

Strengthening Public Financial Management Program to Enable Service Delivery (SPFMS)

Finance Division, Ministry of Finance

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Scheme of Internal Audit and Audit Follow-up

Certificate Award Ceremony

A month-long training course on ‘Basics of Internal Auditing and Preparation of CIA Professional Exams for Selected Government Officials’

Chief Guest : **Dr. Md. Khairuzzaman Mozumder,**
Secretary, Finance Division

Chairperson : **Mr. Mohammad Saiful Islam,**
Addl. Secretary (Budget-1), Finance Division & NPD, SPFMS Program

Special Guest : **Ms. Bilquis Jahan Rimi,**
Additional Secretary, Expenditure Management, Finance Division and PIT Head, IA Scheme

Venue : SPFMS, Conference Room, Level-4, IEB Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka.

Date : 14 September, 2024.

A certificate award ceremony took place on 14 September 2024 to recognize the selected government officials for successfully completing a month-long training program. Addressing the closing ceremony on "*Basics of Internal Auditing and Preparation of CIA Professional exams*" as the Chief Guest the Secretary pointed out that the Scheme on Internal Audit and Audit Follow-up under the SPFMS program is taking a leading role in establishing Internal Audit Units (IAUs) in government offices. Dr. Md. Khairuzzaman Mozumder said, the scheme is being implemented to introduce IAUs in five high-spending departments, with four departments already having established IA units and the fifth one is in progress. Setting up IAUs in government offices is a significant task and for the initiative to be successful on a broader scale, it should be included in the next action plan of the 3rd Public Financial Management Strategy, he added.

The event was chaired by Mr. Mohammad Saiful Islam, Additional Secretary of Budget-1 and National Program Director of SPFMS, along with Ms. Bilquis Jahan Rimi, Additional Secretary, Expenditure Management and Head of the Program Implementation Team (PIT) for the Internal Audit and Audit Follow-up Scheme. The event was moderated by Mr. Md. Rafiqul Islam, Joint Secretary of the Internal Audit Scheme and Program Executive & Coordinator (PEC). A total of 15 government officials from five high spending departments and the Finance Division participated in the training program, which was spanned for four weeks.

In his speech, Mr. Mohammad Saiful Islam highlighted that this is the first time participants have undergone this type of training, and they will serve as a role model for others to follow. He said, "Establishing internal audit units in various government departments remains a significant challenge. However, we plan to address this in the upcoming Public Financial Management (PFM) Strategy 2025-2030". The establishment of internal audit units will also contribute to achieving higher scores in the Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability (PEFA) assessment, he added.

Bilquis Jahan Rimi in her speech said, the training course, conducted after office hours, was highly demanding and required participants to apply their learning to professional contexts. The current SPFMS program documents mention the establishment of Internal Audit Units in five high-spending departments, but there is no mention of further expansion. She added, "We hope that the third PFM strategy will include provisions to expand this initiative. Given the ongoing reform efforts in the country, this is the high time to rollout internal audit".

Snapshots from the Certificate Award Ceremony

