

Leadership Continuity: Nilima Akter Chowdhury Re-elected to NGO Platform Steering Committee

April 3, 2026

S.M Lutfur Kabir, District Correspondent, Cox's Bazar

In a significant development for the local development sector, Nilima Akter Chowdhury, Chief Executive of AGRAJATTRA, has been re-elected for a second term to the Steering Committee (Local NGO Constituency) of NGO Platform Cox's Bazar. Her re-election is being widely seen as a positive step toward stronger coordination and leadership within the region's NGO community.

Nilima Akter Chowdhury has long been engaged in advancing the socio-economic conditions of underprivileged women, focusing on self-employment and empowerment initiatives. Under her leadership, AGRAJATTRA has played an important role in addressing challenges related to the Rohingya crisis, community development, and skills training programs. Her collaboration with international bodies such as the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund has also elevated her profile on the global stage.

Her re-election has drawn appreciation from various professional circles. Senior lawyer Advocate Kutub Uddin emphasized the need for transparency and accountability in the NGO sector, expressing confidence in her leadership to ensure both. College professor Abdul Haque described her as a strong example of female leadership and a role model for the younger generation.

S.M. Humayun Kabir, Chairman of Journalist Cooperation of Bangladesh, noted that her achievement reflects not only personal success but also a promising sign for the local NGO sector in Cox's Bazar. He added that her experience would contribute to making the platform more dynamic and effective.

Experienced NGO worker Javedul Anwar highlighted the importance of coordination among local organizations, stating that her grassroots experience could play a crucial role in bridging existing gaps. Local young entrepreneurs have also expressed optimism that her leadership will positively influence the development of women entrepreneurs.

Public representative Syed Nazrul Islam remarked that her close connection with grassroots communities enables her to understand real challenges faced by ordinary people, which could lead to more effective outcomes. A women's rights activist added that real empowerment lies in practical implementation, an area where Nilima Akter Chowdhury has been actively working.

Currently, the NGO sector in Cox's Bazar faces multiple challenges, including lack of coordination, issues of transparency and accountability, dependency on funding, and the ongoing Rohingya crisis. Analysts believe that under her leadership, these challenges can be addressed more effectively.

Her re-election is not merely a position retained, but a renewed source of inspiration for the local NGO sector. With her experience, leadership, and international connections, the sector is expected to become more structured, transparent, and participatory in the days ahead.