



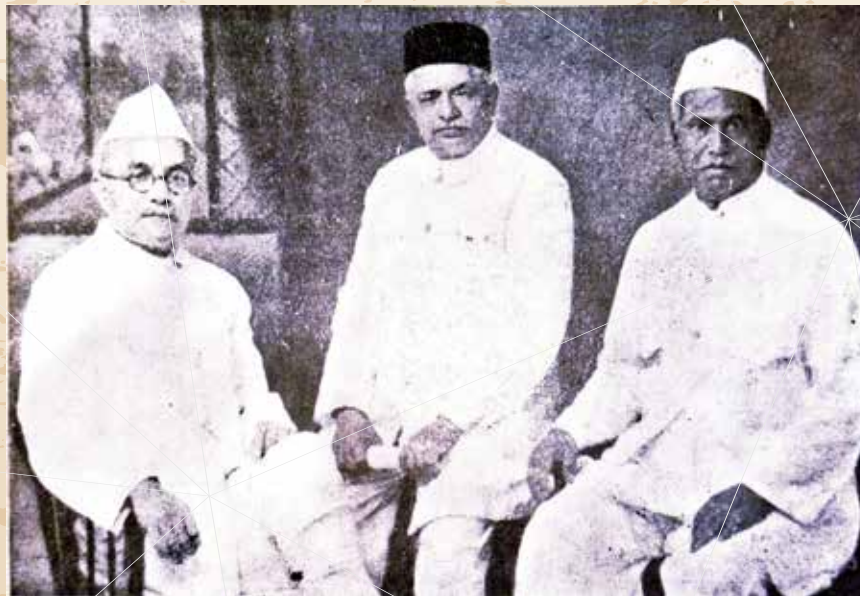
AIILSG@100



AIILSG@100

Profile

The All India Institute of Local Self-Government (AIILSG), established in 1926, is India's one of the oldest institutions dedicated to strengthening local governance. Known as "The Knowledge Lighthouse for Local Governance", AIILSG has been empowering local bodies for 100 years through training, research, advocacy, collaboration, and community engagement. With a network of 50+ centres across India and partnerships across the globe, AIILSG continues to build capacities, foster innovation, and guide urban and rural local governments toward efficiency, inclusivity, and sustainability.



Our founding fathers Shri CD Barfivala, Shri RV Parulekar and Shri SS Naik. (L to R)

At a Glance

100 Years

of service to local governance, from inception in Bombay to a nationwide network.

3M

stakeholders trained including elected representatives, municipal officials, engineers, health workers, etc.

50+

centers across India delivering training and consultancy.

2,500

professionals employed across AILSG's regional centres.

150+ ULBs

AILSG providing services to ULBs through its training programmes and consultancy.



International outreach.

- o Collaborations with UN agencies, European Union, UCLG-ASPAC, CITYNET, and others.
- o **Supports National Flagship Missions:** Swachh Bharat Mission, Smart Cities, AMRUT, PMAY, etc.
- o **Specialised Centres:** RCUES, National Fire Academy, International Centre of EQUI-T, Nrupur Nursing Institute, Waste Management Research Centre (WMRC), Mumbai etc.

- o Knowledge dissemination on Urban and Local Government affairs through various publication: Local Government Quarterly, Urban Update, The Urban World, Urban Environ Vision, and Project Update.
- o Mission-driven to secure citizens' rights to health, education, safety, participation, and development.
- o Urban Update YouTube channel.

Our Presidents



Late Shri Gulam Hussein
Hydayatulla (1926-29)



Late Shri Dewan Bahadur
Harilal D. Desai (1929-30)



Late Shri Rustom
J. Vakil (1931-33)



Late Shri Khan Bahadur
D. B. Cooper (1933-34)



Late Shri Shah Newaz Khan Gulam
Murtaza Khan Bhutto (1934-37)



Late Shri L.M. Patil
(1937-52)



Late Shri G. V.
Mavlankar (1952-56)



Late Shri S. K. Patil
(1957-74)



Late Shri P. G. Kher
(1975-85)



Late Justice D. M.
Rege (1985-90)



Dr. Jatin V. Modi
(1990-2015)



Shri Ranjit S. Chavan
(2015 to Present)

Director Generals



Shri Chunilal D. Barfivala
(1954-66)



Shri N. B. Rangnekar
(1966-71)



Shri Prof N. D. Rajadhyaksha
(1971-85)



Dr. H. D. Kopardekar
(1985-91)



Shri K. R. Khanolkar
(1991-96)



Shri Ranjit S. Chavan
(1996-2015)



Shri Ramanath Jha IAS (Retd.)



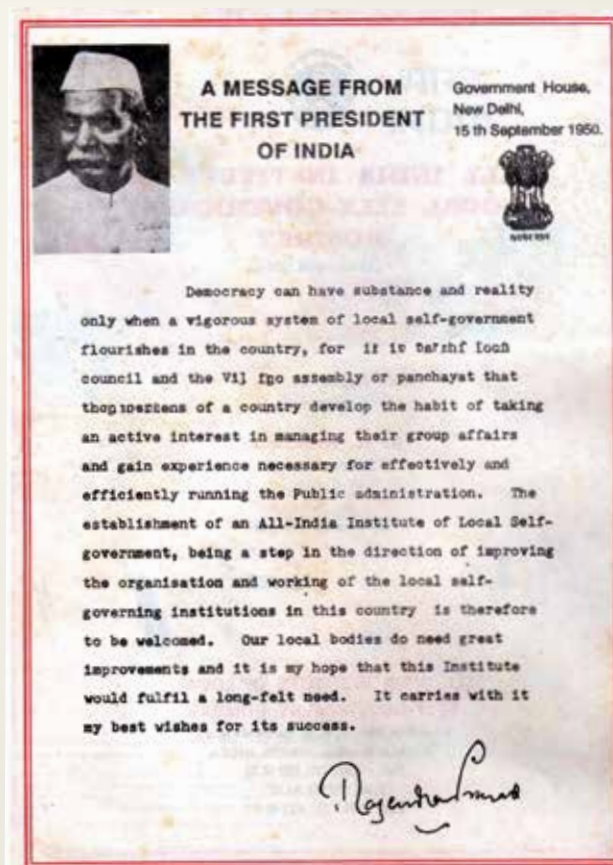
Shri Rajiv Agarwal IAS (Retd.)



Dr. Jairaj Phatak IAS (Retd.)
(Present)

Message

***Congratulatory message from the 1st President of India
DR. RAJENDRA PRASAD***



Message

RANJIT S. CHAVAN
President, AIILSG

As we mark the centenary of the All India Institute of Local Self-Government (AIILSG), it is a matter of great pride to reflect on a glorious journey that began a hundred years ago with a vision to enhance local self-governance in India.

Over the last hundred years, AIILSG has contributed substantially to the promotion of the ideals of local self-governance, capacity building, and informed urban policy. The Institute has always endeavored to enhance the efficiency of functioning of urban local bodies and assist them in effectively dealing with the complex issues of urbanisation.

Today's cities are the hub of economic growth, innovation, and social transformation. At the same time, the challenges that urban areas face with regard to infrastructure, housing, transportation, climate change, etc., will only increase in the future. The need to strengthen urban institutions and the capacity of local governments will remain a critical issue for the development of sustainable cities.

The centenary of AIILSG not only calls for us to celebrate our glorious achievements but also to reaffirm our commitment to the cause of the future of urban India. I am convinced that the Institute will continue to function as a knowledge hub for a long time to come.

I wish to offer my best wishes for the continued success of AIILSG in its noble cause of promoting urban governance and strengthening local self-government.



Message

DR. JAIRAJ PHATAK, IAS (RETD.)
Director General, AIILSG

The centenary of the All India Institute of Local Self-Government (AIILSG) signals an important landmark in the history of urban governance in the country. For the past one hundred years, the Institute has been dedicated to the cause of building and improving local self-governments and working with urban local bodies.

Over the decades, AIILSG has worked closely with urban local bodies, policymakers, and practitioners to address many challenges that cities face. Be it capacity-building programmes, research initiatives, policy discussions, or collaborations, the Institute has always made significant contributions to effectively manage and govern our cities.

The unprecedented urbanisation in India today has created a plethora of opportunities and urbanisation challenges such as issues in infrastructure, service delivery, environmental sustainability, governance among others. This calls for the need to recognise the role of institutions focused on urban knowledge, training, and dialogue.

As AIILSG marks its centenary of service, it is also important to look ahead. The future of our cities will be shaped by strong local institutions, good leadership, and learning. I am very sure that AIILSG will remain relevant and useful in the years to come towards building better cities and better governance in urban areas.

I extend my congratulations to everyone who has contributed to the Institute's remarkable journey over the past hundred years and wish the organisation continued success in the future.



Message

HANSA PATEL
Chief Executive Advisor, AILSG

A hundred years of purposeful work deserves to be celebrated, and AILSG has earned every bit of this milestone. My association with AILSG began in 1977, when I joined as Assistant Director at the newly established Vadodara Centre. Watching the Institute complete a hundred years feels both special in a deeply personal way.



Over the decades, I have had the privilege of serving in various capacities — as Chairperson of ICLEI South Asia, Vice President of LOGOTRI, Co-chair for Women Empowerment Committee at UCLG ASPAC, and Global Coordinator for Sister Cities International. Through each of these roles, the values I first encountered at AILSG, of service, capacity building, and community empowerment, remained a constant thread. I have always believed that health and education are the foundation of equality. Establishing the Nrupur Nursing Academy in Vadodara remains one of my proudest contributions to that belief.

The institute born from a conversation during a nursing strike in 2004, and grown by 2008 into an institution offering diploma and degree pathways, with exchange programmes connecting students to universities in the United States and beyond. When you educate a woman, you educate her family and her community. It is a principle I have tried to live by — and one that AILSG, in its own way, has embodied for a century.

Heartiest congratulations to the entire AILSG family on this centenary milestone.

Message

RAVI RANJAN GURU
Deputy Director General, AILSG

As the All India Institute of Local Self-Government completes one hundred years, it is a moment of great pride for all of us who are associated with the organisation. Over the past century, AILSG has worked consistently to strengthen local governance and support cities through training, research, and knowledge sharing.

Cities today are growing faster than ever before. They are centres of economic activity, opportunity, and innovation, but they also face many complex challenges. Issues related to infrastructure, housing, public health, environmental sustainability, and social inclusion require thoughtful planning and effective local governance.

In this changing scenario of the urban landscape, the role of an institution like AILSG becomes more important. Our efforts over the last few years have been focused on building the capacity of the urban local bodies, creating dialogue among the practitioners and the policy-makers, and advocating solutions that will help the better functioning of the cities.

As we celebrate this momentous occasion, we are also committed to the future. The future of our cities will depend on the strength of our local bodies and our leadership and continued engagement with all the stakeholders.

I congratulate all those who have been a part of the AILSG journey in the last hundred years. We remain committed to strengthening local governance in the country.



Governing Council Members



Shri Ranjit S. Chavan
President



Shri Rajkishor Kantaprasad Modi
Vice President



Shri Mansukhbhai Patel
Member



Shri Vijay Rajaram Sane
Member



Shri Sureshbhai Dhandhaliya
Member



Smt. Hetalben Soneji
Member



Shri Virendrbhai Acharya
Member



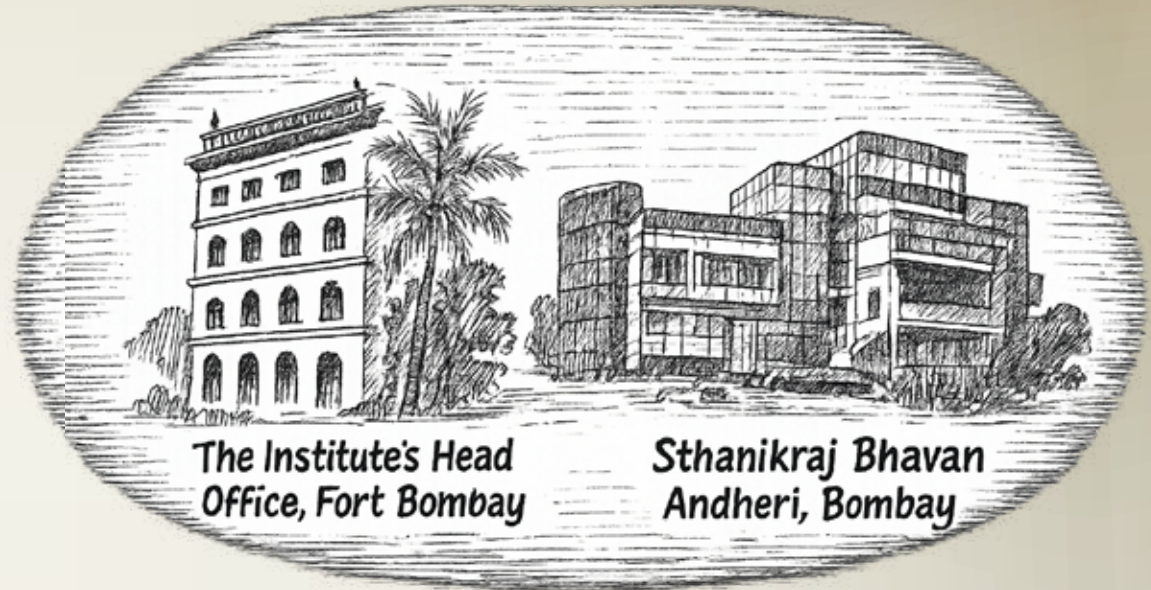
Dr. Jairaj Phatak IAS (Retd.)
Director-General & Secretary



Shri Mrutyunjaya. C. Hiremath
Member

Milestones

The Institute's 100 year story is marked by milestones in training, policy influence, institutional expansion, and global collaborations, reflecting its unique ability to evolve with time while staying true to its mission: building capable, responsive, and citizen-focused local governance.



1917

Idea first proposed at a Conference of Municipalities and Local Boards in Poona, presided over by Shri Vithalbhai J. Patel, Shri S. R. Bhagwat, and prominent leaders.

PROPOSAL



1926

After nine years of consistent pursuance of our leaders, the government of Bombay formally approved formation of the institute with a three-year grant of ₹7,500 annually.

FORMATION



1927

Launch of the Local Self-Government Diploma Course, covering principles of local government, accounts, public health, sanitation, and town planning.

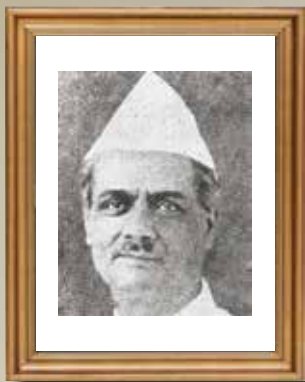
DIPLOMA



1931

Annual conferences held as a platform for reforms in municipal laws and practices. Nearly 70 training centres and affiliated classes established across India.

CONFERENCES



Shri Ganesh Vasudev Mavalankar
First President of AILSG (1952-1956)
First Lok Sabha Speaker of India



1951

Institute renamed All India Institute of Local Self-Government; Hon'ble Shri G V Mavalankar (first Speaker of Lok Sabha) became President.

RENAMING



1954

The Delhi Centre of the All India Institute of Local Self-Government was established, marking its expansion into the nation's capital.

DELHI CENTRE



1958

The Govt recommended diploma courses to state govts for municipal staff training, while new programmes were launched for Sanitary Inspectors, supervisors, and urban administrators.

RECOGNITION



1968

Establishment of the Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) in Mumbai. The institute is funded by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs Govt. of India.

RCUES



1973

The first Convocation was held, marking a landmark in the Institute's academic history.

CONVOCATION



1976

Golden Jubilee celebrations; publication of a commemorative volume. By this time, AILSG had trained over 24,000 students.

50 YEARS



Shri Sadiq Ali, the then Governor of Maharashtra (1977-80) releasing the commemoration volume of the Golden Jubilee Celebration.



1992

AIILSG played a key role in training elected representatives and municipal officials following the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments.

TRAINING



1990s

Initiated collaborative projects with international agencies on public health, waste management, and urban development.

GLOBAL REACH



1998

The World Mayors' Forum was organised in Jaipur, bringing together city leaders from across the globe.

FORUM I



1999

Established the National Fire Academy in Vadodara, creating a professional training hub for fire services and disaster response.

FIRE ACADEMY



2005

The World Mayors' Forum was organised in Kochi, strengthening international dialogue on urban governance.

FORUM II



Shri Jaynarayan Vyas (4th from Left), the then Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Government of Gujarat inaugurated the newly constructed building of Nrupur Nursing Academy on April 20, 2008.



2011: Nagar Ratna Award was instituted by AIILSG for best performing cities and inaugurated by the then President of India Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil



2012

Launch of the International Centre of EQUI-T in Pune, focusing on equity and inclusion in governance.

EQUI-T



2013-18 2014



Organised South Asian Cities Summits and Urban Dialogues across multiple Indian cities to address pressing problems of cities.

Urban Update magazine was launched as the Institute's flagship publication on urban affairs, policy, and governance.

DIALOGUES

URBAN UPDATE



2016



2000-2026

Equi-City Project launched in Nagpur with support from the European Union, promoting inclusive and equitable urban governance.

Strengthened partnerships with UN agencies, national ministries, and municipal associations. Assisted MoHUA in coordination with foreign municipalities for Urban 20 during India's Presidency of G20 in 2024 and BRICS in 2016.

EQUI-CITY

PARTNERSHIPS



Special Edition of Urban Update on its 10th anniversary.

**CAPACITY BUILDING /
TECHNICAL SUPPORT**

**RESEARCH & KNOWLEDGE
DISSEMINATION**

Projects and Programmes

**DIGITAL
GOVERNANCE**

**INTERNATIONAL
COLLABORATIONS**

For most of its journey, AILSG has been working hand in hand with national, state and local governments, international organisations, and global city networks, to improve liveability in cities.

CAPACITY BUILDING / TECHNICAL SUPPORT

At the national level, AIILSG has acted as a technical support cell, providing expertise and capacity building for flagship urban schemes and local governance reforms. AIILSG also continued to train students under its flagship courses and provide trained human resources to local governments.

Diploma Courses

- Sanitary Inspector's Diploma Course (SI)
- Diploma in Local Government Service (LGS) – Regular and Distance Learning
- Local Self Government Diploma (LSGD) – Regular and Distance Learning
- Fireman & Fire Sub-Officers Training Course
- Advanced Diploma in Medical Laboratory Technology (ADMLT)
- Diploma in Local Government Financial management (DLGFM)

Regular Courses

Institute's regular courses cover the following:

- Public Health, Sanitation, Hospital Administration
- Medical Laboratory Technology
- Financial Management in Local Government
- Management Courses (AICTE approved)
- Disaster Management, Computer Application
- Food Safety and Hygiene, Fire & Safety Environment
- Nursing courses at Nrupur Nursing Academy

Solid Waste Management (SWM)

DPR preparation, City sanitation plan and support for sustainable urban sanitation.

GIS & Master Planning

Technical support for GIS-based planning and preparation of comprehensive master plans for cities.

Energy Sector

Establishment of ECBC Cells and promotion of energy-efficient building practices across states.

Water Supply & Sewerage

Feasibility studies, DPRs, and planning support for sustainable water management and sewerage systems.

Environment & Climate Change

Advisory support on climate resilience, clean energy integration, and sustainable city development.

Mission-Based Support

Active role in training, research, and technical assistance for national flagship programmes such as Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), AMRUT, Smart Cities Mission, Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), etc.

RESEARCH & KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

AIILSG has been a hub of policy research, documentation, and publications, helping bridge theory and practice.

National Research

Taking research initiatives on municipal finance, decentralisation, sanitation, health, and capacity-building for improving urban liveability.

International Exposure Visits/ Research

Facilitating international visits to government officials and elected representatives. Studies on disaster resilience, inclusive governance, and SDGs in collaboration with global partners.

Publications

Regular journals and magazines like:

- o Local Government Quarterly
- o Urban Update (Monthly Magazine)
- o The Urban World
- o Urban Environ Vision
- o Project Update
- o Sthanik Swaraj (Gujarati)
- o State Newsletters

These platforms continue to shape policy debates and disseminate innovations among local governments across India and beyond.

DIGITAL GOVERNANCE

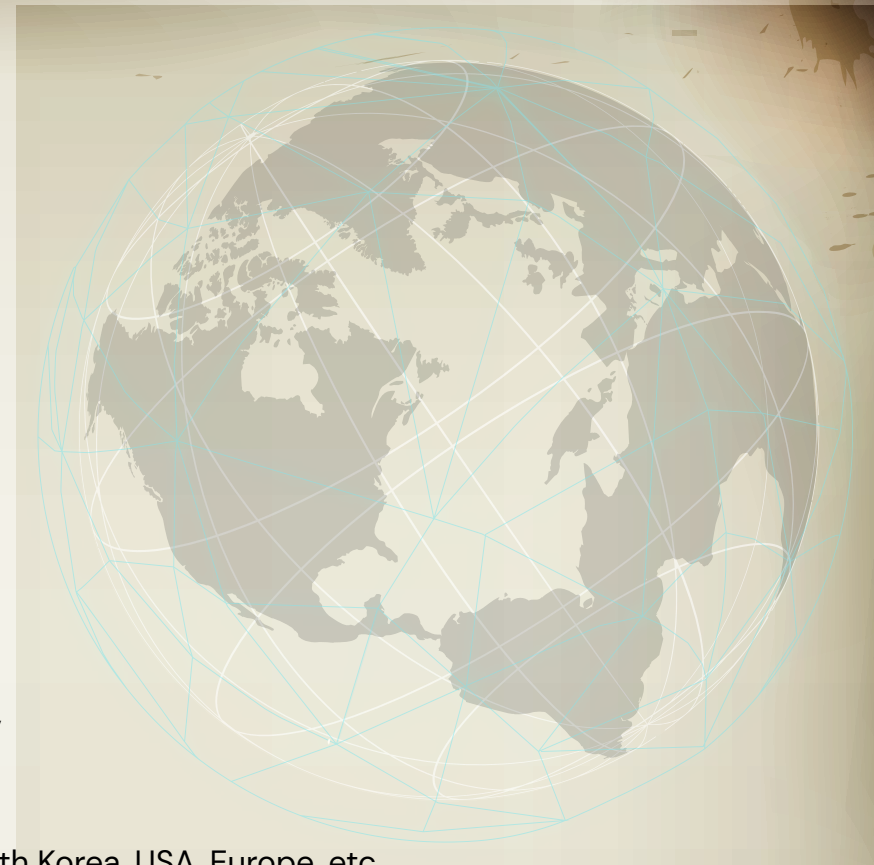
AIILSG has embraced the digital era through online training platforms, e-learning modules, knowledge portals, and virtual conferences, ensuring continuous capacity-building and wider outreach across India and beyond. Its official website (www.aiilsg.org) serves as a dynamic hub for publications, training schedules, and updates on ongoing programmes.

The Institute is also active on social media platforms (Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram) to engage with stakeholders in real time. Moving forward, AIILSG is investing in digital documentation — including short documentaries, reels, explainers, and case studies — YouTube channel, amplifying its knowledge-sharing mission for the next generation of local government leaders.

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

AllLSG has always believed that local governance challenges are global in nature and best addressed through cooperation and knowledge-sharing. Over the decades, it has built strong partnerships at multiple levels:

- o Organiser of the South Asian Mayors' Forum, a flagship platform for mayors, municipal leaders, to share experiences and to collaborate.
- o Promoted regional cooperation in sanitation, solid waste management, and inclusivity through shared initiatives.
- o Organised exchange visits and joint studies with local bodies to Japan, South Korea, USA, Europe, etc.
- o GCoM South Asia Networking and Governance Co-ordinator for Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy, Brussels.
- o Executive Committee member of CityNet.
- o Executive Bureau member of UCLG ASPAC.
- o Collaborated with World Bank, ADB, UNICEF, UNDP, UN-Habitat, European Union (EU), and GIZ on governance reforms, women empowerment, health, sanitation, and capacity-building.
- o Women-led Disaster Risk Reduction initiative – won the RISK Award 2015, gaining global recognition.
- o Founding member of BRICS Cities and Municipality Forum.
- o Regular representation in global urban summits, World Urban Forum, SDG dialogues, and UCLG World Congresses.
- o Designed and delivered capacity-building projects for city leaders in Africa and Asia under UNDP, UN-Habitat, and GIZ frameworks
- o Hosted study visits of African and Asian delegations to Indian cities for hands-on learning.



OUR LINKAGES



WASTE MANAGEMENT & RESEARCH CENTRE (WMRC)



One of the key initiatives of AILSG in the area of environmental management is the WMRC, which was established by the Government of Maharashtra in 2002 at AILSG in Mumbai. The main objective of WMRC is to assist municipal agencies in coping with the growing challenges in municipal waste management. Besides technical advisory services, WMRC is a capacity-building organisation. It conducts exposure visits, workshops, and training programmes for municipal agencies to promote “waste to wealth” concepts. WMRC works on social issues too.

REGIONAL CENTRE FOR URBAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES (RCUES)



Another key institutional initiatives supporting urban governance is the RCUES network. It acts as a vital bridge between national urban policies and their implementation by Urban Local Bodies (ULBs). Established by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs in 1968, these centres are designed to strengthen the “third tier” of governance—the municipal level. The primary role of RCUES is capacity building. It offers training to municipal commissioners, technical staff, and elected representatives like Mayors and Councillors. This training helps these representatives deal with complex urbanisation issues.

INTERNATIONAL CENTER OF EQUI-T

AILSG’s equity, inclusion and poverty alleviation related initiatives are anchored at its International Center of EQUI-T. In sync with the key global & national priorities, International Center of EQUI-T builds on the rich inheritance from AILSG’s learnings generated since 1926. It undertakes actions, research, capacity building, knowledge management and policy advocacy. It also provides customized need-based support to the stakeholders. Developing tailor-made knowledge products building on the systematic ‘learning’ approach is a special feature.

The Road Ahead



AILSG's Mumbai Office

AILSG's vision for the next century is to transform local self-governments into modern, empowered, forward-looking, and inclusive units of government.

As the AILSG enters its centenary, its guiding purpose remains enabling local governments with the capacities, technologies, and leadership needed to deliver inclusive, effective and efficient, climate-resilient, and citizen-centric governance. The ultimate goal is to improve liveability for all in our cities.

The future direction builds on our historic commitment to empowering local governments while recognising the new realities of urbanisation, demographic shifts, and technological disruption.

We remain committed to supporting local governments through academic courses, training programs, conferences, workshops, exchange programs, and knowledge resources to help build liveable cities. We will continue fostering collaboration with international institutions, local government associations, and development agencies to exchange best practices and bring global expertise in local contexts.

FOCUS AREAS

- o Empowering Local Governments through Capacity Building
- o Leading in Knowledge, Research, and Policy Innovation for Local Govts
- o Advancing Urban–Rural Synergy
- o Driving Digital Transformation at the Local Level
- o Strengthening Climate Resilience and Urban Sustainability

Decoding the AIILSG Logo

The Emblem of Purpose



THE LOGO OF the AIILSG is carefully designed to convey the institute's deep-rooted mission and vision. It communicates the institute's focus areas, vision, and mission through its symbolic elements. It features five main components, flanked by decorative floral design. At the centre is a shield divided into four sections, having one main element:



THE SHIELD represents protection, resilience, and strength.



THE LIGHTHOUSE (at the top) is a symbol of guidance and hope. AIILSG, like that lighthouse, has been guiding local bodies to improve governance and bring administrative reforms.



THE BOOK (on the left) rightly signifies knowledge dissemination, one of AIILSG's central roles for local bodies.



THE SCALES (on the right) hold deeper meaning of justice, equity, and good governance. They echo AIILSG's mission to fortify institutions with fairness and inclusiveness at their core.



THE LOTUS (at the bottom) is a symbol of purity, growth, and creative renewal. It reflects how efficient local self-governance can uplift communities and foster transformative change.



FLORAL MOTIF around the shield act as a visual bridge and a reminder. It symbolises the Institute's respect for heritage and adaptability to contemporary needs.



SAVE THE DATES



November 25–27, 2026 | Fairmont Mumbai

Centres Across India



Contact US

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