

International Centre for Audit of Local Governance (iCAL)

A Vision for the Future

20th February 2025

New Delhi

Introducing iCAL

- Established by SAI India in Rajkot, Gujarat, with a vision of a collaborative platform uniting policymakers, administrators and auditors linked with Local Governments
- Rajkot holds a rich heritage, notably as a city where Mahatma Gandhi spent his formative years.
- Inaugurated by CAG on 18 July 2024

Introducing iCAL

- Designated (November 2024) by CAG as Nodal Training Centre for ASOSAI Working Group on Regional and Municipal Audit.
- As Nodal Training Centre, iCAL would conduct international training programs on Capacity building for Local bodies for ASOSAI members.

The Context

- Importance of Local Governments in achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), fostering grassroots engagement and nurturing citizen ownership and accountability.
- Recognizing Local Governments as key allies in global development efforts is imperative for crafting and executing policies effectively.
- Balancing economic growth with global challenges, like climate change.

Objectives of iCAL

- Enhancing capacity of Local Governments and its auditors
- Improving service delivery of Local Governments through efficient functioning and improved accountability

Objective 1: Building Capacity

- Focus on elected representatives and executive officials of Local Governments across India and the globe
- Hand-holding DLFAs as part of CAG's TGS function
- Training for Local Government Auditors from SAs and subordinate audit formations.

Objective 2: Improving Accountability

- Specialised trainings for Local Governments for improved:
 - Service delivery
 - Data reporting
 - Performance assessment

Fostering Collaboration and Connection

- Local government audits will benefit from diverse perspectives, fostering innovation in audit methods.
- This collaborative setting would promote exploration of new approaches to address emerging challenges and improve transparency, accountability and efficiency in governance.

Fostering Collaboration and Connection

- As a member of INTOSAI, the global community of Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs), SAI India is dedicated to strengthening the foundational level of governance – Local Governments.
- Taking a lead from INTOSAI's overarching mission, vision and values, iCAL would strive to foster an environment for its members to share invaluable experiences, expertise and best practices in auditing local governments.

Training programmes conducted by iCAL

- Following training programmes have so far been conducted for personnels of SAI India:

Sl. No.	Programmes	Duration
1	New Approach to Audit of Local Governments	19.07.2024 to 20.07.2024
2	Service Delivery Oriented Audit: What this New Paradigm Means and How to Apply It in Audit	21.10.2024 to 25.10.2024
3	Service Delivery Oriented Audit: What this New Paradigm Means and How to Apply It in Audit	16.12.2024 to 20.12.2024
4	Service Delivery Oriented Audit: What this New Paradigm Means and How to Apply It in Audit	03.02.2025 to 07.02.2025

Opportunities at iCAL

- Setting Standards
- Experience Sharing
- Capacity Building

Possible Future Programmes

- Global Climate Change and Urban Agglomerates
- Conservation of Water: Behavioral changes & innovations
- Waste Management in Cities
- Rejuvenating Water Bodies
- Town Planning Challenges
- Impact of Social Welfare Schemes
- Augmenting Own Resources
- Social Audit Processes
- Gender Sensitization in LG Audit
- Leveraging IT for Effective LG Audits
- Audit of Blue Economy Activities

Vision for the Future

The Institute intends to:

- Act as a Think Tank for Local Governance issues
- Strive for setting up of a Working Group under the INTOSAI Knowledge Sharing Committee, tasked with developing guidance and benchmarks for Local Government Audits
- Act as a Knowledge Centre of SAI, India for Local Governments and Local Government Audit.

Vision for the Future

- The Centre also intends to undertake bilateral and multilateral collaboration projects with different stakeholders for research, technology, data exchange and financial collaboration, like:
 - Developing performance reporting frameworks
 - Collaborating with elected bodies in Local Governments for strengthening oversight and accountability
 - Collaborating with national and international research institute, social groups, NGOs, etc.
 - Facilitating bilateral training and capacity programmes
 - Collaborating with other national/international training institutes associated with capacity building for Local Governments

Thank You