

PRESS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL OF INDIA

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**MoU Signed by CAG of India with NIUA for Capacity Building in Urban
Development**

**MoU with CMI focuses on enhancing non-cognitive skills that impact auditing
effectiveness**

The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) aimed at strengthening audit planning, processes and capacity building in urban development. The signing ceremony was held here today in the presence of Shri K. Sanjay Murthy, Comptroller and Auditor General of India, along with senior officials from the respective institutions.

The MoU aims at collaboration in developing content and course material relating to urban sector relevant from the audit point of view which can help in enhancing audit skills of Indian Audit and Accounts Department (IA&AD) officials and to make sure that future audits related to urban development are in sync with rapidly evolving urban landscape. The partnership aims to strengthen capacity-building initiatives and equip professionals with specialised skills in the domain of urban development with a focus on enhancing the audit capabilities of the officers and staffs of the IA&AD.

By fostering a deeper understanding of sectoral complexities, this initiative will not only enhance the professional competence of IA&AD personnel but also ensure that future audits of urban development programs align with the evolving landscape of urban governance.

The initiative includes the development of online self-study modules, urban auditing tools and products, structured training programmes through both online & face-to-face training along with enabling site-visits to identified cities for onsite learning. Moreover, the MoU envisions the development of Community of Practice as an online platform for knowledge sharing and networking amongst CAG officials and auditors of Urban Local Bodies. The collaboration also

includes organising seminars, audit consultations and workshops to brainstorm on new issues and challenges faced in the urban sector.

The partnership extends to collaboration on research and development, focussing on creation of urban auditing tools and products, case studies and innovative auditing methodologies for the urban sector for sharing with the CAG officials. Additionally, it is also envisaged to provide advisory support, offering resource persons for joint audit or research projects, guidance on advanced audit planning methodologies, development of household survey questionnaires, field survey designs, interview techniques, audit execution, and reporting strategies, in mutual consultation with CAG officials.

Another MoU was also signed with the Competitiveness Mindset Institute (CMI) in the presence of CAG, Shri K Sanjay Murthy. This collaboration focuses on enhancing non-cognitive skills that impact auditing effectiveness. This partnership aims to conduct specialized training sessions, facilitated by CMI experts, to provide structured programs on critical non-cognitive skills such as Conscientiousness, Initiative, Innovativeness, Perseverance, and Problem-Solving to enhance audit efficiency. Additionally, training schedules will be mutually coordinated between the CAG office and CMI to ensure widespread skill development within IAAD.

These partnerships reflect CAG's commitment to build domain expertise, foster practical insights, and promote continuous professional development in auditing, further reinforcing its role in ensuring accountability and governance in India's urban sector.