for adaptation under changing circumstances of digital transformation initiatives.

Major Findings and Recommendations at a glance

- ✓ Based on the data this study suggest that formulation of a new project for improving DPI across the municipalities might be a solution. This study also suggests to take measure for increasing the income of municipalities and creating a separate allocation in the budget of paurashava for install and maintenance of digital public infrastructure.
- ✓ Hands on training should be arranged for functionaries of the municipalities round the year. Study strongly suggests that training sessions should be need based and arranged in concerned municipalities instead of Dhaka. According to study, respondents opined that if trainers visit municipalities instead of trainees' visit at Dhaka then training would be more effective. Study also found from data that training sessions are conducted in a hurries which should be avoided. Adequate time or days should be given for training programme.
- ✓ One of the most important things government need to concentrate that is developing service module. Developing and dissemination of service delivery modality, literature and online contents will benefit both service providers and service receivers. A national taskforce can be formed to develop service modality and contents for functionaries of the municipalities and other LGIs. Online contents will promote self-learning process.
- ✓ Municipalities should identify the citizens' need and expectations for service delivery. Authority should find the ways and provide clear guidelines in what extent and how stakeholders can be engaged in the digital transformation process.
- ✓ Data protection mechanism should be designed with experts and edicated manpower should be inserted to the municipalities for this regards.
- ✓ New policies are needed for digital transformation in the municipalities where it will contain strategic foresight, enhance access and connectivity, foster effective use of digital technologies and digital security and upgrade organogram for municipalities and digital skills.