

STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT

(2015-2016)

25

SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA

**MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT)**

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PANCHAYATI RAJ

TWENTY-FIFTH REPORT



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

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(DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT)**

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PANCHAYATI RAJ

Presented to Hon'ble Speaker on 31.08. 2016

Presented to Lok Sabha on _____

Laid in Rajya Sabha on _____



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

August, 2016/Bhadrapada, 1938 (Saka)

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**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(2015-2016)**

Dr. P. Venugopal -- *Chairperson*

**MEMBERS
LOK SABHA**

2. Shri Sisir Adhikari
3. Shri Kirti Azad
4. Shrimati Renuka Butta
5. Shri Harishchandra Deoram Chavan
6. Shri Biren Singh Engti
7. Shri Vijay Kumar Hansdak
8. Shri Ajay Misra (Teni)
9. Shri Manshankar Ninama
10. Shrimati Mausam Noor
11. Vacant[@]
12. Shri Prahlad Singh Patel
13. Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal "Nishank"
14. Shri Gokaraju Ganga Raju
15. Dr. Anbumani Ramadoss
16. Shri Jugal Kishore Sharma
17. Dr. Yashwant Singh
18. Dr. Naramalli Sivaprasad
19. Shri Balka Suman
20. Shri Ladu Kishore Swain
21. Shri Chintaman Wanaga

RAJYA SABHA

22. Shri Munquad Ali
23. Vacant[#]
24. Shri D. Bandyopadhyay
25. Shri Ram Narain Dudi
26. Shri Ranvijay Singh Judev
27. Shri Shamsheer Singh Dullo^{*}
28. Shri Mahendra Singh Mahra
29. Vacant^{**}
30. Shri A. K. Selvaraj
31. Shri Rewati Raman Singh^{\$}

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. | Shri Abhijit Kumar | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri A.K. Shah | - | Director |
| 3. | Smt. B. Visala | - | Additional Director |
| 4. | Shri Ravi Kant Prasad Sinha | - | Committee Assistant |

* Nominated to the Committee w.e.f. 20.05.2016 vice Shri Ashwani Kumar retired on 09.04.2016.

** Vacancy caused due to retirement of Dr. Vijaylaxmi Sadho w.e.f. 29.06.2016.

\$ Nominated to the Committee w.e.f. 25.07.2016.

@ Vacancy caused due to appointment of Dr. Mahendra Nath Pandey as Union Minister w.e.f. 05.07.2016.

Vacancy caused due to retirement of Shri Gulam Rasool Balyawi w.e.f. 07.07.2016.

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Rural Development (2015-2016) having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present the Report on 'National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj' of the Department of Rural Development (Ministry of Rural Development).

2. The Committee had a briefing of the representatives of the Department of Rural Development (Ministry of Rural Development) on 19 November, 2015. Thereafter, the Committee took evidence of the representatives of the Department of Rural Development (Ministry of Rural Development) at their sitting held on 26 July, 2016.

3. The Draft Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on 29 August, 2016.

4. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the officials of the Department of Rural Development (Ministry of Rural Development) and NIRD&PR for placing before them the requisite material and their considered views in connection with the examination of the subject.

5. The Committee place on record their deep sense of appreciation for the invaluable assistance rendered to them by the officials of Lok Sabha Secretariat attached to the Committee.

NEW DELHI;
29 August, 2016
7 Bhadrapada, 1938 (Saka)

DR. P. VENUGOPAL
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Rural Development

REPORT

PART – I

NARRATION ANALYSIS

I. Introductory

(a) Need for Training Programmes

1.1 As per figures made available by Ministry of Panchayati Raj, there are 2.55 lakh PRIs at three levels, 2.48 lakh at Gram Panchayats, 6589 at Block Panchayats and 608 Zila Parishads representing 43% woman, 19% Scheduled Castes (SCs) and 12% Scheduled Tribes (STs) (as on 09.01.2016). Training of such large number of PRIs which include Elected Representatives (ERs), Panchayat Officers, Secretaries, accountants, water pump operators is of vital and urgent importance for successful and robust democracy. Therefore, it is essential that people must participate in the process of planning for development

(b) Role of Department of Rural Development

1.2 Ministry of Rural Development gives emphasis on capacity building of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj functionaries and other stakeholders to enhance the (i) effectiveness of implementation of various rural development programmes across the country (ii) research and action research activities to accomplish the task of assessing the grassroot realities, trends of rural development, impact of rural development programmes and related issues. Ministry has an apex training institution namely National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR) for enabling capacity development of stakeholders in Rural Development and Panchayati Raj. State Institute of Rural Development (SIRDs) and Extension Training Centres (ETCs) of the States are actively involved in this endeavor.

(c) Role of NIRD&PR

1.3 NIRD&PR is a premier national centre of excellence in Rural Development and Panchayati Raj that was started in 1958 as Central Institute of Study and Research in Community Development, Mussoorie, UP, (now in Uttarakhand) and later shifted in 1964 to Hyderabad renamed as NIRD in 1977 and in 2013 renamed as NIRD&PR. Recognized internationally as one of the UN-ESCAP Centres of Excellence, it builds capacities of rural development functionaries, elected representatives of PRIs, Bankers, NGOs and other stakeholders through inter-related activities of training, research and consultancy. The Institute is located in the historic city of Hyderabad in Telangana state. The NIRD&PR celebrated its Golden Jubilee Year of establishment in 2008. In addition to the main campus at Hyderabad, this Institute has North-Eastern Regional Centre at Guwahati, Assam to meet the NE-regional needs.

II. Background

2.1 In order to meet the growing challenges of capacity building for rural development, a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Y. K. Alagh was constituted by MoRD in March, 2010 to suggest measures for reform and revamp of the National Institute of Rural Development, State Institutes of Rural Development (SIRDs) and Extension Training Centres (ETCs). The Committee held discussions with Heads of Centres in NIRD&PR and other faculty as well as non-academic staff and experts including former DGs of NIRD&PR and report was submitted to MoRD.

2.2 The Report of the Committee was examined by the Ministry in consultation with the States, NIRD&PR and SIRDs and the same was accepted and decisions were conveyed to NIRD&PR in August, 2014. **(Appendix I).**

(a) Vision of NIRD&PR

2.3 The vision of NIRD&PR is to focus on policies and programmes that benefit the rural poor, energize the democratic decentralization process, improve the operational efficiency of rural development personnel, promote transfer of technology through its social laboratories and Technology Park and create environmental awareness. As a 'Think-tank' for the Ministry, NIRD&PR while acting as a repository of knowledge on rural development, assists the Ministry in policy formulation.

2.4 In this connection, the Alagh Committee has inter alia spelled out a new Vision for NIRD against the background of a fast growing economy and Changing Rural Context as highlighted by estimates of urbanization and structural change in the labour force taking place at a faster pace than usually argued. It is estimated that rural population share will go down to 58% in 2020 and 55% in 2025 while the official projection is 68% in 2020 and 64% in 2025. As per the former estimate, rural population in 2020 will be 738 million out of total population of 1273 million projected. It is argued that since the policy should not be concentrated only on rural non-farm output and employment, there is need to orient policy to concentric circles of prosperity around diversifying agricultural rural bases and growth centres. Agricultural growth, artisan development and livelihood policies, transportation, land use, marketing infrastructure and technology policies can all be oriented forwards the fulfillment of this objective. In terms of a Vision, regular factors will be income and demand leading to growth, population movements and structural changes. Considering demand for Indian agriculture and spread of markets, Indian agriculture should be seen as a rural urban continuum. Against the backdrop of the Pan India phenomenon of Census Towns, a benign framework model of development for India 2020 has been visualised.

2.5 During the course of examination, the Committee pointed out that regarding vision of NIRD, the Alagh Committee have inter-alia suggested to look at changing rural scenarios with reference to urbanization, change in

employment structure, change in agriculture etc. and decision of the Government has been to redraft the vision of NIRD incorporating the ideas explained by Alagh Committee. Asked whether NIRD&PR have firmed up your vision of NIRD in the light of Alagh Committee recommendations, the DoRD stated:-

"Based on the recommendations of the Alagh Committee, the vision has been firmed up keeping in view the changing rural scenario including therein the processes of democratic decentralisation, use of technologies for rural areas while at the same time not losing the focus on benefit for the rural poor. Accordingly, the mandate and objectives of each of the centres under the restructured set up have also been firmed up."

(b) Mission of NIRD&PR

2.6 The Department of Rural Development has outlined the following areas as Mission of NIRD&PR:-

- (i) To examine and analyze the factors contributing to the improvement of economic and social well being of people in rural areas on a sustainable basis with focus on the rural poor and the other disadvantaged groups through research, action research and consultancy and documentation efforts.
- (ii) To facilitate the rural development efforts with particular emphasis and focus on the rural poor by improving the knowledge, skills and attitudes of rural development officials and non-officials through organising trainings, workshops and seminars.

2.7 During the course of examination, the Committee pointed out that NIRD&PR has claimed to have contributed towards bringing out constitutional Amendment Act regarding Panchayati Raj and formulation of Guidelines regarding Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY). In this connection, the Committee also pointed out that in both these areas, it came out before the Committee that ground realities are different and there are number of loopholes in the system. The Committee enquired whether NIRD&PR has not been able to address these issues, the MoRD in a written Note stated:

"NIRD was involved in preparing model Bill prior to the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act. Subsequently capacity building programmes were organized for the PRI functionaries. In the

context of formulation of guidelines of IAY, three consultative workshops were organized and based on that the guidelines were revised. NIRD plays a role in capacity building of the functionaries at the higher levels in the areas of flagship programmes as well as general programmes related to Rural Development and Panchayati Raj. The IAY has made considerable impact in providing the shelter for the poor and needy in the rural areas. The shortfall / deficiency was mostly in the implementation of the programme at the local level. Continuous capacity building programmes is an attempt to address the shortcomings in implementation. Considering the cost escalation and rising aspirations of the rural people the Government of India has revised the unit cost from time to time. In order to revamp the housing programme, a new scheme Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana – Gramin has already been launched w.e.f 1st April,2016.”

2.8 The Committee also wanted to know whether a lot more is desired on these aspects, the DoRD stated :-

“Understanding the ground level realities through field visits and action research is a continuous process. NIRD& PR continues to strive for improving the policy advocacy over the years.”

III. Objectives

3.1 During the course of the briefing of the representatives of MoRD, the following objectives of NIRD&PR have been outlined before the Committee:-

"Act as 'think-tank' on matters related to poverty reduction, rural development and local governance.

- (i) Organise training programmes, conferences, seminars and workshops for senior level development managers, elected representatives, bankers, NGOs and other stakeholders.
- (ii) Undertake, support and coordinate research including action research.
- (iii) Assess functioning of the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and rural development programmes across the States.
- (iv) Analyse problems in the planning and implementation of the programmes for rural development and suggest solutions and transfer technology through periodicals reports, e-modules and other publications."

3.2 During the course of evidence of the representatives of DoRD, the Committee enquired whether NIRD has been able to achieve its role as Premier

National Centre of excellence in rural development and Panchayati Raj during the last three decades since 1977, the DoRD in a written note clarified:-

"Yes Sir, NIRD&PR has excelled in its performance and achieved its role as Premier National Center of excellence in Rural Development and Panchayati Raj with special reference to training and action research. The Institution has acquired a good reputation both at National and International levels. The impact assessments conducted by Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI) in the year 2002 and 2007 on the impact of training and research programmes of NIRD&PR has clearly brought out that the activities of NIRD&PR have contributed for strengthening the competencies of rural development professionals/functionaries thus leading to better programme implementation benefitting the rural people. The participants of various training programmes in NIRD have been found to better in planning and management of the programmes in the field. It was also brought out that the trainees were in a position to introduce new practices and processes to improve the delivery of services for the benefit of rural people. The ASCI rated the performance of NIRD&PR as 'high and lasting'. The UNESCAP has recognized NIRD&PR as one of the International Centre of Excellence in HRD research and training. The President of India has awarded a commendation certificate to NIRD&PR for its excellence in Training and Research programmes of Centre for Integrated Rural Development in Asia and Pacific (CIRDAP), Dhaka, Bangladesh. Therefore, NIRD&PR has excelled in its performance and achieve its role as premier national centre of excellence."

3.3 The Committee also enquired about the growing challenges of capacity building in rural development that necessitated revamp/restructuring of NIRDs/SIRDs and ETCs in 2010 by Alagh Committee, the DoRD in a written note clarified:-

"The growing challenges of capacity building in rural development that necessitated revamping / restructuring of rural development include, inter-alia;

- (i) Need for NIRD to reorient itself to the changing context with reference to urbanization, change in demographic structure etc.
- (ii) Need for professionalization of the rural development delivery systems
- (iii) Need for management training for the middle and senior level RD&PR officials

- (iv) Requirement of multi-disciplinary faculty for training the above officers.
- (v) Need for the quality training material and training methodology
- (vi) Need for development of a cadre of young Rural Managers".

(i) Need for greater awareness about NIRD&PR among the masses

3.4 During the course of briefing of the representatives of MoRD, it came out before the Committee that NIRD&PR has been working since 1958 like a secret agency and rural people are completely unaware about its role and functions. The Committee further asked whether almost nil awareness about role of NIRD&PR is prevailing among the rural masses and whatever awareness is available is only on paper, the DoRD in a written note clarified:-

"No. The awareness levels about the work of NIRD&PR in the villages are significantly encouraging. NIRD&PR conducts a large number of research studies, action research programmes, village adoption programmes in different parts of the country. There are 33 village adoption initiatives currently in operation in several states across the country. The SIRDs and ETCs conduct training and research programmes for the grassroots functionaries at the block and village levels. Consequently, there is a growing awareness about NIRD&PR and its network organizations like the SIRDs and ETCs. As part of the PG programme in Rural Development Management, the students as well as the in-service candidates from within the country and abroad are attached to the villages as part of their induction programme as well as internship programmes of 1 to 2 months duration at 2 or 3 points of time in a given programme year. The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Water and Sanitation programmes, Watershed programmes, Capacity building programmes of SHGs amongst other major development themes are evaluated periodically through field surveys and participatory research methods. Village wise focused group discussions are conducted over a few weeks in different study blocks and villages all over the country. Some of these projects have been video graphed which show the involvement of the rural masses in action. For example, the Swajal Dhara Drinking Water Scheme in Jhansi, the traditional spring water based schemes of Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh and the Integrated Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Scheme in Mysuru are widely used as class room case studies in several SIRDs and ETCs in their outreach programmes

at the district and sub-district levels. These initiatives establish close linkages with the rural masses across the country. Similar programmes and projects are conducted by the North Eastern Regional Center, Guwahati in the North-Eastern states. NIRD&PR also brings out various publications to spread the news of activities and trainings being conducted, thus enabling linking with the rural masses."

3.5 In reply to a question whether an awareness drive be undertaken to bring NIRD&PR at doorsteps of common-man in rural areas, the DoRD in a written note admitted:-

" Notwithstanding the efforts as described above for generating awareness about the work of NIRD&PR amongst the rural masses, there is a scope for creating awareness in villages which are not directly covered by NIRD&PR all the time. The SIRDs and ETCs do keep in touch with the rural communities throughout the year in the form of organizing network based training and research programmes of NIRD&PR. The effort will be further stepped up to create wider awareness about NIRD&PR and its activities. "

(ii) **Need for proper planning for implementation of Rural Development Programmes**

3.6 In this connection, the Committee also had a briefing of the representatives of Department of Rural Development on the subject 'National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR)' and issues like lack of planning in rural areas leading to exodus of population to urban areas, no public awareness about NIRD came up before the Committee in a big way. In this context, the Committee wanted to know if there is a large disconnect between objectives of NIRD&PR as outlined above and issues highlighted, the DoRD in a written note clarified:-

"NIRD&PR continuously strives for achieving/ implementing the objectives for which it has been set up. The increased number of programs and trainees covered is an example in support of effective implementation of the objectives. Considering the importance of planning, the current effort is to build the capacities for Gram Panchayat Planning. Master training programs are being conducted extensively to improve the planning at Gram Panchayat level. Similarly extensive training and capacity building programs are being conducted for community mobilization and creating livelihood opportunities under the National Rural Livelihood

Mission."

3.7 On the issue of fighting poverty and deprivation, the Alagh Committee had *inter-alia* recommended that the poverty and deprivation will continue to be the focus of NIRD alongwith a rights based approach to development. NIRD has a specific role in the operational philosophy of right based approaches and Acts like MGNREGA and Food Security Act..."

3.8 The Committee also wanted to know if there is a lack of proper planning in rural areas for checking exodus of population to urban areas, the DoRD in a written note stated:-

"NIRD&PR has strived to improve the living conditions of the rural people by capacity building of various rural development functionaries implementing various programs. Lot of livelihood programmes are being organized in different parts of the country. For example, the MGNREGS has been providing livelihood support through wage employment in the rural areas NIRD&PR anchors training of Master trainers on Intensive Participatory Planning Exercise (IPPE). In various states, it has been reflected that MGNREGA is helping in checking the rural migration to a large extent.

Building capacities to effectively implement the programs for creating rural infrastructure has also helped in providing better amenities and living conditions in rural areas. Training of resource persons at various levels such as State, District and Block has helped in strengthening Community Based Organizations such as Self Help Groups, Village Organizations, Cluster level Organizations etc. Various skill development programs and training to promote them has also helped in providing conditions for better living in the rural areas and thus avoid distressed migration."

3.9 In the context of over-all rural development, during the course of briefing of representatives of Department of Rural Development, the Committee while examining the subject 'Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY)', came across various issues like lack of monitoring, flow of funds etc. in the Adarsh Gram so selected and adopted by MPs in different States. In this connection, the Secretary, MoRD informed the Committee as under:-

"Sir, I will just briefly respond to specific issues and if you wish we can give written submission. Broadly the consensus is there are

three or four major deficiencies which have hindered the development and implementation of this programme. The first is, almost everybody has articulated this deficiency that identified dedicated source of funding for some core infrastructure in the identified gram panchayats, particularly for road connectivity, power supply, drinking water supply and education. These are four core activities infrastructure, how do we ensure that dedicated secured funding is made available in each identified gram panchayat.

Second is, inadequate coordination between the State Government and the Central Government on the one hand, between the State Government and the district level agencies on the other hand.

Third is, field monitoring by the Central Government is inadequate.

These are the three main, if I understand, sentiments. Largely in the sense of the Committee these are the three main things."

3.10 The Secretary, further stated:-

"Sir, as the Joint Secretary has mentioned in her presentation, while the guidelines of different Ministries have been amended to accord priority perhaps that has not yielded the desired outcome. I think we need to sit down with the respective Ministries. I have particularly mentioned the four areas; road connectivity, which of course we will ensure, power supply, school education and drinking water supply. Each of these four Ministries will have to sit down and we will have to ensure in each gram panchayat what needs to be done and how we can provide funding. That is one thing that we will coordinate.

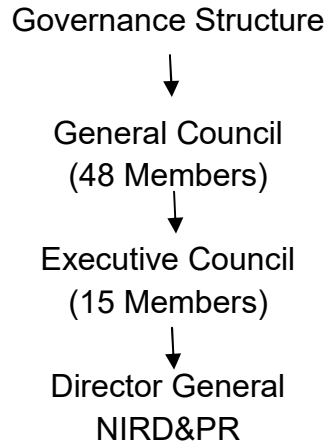
The second is, we will improve coordination between the State Government and the Central Government and also similarly persuade the State Government to have better coordination with the district agencies for periodic monitoring of this Adarsh Gram Yojna.

The third thing, very importantly Member Shri Kirti Azad and others also have mentioned that there is no substitute for field level monitoring by independent central Government representatives. We are organising a series of field visits. Each of the 693 gram panchayats which have been identified will be visited by some national level personnel or national level monitors to ensure that whatever is being envisaged in the village development plan, at least four components for which we will secure funding is provided in all gram panchayats.

These are some of the steps we are contemplating. We would be very happy to receive further suggestions from the Committee for better implementation of this programme."

IV. **Organizational Set-up**

4.1 During the course of briefing of the representatives of MoRD, the DoRD has shown the following Governance Structure of NIRD:-



4.2 The NIRD&PR in their Brief Note have submitted to before the Committee outlined that policies and strategies are determined by a 48-member General Council presided by the Hon'ble Union Minister of Rural Development. The management and administration of the Institute is vested in a 15-member Executive Council with the Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development as its Chairman. The Director General is the Principal Executive Officer and is responsible for the day-to-day administration and management of the Institute.

(i) **General Council**

4.3 During the course of examination, the Committee pointed out that based on the recommendations of Alagh Committee various changes have been made in General Council on representations from organizations engaged in rural development, rural reconstruction like IRMA, TISS, IIMs, Banking/Insurance Bodies etc. Similarly, there are suggestions on representations from Universities also. On this the Government of India accepted the recommendations subject to certain changes. The decisions taken by Government of India inter-alia include nomination from Members of Standing Committee on Rural Development to NIRD, nominations of Vice Chancellor of big Universities like JNU, University of Hyderabad as permanent Members and one from VCs of Mumbai, Madhya

Pradesh, Calcutta, Delhi and Bengal Universities to be nominated by rotation every two years etc. The Committee enquired whether the representatives of General Council of NIRD&PR is limited to big Cities and Universities, the DoRD in a written note clarified:-

"As per the reconstituted composition of the General Council, in addition to representatives from Universities, the following Eleven members, those who have made noteworthy contribution to rural development, are also included, thus not limiting the representation to only big cities and universities –

- (i) Four representatives of NGOs, People's organisations, Social movements
- (ii) Three persons of eminence from the field of journalism, teaching, agriculture or other allied activities
- (iii) Two Chairpersons of Zilla Parishads and
- (iv) Chairpersons of two best cluster level Federations
- (v) Three Members of Union Parliament from among the members of the Standing Committee on Rural Development"

4.4 In this connection, the Committee also wanted to know whether representatives from Universities of States like Uttarakhand, Jammu & Kashmir which are in Hilly and difficult areas particularly North-East States may also be made to make it truly representative in character, the DoRD clarified:-

"While nominating members to the GC, adequate care will be taken, as far as possible, to have the representation from hilly and difficult areas."

Asked by when a final view on composition of Governing Council will be taken, the DoRD replied:-

"The revised composition of the General Council as recommended by the Alagh Committee has already been accepted by the Government. The process of issuing orders for reconstituting the Governing Council is at final stages."

(ii) Director General

4.5 During the course of examination, the DoRD has stated that since revamping/restructuring of NIRD&PR was before Alagh Committee, the Government decided not to fill up the post of DG, NIRD&PR and resembling a

proposal for appointment of DG is before ACC. Asked since how long the post of DG, NIRD&PR is vacant, the DoRD stated:-

" The post was vacant from 1.10.2011 to 8.3.2016."

4.6 When further asked has it been filled up recently, the DoRD stated:-

"The post of the Director General has been filled up and the incumbent Dr. W.R Reddy has taken charge on 10th March 2016."

4.7 The Committee also enquired that whether National Institute like NIRD&PR working without a full fledged DG for a prolonged period does not augur well with over all planning process within NIRD &PR/MoRD, the DoRD stated:-

"Director General, NIRD&PR has already joined on 10th March,2016 and is discharging his assigned duties."

4.8 In this connection, during the course of evidence of the representatives of MoRD, the Secretary, MoRD also informed:-

"You have already visited the NIRD. So, you are absolutely well aware of the working and the functioning of the institute. We have short presentation. So, I think I need not elaborate on the functions etc of the NIRD. जब आप लोगों ने वहां विजिट किया था, उसके बाद डीजी एपाइंट हो गए, इनके आने के बाद वहां काफी गतिविधियां प्रारंभ हुई हैं।"

(iii) Schools and Centres within Schools – Need for expeditious filling up of vacancies

4.9 In this connection, NIRD&PR has also stated that in the light of Alagh Committee recommendations and decisions taken by Government of India, one of the decisions implemented by the Institute is restructuring into Schools having centres within each school. Accordingly, the existing centres of the Institute were re-organised into six (6) Schools and twenty five (25) centres as below. Faculty has also been allocated based on their options, qualifications and seniority.

S.No.	School	Centres within the School
1.	Development Studies & Social Justice	Centre for Human Resource Development (CHRD) Centre for Gender and Development (CGAD) Centre for Equity & Social Development (CESD) Centre for Agrarian Studies (CAS) Centre for PG Studies and Distance Education
2.	Rural Livelihoods and Infrastructure	Centre for Wage Employment (CWE) Centre for Skills and Jobs (CSJ) Centre for Financial Inclusion and Entrepreneurship (CFIE) Centre for Rural Infrastructure (CRI) Centre for Entrepreneurship Development (CED) Centre for Livelihoods (CFL)
3.	Sustainable Development	Centre for Natural Resource Management (CNRM) Centre for Climate Change & Disaster Mitigation (CCCDM)
4.	Public Policy and Good Governance	Centre for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (CPME) Centre for CSR, Public Private Partnership and People's Action (CC, PPP & PA) Centre for Good Governance & Policy Analysis (CGG&PA)
5.	Local Governance	Centre for Panchayati Raj (CPR) Centre for Decentralised Planning (CDP) Centre for Social Service Delivery (CSSD) Centre for Social Audit (CSA)
6.	Science, Technology and Knowledge Systems	Centre for Geo-informatics Applications in Rural Development (CGARD) Centre for Innovations and Appropriate Technologies (CIAT)
Professional Support Centres		Centre for Development Documentation & Communication (CDC) Centre for Information & Communication Technology (CICT) Centre for Research & Training Coordination and Networking (CRTCN)

4.10 During the course of examination, the following details about human resource of NIRD&PR were given before the Committee:-

Human Resources of the Institute			
Category	Sanctioned Strength	In Position	Vacant
Academic			
Professors	18	4	14
Associate Professors	23	11	12
Assistant Professors	45	32	13
Total	86	47	39
Non Academic	350	249	101
Grand Total	436	296	140

4.11 The Committee pointed out that at Professor level, out of sanctioned strength of 18 only 4 are actually working. Similarly, in Associate Professor, the actual strength is just half of sanctioned strength (11/23). Further, in Assistant Professor, the position is no better (32/45). Asked since when these posts are lying vacant and category-wise, year-wise details during the last three years, the DoRD stated:-

"The posts are lying vacant since 2009/ 2013 *. The category-wise, year-wise details during the last three years as on 30.6.2014, 30.6.2015 and 30.6.2016, are given below:

Human Resources of the Institute				
Category	Sanctioned Strength	Vacancies		
		2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Professors	18	14	14	15
Associate Professors	23	17	12	16
Assistant Professors	45	18	13	15
Total	86	49	39	46

* Advertisement for the vacant posts of Professor, Associate Professor and Assistant Professors was issued in the year 2010 and was kept in abeyance due to restructuring and revamping of the Institute. However, during the years 2013 and 2014, 13 posts of Assistant Professors and 6 posts of Associate Professors were filled up. In view of the completion of restructuring of the Institution, the vacant positions will be filled up soon."

4.12 The Committee also wanted to know how NIRD&PR is managing with reduced manpower and by when the restructuring process will be completed necessitating filling up of large number of vacancies, the DoRD stated:-

"It is true that the activities of the Institution have been adversely affected due to large number of vacancies. However, its impact has been contained to an extent by hiring Consultants, Advisors, Adjunct Faculty, Guest faculty etc. to meet the faculty requirement for conduct of research projects and training programmes. Meanwhile, after clearance from the Ministry, the Institute advertised and filled up 13 posts of Assistant Professors and 6 posts of Associate Professors during the years 2013 and 2014.

Due to the restructuring of the Institute and formation of school and new centres, the existing skill sets are required to be upgraded as well as new skill sets are required for the new centres formed. The requirement of the skill sets is being worked out with the help of Tata Institute of Social Sciences and is under finalisation. Subsequently steps to fill up the posts will be initiated.

As per the accepted recommendations of the Dr. Alagh Committee, the Institute has been re-structured into six schools and 25 centres, which are now functional with the existing faculty. The process of filling up vacant posts including additional requirement due to re-structuring of schools is under way."

4.13 During the course of examination, the Committee drew the attention of DoRD that while giving briefing to the Committee on NIRD&PR, the Secretary, MoRD informed that since the NIRD&PR is undergoing the process of

restructuring, MoRD decided not to fill up the vacancies so that these can be filled after restructuring process is over. Asked whether the indecision on the issue might have affected the work performance of NIRD&PR, DoRD admitted:-

"It is true that the activities of the Institution have been affected due to large number of vacancies. However, its impact has been contained to an extent by hiring Consultants, Advisors, Adjunct Faculty, Guest faculty etc. to meet the faculty requirement for conduct of research projects and training programmes."

4.14 The Committee examined as to when did Alagh Committee submit its Report to Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), the DoRD stated that:-

"Dr. Alagh Committee had submitted its report on 28.03.2014."

4.15 The Committee also enquired when Shri S. Vijay Kumar, former Secretary, (MoRD) submitted his Report, the DoRD stated that:-

" Shri S.Vijay Kumar former Secy.(MoRD) had submitted its report on 4th February, 2014."

(iv) Progress on Restructuring of NIRD&PR

4.16 The Committee also wanted to know whether a long time has been taken in over-all process on revamping/restructuring of NIRDs/SIRDs and ETCs, the DoRD stated that:-

"The Alagh Committee was constituted by Ministry of Rural Development, in March 2010 to suggest measures for reform and revamp of the National Institute of Rural Development, State Institutes of Rural Development (SIRDs) and Extension Training Centres (ETCs). The Committee held several rounds of discussions with Heads of Centres in NIRD&PR and other faculty as well as non-academic staff and experts including former DGs of NIRD&PR and many others before the report was submitted to Ministry of Rural Development. The report of the Committee was then examined by the Ministry in consultation with the NIRD&PR, States and SIRDs and the same was accepted and decisions were conveyed to NIRD&PR in August, 2014. A Transition Management Committee(TMC) was constituted to monitor the implementation of these changes. As part of operationalization and as per its decisions, working groups were formed to come up with suitable proposals based on which the Ministry has considered the recommendations and taken decisions for implementations on revamping and restructuring of NIRD&PR. Accordingly, most of the

recommendations have been implemented except those pertaining to amendments of rules and bye-laws, HR, finance related matters.

The process of extensive consultation and discussions with multiple stakeholders and consultation with the States and SIRDs on the recommendations required longer time. The work has been completed as expeditiously as possible taking into account the gigantic task of multi-stakeholder consultation involved."

4.17 During the course of examinations, the Committee also pointed that during the course of briefing of the representatives of DoRD held on 19th November, 2015, a representative informed the Committee that revamping/restructuring of NIRD&PR is at advance stage. Asked for how long this exercise of revamping/restructuring will go on, the DoRD informed that:-

"The process of revamp/restructuring of NIRDPR consequent to the Alagh Committee recommendations is already in its advanced stages. Most of the accepted recommendations relating to restructuring of centres and faculty deployment, setting up of Transition Management Committee to mentor the changes recommended by the Committee, strengthening of SIRDs through the State Link Officer(SLO)system, providing video conferencing facilities etc, have already been put in place. Thus, the important recommendations of the Alagh Committee, as approved by the government, have already been implemented, including recruitment rules for the Director General. Rest of the recommendations is under process which will be expeditiously implemented"

4.18 The Committee also enquired whether inordinate delay in revamping/restructuring of NIRDs/SIRDs/ETCs does not augur well in the interest of NIRD which has been internationally recognized as one of the UN-ESCAP Centres of excellence, the DoRD stated that:-

"The process of revamping/restructuring in important areas is already completed. The remaining recommendations, as approved by the government, are under progress. Though it is true that the process has taken a long time because of the complexities of consultations and thus impacted the functioning during the said period, but the implementation of most of the recommendation has revitalized the institution and is aiming towards effective implementation of the mandate given to MRD&PR."

4.19 The Committee also wanted to know by when finally the revamping/restructuring process will be completed, the DoRD stated that:-

"Major part of the revamping and restructuring of the institute based on the accepted recommendations is already completed. The residual activities are under process which will expeditiously be completed."

4.20 Elaborating further, the Secretary, MoRD during the course of evidence explained:-

''अलग कमेटी की रिपोर्ट एक माननीय सदस्य कह रहे थे कि वर्ष 2010 में आई है। वर्ष 2010 में समिति कांस्टीट्यूट हुई थी, उसकी रिपोर्ट वर्ष 2014 में आई थी, जो साल के एंड में शासन के द्वारा स्वीकार की गई थी। इसके ऊपर जो अभी नोट भी दिया गया है, उसमें उनकी लगभग तीन-चौथाई रिकमेंडेशंस हैं, उन पर इंप्लीमेंटेशन पूर्ण किया गया है।''

V. Workdone

5.1 During the course of briefing of the representatives of DoRD, the following contributions of NIRD&PR have been outlined by the Committee:-

- Regional Planning
- Policy on decentralization
- Assisting Finance Commission on supporting PRIs
- Rural Technology Park
- Dissemination of appropriate construction technologies
- GIS applications for Rural Development

5.2 The following are major activities of NIRD&PR:-

- (i) Training
- (ii) Research
- (iii) Action Research
- (iv) Village Adoption
- (v) Consultancy Services

5.3 Besides special projects in different areas like Rural Technology Park (RTP), Centre on Geo-Informatics Application in Rural Development (C-GARD) etc.

(i) Training

5.4 During the course of examination on the issue of training by NIRD&PR, the DoRD has stated that training plays a pivotal role in capacity building of functionaries involved in rural development. The NIRD&PR has expertise and good infrastructure to train senior and middle level development functionaries

engaged in policy formulation, management and implementation of rural development programmes. The programmes are intended to create knowledge base, develop skills and infuse right attitudes and values. About 1000 programmes are offered every year. Besides, the Institute conducts several international training programmes sponsored by the Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Rural Development. Participants from several developing countries undergo training at NIRD&PR every year. About 30,000 trainees pass through the programmes of NIRD&PR annually.

5.5 The Institute could achieve a high level of satisfaction by evolving and adopting new training methods and techniques on a continuous basis. It has led to improvement in the quality of training programmes while making them more need based and focused. The details of NIRD&PR: Training Programmes and Participants: 2011-16 are as under:-

	Themes	2011-12		2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16	
		Programs	Participants	Programs	Participants	Programs	Participants	Programs	Participants	Programs	Participants
1	Poverty Reduction and Livelihoods	566	14075	645	18183	413	11564	418	11704	662	19168
2	Building Responsive Administration	173	6255	137	4234	267	7476	228	6384	291	8439
3	Gender Budgeting and Gender Responsive Governance	32	1143	15	368	91	2548	52	1456	26	754
4	Participatory Planning and Decentralization	15	389	17	536	78	2184	280	7840	58	1682
5	Community Empowerment	13	513	15	410	81	2268	80	2240	86	2494
6	Innovation and Best Practices in RD	66	2100	67	1585	74	2072	92	2576	46	1334
7	Natural Resource Management	59	1803	41	1331	66	1848	72	2016	85	2465
8	Rural Micro- Enterprises	16	422	35	885	26	728	30	840	51	1479
9	Making PRIs effective	28	876	17	431	22	616	24	672	15	435
10	Transparency and Accountability in Governance	12	366	9	247	12	336	10	280	6	174
	Total	980	27942	998	28210	1130	31640	1286	34722	1326*	38424

* Out of 1400 programmes, 400 were planned as NIRD&PR Networking programmes through SIRDs. The Data from SIRDs are awaited which will be received shortly.

Note: NIRD&PR has proposed 1441 programmes for the year : 2016-17

5.6 The Committee pointed out that number of programmes conducted and number of participants during 2010-11 to 2012-13 has been by and large stagnating at the level of 975-998 and from 24,181 to 28,210. Asked about the reasons for this stagnation, the DoRD stated that:-

" There is no stagnation despite the constraint of vacant faculty and staff resources. As is evident from the table, the number of training programmes and trainees have been increasing over the years. Master Trainer programmes have been conducted for training the faculty members of SIRDs and ETCs over the years. There is an increase of about 37% in the training participation over the last 5 years. NIRD&PR mostly focuses on Training of Trainers programs, who in turn organize training and capacity building programs at State Institutes of Rural Development and Extension Training Centers in various States. Thus, coverage is very extensive both by the NIRDPR and SIRD / ETCs."

5.7 The Committee enquired whether it is due to low level of manpower available with NIRD&PR, the DoRD clarified:-

"Despite the faculty crunch, the NIRD&PR has been able to design and deliver substantial number of programs with an increase of about 37% in the participants over the last 5 years."

5.8 Asked about the reasons for recurrence of stagnation, the DoRD stated:-

"As seen from the figures there is no stagnation over the past five years. In fact, there is an increase of about 13.22% in number of programs conducted and 12.15% in number of participants covered during 2013-14 over the previous year. Similarly, there is an increase of about 13.80% in number of programs conducted and 9.74% in number of participants covered during 2014-15 over the previous year."

5.9 The Committee further enquired whether the pace of workdone in training should be faster year after year, the DoRD stated:-

"Yes, as seen from the above, the pace of designing and delivering training programmes is increasing over the years, keeping in view the emerging training requirements under initiatives for Rural Development and Panchayat Raj from time to time. In so far as training of the elected representatives of PRIs is concerned there has been a quantum jump in the number of programmes for Panchayats. For example over 1.2 lakh PRI representatives have

been trained on flagship programmes of MoRD and MoPR by SIRDs and ETCs who have actively partnered with NIRD&PR in delivering these courses in different parts of the country."

5.10 Asked about the corresponding figures for 2015-16 as on 30.06.2016, the DoRD in a written note stated:-

"As on 30.6.2016, 101 programmes were organized with 3697 participants in the first quarter of 2016-17. Another 1330 programmes are planned for the remaining three quarters of the year."

Workdone in prominent Schools within different Centres

5.11 Asked about actual workdone in prominent Schools within different Centres of NIRD&PR like Livelihoods and Infrastructure, Sustainable Development, Science, Technology and Knowledge Systems, the DoRD stated:-

"The work done by the said schools is as follows:

- a) Annual Action Plan on Mahatma Gandhi NREGS, Capacity building consisting of Barefoot Technicians, Gram Rozgar Sahayaks, Cluster Facilitation Team etc.
- b) Social Audit capacity-building
- c) Intensive Participatory Planning Exercises (IPPE) capacity building activities
- d) District Training Resource Team and Block Resource Team (DTRT/BTRT)
- e) Research on Mahatma Gandhi NREGA
- f) The Centre organizes Training, Research and Action Research on 'Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation programmes', and 'Pradhana Mantri Aawas Yojana' (PMAY).
- g) Organising Training, Research and Action Research on factors that are integral to rural livelihoods . The livelihood programmes such as training in sustainable house building activities, leaf plate making, mushroom cultivation, Honey processing, Assembling solar appliances, natural dyes, are being organised in collaboration with Rural Technology Park.
- h) Aims at skill development, empowerment, livelihood development through economic activities through SHG, micro credit, rural product manufacturing, services sector, through training, hand holding, demonstration, financial and management skills etc, to rural poor, artisans, youth, entrepreneurs, women, etc.
- i) Organizes national and international training programmes, studies various infrastructural issues, basic need analysis, community priorities, participatory management in drinking water and sanitation, rural energy, rural roads, rural housing,

etc

- j) Development and use of Geoinformatics Technology applications to generate economic development, productivity enhancement, scientific decision making, livelihood development and make the rural areas more prosperous. The technology integrates with traditional knowledge and are downscaled into simple and appropriate to be used by rural people, in planning, implementation, decision making, in productivity enhancement, in resource conservation and regeneration, technology applications in rural roads, housing, energy, irrigation, watershed, drinking water and sanitation, MGNREGA and all other activities to improve the quality of life of rural people. Besides application and technology development, the School trains in skill development, capacity building, demonstration, research, action research, sensitizes, awareness development, disaster resilient, hand holding and supporting with advisory and knowledge bases.
- k) Taking up research and training programmes in sustainable development, natural resource management, climate change and disaster mitigation.
- l) Identification, demonstration of appropriate rural technologies, training and dissemination of such technologies for improving the living conditions of rural people."

(ii) State-wise Participation

5.12 During the course of examination, the DoRD, has given the State-wise participation 2014-15 under NIRD&PR.

S.No.	State	Participation percentage %
1.	Uttar Pradesh	8.16
2.	Rajasthan	7.01
3.	Bihar	6.51
4.	Uttarakhand	6.36
5.	Chattisgarh	6.32
6.	AP & Telangana	6.28
7.	Gujarat	6.20
8.	Karnataka	5.34
9.	Tamil Nadu	5.18
10.	West Bengal	4.92
11.	Jharkhand	4.76
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4.40
13.	Maharashtra	4.17
14.	Orissa	3.48

15.	Kerala	3.09
16.	Himachal Pradesh	2.73
17.	Haryana	2.69
18.	Assam	1.96
19.	Nagaland	1.92
20.	Punjab	1.71
21.	Jammu & Kashmir	1.57
22.	Tripura	1.31
23.	Manipur	1.04
24.	Meghalaya	0.79
25.	Mizoram	0.75
26.	Delhi	0.35
27.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.27
28.	Goa	0.19
29.	A&N Islands	0.15
30.	Pondicherry	0.15
31.	Sikkim	0.15
32.	Lakshadweep	0.04
33.	Chandigarh	0.02
Total		100.00

5.13 The Committee wanted to know as to why in big States like Uttar Pradesh, the participation is 8.16%, the Secretary, MoRD during the course of evidence stated:-

"It has also been brought to our notice that certain areas need special coverage. For example, in respect of Uttar Pradesh, it was mentioned that only 8 per cent is covered though they have 20 per cent population. There is the entire North-East as also the Himalayan States. So, we will try to correct that kind of a coverage."

5.14 The Secretary, MoRD also stated as under:-

"Sir, actually we work through State Institutes of Rural Development. There are 29 State Institutes of Rural Development. So, we train the trainers who will train the Sarpanches and others in the SIRD and sometimes in the districts. Actually we call it cascading training and in NIRD we only call senior people and trainers."

5.15 DoRD has stated that important themes of training programmes conducted during 2015-16 are as follows besides International Training Programmes and Collaborative Studies.:-

Panchayati Raj

- Integrated District Planning and Tribal Self-Governance in PESA Areas
- Decentralised District Planning for Members of DPCs
- Panchayati Raj Administration and Rural Development

Rural Employment

- Barefoot Engineers under MGNREGA
- Training for State Resource Teams Technical under MGNREGA
- Social Audit in MGNREGS
- MGNREGS Operational Guidelines 2013 (with Revised Schedules)

Rural Livelihoods

- Planning and Management of Micro-Enterprises for SHGs
- Promotion of Sustainable Rural Livelihoods
- Strategies for Promoting Smallholders 'Micro-Enterprises and Livelihoods'
- Planning, Implementation, Monitoring & Evaluation of Micro-Enterprises

Rural Infrastructure

- Book-Keeping and Accountancy for IAY
- Training Cum Exposure on Swachh Bharat Abhiyan
- Participatory Irrigation Management
- Behaviour Change Communication for Rural Sanitation Professionals under SBA
- IEC and Social Audit for IAY
- Swachh Bharat: Innovations in Management of RDWS programmes

Social Development

- Community Participation and Social Mobilisation for Universalisation of Education
- Human Factors in Rural Development
- Social Development in Rural Areas

Gender

- Social Development of Rural Women
- Sensitisation on Sexual Harassment to Women Elected Representatives
- Promotion of Livelihoods for Rural Women
- Strategies for Empowerment of Rural Women

Natural Resource Management

- Management of Watershed Projects for Sustainable Development
- Planning for Production Systems and Livelihoods in IWMP
- Management of Watershed Projects in Hilly Areas
- Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana
- Technology and Institutional Arrangement for Water Resource Management in IWMP
- Institutionalization of Best Practices of Social Audits in IWMP
- Strategies for Sustainable Management of Rainwater

Rural Credit

- Effective Credit Delivery Management
- Induction programme for Newly Recruited Agriculture Field Officers
- Investment Credit and Appraisal of Agriculture term loan proposals for bank officers
- Agricultural Finance
- Rural Credit for Poverty Alleviation

Application of Technologies

- ICT Applications for Management of Rural Development Programmes
- Information Technology for Effective Management of Rural Development Programmes
- Geo-Informatics Applications in Rural Development
- Modern Survey Techniques for Planning and Management of PMGSY
- District Rural Roads Plan on GIS platform for PMGSY-II

SAGY

- Participatory Village Development under SAGY
- Village Development Plan under SAGY
- SAMARTHYA-SAGY
- Poverty and Inequality Estimation for Statistical Personnel of DES
- Monitoring and Evaluation of RD Projects
- Integration of Flagship RD Programmes with Disaster Management
- Corporate Social Responsibility in Rural Development

5.16 In this connection, during the course of examination, DoRD has given the details of Training Calendar for 2015-16 and International progress for 2014-15:

Training Calendar 2015-16

Sl. No.	Programmes	NIRD&PR	NERC	Total
1.	Training Programmes	276	58	334
2.	Workshops & Seminars	92	6	98
3.	Off-Campus Programmes	139	11	150

4.	Networking Programmes	800	-	800
5.	International Programmes	18	-	18
	Total	1325	75	1400

International Programmes 2014-15

Sl. No.	Category	Programmes	Participants
1.	ITEC & SCAAP	14	254
2.	CIRDAP	5	58
3.	AARDO	1	16
	Total	20	328

- ITEC: Indian Technical & Economic Cooperation
- SCAAP: Special Commonwealth African Assistance Plan
- CIRDAP: Centre for Integrated Rural Development for Asia and Pacific
- AARDO: African-Asian Rural Development Organization"

(iii) **Need for Motivational Training**

5.17 During the course of evidence it came out before the Committee that Sarpanchs, Ward Members, Block Pramukhs are not properly educated about their responsibilities for handling different Central as also State schemes and also how to utilize their funds for the betterment of common man and the need for coming up with motivational training courses by NIRD&PR was underlined, the DG, NIRD&PR explained:-

"Our effort is to create that urge to serve. We are starting from the top from our faculty itself. They go every morning from 5 o'clock to 9 o'clock and do all the activities like cleaning and everything. It is like a basic fundamental thing. जैसे महात्मा गांधी ने बताया कि अपना काम खुद करो वैसा मोटिवेशन करके एसआईआरडी में जाकर उसी लेवल पर लोअर फंक्शनरिस्ट को मोटिवेट करे जहां ईटीसी से ट्रेनिंग होता है, मोटिवेशन सर्विस ओरिएण्टेड फैकल्टी डेवलपमेंट के लिए यह इनिशिएटिव है, एनआईआरडी और एसआईआरडी में जो ट्रेनिंग प्रोग्राम हो रहा है, जो लाइफ स्किल डेवलपमेंट मॉड्यूल को भी हमने इंटीग्रेट किया है, उस माध्यम से भी हम लाभ उठाना चाहते हैं कि वह मोटिवेशन लेवल बढ़े और the motivated faculty will train master trainers so that some amount of dedication can be transmitted to the State level resource persons."

5.18 During the course of briefing of the representatives of DoRD, on the issue of networking, the following details were placed before the Committee:-

"Networking

- (i) Providing Guidance to 29 SIRDs and 90 ETCs
- (ii) Strengthening SIRDs & ETCs under Central Scheme
- (iii) Organizing National Colloquia of SIRDs and ETCs
- (iv) State Link Officers (SLO) Scheme – for each SIRD"

(iv) Need for proper Coordination in different Sectors

5.19 The Committee during the course of evidence of the representatives of MoRD pointed out that NIRD&PR works as a 'Think Tank' for Government and that has been working since 1958 has not been able to help the development of Village and Rural poor of the country as there is lack of proper coordination among different areas like production of vegetables, fruits, herbal products, eco-tourism etc. at District/Block level. The Committee also pointed out that every State has different geographic situations and it has to be seen which village/area was benefited by work done by NIRD in preventing exodus to urban areas. The Committee also underlined the need for greater coordination between Agriculture Universities, NGOs, Forestry Universities with NIRD at all areas. Explaining it the Secretary, MoRD stated:-

“अभी की चर्चा में एक विषय सामने आया कि किस तरह से एक समन्वित रूप से किसी भी समस्या का सेक्टरवाइज समाधान निकाला जाए। उस लिहाज से वहां पर जो शंकायें थीं और कुछ एडिशन शंकायें बनाई गईं, जैसा अभी पीपीटी में दिखाया कि 6 स्कूल बनाए गए हैं और उनके 25 सेंटर्स बनाए गए हैं, तो एक क्लबिंग टूगैदर की गई है कि पेयजल और सुरक्षा के लिए क्या-क्या डिफरेंट एरियाज हैं, किस तरह से काम हो, उन सभी को लेकर एक जगह संगठित किया जाए और तमाम अलग-अलग जो उसके पहलू हैं, उनको सेंटर्स के रूप में संगठित किया जाए।”

(v) Associating local MPs and MLAs in training programmes

5.20 During the course of evidence of the representatives of MoRD, the Committee pointed out that whenever a workshop for training of functionaries, PRIs is organized especially in Rajasthan, the concerned MPs, MLAs and

Sarpanchs are not invited with the result, almost nil work is done in the area and poor and farmers are not at all involved. Thus, there is a need for proper imparting of training in rural areas. The DG, NIRD&PR stated:-

”महोदय, जब हम फील्ड में एक्शन रिसर्च और मॉडल विलेजेज़ को स्टडी करने के लिए जाते हैं, जहां पब्लिक फंक्शन होते हैं, उनमें हम जनप्रतिनिधियों को इन्वाल्व करते हैं। लेकिन हमारा डायरेक्ट कांटेक्ट बहुत लिमिटेड होता है। जहां पासिबल होता है, हम जरूर करते हैं।

जहां तक पंचायत के प्रतिनिधियों को इन्वाल्व करने की बात है, जैसा सचिव महोदय ने बताया कि मास्टर ट्रेनिंग एनआईआरडी में होती है, वे एसआईआरडी में और फिर ईटीसी में ट्रेनिंग करते हैं। पंचायती राज इंस्टीट्यूशन्स के इलैक्टिव प्रतिनिधि ईटीसी और एसआईआरडी में ज्यादातर ट्रेनिंग के लिए आते हैं, इसलिए वहां ज्यादा इंटरैक्शन होता है।“

(vi) Impact of NIRD&PR Programmes

5.21 During the course of examination the Committee pointed out that the issues of impact of training came up before the Committee in a big way. It was stated that although various programmes and participants have been trained however, very little or no effort was done to assess the impact of training so imparted. In this connection, Secretary, MoRD admitted before the Committee that there is no system of getting feedback from persons trained and MoRD will try to do the needful. Asked whether any impact assessment drive has been started by NIRD&PR during the last six months, the DoRD in a written note stated:-

"Two levels of Assessment of NIRDPR training programmes is done. First, assessment is done on the last day of the training programme with the help of a computerized template of feedback on programme design, content, training method field visits and quality of teaching of internal and external faculty. The feedback on each of the training program is monitored closely to make them effective. The second level of impact assessment is done by an external agency as was last done by Administrative Staff College of India in 2002 and 2007. Currently, expressions of interest for Impact Evaluation of NIRDPR training programmes have been called for and the proposals of IRMA and ASCI are under evaluation for awarding the work."

5.22 Asked whether any roadmap has been prepared in this regard, the DoRD stated:-

"Yes, the Impact Assessment study will be completed in the current financial year."

5.23 On the issue of imparting training and taking feedback from persons trained at Panchayats to assess the impact thereof, the Secretary, MoRD stated:-

"We do both. There is something called training need analysis. We get it from the State Rural Development Departments. Similarly, in the national level, I discuss it with the Departments to find out what their training needs are for the next year and then we prepare the training calendar for the next year. It is only training of the trainers and not direct training of the trainees."

5.24 In this connection, the DoRD stated as under:-

"During the last three years, 12 programmes have been organized by NIRD&PR to train panchayati raj functionaries on major flagship programmes of Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Panchayati Raj. In addition, SIRD, Jharkhand also conducts 15 training programmes annually for panchayati raj elected representatives. Efforts will be stepped up to expand the training programmes through SIRD, Jharkhand and required Training of Trainers programmes will be conducted by NIRD&PR."

5.25 In this connection, during the course of evidence with regard to Jharkhand the issue of not giving full power to Panchayats and not giving proper training to functionaries of PRIs as a result slowing down of the performance of schemes like MGNREGA came up before the Committee. In this connection, the Secretary, MoRD stated:-

“सर, झारखण्ड में अभी एक अच्छा इनिशिएटिव हो गया।

The grant by 14th Finance Commission all over India is Rs two lakh crore. Jharkhand will get according to population and linking it MGNREGA, Jharkhand has decided to prepare a Gram Panchayat development plan. I personally met the Chief Minister and I took a one and half hour class on how to prepare plan. The Jharkhand Administration, particularly the Principal Secretary, RD & Panchayat are doing lot of training. Before election, they will be doing training and some funding has also gone from Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan Scheme. They are also showing lot of interest in strengthening Panchayats."

5.26 He further stated:-

“सर, हम उसे प्रॉयरेटी देंगे।“

(VI) Special Projects:

6.1 The Alagh Committee underlining the need for integrating technology with the work of NIRD has observed:-

"Since technology will be one of the important drivers of growth, different aspects of modern technology for economic development and need for NIRD to integrate the same with its work, including networking with allied sciences and infrastructure has been emphasized. Knowledge has to be truly global and it is essential to be flexible for networking and integration. Since knowledge in its creative and fictional form is scattered across many disciplines/institutions/agencies/sectors, it is imperative that a style of networked functioning is adopted. NIRD can be a hub for networking taking the process forward. It can serve as the national hub of knowledge connectivity for Rural Development by networking a set of regional hubs or regional platforms for knowledge connectivity, each embedded in an agro-climatic region."

6.2 The NIRD&PR has stated that special projects in following areas are being undertaken:-

- (a). Rural Technology Parks
- (b). Centre on Geo-Informatics Application in Rural Development (G-GARD)
- (c). National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) Resource Cell
- (d). Deen Dayal Upadhyay – Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY)
- (e). Rural Self Employment Training Institute (RSETIs)
- (f). Academic Programmes
- (g). Documentation and Information Dissemination

(i) Rural Technology Parks

6.3 The NIRD&PR has stated that Rural Technology Park has been established in 1999 as an instrument for transfer of appropriate and affordable technologies to rural poor for increasing productivity and enhancing quality of life thereby enabling community to move toward sustainable development. In addition Rural Technology Mela are organized every year and various SHGs, Government Institutions, Bank also participate in these Melas. Besides, NIRD&PR is also supporting 5 such Banks in African Countries of Malawi, Zimbabwe, Congo, Bostwana and South Sudan under the aegis of Ministry of External Affairs.

(ii) Need for appropriate use of Technology and Resources

6.4 During the course of evidence, the Committee pointed out that certain works under different schemes like construction of concrete cement (cc) road which result in waterlogging as a result in some areas of Madhya Pradesh such work was broken. The Committee therefore underlined the need for having a mix of technology and ability for preventing shortage of resources. At this, the Secretary, MoRD stated:-

''श्री प्रह्लाद पटेल ने आखिर में एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण विषय उठाया था कि काम हो रहा है, हर जगह उसकी आवश्यकता है, लेकिन उसे किस तरह प्लान किया जाए, कैसे बनाया जाए। मैं निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि हमने सैटेलाइट मैपिंग द्वारा एक एक्सपैरिमेंट लॉन्च किया था जिसे देश के दस जिलों में स्टार्ट किया गया था। यह इसरो का एक भुवन प्लैटफार्म है जिसमें पूरे एरिया का जियोग्राफिया एकदम आ जाता है। उसके आधार पर हमने सबसे पहले यह देखने का प्रयास किया है कि जैसे सड़कें बनीं, क्या उतनी लम्बी सड़क की जरूरत थी, उसका एलाइनमेंट क्या होना चाहिए, क्या उसमें पेड़ों को बचाकर कहीं से सड़क बना सकते थे। जैसे आपने अभी कहा कि क्या उसकी एलाइनमेंट सही थी? उन्होंने उस चीज की एक रिपोर्ट हमें भेजी है। अब हमने आपके यहां जो सी गार्ड है, उसे निवेदन किया है कि इसे भी ऑल इंडिया लैवल पर प्रधान मंत्री ग्रामीण सड़क योजना के तहत जो तमाम काम होंगे, उसमें इस टेक्नोलॉजी का उपयोग करें। उससे प्लानिंग में सहूलियत होगी कि क्या एलाइनमेंट होना चाहिए, किस तरह सड़कें बननी चाहिए। पूर्व में कई जगह कुछ त्रुटियां नोटिस की गईं, वे सब न हों। जैसे आपने कहा रोड बना दी और पानी की आवक बंद हो गई, नैचुरल फ्लो खत्म हो गया। जो भुवन प्लैटफार्म पर आता है, उसमें ये सारी चीजें आ जाएंगी। थोड़ा समय जरूर लगेगा क्योंकि उसके लिए तमाम लोगों को ओरिएंट होना पड़ेगा। लेकिन उससे यह चीज शनैः- शनैः समाप्त हो जाएगी। उसी प्रकार इसी भुवन प्लैटफार्म पर मनरेगा के तमाम कार्य जो अभी तक हुए हैं और भविष्य में होने वाले हैं, इसके लिए हमने डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ स्पेस के साथ एमओयू किया हुआ है। मनरेगा के जितने काम हैं, वे भी उसके ऊपर उपलब्ध होंगे। सब लोगों को ओरिएंट होने में थोड़ा समय जरूर लगेगा, लेकिन उसमें भी प्लानिंग में बहुत सहूलियत होगी।''

6.5 DG, NIRD further added:-

''मैंने डीआरडीओ के बारे में बताया था, उधर टेक्नोलॉजी है, हमने तय किया है कि जो रिटायर्ड डिफेंस साइंटिस्ट हैं, हमने हैदराबाद में एक प्रेस रिलीज किया है, बीस रिटायर्ड साइंटिस्ट आगे आए हैं कि हम मदद करेंगे। मैंने उन लोगों को बताया

कि हम एक प्लेटफार्म क्रिएट करके आपको देंगे, They are willing to give these faculties. हमने 17 टेक्नोलॉजी को आइडेंटिफाई किया है, ड्रिंकिंग वॉटर, सेनिटेशन और दूसरे बहुत सारी चीजों में किया है, उसको कस्टमाइज करके रूरल एरिया में कैसे उसे डिमोन्स्ट्रेशन करके इम्प्लीमेंट कर सकते हैं They will help us to customise us and improve so that civil societies can help in the RTP and we will train them. Accordingly, we will spread to the rural areas.

That is one attempt. Ultimately with the help of the Secretary, we will talk to the Defence Ministry. We will have a MoU with the Defence Ministry and NIRDPR to source those technologies. Their job will end identifying the technology and if it is useful to the military, then that is fine. After that, they do not bother. That is true. But we want to take on after that. We want to become a platform for that."

6.6 The DG, NIRD&PR further clarified:-

“सर, पंचायतों में जो मशीनरी है, उस बारे में बताना चाहता हूं कि जितना काम उन लोगों के पास जा रहा है, उसके लिए हमने एक स्टडी शुरू की है। उन लोगों का काम देखकर हम वहां एचआर सैटअप की स्टडी भी करेंगे कि कितना एचआर सैटअप होना है, कितने हैंड्स होने हैं और एचआर सैटअप वहां कितना आइडडियल हो सकता है। यह सब देखने के लिए स्टडी की जा रही है। उस स्टडी के कंप्लीट होने के बाद हम स्टेट से टेकअप करेंगे कि उतनी मशीनरी और उतनी मैनपॉवर वहां हो, ताकि जो प्रोग्राम्स वहां जा रहे हैं, वे ठीक प्रकार से चलाए जा सकें। हम इस बारे में कोशिश कर रहे हैं।”

6.7 Asked about how the common man in rural areas will get the benefit of such rural technology Park, Rural Melas particularly when these are stationed in big city like Hyderabad, the DoRD stated:-

"The Rural Technology Park aims at demonstrating appropriate technologies that are relevant to the rural areas/people. It also performs the function of dissemination of proven technologies by conducting Trainers Training Programs and visit to RTP by all the participants of the training programs and visitors of NIRDPR. The trainers who have been trained are conducting similar programs to bring the appropriate technologies to the rural people. RTP has conducted 13,251 exposure visits during the last three years and 92,252 Number of people visited and appreciated the activities of RTP in the same period. During 2013-2016, 121 programmes have been conducted and 2427 participants trained. Rural Bank Managers, field staff are invited and exposed to the Rural

Technology Park to enable them to understand the technologies and thereby enabling them to create awareness about the technologies for livelihood creation initiatives and extending credit support. In the process, the rural Banks are sponsoring the unemployed youth from the rural areas for the capacity building and entrepreneurship programmes.

Through the village adoption scheme, action research programmes in 33 villages, the RTP concepts are taken even to the remote areas. Recent interventions in tribal areas like Patori, Chattarpur (MP), Ashapur, Pampalchouta in Chandrapur (Maharashtra), Tiratghar in Bastar, Sanjohari, Dhamtari (CG), Vittalpur in Karnataka etc. are a few such interventions apart from several other villages. The police department had been promoting to train the youth from villages affected by left wing extremists.

By organizing the rural technology exhibitions, melas every year, the RTP activities are propagated.

The entrepreneurs/innovators/technologists etc., are invited from various parts of the country by providing them free stalls and other logistics. The melas are helping to a great extent in creating awareness about RTP activities apart from helping them to adopt appropriate technologies for betterment of their existing livelihood activities in various parts of the country. The technologies at RTP are placed in various exhibitions organized at different parts of the country like Indian Science Congress, Agricultural universities etc., to create awareness."

6.8 The Committee also enquired whether NIRD&PR should open such Parks/Melas in different States/UTs for the benefit of Common man, the DoRD stated:

"We agree with the views and it will definitely help the common man. The various functionaries visiting from different States and the Union Territories are exposed to the Rural Technology Park and wherever the State Governments seek our assistance in starting of similar such technology parks NIRDPR is providing guidance. Recently, NIRD&PR assisted and guided the State of Meghalaya in their initiative of this nature. Similarly, there are few other states such as Manipur, Tamil Nadu, Nagaland who have expressed interest and working towards establishing RTPs suitable to their respective States."

6.9 The Committee also wanted to know about the experience of running of 5 such Parks in African Countries, the DoRD stated:-

"Establishment of the Rural Technology Parks in African countries are in different stages. As regards Zimbabwe, it is in the final stage of signing of MoU and financial approval is awaited from MEA. Feasibility study in respect of three countries viz., Malawi, South Sudan and Ivory Coast is completed and DPRs submitted in respect of Malawi and Ivory Coast. Activity plan is under preparation for Mozambique. As such, NIRD&PR is yet to experience the running of RTPs in the African countries."

(iii). Centre on Geo-Informatics Applications in Rural Development (C-GARD)

6.10 Centre on Geo-Informatics Applications in Rural Development (C-GARD) of the Institute was established to introduce Geo-informatics Technology in rural development. Geospatial Technologies like Geo-informatic Systems (GIS), Remote Sensing and Global Positioning System (GPS) are the applications for effective monitoring of Rural Development Programmes.

6.11 The Centre designs specific customized training programmes in Geo-informatics Technology Applications in areas related to planning, monitoring, modelling, and decision support systems on Watershed, MGNREGS, Agriculture Development, Environmental Assessment, Conservation Practices, Resources Planning, Infrastructure Development, and Village Planning, etc. These specialized programmes are designed for imparting skills and improving knowledge at different levels of development functionaries from Government, Non-Government, State Institutes of Rural Development, National and International Agencies.

6.12 The Institute established ICT centre at CIRDAP, Dhaka, sponsored by MoRD, Government of India. Four GIS Facility Centres were established viz., in Assam, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Odisha States, for promoting the use of scientific information derived from satellites, GPS and GIS technologies in rural development programmes. M.Tech students are given internship of one-year duration on rural development.

6.13 On being asked as to how the (C-GARD) work for the benefit of common man in rural areas, the MoRD in their written note submitted as under:

"(i) C-GARD develops Geoinformatics technology applications that will help the rural development functionaries and Panchayat

Raj Institutions for better planning and monitoring of the works execution in rural areas and thus benefitting the rural poor by improving the delivery of services and accelerating the outcome of the initiatives. The application also helps the departments in optimum planning for effective use of natural resources such as land, water, soil etc. For example, GIS applications can suggest optimal and cost effective alignment of a road between two villages. It can help in better water resource planning through watershed planning, irrigation planning under PMKSY.

(ii) Mobile based Asset Capturing for MGNREGS, Geo tagging of assets under MGNREGA, Mobile based Agro advisory support for farmers; Agro-climatic Planning and Information Bank (APIB); Geo-informatics based Monitoring and Evaluation of Watersheds; Geo-informatics based Evaluation of MGNREGS Projects, GIS based village information and decision support System etc are beneficial for the rural population. These applications are being used for monitoring the implementation of MGNREGA, PMSY etc."

6.14 On being asked if the Ministry had surveyed rural areas for ascertaining their awareness about these programmes, they in their written note submitted as under:

"CGARD has prepared spatial development plans for Kasare, Karegoan and Ralegon Siddi villages in Maharashtra, Saran and Kilma vilange villages in Tamil Nadu under Action Research project. The spatial development plans for agriculture, watershed and other schemes of MoRD were prepared and training and workshops were organized for the Sarpanch and local villagers which enabled them to use the output maps for planning purpose. After the implementation of the plans successful results were observed in Kasare, Karegoan villages. The applications are used more by the Rural Development functionaries for better planning, execution and monitoring for effective delivery of services. Therefore, it is through these functionaries the rural people gets benefitted in an indirect manner. "

6.15 On being asked as to how the rural poor would know the details about this programme, the MoRD in their written note submitted as under:

"The rural poor gets benefitted by the CGARD activities through various community involvement programs such as watershed associations, panchayat functionaries etc. CGARD has adopted and undertaken several action research programmes which necessitates regular visits to the selected villages, as a result of which these programmes are effectively disseminated to the rural poor. CGARD has developed a customized village GIS package which contains information about the village in the form of spatial maps and the local youth are trained in the use of this package for preparing village development plans. Based on the inputs given by the villagers about the usefulness of the package CGARD is undertaking similar kind of exercise in 10 to 12 villages on pilot basis."

6.16 The Committee wanted to know if the Ministry had held small workshops and exhibitions in villages so that people start knowing about these programmes, the MoRD in their written reply stated as under:

"Since the C-GARD applications are meant for rural development functionaries to improve their planning, execution and monitoring of various rural development programs, workshops and exhibitions in villages is not conducted."

(iv). National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) Resource Cell

6.17 National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM), one of the important flagship programmes of MoRD, aims at creating efficient and effective institutional platforms of the rural poor enabling them to increase household income through sustainable livelihood enhancements and improved access to financial services. Capacity building and skill development are the two important components under NRLM with a view to create awareness and exposure among stakeholders involved in implementation of rural development at district, block and sub-block level.

6.18 On being asked to elaborate about the precise role of NRLM Resources Cell under NIRD&PR, the MoRD in their written reply submitted as under:

- a) " The precise role of NIRD&PR-NRLM Resource Cell is as follows:
 1. To strengthen implementation of NRLM through capacity building of SRLMs including north eastern states and by arranging implementation support from NRLM Resource Cell

2. To facilitate continuous flow of trained National, State, District, Field professionals from NRLM Resource Cell to all the SRLMs and MoRD as per requirement.
3. To assist SRLMs in preparation of their annual action plans and training modules.

6.19 During the last three years (2013-16), NRLM Cell has conducted 209 programmes and trained 9350 participants in Institution Building, Capacity building, Social Mobilisation, Social Inclusion, Social Development, Fund Management, Livelihoods, Visioning, Leadership etc. In order to achieve the above role, NRLM Cell facilitates the following activities.

- Develop multi-thematic training manuals
- Build a multi-thematic and multi-layered pool of Resource persons (National, State, District and Block level) at both the NIRD&PR Resource Cells.
- Build the capacities of Thematic experts of SRLMs, SIRDs & CBAs
- Conduct Induction and various thematic trainings to different categories of Resource Persons of SRLMs, SIRD staff & CBAs.
- Organize various workshops like Vision building, Leadership development, Management and Annual Action plan Preparation and Write shop.
- Support to NMMU & MoRD for conducting Monthly/Bi-monthly/Quarterly reviews with various levels of SRLM staff.
- Develop appropriate Resource Material for Capacity Building of CBOs and SRLM staff.
- Support to the SRLMs to develop Resource Blocks/Model Blocks.
- Document the various Best Practices emerge in SRLMs"
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(v). Deen Dayal Upadhyaya -Grameen Kaushalya Yojana(DDU-GKY) Cell

6.20 Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) is the skilling and placement initiative of the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), Government of India. DDU-GKY has its origins in the Aajeevika Skills programme and the 'Special Projects' component of the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY). The scheme focuses on catering to the occupational aspirations of rural youth and enhancing their skills for wage employment. Implementation of DDU-GKY involves State Governments, Technical Support Agencies and Project

Implementing Agencies (PIAs).

6.21 NIRD & PR acts as Central Technical support agency for MoRD for monitoring programme implementation. Besides, it acts as a resource centre for developing standards for implementation of the programmes and also as training and capacity building organisation for the programme. Special efforts are made by the Cell to oversee the implementation of skilling activities of rural youths in Jammu & Kashmir and Left Wing Extremism districts in the form of Himayat and Roshni projects respectively.

6.22 On being asked as to when the DDU-GKY Cell set-up under MoRD and workdone by it so far, MoRD in their written reply submitted as under:

"As the programme was launched on 25th September 2014, the cell in NIRD&PR was renamed as DDU-GKY cell. DDU-GKY cell in NIRD&PR is one of the Central Technical Support Agencies (CTSA) in addition to NABCONS, a subsidiary of NABARD, helps the Government of India to implement the DDUGKY programme across country. CTSAs, on behalf of Ministry, are responsible to ensure that Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs) implements the DDU-GKY projects as per the Standard Operating Procedure in place. NIRDPR is assigned 16 states and 2 Union Territories. The States and UTs are listed in the footnote given below. The states and UTs being monitored by NIRD&PR are: Assam, Haryana, Jharkhand, Sikkim, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala, Telengana, Jammu & Kashmir, Meghalaya, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Pondicherry. In addition, NIRDPR is also responsible for monitoring "Roshni" projects throughout the country. The work in Chhattisgarh and Odisha though allotted to NABCON, DDU GKY Cell of NIRD&PR monitor the ROSHNI project. The Cell has created systems for recruitment of the human resources for implementing the program. Also developed Standard Operating Procedures, manuals, systems for setting up of PIAs, training and awareness creation among the stakeholders."

6.23 On being asked about the resume of workdone for overseeing the skilling of rural youths in Jammu & Kashmir and Left Wing Extremism districts under Himayat and Roshni projects across different States/UTs, the MoRD in their written reply stated as under:

"The key works done by DDU-GKY cell of NIRDPR for skilling of rural youth in J&K and Left Wing Extremism (LWE) districts under Himayat and Roshni projects respectively are as following:

1. Appraisal of project proposals of Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs)
2. PIAs' Performance monitoring including:
 - a. Due-diligence of Training Centres and approval to commence the training
 - b. Training Centres' periodical Inspections
 - c. Monitoring of training quality including Assessment and Certification of Candidates'
 - d. Candidates' Placement Verification
 - e. PIAs' Funds Release Management
3. Capacity Building of PIAs & State Governments"

6.24 The details of trained and placed youth for employment are detailed below.

Summary of Himayat Projects

Cumulative Sanctioned - 70625

Sl.No	Year	Trained	Placed
1	2011-12	1690	1335
2	2012-13	7301	6052
3	2013-14	17224	14807
4	2014-15	18641	17178
5	2015-16	16881	11626
6	2016-17 till end June	160	14
	Total :	61897	51012

Summary of Roshni Projects

Cumulative Sanctioned: 49,856

Sl. No	State	Trained	Placed
1	Chhattisgarh	1,043	137
2	Odisha	4,898	1,460
3	Jharkhand	3,269	1,135
4	Bihar	1,391	223
Total		10,601	2,955

6.25 The MoRD furnished following State/UT-wise information of the last two years as Resource Centre for development standards for implementation of programmes and also for training and imparting skilling so far as on 30.07.2016 in different States/UTs:

"As a resource center of DDU-GKY, NIRD&PR works on developing standards and build capacities of state governments and training partners in the ecosystem. This work is done in active collaboration with Ministry of Rural Development. The works done are broadly categorized as follows:

- Development of Standard Operating Procedures at the national level
- National certifying portal for programme functionaries
- Development of monitoring formats
- Training material for programme functionaries
- Conducted 159 training programmes in 2015-16

(v) Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETIs)

6.26 NIRD&PR is the nodal agency for infrastructure creation under RSETI Project of Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD). The project aims at mitigating the unemployment problem among rural youth. Under the project, it is proposed to have a dedicated infrastructure at district level called RSETIs for skill development / skill upgradation of the rural youth. NIRD&PR has taken the responsibility of implementing the project. While closely monitoring the activities of RSETIs, NIRD&PR assists and guides various banks on various aspects such as constructing the buildings and designing curriculum for training and brings out various publications, from time to time, to build networking of the RSETIs.

6.27 On being asked about the resume of workdone by NIRD&PR as implementing Agency for RSETIs in different States/UTs during the last two years, the MoRD in their written reply submitted as under:

" NIRD&PR, being the Nodal Agency for implementation of RSETI Project under Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) has successfully monitored the infrastructure creation by releasing Rs.60.70 cores in the last two years. NIRD&PR has been able to monitor & guide the sponsoring Banks in completing the

construction in 40 RSETIs. NIRD&PR has also popularized the training programmes of RSETIs by publishing RSETIs quarterly newsletter and success stories from time to time. "

6.28 About the difficulties being faced in monitoring, assisting guiding various Banks on various aspects such as building construction, designing curriculum for training etc, the MoRD in their written reply submitted as under:

"NIRD&PR and sponsoring Banks usually encounter the problem of land allotment, taking possession of allotted land, securing approvals for the building plans from the local bodies etc. Such problems are resolved by follow-up with the District Collectors, State Governments and discussing the same in the conclaves and workshops."

6.29 During the course of briefing of representatives of MoRD held on 19 November, 2015 the suitability of Banks which are primarily commercial organizations for imparting training to rural youths through RSETIs came up before the Committee in a big way. Further, the issues of various RSETIs bring run on rented buildings and non-allotment of lands by State/UT Governments were also raised.

6.30 On being asked as to how Banks being commercial organizations are not ideally suited for training the unemployment rural youth under RSETIs across the States/UTs, the MoRD in their written reply stated as under:

"Banks, though commercial organizations, their function of credit delivery for the entrepreneurs have a role to play in training and promoting the entrepreneurship. Therefore, the concept of RSETI under the umbrella of sponsored financial institution is ideal organizational setup in the country. The Banks depute experienced officers who have a flair for entrepreneurship development work to head the RSETIs as Directors. Such leadership can effectively address the credit requirements for the trained youth for setting up of self-employment enterprises and taking up other activities. Experience has shown that they are able to identify, motivate, orient, assist and guide these unemployed youth to take up self-employment by extending all the assistance and guidance. Thus Banks have been playing effective role thereby are ideally suited to enable the rural youth to establish their own enterprises successfully."

6.31 On being asked as to how the Ministry would tackle the problem of rented buildings for RSETIs and non-allotment of lands by State/UTs, they in their

written reply stated as under:

"Wherever suitable land is yet to be made available by the state authorities, the Banks are running the RSETIs in hired buildings. The land availability / assignment for constructing RSETI buildings is being followed up with the State / District authorities by the respective sponsoring Banks and by NIRD&PR. Such problems are also reviewed and discussed for resolution in the National Level Advisory Committee."

State-wise performance of RSETIs during 2014-15 & 2015-16 & as on 30.06.2016

SI No.	Name of the State	No. of RSETIs	2014-15			2015-16 *		2016-17 (up to 30.6.2016) *	
			No. of Prog.	No. of Trainees Trained	No. of Trainees Settled	No. of Prog.	No. of Trainees Trained	No. of Prog.	No. of Trainees Trained
1	Andhra Pradesh	15	512	13,509	8,695	472	12,769	107	2,836
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1	9	160	15	10	213	9	336
3	Assam	22	448	11,704	4,398	536	14,606	111	2,748
4	Bihar	39	874	24,405	14,063	997	27,450	197	5,434
5	Chattisgarh	18	363	9,961	5,908	448	11,511	91	2,373
6	Goa	1	0	0	17	0	0	0	0
7	Gujarat	28	652	18,754	10,194	919	26,731	193	5,190
8	Haryana	21	427	11,835	5,564	526	13,983	125	3,504
9	Himachal Pradesh	10	211	5,112	3,496	251	5,603	47	1,199
10	Jammu & Kashmir	21	327	9,087	5,856	405	10,185	63	1,529
11	Jharkhand	25	564	15,978	8,010	673	20,170	131	3,681
12	Karnataka	33	1,053	31,096	18,227	1,223	35,793	329	9,362
13	Kerala	14	408	12,370	8,218	445	13,188	81	2,147
14	Madhya Pradesh	51	1,032	27,726	17,881	1,201	32,339	214	5,619
15	Maharashtra	35	724	19,318	9,407	879	24,949	184	5,476
16	Manipur	1	15	310	4	19	304	5	99
17	Meghalaya	4	40	928	340	64	1,287	18	372
18	Mizoram	1	40	278	3	36	508	9	53
19	Nagaland	1	15	235	65	15	297	4	58
20	Odisha	30	780	21,823	11,973	899	25,809	157	4,482
21	Punjab	19	371	9,812	4,615	470	11,833	111	2,671
22	Rajasthan	34	1,112	29,275	19,199	1,147	30,728	311	8,653
23	Sikkim	1	15	380	344	18	482	5	175
24	Tamil Nadu	32	830	22,949	12,785	898	25,182	114	2,965
25	Telangana	10	246	7,068	4,385	273	7,371	78	2,043
26	Tripura	5	124	3,455	1,436	138	3,502	26	620
27	UT of A&N Islands	1	7	385	134	7	299	3	82
28	UT of D & N Haveli	1	19	452	289	30	731	4	120
29	UT of Lakshadweep	1	6	102	13	6	102	1	3
30	UT of Pondicherry	1	21	615	294	25	764	4	115
31	Uttar Pradesh	75	1,801	52,185	31,117	1,925	53,069	355	9,863

SI No.	Name of the State	No. of RSETIs	2014-15			2015-16 *		2016-17 (up to 30.6.2016) *	
			No. of Prog.	No. of Trainees Trained	No. of Trainees Settled	No. of Prog.	No. of Trainees Trained	No. of Prog.	No. of Trainees Trained
32	Uttarakhand	13	265	7,112	3,894	273	6,909	59	1,538
33	West Bengal	19	615	15,517	9,455	630	16,267	117	2,808
Total		583	13,926	383,896	220,294	15,858	434,934	3,263	88,154

*The details of settlement of the candidates are being compiled.

6.32 On being asked if NIRD&PR has analyzed the reasons responsible for shortfall between trainees trained vis-a-vis trainees settled, the MoRD in their written reply stated as under:

"NIRD&PR strives to closely monitor and promote maximum settlement of trained candidates either by setting up of a self employment unit or secured wage employment in the concerned sector. On an average over the years, 61% of the trained candidates get settled or secure wage employment in the respective activities. The analysis of the gap has revealed that the youth, after training, either move to new skill areas where better opportunities exists or settle in other secured jobs either in government or private sectors. "

6.33 On being asked as to what was the way out for resolving the issue, the MoRD in their written note submitted as under:

"Wherever shortfall is noticed and to improve the settlement percentage the matter is constantly reviewed and discussed in various meetings and fora with the RSETIs. The performance is thoroughly reviewed in the annual conclave of RSETI Directors in which the top executives of Banks, State Directors of RSETIs and the RSETI Directors participate, where problems in achievement of targets and also other issues concerning the functioning of RSETIs are discussed / deliberated in detail and prompt steps are taken to address the issues impeding progress."

(vi). Academic Programmes

i. Centre for Post Graduate Studies

6.34 During the course of briefing of the representatives of MoRD, the following details of Academic Programmes were given to the Committee:-

- 1 year PG Diploma in Rural Development Management (Regular) – 2 batches per annum 50 per batch

- 1 year PG Diploma in Sustainable Rural Development (Distance Mode) – 142 students (2014-15)
- 1 year PG Diploma in Tribal Development Management (Distance Mode) – 33 Students (2014-15)
- 1 year PG Diploma in Geo-Informatics Applications in Rural Development (Distance Mode) – 122 students (2014-15)
- M.Tech (Appropriate Technology and Entrepreneurship) in collaboration with NIT, Arunachal Pradesh (Regular Mode) – five students (2014-16)"

6.35 To develop a committed and competent cadre of Young Rural Development Management Professionals in the country, NIRD&PR introduced one-year Post-Graduate Diploma Programme in Rural Development Management (PGDRDM) in 2008 with a capacity of 50 students per batch. The objective of the programme is to create a large pool of professional programme delivery managers, whose induction is vital to the success of the Ministry's rural development programmes. All the students who passed out so far have got placement in various organisations. In view of the efficient manpower requirement in rural development sector, NIRD&PR started two batches from the year 2014 raising capacity to 100 per year.

6.36 Students of PGDRDM come from various parts of the country and also include International in-service students sponsored by international organisations like AARDO and CIRDAP. They are selected on the basis of an All-India Entrance Examination followed by Group Discussion and Personal Interviews.

ii. Distance Education Programmes

6.37 In view of increasing need for massive trained manpower in rural development, NIRD&PR started Distance Education Programmes in 2010 with one-year Post-Graduate Diploma Programme in Sustainable Rural Development (PGD-SRD) initially in collaboration with University of Hyderabad (UoH). As a part of its continuous effort to create a pool of development managers with specialization on issue of equity and social justice, the Institute has launched a Post-Graduate Diploma Programme in Tribal Development Management (PGD-TDM) in 2012 and Post Graduate Certificate Programme in Geo-spatial

Technology Application in Rural Development (PGCGARD) in August, 2014.

6.38 The National Institute of Technology (NIT), Arunachal Pradesh, has launched a M.Tech (Appropriate Technology and Entrepreneurship Practice) Programme as a self-sponsored course in collaboration with the National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR), Hyderabad, since 2013-14. The M.Tech (Appropriate Technology and Entrepreneurship Practice) course is of two years duration with one year of coursework and the another year for establishing an entrepreneurship project.

(vii) Documentation And Information Dissemination

6.39 The Institute disseminates the results of the research studies and recommendations of its various seminars and workshops through a number of publications. It brings out a quarterly Journal, '**The Journal of Rural Development**' which is acclaimed for its research coverage and quality and occupies a place of pride among leading academic journals on rural development and decentralised administration. Monthly 'NIRD&PR Newsletter' named '**Pragati**' in English and Hindi is published to provide wide publicity to training programmes and also highlight various activities undertaken by the Institute on a regular basis. NIRD&PR is publishing a Quarterly Newsletter of Rural Self Employment Training Institutions (RSETIs) titled "**Enterprise**", covering news from various RSETIs across the country, issues related with functioning of RSETIs and skill development of the youth.

6.40 The Institute brings out publications under research reports series, case study series and action research series. The Institute houses a library with a rich collection of 1,16,277 books on rural development and allied aspects. E-Journals are widely used. The Rural Development database, consisting of over two lakh references is computerized.

(viii) Need for Modernization of NIRD&PR Library

6.41 During the course of briefing of the representatives of MoRD, the issue of modernization of world class and good NIRD Library was taken up. The Committee wanted to know whether there is some proposal to modernize the

same, the Secretary, MoRD stated:-

"Sir, it is not modernized in the sense that the data base is not searchable. But we have now computerized a list of books. So, we have also launched a very interesting initiative. Sir, you must know since you were the Minister of Rural Development also, in 1950s and 1960s excellent documents were prepared on how to rural development and how to organize women's cooperative. Now they are lost. So, we are collecting from the ETCs. For example, I personally went to the Regional Institute of Rural Development in Kalapatti and they have old books of 1930 which were on rural development and all that. So, we are digitizing them which will be made available."

VII. Research Work

7.1 The DoRD/NIRD&PR has given the following figure about work done in research work and other areas prior 2010-11 to 2015-16:-

NIRD&PR: Studies undertaken and ongoing - Research, Action Research and Consultancy

S. No	Category	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1	NIRD Research	21	8	8	2	9	22
2	Case Studies	-	3	-	-	12	7
3	Action Research*	7	10	33	1	1	1
4	SIRD/Collaborative	9	16	4	2	3	14
5	Consultancy Studies	11	32	11	17	7	2
	Total	48	69	56	22	32	46

* Includes Village Adoption studies

7.2 During the course of briefing of the representatives of MoRD, the following figures were furnished before the Committee:-

Category	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	
	Completed	Completed	Completed	Ongoing
NIRD Studies including Case Studies	3	1	2	24*
Collaborative Studies	2	-	1	<u>13</u>
Action Research	-	-	-	<u>6</u>
Consultancy Studies	11	7	8	<u>20</u>
Village Adoption	-	-	-	<u>33</u>
Total	16	8	11	96

*Research Studies – 12, Case Studies - 12

(i) NIRD Research

7.3 The DoRD has stated that:-

"Understanding the emerging rural development issues, arising from time to time, is quintessential to promote policy perspectives.

Hence, the research endeavor of NIRD&PR is to focus on grass-root issues, current best practices and to bring out appropriate insights on issues of contemporary importance and build-up data base on rural development interventions. The research activities of the Institute result in keeping abreast with contemporary rural development scenario in the country which will have policy implications as well as enriching the training inputs.

The broad areas of research encompasses many important themes such as rural employment and livelihood issues, natural resource management, credit, development of weaker sections, technology applications, decentralized governance, human resources development, Community Based Organizations, energy issues in rural areas, participatory development initiatives etc.

Keeping in view the time-frame and focus of the research studies undertaken, the studies are classified as NIRD&PR Studies, Grant-in-aid Studies, Action Research Studies, Collaborative Studies, Village Adoption Studies etc. Among the new initiatives that are taken during the year is Village Adoption Studies in collaboration with Bankers, wherein identified villages are being developed through participatory basis with the assistance from the institutions concerned. The details of the research studies conducted by NIRD &PR are furnished below:

NIRD&PR Research Studies

S. No	Title of the Study	Team Members
A	New Studies	
1	Post Disaster Recovery: Assessment of Needs in Moderate Flood Conditions	Dr. K. Suman Chandra
2	Democratic Decentralisation and Tribal Self Governance: A study of Implementation of PESA Act in two states	Dr. Pratyusna Patnaik
3	Status of Devolution of Functions, Functionaries and finances for Rural Local Bodies in Select States: Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand & Odisha.	Dr. Y. Bhaskar Rao
4	Time and Motion study on Human Resource at Gram Panchayats of Telangana, Bihar and Jharkhand	Dr. K. Jayalakshmi
	Case Studies	
5	Best Practices in Rural Development: A Case study of PUNSARI Gram Panchayat in Gujarat	Dr. P. Sivaram Dr. R. Ramesh
6	Singhana Gram Panchayat as an Effective Panchayati Raj Institution of Singhana Village Community	Dr. Ajit Kumar
7	Special Initiative on Rural Livelihoods for STs in Odisha State	Dr. T. G. Ramaih
8	Participatory Decentralised Planning towards achieving ISO certification – A Case study of Pappambakkam Gram Panchayat, Tiruvallur Dist., Tamil Nadu	Dr. R. Aruna Jayamani
9	Solid Waste Management Practices in Rural Areas (Study of Multiple Cases in Tamil Nadu & Kerala States)	Dr. R. Ramesh Dr. P. Sivaram
10	Integration and Functioning of Traditional Institutions of Local Self Government under Panchayat Raj System: A Case – Lachen and Lachung villages in Sikkim	Dr. R. M. Pant Dr. M. K. Shrivastava
11	District Planning under Autonomous District Councils (ADCs)	Dr. R. M. Pant Dr. M. K. Shrivastava
12	Process Documentation of Social Audit of Integrated Watershed Management programme	Dr. K. Prabhakar Dr. Siddayya Dr. U. Hemant Kumar
13	Successful Livelihood Interventions among Chenchus	Dr. N. V. Madhuri,
14	Livelihoods Initiatives and standard of Living of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups in Madhya Pradesh	Dr. R. Murugesan
15	Evaluating Implementation of “Jan Dhan Yojana”	Dr. B. K. Swain
16	Effective Panchayati Raj Institutions	Shri R. Suryanarayana Reddy

B	On – going Studies	
1	Nature and Extent of Tenancy Arrangements in Godavari and Kaveri Delta Zones: A Comparative Study	Dr. K. Suman Chandra & Team
2	ITKS in CSBs; Coping Mechanisms to address Crop Failure	Dr. G. Valentina Dr. V. Suresh Babu
3	Efficiency of School Development and Monitoring Committees in achieving Goals of Universalisation of School Education: A Study in Karnataka	Dr. M. Sarumathy Dr. Gyanmudra
4	Indebtedness among IAY beneficiary households - A study in Selected States	Dr. Y. Gangi Reddy Dr. P. Sivaram
5	Efficiency, Effectiveness and Impact of Community Based Monitoring System for Access to Basic Minimum Services: A Study of Different Models	Dr. R. Chinnadurai and Team
6	Nutritional Security and Equity in its Accessibility in Watershed Programmes	Dr. Ch. Radhika Rani Dr. U. Hemantha Kumar
7	Performance Audit of RSETI/REDP Enterprises in Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh	Dr. T. G. Ramaiah

(ii) Need for Location-Specific Research

7.4 During the course of evidence of the representatives of MoRD, the Committee recalled that after the visit of the Committee to NIRD&PR, Hyderabad whatever research work is being done its results/fruits should be visualized at village level for increasing its productivity, for that the research work should be village oriented. For instance, the products like paper waste made out of 'Pashu- Dhan' should be utilized at village level. The Committee also pointed out hardly any work has been done for promotion of these products. The Committee also wanted that these issues be addresses at State level for imparting necessary training for that need based research should be started. At this DG, NIRD&PR explained:-

"सर, कॉमर्शियल एक्सप्लॉयटेशन ऑफ टेक्नोलौजीज के बारे में बताया गया, जैसा सैक्रेटरी साहब ने बताया कि We do the masters training. वे लोग जाकर बाकी लोगों को तैयार करें। आर.टी.पी. में भी we create models; we train some people. They go to different areas and set the units. वे देखें और बाकी विलेज वालों से उस टेक्नोलौजी तो एडॉप्ट करने के लिए आगे आने के लिए कह रहे हैं। उदाहरण के लिए लीफ प्लेट मेकिंग के बारे में बताना चाहता हूं कि 272 यूनिट्स को ट्रेड किया है और उसमें actually 78 units have set up the units in different States. I have the State-wise figure also. Like that, there are herbal products, hand-washing products, bee keeping, handmade paper conversion, cost effective housing technologies as Secretary has said, solar products. सोलर प्रोडक्ट के संबंध में हमने 171 यूनिट्स को ट्रेनिंग दी है। उनमें से 150

यूनिट्स डिफरेंट-डिफरेंट जगह में यूनिट सैटअप कर के उन इलाकों के लिए फेब्रीगेट कर रहे हैं। So, it is a spread effect. Our objective is to create a nuclei where other people will start seeing, then adopting. स्प्रेड अफेक्ट हो जाए। "

(iii) Action Research

7.5 In this connection, DoRD has stated that solving problems at grass-root level and designing development models based on the exposure and experiences essentially determine the action research endeavors. In view of its importance and enabling faculty members to keep abreast with contemporary problems and prospects, there has been enormous emphasis on action research. During the last one year, two new studies were taken up along with six studies which are at different stages of progress. The details of these studies are provided as under:-

Action Research Studies

S. No	Study Title	Team Members
A	New Studies	
1	Development of Model Village as per SAGY	Dr. Gyanmudra Dr. Sarumathy
2	Village Disaster Risk Management Plan (VDRMP) at Rasapettai Village in Cuddalore district of Tamil Nadu	SIRD, Tamilnadu and C-GARD faculty
B	On – going studies	
1	Enhancement of Forest based Livelihoods through Conservation and Regeneration Strategies in Eastern Ghats Hinterland	Dr. M. V. Rao Dr. G. RajaniKanth Shri K. Krishna Rao
2	Promotion of Rural Entrepreneurship & Enterprises through Livelihoods Cluster Approach: A Pilot Initiatives in Action Research	Dr. KanakHaloi Dr. Ratna Bhuyan
3	The Forgotten Category - Rural Artisans' Transformation into Rural Entrepreneurs	Dr. Y. Gangi Reddy, Dr. G. RajaniKanth, SEDYAM
4	Village Adoption - Action Research mode in Sirkunti and Mamdapur Villages of Astha Northern Block of Vardha District by CSV Vardha	Dr. V. Suresh Babu
5	Village Adoption - Action Research mode in Tehri Dist. by HISCO, Dehradun	Dr. V. Suresh Babu
6	Village Adoption - Action Research mode in Coimbatore, Villapura and Sivaganga Districts Tamil Nadu by Shri AmmChettiar Research Institute	Dr. V. Suresh Babu

7.6 In this connection, the DoRD has stated that in addition to the research studies, 33 Village Adoption studies have also been taken up and are continuing. The details of these studies are presented as below:-

Village Adoption Studies

S. No.	State	District	Village	Faculty Member/Team
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Mahaboobnagar	Appapur	Dr. P. Sivaram Dr. Y. Gangi Reddy Md. Khan
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Prakasham	Gangavaram, Inkollu Mandal	Dr. Ravi Babu
3.	Andhra Pradesh	Mahaboobnagar	Hajipally	Dr. P. Siva ram Dr. Y. Gangi Reddy
4.	Andhra Pradesh	Prakasham	Mohiuddinpuram	Dr. N. Kalpalatha Dr. Padmaja
5.	Andhra Pradesh	Chittoor	Paalagattupalli	Dr. Raj Kumar .P Shri T. Phanindra Kumar
6.	Assam	Moregaon	Hatiutha	Dr. K. Haloi
7.	Assam	Kamrup	Jajikona	Dr. K. Haloi Dr. K. Mukesh Kumar Srivastava
8.	Assam	Nalbari	Kathora	Dr. K. Haloi Mr. A. Simhachalam
9.	Chhattisgarh	Dhamtari	Sonjhari	Dr. V. Annamalai
10.	Chhattisgarh	Bastar	Tirathgarh	Dr. S.N. Rao
11.	Chhattisgarh	Dhamtari	Tumrabahar	Dr. T.G. Ramaiah
12.	Karnataka	Chamarajanagar	Hosapodu Hiriyambala Kathakalpadu Havinamula	Dr. V. Suresh Babu
13.	Karnataka	Gulbarga	Vantichinta	Dr. K. Jayalakshmi Dr. G. Valentina
14.	Karnataka	Bidar	Vittalpura	Dr. Ch. Radhika Rani
15.	Karnataka	Yadgir	Belgera	Dr. Siddiah Dr. K. Prabhakar
16.	Madhya Pradesh	Dhar	Moosapura Kofisondpur	Dr. N.V. Madhuri Dr. C. Dheeraja Shri. K. P. Rao
17.	Madhya Pradesh	Chhattarpur	Patori	Dr. R.K. Srivastava
18.	Maharashtra	Chandrapur	Ashapur	Dr. U. Hemantha Kumar
19.	Maharashtra	Chandrapur	Kotban	Shri. D.S.R. Murthy
20.	Maharashtra	Chandrapur	Pimpalkoutha	Shri. G.V. Satyanarayana
21.	Maharashtra	Nanded	Somarla	Dr. P. KesavaRao Dr. R. Chinnadurai
22.	Maharashtra	Ahmednagar	Karegon village	Shri T. Phanindra Kumar Shri. D.S.R. Murthy
23.	Odisha	Koraput	Khudi	Dr. Y. BhaskarRao
24.	Odisha	Koraput	Mandikuta	Dr. B.K. Swain
25.	Odisha	Sundargarh	Sasa	Dr. G.V.K. Lohidas Dr. A. Debapriya
26.	Odisha	Cuttack	Naraz	Dr. Debapriya
27.	Rajasthan	Udaipur	Amarpura	Dr. K. Prabhakar
28.	Rajasthan	Bharatpur	Hantra	Shri H. K. Solnaki Dr. P. Kesava Rao
29.	Tamil Nadu	Cuddalore	Sirumangalam	Dr. R. Murugesan
30.	Tamil Nadu	Dindigul	Manaloor	Dr Ramesh
31.	Tamil Nadu	Villipuram	Saram, Kilnavilangai	ShriT.Phanindra Kumar
32.	Telangana	Warangal	Kottapalli	Dr. P. Anuradha
33.	West Bengal	Bankura	Seulibona	Dr. Shankar Chatterjee

(iv) Village Adoption

Need for opening up Village Adoption in a big way

7.7 During the course of examination, it came out before the Committee that in a country of 125 crore population spread over 7 lakh villages, adoption of only 33 villages would be too less and be expanded in a big way, the Secretary, MoRD admitted:-

".....it is to focus on Panchayat Raj more; then, research should be improved. Every Member of Parliament has a common concern, perhaps the most important concern today is about the impact of the training which needs to be assessed. We assessed it in 2006. It can be done only on a sample basis. We will certainly do it."

(v) Collaborative Studies

7.8 In this connection, the DoRD has stated that the Collaborative Studies are those studies taken up in collaboration with other reputed institutions as well as State Institutes of Rural Development (SIRDs). As part of NIRD&PRs endeavors to sharpen research skills, the faculty members of SIRDs are encouraged to submit research proposals and pursue the studies under the guidance of NIRD&PR faculty. In addition, keeping in view the importance of area specific research, NIRD&PR also encourages institutions with relevant expertise to undertake specific studies through mutual collaboration. During the last one year, one new research was taken up in collaboration with SIRD along with 10 ongoing studies which are progressing at different stages. The details of these studies are as under:-

Collaborative Studies (With other Institutions and SIRDs)

S. No	Study Title	Team Members
A	New Studies	
1	Impact of Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) on rural people of Tripura	SIPARD, Tripura
B	On – going studies	
1	Awareness Building in IWMP – A case study	Himachal Pradesh
2	Factor's Facilitating participation of Women in Mahatma Gandhi NREGA in Himachal Pradesh	Himachal Pradesh
3	Evaluation of SHG performance under SGSY: A Case study of Goa	GIRDA, Goa
4	Livelihood Projects/Micro Enterprises through SHGs	Arunachal Pradesh
5	Major Livelihood Sources among Chenchus (PTG) - A Case Study of Mahaboob Nagar Dist. Andhra Pradesh	AMR- APARD Andhra Pradesh

6	Impact Assessment of MGNREGS on Livelihoods of Draught Prone Areas : A Case Study of Mahaboob Nagar Dist. of Andhra Pradesh	AMR- APARD Andhra Pradesh
7	ISGP Intervention in Gram Panchayats of Cooch Bihar	SIPRD, West Bengal
8	Women Empowerment through Systematic Formation and Development of SHG	MGSIRD, Madhya Pradesh
9	Formation of Model Village	MGSIRD, Madhya Pradesh
10	School Dropouts Causes and Probable solutions	MGSIRD, Madhya Pradesh

(vi) Consultative Studies

7.9 In this connection, the DoRD has stated that NIRD&PR undertakes research studies for various Ministries/Organizations/Agencies etc. in view of the expertise available in the relevant research area. These studies include evaluation, impact assessment, base-line survey studies etc. The Studies are conducted at the instance of various Ministries of Government of India, including Ministry of Rural Development, State Governments etc. with the grants received from them. During the last one year, three research studies were taken up in addition to 14 ongoing research studies. The details are provided as under:-

Research Studies based on Grants Received

S. No	Study Title	Team Members
A	New Studies	
1	Socio-economic Reasons for Migration and Impact of Government programmes on Migrant Families in Bolangir District, Odhisha.	Dr. G. RajaniKanth Dr. C. Dheeraja Dr. V. Suresh Babu Dr. PratyusnaPatnaik
2	Evaluation study of Biju KVK Programme supported by Planning and Coordination Department, Govt. of Odisha	Dr A Debapriya DrPhanindra Kumar Dr V Madhava Rao
3	Agrarian Distress, Coping Mechanisms and Ramifications of Debt Waiver Scheme	Dr. Ch. Radhika Rani Dr. Siddayya Dr. K. Prabhakar
B	On going studies	
1	Agro-climate Planning and Information Bank (APIB) Project for Champawat and Dehradun District of Uttarakhand - Deployment of SDSS in two Districts	Dr. V. MadhavaRao Dr. R.R. Hermon Dr. P. KeasavaRao
2	Spatial Decision Support System (SDSS) for Rural Development (for balanced 14 states and up gradation of Customized Planning and Estimates Software for 11 States with Local Language Interface)	Dr. V. MadhavaRao Dr. R.R. Hermon Dr. P. KeasavaRao
3	Setting up of Geoinformatic Centres for RD in 5 African Countries	Dr. V. Madhava Rao Dr. R.R. Hermon Dr. P. Keasava Rao
4	Performance of Institutional Setup at SLNA&WCDC Level	CWLR Team
5	Engendering of girl child education- A cross sectional study of enrolment, retention and dropout	Dr. T. Vijay Kumar
6	Preparation of Model Gram Panchayat – Tribal sub plan	Dr. R. R. Prasad
7	Socio-economic impact of MGNREGS-Longitudinal study in six states	Dr. V. Suresh Babu Dr. S.V. Rangacharyulu
8	Impact of MGNREGA on distress migration in the vulnerable communities- A study in 4 states	Dr. PratyusnaPatnaik Dr. G. RajaniKanth Dr. V. Suresh Babu

9	Nutrition and education status of children between 4 -7 years from women headed households under MGNREGA and women headed households not under MGNREGA: A comparative study	Dr. Lakhan Singh Dr. G. RajaniKanth Dr. V. Suresh Babu
10	Survey and Preparation of Vulnerability Intervention Index for the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)	Dr. R. R. Prasad
11	Health Awareness among School going Children	Dr. T. Vijay Kumar
12	Perceptions of Teachers on SSA activities	Dr. T. Vijay Kumar
13	Adoption of Low Performance Districts under MGNREGA in the States of Uttar Pradesh (Bundelkhand region), Assam, Karnataka (Hyderabad-Karnataka region) and Rajasthan	Dr. G. RajaniKanth& Team
14	Evaluation study of Biju KBK programmes supported by planning and coordination department, Govt of Odisha	Dr A Debapriya DrPhanindra Kumar Dr V Madhava Rao

PART – II

Recommendations/Observations

NIRD&PR's reach to rural areas stressed

The Committee find that National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR) that was started in 1958 as Central Institute of Study and Research in Community Development (CISRCD) at Mussorrie, in the erstwhile UP (now in Uttarakhand) later shifted to Hyderabad in 1964 and renamed as National Institute for Rural Development (NIRD). In the year 2014 it was once again renamed as National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR). This Institute is an autonomous organization at apex level under Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Rural Development) for enabling capacity development of stakeholders in Rural Development and Panchayati Raj through State Institutes of Rural Development (SIRDs) and Extension Training Centres (ETCs) of States. However, looking at the large number of Elected Representatives of Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRIs) and functionaries in 2.55 lakh Panchayats at three levels comprising as many as 2.48 lakh Gram Panchayats, 6589 Block Panchayats and 608 Zila Panchayats with representations of as large as 43% women, 19% of Scheduled Castes (SCs) and 12% of Scheduled Tribes (STs), the Committee feel that NIRD&PR has not been

able to reach out to the rank and file of Panchayati Raj system in the country despite almost six decades of its functioning as nodal agency.

The Committee, therefore, recommend that there is a need that MoRD/ NIRD&PR should reach out to elected representatives and functionaries of Panchayats through MoRD/SIRDs/ETCs in a more accessible manner in the nook and corner of the country in a big way and time bound manner.

(Rec. Sl. No.1)

Matching of Vision and Mission of NIRD&PR with ground realities recommended

While dealing with Vision of NIRD&PR focussing on policies and programmes and Mission of examining factors contributing to improvement of economic and social well-being of people in rural areas, the Committee's examination has revealed that since 2010 the functioning of NIRD has been a subject matter of review by a Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. Y.K. Alagh known as 'Alagh Committee' for suggesting measures for reform and revamp of NIRD, SIRDs and ETC. Growing economy and changing rural context indicating reduction in the share of rural population from the level of 58% by 2020 to 55% by 2025 have been highlighted by the Alagh Committee and need for broadening of vision

of NIRD&PR from rural non-farm output and employment to diversifying agricultural growth, artisan development, marketing infrastructure etc. has been underlined. In this connection, the Committee have been informed that though Vision and Mission of NIRD&PR have been firmed up, yet they are constrained to note that ground realities are different in implementation of prominent schemes like MGNREGA and PMAY(G) earlier known as IAY and loopholes in the system still persist. In this context, NIRD&PR has candidly admitted before the Committee that there have been shortfall/deficiencies in implementation of programmes at local level that are being addressed through field visits and by action research on continuous basis. The Committee feel that the explanation advanced by NIRD&PR/DoRD appear more like an academic discussion than a step for addressing the issue in a holistic manner. The Committee, therefore, feel that NIRD&PR as also DoRD in collaboration with all stakeholders should ensure that ground realities in implementation of various rural development schemes should match with acclaimed Vision and Mission of NIRD&PR in a big way and people must enjoy the fruits thereof. The Committee would like to be enlightened on the issue for arriving at logical conclusion.

(Rec. Sl. No.2)

Redefining the objectives of NIRD&PR recommended

The Committee find that objectives of NIRD&PR have been to act as a 'Think Tank' for MoRD on matters related to poverty reduction, rural development programmes, organizing training programme for different stakeholders, coordinating research, addressing functioning of PRIs and analyzing problems in planning and implementation of rural development programmes and suggesting solutions. In this connection, the Committee also find that the work done by NIRD&PR in capacity building, strengthening of competencies of rural development professionals and functionaries both at national and international level have been recognized by reputed institutions like Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI) from time to time and have received commendation from President of India also. The Committee, however, also find that in the light of growing challenges in capacity building in rural development arising out of Dr. Y. K. Alagh Committee Report, the NIRD&PR has to overhaul itself in terms of reorienting itself with the changed scenario with reference to urbanization, professionalizing delivery system in terms of quality of training material and methodology, developing cadre of young Rural Managers etc. The Committee, therefore feel that a lot more is to be done by NIRD&PR in the light of Alagh Committee findings towards achieving the objectives

of NIRD&PR. In this connection, the Committee learn that Mission and Vision of NIRD&PR have been firmed up by NIRD&PR and are yet to be finalized. The Committee believe that objectives of NIRD&PR should be so defined to cater to the challenging scenario in capacity building of all stakeholders involved in rural development in the country including putting an end to urban migration.

(Rec. Sl. No.3)

Greater awareness about NIRD&PR recommended

The Committee find that NIRD&PR which has been functioning as an Institute for Rural Development at national level since 1958 has not been popular among the rural masses for which it works and its role has been limited to organizing training programmes and doing research works. In this connection, the NIRD&PR has laboured to convince the Committee that awareness levels about work of NIRD&PR in villages are significantly encouraging through 33 village adoptions across the country, through SIRDs and ETCs, workdone under prominent schemes like MGNREGA, water and sanitations etc. The Committee are very concerned that since inception only about 33 villages have been adopted. This limited reach must coerce the Institute to do some serious introspection. The Committee further, are of the view that NIRD&PR has not been able to become a household

name in rural areas as on the pattern of IITs and IIMs for want of necessary awareness. It seems that the Institute has been reduced to a Centre for academic discussion than being in the rural forefront as a front runner to tackle the challenges being faced by the masses in rural India. The Committee, therefore, recommend that NIRD should come out of its shell and create an awareness drive for showcasing the working of NIRD&PR and its benefits by judging the ground realities.

(Rec. Sl. No.4)

Need for proper planning for implementation of rural development programmes stressed

The Committee's examination has revealed that although training programmes/research work etc. are regularly being done by NIRD&PR, yet in the absence of proper planning in rural areas these are invisible at ground level, as a result a large exodus of population is taking place from rural to urban areas. In this connection, the Committee have been informed by NIRD&PR/DoRD that NIRD&PR continuously strives for achieving/implementing the objective for which it is set up and considering the importance of planning currently effort is to build capacities for Gram Panchayat planning through community mobilisation, livelihood opportunities under National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) and also under MGNREGA, Intensive Participatory

Planning Exercise (IPPE) etc. and under skill development programmes for providing conditions for better living in rural areas. The Committee recall that since Socio-Economic Caste Census, 2011 provisional data is already in the public domain making it easier for NIRD&PR to work closely with DoRD for starting balanced planning in rural areas. In this context, the Committee find that under Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) which is experiencing a couple of problems like lack of monitoring, absence of funds etc., a composite beginning has already been started and NIRD&PR which is also working as 'Think Tank' for DoRD should work in coordination with MoRD in this area, subsequently, the process may be replicated throughout the length and breadth of the country with the help of SIRDs/ETCs.

(Rec. Sl. No.5)

Broadening of composition of General Council welcomed and representation from difficult and hilly States recommended

The Committee welcome that composition of General Council responsible for determination of policies and strategies of NIRD&PR has been significantly over-hauled in the light of Alagh Committee recommendations to include large spectrum of society like NGOs, Peoples Organizations, Journalism, Teaching, Agriculture and other allied activities, Chairpersons of Zilla Parishad, MPs from Standing

Committee on Rural Development, representatives from prominent organizations engaged in rural development, rural reconstruction like Institute of Rural Management, Anand (IRMA), Tata Institute for social Sciences (TISS), Indian Institute of Management (IIMs)/Banking and Insurance Bodies etc. However, the Committee are constrained to find that the representatives in General Council is largely concentrated from Universities in big cities like Delhi, Mumbai etc. to be nominated by rotation in every two years. In this connection, the Committee have been informed that composition is in final stages. On the issue of looking after the interest of remote and difficult areas like Uttarakhand and Jammu & Kashmir and North-Eastern States, the Committee have been assured that adequate care will be taken as far as possible for making General Council truly representative in character. The Committee, therefore, feel that current composition of General Council be reviewed again for guaranteeing the representation from remote and difficult areas including North-Eastern for encouraging a sense of belongingness among the rural people in these States/Areas. While appreciating the role of experts, academicians, scholars etc. in the General council, the Committee again emphasize inclusion of representatives from the ground level who have a first experience from

all the corners of the country including the North Eastern States and hilly terrains who have a different set of challenges.

(Rec. Sl. No.6)

Inordinate delay in filling up the post of Director-General deplored

The Committee deplore that a premier Institute like NIRD&PR remained without a full fledged Director-General for nearly five years from 1st October, 2011 to March, 2016. This shows the seriousness the Government attaches to this Institute. The Committee have been informed by DoRD that consequent upon on-going restructuring of NIRD&PR, the necessary appointment was held up. The Committee feel that an apex institute like NIRD&PR running without Director-General for quite a long time may have retarded the overall functioning of NIRD&PR and does not at all augur well with the overall planning and implementation on the part of nodal Ministry i.e. Ministry of Rural Development and desire an explanation from MoRD for inordinate delay in appointment of full fledged Director-General for NIRD&PR.

(Rec. Sl. No.7)

Expeditious filling up of vacancies in NIRD&PR recommended

The Committee are constrained to note that though six schools and twenty five centres are currently functioning within NIRD&PR after

re-organisation as per Alagh Committee recommendations and action taken thereon, yet they are constrained to note that institute of national importance like NIRD&PR has been experiencing huge shortage of manpower in the categories of Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors way back from 2013-14 onwards and NIRD&PR has itself admitted before the Committee that its performance has been adversely affected due to large number of vacancies. The Committee are also constrained to note that as against the total sanctioned strength of 436, the NIRD&PR is working with a strength of only 296 leaving as large as 140 vacancies.

Further coming to category-wise details, the Committee find that as against the sanctioned strength of 18 Professors, 23 Associate Professors and 45 Assistant Professors, as low as 4 Professors, 11 Associate Professors and 32 Assistant Professors are actually working, leaving as large as 14 vacancies in Professors, 12 Associate Professors and 13 Assistant Professors. In this connection, the Committee have been informed that process of filling up of vacancies is already underway. The Committee recommend that all out efforts should be made by MoRD/NIRD&PR to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously on full time basis.

(Rec. Sl. No.8)

Expeditious completion of restructuring of NIRD&PR recommended

The Committee are dismayed to note that soon after constitution of Alagh Committee on March, 2010 for suggesting measures for reform and revamp of NIRD&PR, the process of restructuring has been underway by way of holding several rounds of discussions within NIRD&PR, including of DG/NIRD&PR, leading to submission of its Report before MoRD on 28th March, 2014, examination thereof in MoRD in consultations with NIRD&PR/SIRDs, conveying its discussions to NIRD&PR in August, 2014 followed by constitution of Transitional Management Committee for operationalising necessary changes etc. The Committee are constrained to note that the restructuring process is still underway in 2016. In this context, the Committee have been informed by NIRD&PR that extensive consultations/discussions with multiple stakeholders including consultations with States and SIRDs require a longer time. In this connection, the Committee have been enlightened by Secretary, DoRD that three-fourths work is already over. The Committee however feel that nearly two year's time has since been lost in the process subsequent to conveying the Government's decision to NIRD&PR. The Committee, therefore, recommend that already long time has been taken in overall restructuring process and

NIRD/MoRD alongwith other stakeholders like State Governments/ SIRDs etc., should join hands to accomplish the work at the earliest.

(Rec. Sl. No.9)

Enhancing quantum of training programmes of NIRD&PR commensulating large number of representatives of PRIs to be trained in the country recommended

The Committee's examination has revealed that around 30,000 trainees pass out and about 1,000 training programmes are being run by NIRD&PR annually. Looking at as large as 2.55 lakh PRIs at three level with 2.48 lakh Gram Panchayats 6,509 Block Panchayats and 608 Zilla Panchayats in the country, the Committee feel that annual quantum of training programmes need manifold upscaling. The Committee have been informed by NIRD&PR that over 1.2 lakh representatives have already been benefitted by such training programmes of NIRD&PR. The Committee's examination of work done by NIRD&PR on training during the last five years from 2011 to 2016 of programmes conducted and participants attended under different themes reveal that themes like 'Making PRIs effective, Transparency and Accountability in Governance' has by and large witness status quo whereas themes like 'Community Development' are witnessing same fate from 2013-14 onwards. Further, important theme of Gender Budgeting and Gender Responsive Governance have even witnessed

decline from 2013-14 onwards. The Committee understand that NIRD&PR is undergoing restructuring and this might have faced difficulties in conducting training programmes also. The Committee, therefore, feel that there is a need to strengthen the training network to a considerable extent so that training requirements of lakhs of elected representatives and functionaries are met early.

(Rec. Sl. No.10)

Need for bringing good work done by different schools of NIRD&PR at ground level

The Committees examination of workdone by prominent schools for Livelihoods and Infrastructure, Sustainable Development and Science-Technology and Knowledge System has revealed about various important works done like Annual Action Plan on MGNREGA, capacity building of barefoot technicians, training under livelihood programmes such as sustainable house/building activities, assembling solar appliances etc. The Committee apprehend that the workdone demonstrated above appear academically useful, however, it should be operationalized in a big way at ground level by NIRD&PR.

(Rec. Sl. No.11)

Uniform participation of States/UTs in NIRD&PR stressed

The Committee's examination has revealed that participation at different States/UTs in training programmes of NIRD&PR is not

uniform. For instance, big States like Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh with large population have representation of as low as 8.16% and 4.40% whereas small States like Uttarakhand and Jharkhand have participation of 6.36 % and 4.36%. In this connection, the Secretary, MoRD himself candidly admitted before the Committee that certain areas like Uttar Pradesh, entire North East and also Himalayan States need special coverage and MoRD will try to correct the same. The Committee feel that proper balanced rural development, the States/UTs-wise coverage of participation in NIRD&PR programmes be corrected suitably.

(Rec. Sl. No.12)

Promoting work done by NIRD&PR in rural areas recommended.

The Committee's examination has revealed NIRD&PR has taken up training programmes during 2015-16 on large number of themes like Panchayati Raj, Rural Employment, Rural Livelihoods, Rural Infrastructure, Social Development and so on. The Committee apprehend that their actual use and benefit hardly reaches to the intended one i.e. implementing agencies, elected panchayati raj representatives, functionaries, the rural eligible households etc. for want of proper promotion. The Committee, therefore, feel that NIRD&PR should promote its activities by educating, the implementing agencies

and Panchayats about the workdone under different themes for their capacity building requirements.

(Rec. SI. No.13)

Need for motivational training by NIRD&PR recommended

The need for motivational training by NIRD&PR to Sarpanchs, Ward Members, Block Pramukhs came up before the Committee in a big way as it was pointed out before the Committee that Sarpanchs, Ward Members etc are largely unlettered and even unaware about their responsibility to handle various rural development schemes being launched from Central and State Government with the result available funds meant for betterment of common man go unutilized. In this connection, the Committee have been enlightened by DG, NIRD&PR that their effort is to create the urge to serve and NIRD&PR is starting a drive from top to bottom through ETCs and it is a programme for motivational service oriented faculty development module. Besides, providing greater guidance to 29 SIRDs and 90 ETCs have also been outlined before the Committee. The Committee feel that NIRD&PR should take along such Sarpanchs, Ward Members and Block Pramukhs in motivational initiatives and modules so that these programmes reach at the doorstep of Panchayats in a big way across the States for the benefit of common man in rural areas.

(Rec. Sl. No.14)

Need for proper coordination in different sectors recommended

The Committee are constrained to note that six schools in different areas like Development Studies, Social Justice, Rural Livelihood and Infrastructure etc. and various programmes under different themes like Poverty Reduction and Livelihoods, Rural Micro Enterprises etc. are being run by NIRD&PR, yet at ground/district and block level there is lack of coordination among different areas related with livelihood like production of vegetable, fruits, herbal products etc. In the light of uneven geographic locations at different States/UTs, need for greater coordination among agricultural Universities, NGOs, Forestry Universities was outlined before the Committee. In this connection, the Secretary, MoRD also agreed with the Committee for clubbing together workdone under different schools and centres within NIRD&PR for greater coordination. The Committee feel that for balanced rural development, workdone by NIRD&PR under different schools and concerned centres be clubbed together through proper coordination among implementing agencies.

(Rec. Sl. No.15)

Association of local MPs/MLAs and Sarpanchs in training programmes of NIRD&PR recommended

During the course of examination the need for associating local MPs and MLAs in training programmes of NIRD&PR came up before the Committee as it was brought before the Committee that in the absence of associating local MPs and MLAs, whatever training programmes are conducted by NIRD&PR specially in Rajasthan and other parts of the country are of no avail as the poor and farmers are not involved. In this connection, DG, NIRD&PR has candidly admitted before the Committee that involvement of local representatives of public was limited in training programme of NIRD&PR and wherever possible in action research and model village study, the public representatives are involved. The Committee have also been informed that as regard involvement of Panchayat level representatives is concerned, Master Training is done at NIRD&PR and therefore, they undergo further training at SIRDs. The Committee find merit in the suggestion of associating local MPs, MLAs and Sarpanchs in all training programmes of NIRD&PR in a big way across the States/UTs so that the workdone under these programmes do not go waste and the people's representatives too can give their valuable inputs to make the training a success.

(Rec. Sl. No.16)

Expeditious completion of Impact Assessment of workdone by NIRD&PR recommended

The Committee noted that there is a built-in system within NIRD&PR of impact assessment of work done by NIRD&PR at two levels, one assessment is done at the last day of training programme and the other is through external agencies. The Committee are constrained to find that only two external assessments have been done one in 2002 and other in 2007 of workdone by NIRD&PR so far and preparation for third through IRMA Administration Staff College of India (ASCI) is underway which is in formative stages. DoRD has stated that it will be completed in the current financial year. The Committee are not satisfied with the way of impact assessment of workdone by NIRD&PR and feel that such assessment be done on regular intervals to ensure that the training programmes have a cascading effect in bringing prosperity in the rural areas.

(Rec. Sl. No.17)

Need for extensive use of appropriate technology for rural development recommended

The Committee appreciate that NIRD&PR is undertaking transfer of appropriate, affordable technologies to rural poor by undertaking special projects through Rural Technology Parks and by organizing

Rural Technology Mela annually within the country and through supporting such efforts in few African countries through Ministry of External Affairs. The Committee have been informed by DG, NIRD&PR that satellite mapping has been launched in ten districts of the country through ISRO's Bhuwan platform for proper alignment of various works under MGNREGA, PMGSY etc. For this MOU has already been signed with Department of Space. In addition, the Committee have been informed that 17 other technologies with the help of retired Defence Scientists from DRDO has been identified for areas like drinking water, sanitation and other areas for which necessary MOUs are to be signed between MoRD and Ministry of Defence. The Committee have also been informed that necessary study at ground level is underway. The Committee feel that work done by NIRD&PR should be done in such a fashion that implementing agencies and common man are well informed about these initiatives. The Committee recommend that such initiative be implemented in a proper manner after ascertaining the outcome of studies already underway.

(Rec. Sl. No.18)

Need for extensive promotion of the work of Centre on Geo-Informatics Applications in rural development (C-GARD) recommended

The Committee appreciate that NIRD&PR through Centre for Geo-Informatics Applications (C-GARD) is engaged in introduction of

Geo-Informatics Technology like Geo-Informatics System (GIS) Remote Sensing and Global Positioning System (GPS) in rural development that seeks to help rural development functionaries and Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) for better planning and monitoring of work in execution in different areas like water resource planning, MGNREGA related works etc. The Committee's examination has also revealed that from GIS Facility Centre at Assam, Gujarat and Odisha are functional to promote the use of scientific information derived from Satellites, GPS and GIS technologies in rural development programmes. Further in some villages in Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu, Spatial Development Plans have been prepared and similar exercise on pilot basis has been started. The Committee feel that work of C-GARD be accelerated in other States also for the purpose of ensuring better planning and monitoring of development of works.

(Rec. Sl. No.19)

Need for strengthening of capacity building and training requirement States under NRLM stressed.

The Committee also notice that NIRD&PR under its NRLM Resource Cell has been conducting programmes and imparting training in institution building, capacity building etc. for the purpose of strengthening State Rural Livelihood Missions by way of assisting

them in preparing action plans and training modules and during the last three years NRLM Cell within NIRD&PR and has conducted 209 programmes and trained 9,350 trainees. The Committee feel that since NRLM is one of the flagship programme of MoRD, the quantum of workdone by NRLM Cell with NIRD&PR during the period under review is too less and be suitably enhanced for future requirements.

(Rec. Sl. No.20)

Need for greater role for Deen Dayal Upadhyay Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) Cell under NIRD&PR stressed

The Committee find that DDU-GKY Cell with NIRD&PR has been acting as Central Technical Support for MoRD for monitoring implementation of Deen Dayal Upadhyay Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) in 16 States and 2 UTs. Besides, NIRD&PR is also responsible for monitoring 'Roshni Projects' across the country and skilling rural youths in Jammu & Kashmir and Left Wing Extremism (LWE) districts under Himayat and Roshni Projects. The Committee however, note that placement after training under Himayat projects have been good, however, the Committee are constrained to note that this is not the case with workdone under Roshni projects where as against total number of persons trained of 10,601 the placement was as low as 2,955. The Committee find that the position in various States like Chattisgarh and Bihar is dismal where as against 1043 and 1391 trained

persons, as low as 137 and 223 got placement. The Committee, therefore feel that all out efforts be made by DDU-GKY and NIRD&PR to make up the deficiency.

(Rec. Sl. No.21)

NIRD&PR asked to strengthen Rural Self-Employment Training Institutes (RSETIs)

The Committee's examination has revealed that NIRD&PR is the nodal agency for infrastructure creation under Rural Self-Employment Training Institutes (RSETIs) by way of assisting Banks on various aspects like construction, designing curriculum for training etc. The Committee, however, are constrained to note that NIRD&PR is encountering the problem of land allotment, taking possession of allotted level, securing approvals for building plans from local bodies etc. and the issues are being pursued at the level of National Level Advisory Committee. The Committee feel that National Level Advisory Committee should resolve these basic issues with NIRD&PR for successful running of these RSETIs in the country. The Committee are also constrained to note that work done by RSETIs in settling the trained manpower during 2014-15 has not been encouraging and for 2015-16 and 2016-17 the figures of settled trainers are unavailable. For instance, while glancing the performance under 2014-15 as against total 3.87 lakh trainees trained only 2.20 lakh have been settled. The

Committee feel that NIRD&PR should make all out efforts for ensuring placement of remaining trainees trained during 2014-15 and figures of trainees settled during 2015-16 and 2016-17 as on 30.06.2016 be made available to the Committee for arriving at logical conclusion.

(Rec. Sl. No.22)

Need for modernization of NIRD&PR recommended

The Committee are constrained to note that various historic and precious documents dating back to 1950 and 1960 dealing with rural development and women cooperation no longer form part of the NIRD&PR Library as these have been lost. The Committee are constrained to find that this has been revealed before the Committee by Secretary, MoRD. The Committee, therefore, recommend that necessary steps be initiated to modernize the NIRD&PR library urgently.

(Rec. Sl. No.23)

Need for expeditious completion of Research works under NIRD&PR recommended

The Committee examination has revealed that there are large number of ongoing studies under NIRD&PR since 2013-14 onwards. For instance, during 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 as low as 16, 8 and 11 studies were completed and as large as 36 are still ongoing. The

Committee feel that these does not augur well with the over-all work done by NIRD&PR with regard to research work. The Committee, therefore, recommend the DoRD to impress upon NIRD&PR to complete the pending work expeditiously and take up new challenges.

(Rec. Sl. No.24)

Need for appropriate use of research work underaken by NIRD&PR stressed

The Committee's examination has revealed that research work done by NIRD&PR is not been utilized by rural people and need for location based research was underlined before the Committee. In this connection, the Committee have been informed that NIRD&PR undertake master training and under Rural Technology Parks (RTPs) models are created and so far 78 units have been set up across the States for manufacturing herbal products, hand-washing products etc. The Committee feel that location specific research be promoted for sustainable development.

(Rec. Sl. No.25)

Need for extensive village adoption by NIRD&PR recommended

The Committees examination has revealed that in addition to action research, the NIRD&PR has adopted 33 villages mainly, in Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil-Nadu, Odisha. The Committee feel that considering the length and width of the country adopting only 33

villages that too in few States by NIRD&PR displays the fact that the Institute has no capacity to reach out to every corner of the nation. The Committee's study has revealed that less number of women are attending the programmes due to distances. The Committee suggest that to connect with the majority of rural populace, more such Institutes should be opened in various geographical locations.

(Rec. Sl. No.26)

NEW DELHI;
29 August, 2016
7Bhadrapada, 1938 (Saka)

Dr. P. Venugopal
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Rural Development

S.O. 12(1)
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No L-11019/2/2009-Trg
Government of India
Ministry of Rural Development
Department of Rural Development
(Training Division)

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated the 7th August, 2014

The Director General
National Institute of Rural Development
Rajendranagar, Hyderabad,

Subject: Decisions taken by the Government of India on the recommendations contained in the reports of Dr. Y.K. Alagh Committee and Shri S. Vijay Kumar and other related decisions-reg.

As you are aware, vide Order of even No. dated 30th March, 2010, a Committee under Chairmanship of Dr. Y.K. Alagh was set up to suggest measures for reform and revamp of National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), State Institutes of Rural Development (SIRDs) and Extension Training Centres (ETCs). Just before the Alagh Committee submitted its Report, Shri S. Vijay Kumar, former Secretary (RD) was requested to draft the report based on the minutes of the Alagh Committee meetings as well as recommendations of Working Groups constituted by the Alagh Committee. Both the reports have already been received and examined by the Ministry in consultation with the States, RD and SIRDs (copy enclosed for reference & records). The decisions taken by the Government of India on the recommendations contained in the reports of Dr. Alagh Committee and Shri S. Vijay Kumar and other related decisions are as under:

(I) Decisions taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the report of Alagh Committee

1) Suggestion- Regarding the vision of NIRD, the recommendation is to look at the changing rural scenario with special reference to urbanization, change of employment structure, changes in agriculture, etc. even while retaining the old focus on poverty, inequality and natural resource management. The vision has to be influenced by the changing institutional context in the form of SHG networks and PRIs and the inflow of new technologies of rural areas. Further the rights-based framework needs to be the operational philosophy.

Decision- The vision of NIRD may be re-drafted incorporating the ideas explained by the Alagh Committee.

2) Suggestion- NIRD should be a hub in a national network of related institutions focusing on capacity building, research, knowledge creation and policy advocacy.

Decision- Accepted. This is a very important recommendation and for its operationalisation, NIRD should horizontally network with institutions of

excellence in the country like IIMs and IITs which have disciplines related to rural development and rural technology. The network should also include eminent institutions of rural management and social work like IRMA, TISS, XISS, XIMB and XLRI. Further top ICSSR institutions may also be included. The network should collectively share human resources and facilities, undertake training and research activities based on a common plan of action which has to be developed once every two years through consensus after extensive interaction. SIRDs should be able to access this network to meet their specific requirements related to training and research.

3) Suggestion - The Committee recommends the following objectives related to the Training and Research for NIRD:

1. To serve as a national hub of knowledge connectivity for Rural Development by networking a set of regional hubs or regional Platforms for knowledge Connectivity, each to be embedded in a agro-climatic region,
2. To help evolve plans and policies for policies for rural development by research, training and demonstration and create packages of social technologies, physical technologies and economic policy strategies for agro-climatic regions,
3. To facilitate development of techno-managerial cadres needs for the rural development of the country - and to this end create innovative academic programmes. At the same time, evolve HRD package (including training) suitable for the development of each region,
4. To work out S&T intervention modules, particularly for development leap-frogging of the backward regions, by synergizing resources that are available with various stakeholders like UGC, ICAR, CSIR, Industries, ISRO, NGOs and private institutions,
5. To help create special institutional structures and schemes for nurturing leadership in regional development/entrepreneurship with special focus on the most backward regions,
6. To create new 'regional development knowledge centres' particularly in the most backward agro-climate regions where networking of institutional-mix is not feasible because of non-availability of the requisite infrastructure and skills at present.

Decision- Accepted. This may be incorporated suitably.

- 4) Suggestion- NIRD may be re-structured into six Schools having centres within each school. Each School is to be headed by a Dean and each Centre by a Chairperson. Both the positions would have fixed single terms of two years extendable to three years if required. The Centre should have a minimum of 3 faculty members with at least one Professor / Associate Professor / Assistant Professor. In addition, there could be Research Associates, Consultants, visiting Faculty, Interns, Research Scholars, Post Doctoral Fellows. The Chairmanship will rotate on the basis of seniority among Professors, Associate Professors / Assistant Professors. Broadly, the Centres could be on basic disciplines and in applied areas. It is recommended that the functioning of the Centres and schools should evolve gradually and not rushed through and it needs a mentoring process. The illustrative list of schools and Centres is contained in Annexure-I of the Report(copy enclosed).

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Decision- Accepted. The following should be the schools:

1. Development studies and social justice
2. Livelihoods
3. Sustainable development
4. Public policy and good governance
5. Local governance

Each School should have appropriate Centres which need to be worked out based on availability of staff and their specialization. Each School should be supported by a School Board consisting of the Dean, Chairs of all the Centres and three external experts nominated by the Director General. The School Board should meet at least twice a year to approve the training calendar and other academic programmes. Also to provide secretarial and logistical support, each school should have a Secretariat by redeploying staff.

5) Suggestion-The General Council needs to be re-structured as indicated in Chapter IV of the report(copy enclosed).

Decision-The recommendation is accepted subject to the following changes. Instead of two non-officials of Zilla Parishads, two Chairpersons ZPs identified by the MoPR as best in the country may be nominated for one year. As regards federations of SHGs, the Chairpersons of two best cluster level federations under NRLM may be nominated by rotation from among the States. Item No.5 is modified to include only AMUL. The Members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha may be nominated from among the Members of the Standing Committee dealing with Rural Development. Also there is no need to nominate Members of State Legislatures. Regarding Vice Chancellors of Universities the three could be JNU, University of Hyderabad as permanent Members and one from among the Vice Chancellors of Mumbai, Madras, Calcutta, Delhi and Bangalore Universities to be nominated by rotation every two years. As regards 'Other' categories, it may be limited to the following:

Director General of ICAR,
Two Directors of SIRDs to be nominated by rotation,
Director, National Institute of RSETI, Representative of National Skill Development Authority, Mission Director, NRLM,
One Director of ETCs,
Representative of RBI not below the rank of ED,
Representative of NABARD not below the rank of ED.

6) Suggestion- The composition of EC may be as recommended in Chapter-IV of the report(copy enclosed).

Decision-The composition is accepted. But Secretary(RD) may continue to be the Chairperson as it would be better during the transition period. This can be reviewed after 3 years. It may be specified that wherever Secretaries are members they can nominate permanently an officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary. AS(RD) may also be made a Member of the Executive Committee.

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7) Suggestion-The Committee recommends a Committee of Direction to mentor the changes recommended by the Committee.

Decision- Accepted. This Committee will be called Transition Management Committee and would have the following composition: Additional Secretary(RD), DG, NIRD, JS (MoPR) in charge of RGPSA, JS(A&C) and two senior Faculty Members from NIRD.

8) Suggestion -The Committee recommends for a Facilitation Committee with three members Dispute Resolution Sub-Committee.

Decision-Recommendation accepted.

9) Suggestion-The Committee recommends amendment of Rules and by-laws keeping in view the spirit of the recommendations.

Decision-The recommendation accepted. The task of working out the details is entrusted to the Transition Management Committee.

(II) Decisions taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the report of *Shri S. Vijay Kumar*, former Secy(RD)

(1) Suggestion- The Academic Committee now headed by the DG should be converted into an Academic Council headed by an eminent person who is an expert in the sector with high academic credentials. The composition is given in Para 4.6. of the Report(copy enclosed).

Decision-The recommendation is accepted with the modification that Heads of SIRDs and Joint Secretaries need not be Members of the Academic Council and in the list of National Training Institutes, TISS is included.

(2) Suggestion- The Research Advisory Committee may be re-structured as Policy Research Advisory Committee and the composition could be as given in Para 4.7. of the report(copy enclosed).

Decision-This recommendation is accepted.

(3) Suggestion- As part of the Support system, DDG-cum-Financial Adviser is required.

Decision- This recommendation is accepted.

(4) Suggestion- The Regional Centres may be limited to the one at Guwahati and the other two, which are not yet functional, at Jaipur and Patna may be closed down.

Decision- This recommendation is accepted.

(5) Suggestion- A special Facility should be set up by NIRD at New Delhi.

Decision-It is not necessary to have a special facility set up by NIRD at New Delhi.

(6) Suggestion - At the State level, the SIRDs should be strengthened and there should be district level training centres by expanding the ETC network.

Decision-This is accepted and a strategy needs to be worked out in partnership with MoPR to create the training infrastructure and the support system required in a phased manner. The scheme in SIRD should be comprehensively reformed. The following measures should be taken to operationalise this decision:

i) The architecture of training institutions should be rationalized. In the first instance, district level training institutions may be set up in all districts where there are no ETCs now. They should be called District Institutes of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (DIRDPRs). To start with they could be headed by any of the Assistant Project Officers of DRDAs to be seconded to the institution on a full time basis. Govt. of India would support two core faculty to be taken on contract or on deputation. There would be one secretarial staff with computer knowledge. The other services would be out-sourced to SHGs under NRLM.

The minimum infrastructure including training equipment and support infrastructure should be fixed by the Transition Management Committee. For funding such institutions a joint action plan may be prepared by the Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Panchayati Raj utilising resources from RGPSA, NRLM, MGNREGS and BRGF and the central sector scheme for training.

ii) Selected ETCs should be developed as Regional Institutes of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj and given the task of mentoring the DIRDPRs in their jurisdiction.

iii) SIRDs should be the apex training institutes for Rural Development and Panchayat Raj in the state. They should have control over the regional and district level institutions. SIRDs should be fully autonomous in carrying out their training and research activities. Only for creation of staff and setting of their service conditions should the state have control.

iv) There should be clear standards for infrastructure facilities and staff for SIRDs according to their training load. The existing norms for infrastructure facilities and staff in SIRDs are slightly dated and need to be revised and firmed up and a plan of upgradation prepared for each SIRD by the Transition Management Committee which could be funded as in the case of Regional and District Level Institutions.

v) The three tier training infrastructure should be linked to NIRD

training on the basis of a quarterly schedule to be drawn up in consultation between NIRD and the SIRDs.

vi) All SIRDs should be provided SATCOM or similar facilities for electronic distance training. The NIRD may take the lead in partnership with ISRO to prepare State-wise projects and get them implemented through the State Governments or by NIRD, if the States make such a specific request.

vii) The concept of 'Resource SIRDs' should be introduced so that they can mentor SIRDs in their vicinity. The following SIRDs are identified as mentor SIRDs:

SLNo.	Name of SIRDs	Service Areas
1.	Mysore	Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Lakshadweep
2.	APARD, Hyderabad	Odisha, Bihar and Jharkhand
3.	SIRD at YASHADA, Pune	MP, UP and Chhattisgarh
4.	SIRD, Jaipur	Gujarat, Punjab, Haryana, J&K, Uttarakhand and HP
5.	SIRD, Kalyani, Kolkata	All the States of the North-East

The resource SIRD should be suitably strengthened to perform their tasks. This system should be continued for five years.

viii) All the States may be advised to prepare a Rural Development Training Policy to be followed up by a Training Need Assessment (TNA) and a Training Action Plan for five years. NIRD and the resource SIRDs should provide necessary assistance for this purpose.

ix) Govt. of India support for faculty may be increased to seven with the two new faculty members looking after women and child development and health and nutrition.

x) A Platform may be set up of all SIRDs under the leadership of IRD which should meet on a fixed day twice a year.

xi) All SIRDs should constitute an Academic Council consisting of 7 to 10 renowned professionals and academics in the sector with at least three of them from outside the state to perform their following tasks:

- a) Assist in the preparation of annual training calendar;
 - b) Ensure quality of training materials and training methodology;
 - c) Prepare performance report of faculty;
 - d) Assist in periodic updation of TNA and Training Action plan;
 - e) Approve research projects; and
 - f) Draw up terms of reference for evaluation of training once in five years.
- xii) SIRDs should identify "Resource PRIs" and "Resource Community Based Organizations" which can either organize training on selected themes or provide the resources for conduct of training. Likewise NGOs of repute should also be accredited for this purpose.
- xiii) NIRD shall provide the following support to SIRDs:
- a) Ensure that the State Link Officer (SLO) system is made effective through mandatory, quarterly visits and clear terms of reference on the role of SLOs;
 - b) Conduct training of trainers from the States on assessing training needs and preparing training action plan;
 - c) Conduct special capacity building on training methodologies;
 - d) Provide distance learning opportunities to the faculty of the three tier training network on specific topics leading to formal certification;
 - e) Support one action research project, two evaluation studies and preparation of two case studies every year by each SIRD as well as RIRD;
 - f) Prepare generic modules covering themes like gender, poverty, social justice, climate change, natural resource management, good governance, social audit and on major Centrally Sponsored Schemes related to rural development;
 - g) Develop a repository of all training material prepared by different SIRDs and maintain them in English and Hindi versions;
 - h) Develop an electronic library of books, articles and training material and make it available to the SIRDs;
 - i) Develop a programme for certification of trainers and assist SIRDs in getting as many certified trainers - on call;
 - j) Prepare an inventory of training facilities within and outside the SIRD system;
 - k) Conduct an annual performance review of each SIRD; and

- 1) Arrange five yearly assessment of the performance of SIRD system through institutions of excellence like IRMA, TISS, XIBM, selected IIMs and selected ICSSR institutions.

(III) Other related decisions taken by the Government

- 1) The Government of India would come out with an HR policy for SIRDs and ETCs specially for the funding for the recurring costs.
- 2) There should be e-tracking of the proposals from SIRDs/ ETCs and fund releases and flows.
- 3) As far as possible, available funds under the existing schemes would be leveraged to give effect to the recommendations and the suggestions. If additional funds are needed, due processes would have to be followed.

This issues with the approval of Minister(RD,PR & DWS).

(D.K. Singh)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Tel: 23070978

Illustrative list of Schools and Centres

School of Development Studies & Social Justice.

- Centre for Wage Employment & Poverty Alleviation (CWEPA).
- Centre for Land, Labour & Agrarian Studies (CLLAS).
- Centre for Women Development & gender Studies (CWGDS).
- Centre for Food Security & Nutrition Studies (New Centre proposed).
- Centre for Health, Education & Sanitation Studies (New Centre proposed instead of Centre for Equality and Social Development (CESD)).

1. School of Rural Management & Livelihood Studies

- Centre Human Resource Management & Capacity development (ICHRM-CD).
- Centre for Social Entrepreneurship and Self Employment (instead of Centre for Self Employment & Rural Enterprise).
- Centre for Financial Management & Rural Credit (Credit for Rural Credit and Development Banking scrapped).

2. School of Public policy & Habitat Studies.

- Centre for Panchayati Raj and Decentralization
- Centre for Natural Resources Management and Climate Change (instead of Centre for Water and Land Resources)
- Centre for Disaster Management and Resettlement Practices
- Centre for Transparency, Accountability and Evaluation studies (instead of Centre for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation)
- Centre for Rural Infrastructure and Sustainable Technology Studies (Merged Centre for Rural Infrastructure and Rural Technology Park)

3. School of Global Studies in Rural Development (New Proposed).

- Centre for Rural Management and Agricultural Development in South Asia
- Centre for Rural Development Cooperation in Asia and Africa

4. School of Science, Technology and Information Studies

- Centre for Geo-informatics and Applications in Rural Development (CGARD)
- Centre for Management Information Systems and e-Learning Resources (instead of Centre for Information Technology)

5. School of Media and Cultural Studies

- Centre for Media and Rural Documentation
- Centre for Tribal Arts and Indigenous Cultures

Centre for Distance education (instead of Distance Education Cell)

I. GENERAL COUNCIL

Recommended composition

S.No.	Category	Total No. in accordance with existing Rules of NIRD	Recommended	
			No.	Description
1	President	One	One	President
2	Vice-President (i) Minister of State for Rural Development looking after the subject (ii) Secretary (Rural Development)	Two	Two	Vice-President (i) Minister of State for Rural Development looking after the subject (ii) Secretary (Department of Rural Development)
3	Representative of institutions in India working in Rural Development/Reconstruction and allied field. To be appointed by President.	Four	Eight	Representation needs to be increased including representatives from various other organizations of repute, e.g. (i) Director IRMA (ii) Director TISS (iii) Director IIM (Ahmedabad) (iv) Director of two IITs or their representative (by rotation) (v) Director, National Innovation Foundation, Ahmedabad (vi) Director of Indian Institute of Forest Management (vii) Director, Centre of Science & Environment (viii) Director, MANAGE (ix) Director, NAARM (x) Director, Centre for Women Development Studies
4	Eminent Persons having made noteworthy contribution in the field of Rural Development including one/two non-officials of Zilla Parishad level with long experience	Nine	Eleven	(i) Four representatives of NGOs, People's Organizations, Social Movements. (ii) Three persons of eminence from the field of journalism, teaching, agriculture or other allied

				activities. (iii) Two representatives of Zilla Parishad. (iv) Two Representatives of Self Help Group Federations distinguished and recognized at the State and Centre level.
5	Representatives for All India Panchayat Parishad and National Cooperative Union	Two	Two	Representatives of Co-operative Institutions and Corporate Houses like Amul, Basix, ITC, etc.
5	Chairman of University Grants Commission, President, Association of Indian Universities	Two	Two	(i) Chairman, University Grants Commission, (ii) President, Association of Indian Universities.
7	Representatives of Central Ministries/Departments (i) Secretary(DWS) (ii) Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture (iii) Secretary, Ministry of Education (iv) Secretary, Planning Commission or his representative not below the rank of Joint Secretary (v) Secretary, Department of Personnel and Training or his representative not below the rank of Joint Secretary (vi) Financial Adviser, Ministry of Rural Development (vii) Joint Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development	Seven	Twelve	In addition to the existing representation, five more representatives of Departments may be added (i) Secretary, Department of Land Resources (ii) Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj (iii) Representative of Ministry of Tribal Affairs not below the rank of Joint Secretary (iv) Representative of Ministry of Social Welfare not below the rank of Joint Secretary (v) Secretary, Department of Financial Services or his representative not below the rank of Joint Secretary
8	Secretaries to State Governments/ Union Territories in-charge of Rural Development/Reconstruction or Development Commissioner on rotation	Five	Seven	In addition to existing representation, two Secretaries of Department of Panchayati Raj of two States may be included.

9	Members of Union, State and Union Territory Legislatures i) Lok Sabha ii) Rajya Sabha iii) State and Union Territories (to represent four Zonal Council by rotation)	Two One Four	Two One Four	No change
10	Vice Chancellor of Universities	Three	Three	(i) Vice Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru University or his/her representative (ii) Vice Chancellor, University of Hyderabad (iii) Vice Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Hyderabad
11	Academic Staff Members of NIRD	Three	Three	No change
12	Representative of Non-Academic Staff - to be nominated by DG by rotation	One	One	No change
13	Director General of the Institute	one	One	No change
14			Eleven	Representation from Banking Insurance and other institutions may also be included e.g. (i) Representative of RBI not below the rank of ED/Deputy Governor (ii) Representative of the Rural Bank Federation (iii) Representative of All India Bank Association (iv) Chairman, Insurance Regulatory Development Authority (v) Director General, ICAR or his representative (vi) Two Directors of SERDs elected by SERDs (vii) One Principal of ETCs elected by ETCs (viii) Director of National BUDGET (ix) Chairman, National

				Skill Development Corporation (x) Mission Director of NRLM
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Note: The President of the General Council is the Union Minister of Rural Development.

II. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The term of the Executive Council will be three years. All the recommended members need not necessarily be the members of the General council.

Sl.No.	Category	Total No. in accordance with existing Rules of NIRD	Recommended	
			No.	Description
	President - Union Minister of Rural Development	One	One	A Non-Official person appointed through a search process
	I) Director General of NIRD II) Secretary, RD III) Secretary, DWS IV) Joint Secretary in-charge V) Financial Adviser	Five	Seven	1. Ex-Officio Member Secretary - DG NIRD 2. Secretary(DRD) 3. Secretary (MoPR) 4. Secretary (DWS) 5. Secretary(DoLR) 6. One faculty representative of NIRD 7. One representative of SIRD to be nominated by DG for two years
	Eminent Persons who have made noteworthy contributions in the field of RD, Reconstructions and allied subjects to be nominated by the President of NIRD from the members of the General Council	Five	Two	Eminent persons who have made significant contributions in the fields of i) Social Organization ii) Social Campaign iii) Journalism iv) Women's Rights Innovations v) Rural credit vi) Agriculture and allied activities
	Members to be nominated by the President from non-official members of General Council	Two	Two	Representatives of eminent Institutions like (i) Director, IRMA (ii) Director, TISS

				(iii) Director, IIM (Ahmadabad) (iv) Director of two IITs or their representative (by rotation) (v) Director National Innovation Foundation, Ahmadabad (vi) Director of Indian Institute of Forest Management (vii) Director, Centre of Science & Environment (viii) Director, NAARM (ix) Director, MANAGE (x) Director, Centre for Women Development Studies
5	Secretary(DoPT) or his nominee not below the rank of Joint Secretary	One	One	Secretary, Department of Financial Services or his nominee not below the rank of Joint Secretary

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| (a) DG NIRD | - Chairman |
| (b) AS (RD) | - Member |
| (c) AS&FA, JS(i/c NIRD), DDG (F&A) NIRD and Registrar, NIRD | - Members |
| (d) Representatives not below rank of JS of Ministries concerned | - Members |
| (e) Representatives of IRMA, ASCI, IIPA and LBSNAA | - Members |
| (f) Representatives of the two National Level NGOs who are members of the General Council | - Members |
| (g) Sr.DDG (Programme Support) | - Member Secretary |

The Executive Committee would be responsible for:-

- (a) Approving the Annual Budget, Accounts and response to Audit Report for presentation to the General Council
- (b) Finalization of the Annual Programme and Performance Report
- (c) Approving appointment of persons against sanctioned posts (other than DG, DDGs and Registrar who may be appointed by the Ministry as per separate rules for the purpose based on Search/Selection Committee recommendations)
- (d) Approval for creation /allocation/ amalgamation of Centres.
- (e) Approving the Bye-Laws and Regulations of NIRD within the framework of the Rules
- (f) Generally supervising the work of the Academic Council and the Administrative Committees (see Para 4.6 and Chapter V)
- (g) Managing the affairs of NIRD on a regular basis in the best interests of the Institute.

Executive Committee should meet at least once in 2 months. The Committee may delegate powers for day-to-day management to the DG (subject to further delegation by the to the DDGs and Registrar)

Academic Council: While the General Council would provide the overall Vision direction and the Executive Committee would provide the overall leadership and management, the work of the Schools and of the Training and Formal Education centres calls higher level expertise and professional

relevance on an on-going basis. This requires an institutional mechanism in the nature of an 'Academic Council'. Currently also the Rules of NIRD provide for an Academic Committee, but the Committee is chaired by the DG and not all Centres are represented. Details of Academic Committee meetings in the last 10 years is given at Annexure-VII (c) showing there has been on average only one meeting in a year, though 9 meetings have also been held of a separate Academic Committee for Post Graduate Studies. (Annexure VII (d)) It is suggested that there be a single Academic Council to be chaired by an Eminent Academician, and co-chaired by the DG so as to improve the quality and range of training and capacity building services; and to ensure a better coordination in the use of resources. It is expected that the Council may need to meet once a quarter. Accordingly the Council may be composed as follows:-

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| An Eminent person with deep knowledge of the Sector and high academic credentials.
(nomination to approved by the President) | - Chairman(Part time) |
| (a) DG NIRD | - Co-Chairman |
| (b) Deans of Schools | - Members |
| (c) Heads of 5 SIRDs of States who are Members of the GC (by rotation every 2 years) | - Member |
| (d) JS (I/c Training) in Departments of Personnel, HRD, Agriculture, Rural Development, E&F, Panchayati Raj etc. | |
| (e) National Training Institutions: IRMA, LBSNAA, ASCI, IIPA, etc | |
| (f) 4 Persons with special knowledge (nominated for 2 years at a time) | |
| (g) DDG (Programme Support) | - Member Secretary |

The Academic Council may also invite experts and eminent persons to participate in specific meetings. The Council would:

- Identify thrust areas for the various Schools
- Coordinate activities of the Rural Technology Park of NIRD and SIRDs with the Schools concerned in coordination with the Rural Technology Cell.
- Propose adding / closing Centres

- Review the balance between Action Research, Policy research and analysis, Education, Training, Consultancy and other activities of each Centre/School and suggest improvements.
- Identify the need and mechanisms for multi-disciplinary work.
- Ensure the appropriate architecture for IT and geospatial applications.
- Oversee the work of the Library and Documentation Service.
- Advise on the management of the Case Study bank
- Review the training curriculum for subjects, content, and standards.
- Oversee ToT and training capacity building
- Ensure coordination between NIRD and SIRDs etc.
- Oversee the Formal Education system for subjects, content, standards, relevance etc.

7. There is currently a 'Research Advisory Committee', separately constituted Annexure-VII (c)). It is recommended that location specific research matters should be done at SIRD Level and only policy research and action research should be done by NIRD. Accordingly, the 'Research Advisory Committee' may be renamed as the 'Policy Research Advisory Committee' with the following composition:-

(i)	Eminent academic with knowledge of developmental policies	-	Chair
(ii)	AS (RD)	-	Co-Chair
(iii)	Deans of Schools	-	Members
(iv)	Secretary RDs of 5 States who are member of GC	-	Members
(v)	Heads Academic/Training Institutions IRCHA/TISS/ASCI/LBSNAA/NIRA/IIPA	-	Members
(vi)	Two eminent persons nominated by the EC	-	Members
(viii)	DDG(FS) NIRD	-	Member Secretary

The management of the Schools and its Centres is at the heart of the restructuring of NIRD. The requirement is that:-

STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT (2015-2016)**MINUTES OF THE FIFTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON
THURSDAY, THE 19 NOVEMBER, 2015**

The Committee sat from 1100 hrs. to 1250 hrs. in Committee Room 'G-074',
Ground Floor, Parliament Library Building, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Dr. P. Venugopal -- *Chairperson*

**Members
Lok Sabha**

2. Shri Sisir Adhikari
3. Shri Kirti Azad
4. Shrimati Renuka Butta
5. Shri Vijay Kumar Hansdak
6. Shri Ajay Misra (Teni)
7. Dr. Mahendra Nath Pandey
8. Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal "Nishank"
9. Shri Jugal Kishore Sharma
10. Dr. Yashwant Singh
11. Shri Ladu Kishore Swain
12. Shri Chintaman Wanaga

Rajya Sabha

13. Shri Gulam Rasool Balyawi
14. Shri Ranvijay Singh Judev
15. Shri Ashwani Kumar
16. Shri Mahendra Singh Mahra

Secretariat

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. Shri Abhijit Kumar | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. Shri A. K. Shah | - | Director |
| 3. Smt. B. Visala | - | Additional Director |

Representatives of Ministry of Panchayati Raj

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Shri S.M. Vijayanand | - | Secretary and DG, NIRD & PR |
| 2. Shri Rajeev Sadanandan | - | Deputy Director General (NIRD & PR) |
| 3. Shri Prasant Kumar | - | Joint Secretary |
| 4. Smt. Indu Sharma | - | Director |
| 5. Smt. Chanda Pandit | - | Registrar & Director (NIRD & PR) |

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members of the Committee to the sitting convened for having briefing of the representatives of the Department of Rural Development (Ministry of Rural Development) on the subject 'National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD).' The Chairperson apprised the Members that he has acceded to a written request from Secretary, Department of Rural Development seeking personal exemption from attending the sitting of the Committee as he has to attend a Consultative Committee Meeting on 18th & 19th November, 2015 at Hyderabad and instead for permitting Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj who is holding the charge of Director-General, NIRD&PR to appear before the Committee.

[Witnesses were then called in]

3. The Chairperson then welcomed the witnesses to the sitting of the Committee and Direction 57 of the 'Directions by the Speaker' regarding confidentiality was read out. Thereafter, with prior permission of Chairperson, the Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj with the help of a Power Point Presentation outlined the role and activities of National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj inter alia tracing out events that led to emergence of NIRD as a National Institute for Rural Development, its infrastructure, objectives, organisational set up, work done in imparting training programmes and participation of States/UTs, work done in Research Studies, need for strengthening State Institute for Rural Development (SIRDs), position of vacancies in NIRD at various levels etc.

4. Thereafter, Members raised their individual queries one by one. These inter alia include absence of awareness about the various activities of NIRD in States/UTs in nook and corner of the country and need for bringing NIRD closer to public in rural areas by bringing technology from lab to land, monitoring post NIRD training among the trained manpower, giving adequate attention to gender budgetary and gender responsive governance, effective implementation of Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETIs) in different States/UTs, organising training programmes and research studies based on local requirements, recommending the Government to identify certain Schemes to be implemented in 'Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY)' etc.

5. Thereafter, the Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj replied to the queries raised by Members.

6. The Chairperson then thanked the witnesses for appearing before the Committee and asked them to furnish written information on points which remain unanswered.

[The Witnesses then withdrew]

7. A verbatim record of the proceedings has been kept.

The Committee then adjourned.

Annexure III**STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT (2015-2016)****MINUTES OF THE FIFTEENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON
TUESDAY, THE 26 JULY, 2016**

The Committee sat from 1500 hrs. to 1645 hrs. in Committee Room 'C',
Ground Floor, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Dr. P. Venugopal -- *Chairperson*

MEMBERS**Lok Sabha**

2. Smt. Renuka Butta
3. Shri Harishchandra Deoram Chavan
4. Shri Vijay Kumar Hansdak
5. Shri Ajay Misra (Teni)
6. Shri Manshankar Ninama
7. Shri Prahlad Singh Patel
8. Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal "Nishank"
9. Shri Gokaraju Ganga Raju
10. Shri Jugal Kishore Sharma
11. Dr. Yashwant Singh
12. Shri Balka Suman
13. Shri Ladu Kishore Swain
14. Shri Chintaman Wanaga

Rajya Sabha

15. Shri Ram Narain Dudi
16. Shri Ranvijay Singh Judev
17. Shri Samsher Singh Dullo
18. Shri Mahendra Singh Mahra
19. Shri A. K. Selvaraj

Secretariat

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. Shri Abhijit Kumar | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. Shri A.K. Shah | - | Director |
| 3. Smt. B. Visala | - | Additional Director |

Representatives of Ministry of Rural Development
(Department of Rural Development)

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1. Shri Jitendra Shankar Mathur | - | Secretary |
| 2. Shri Prasant Kumar | - | Joint Secretary |
| 3. Dr. W. R. Reddy | - | Director General (NIRD&PR) |
| 4. Smt. Indu Sharma | - | Director |
| 5. Smt. Chanda Pandit | - | Registrar & Director |

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members of the Committee to the sitting convened to take evidence of the representatives of the Department of Rural Development (Ministry of Rural Development) in connection with the examination of the subject 'National institute for Rural Development & Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR)'.

[Witnesses were then called in]

3. After welcoming the witnesses, the Hon'ble Chairperson read out Direction 55 (1) of the 'Directions by the Speaker' regarding confidentiality of the proceedings. Thereafter, Director-General, NIRD&PR with prior permission of Hon'ble Chairperson made a Power-Point Presentation on NIRD&PR. Then, the Hon'ble Chairperson and Members raised their points one by one. The main issues that came up for discussion *inter-alia* included early completion of restructuring of NIRD&PR in the light of Prof. Alagh Committee recommendations, expeditious filling up of large number of vacancies within NIRD&PR, inculcating missionary approach among grassroot workers for implementation of various rural development schemes, associating MPs, MLAs, Sarpanchs etc. wherever training programmes are organised at local levels, imparting motivational courses for Panchayat level

functionaries at all levels for equipping them with general awareness about rural development schemes, imparting requirement specific training to Panchayat functionaries/implementing agencies for their capacity building at different levels from village to State level, etc. The queries raised by the Members were responded to by the witnesses.

4. The Hon'ble Chairperson then thanked the representatives of Department of Rural Development (Ministry of Rural Development) for tendering evidence before the Committee and asked them to furnish the information which was not readily available with them to the Secretariat urgently.

5. A verbatim record of the proceedings has been kept.

The Committee then adjourned.

Annexure IV**STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT (2015-2016)****EXTRACTS OF MINUTES OF THE SIXTEENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE
HELD ON FRIDAY, THE 19 AUGUST, 2016**

The Committee sat from 1100 hrs. to 1120 hrs. in Committee Room 'B',
Ground Floor, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

Dr. P. Venugopal -- *Chairperson*

**MEMBERS
Lok sabha**

2. Shri Sisir Adhikari
3. Shri Prahlad Singh Patel
4. Dr. Yashwant Singh
5. Shri Ladu Kishore Swain
6. Shri Chintaman Wanaga

Rajya Sabha

7. Shri Ram Narain Dudi
8. Shri Ranvijay Singh Judev
9. Shri Shamsher Singh Dullo
10. Shri Mahendra Singh Mahra

Secretariat

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. Shri Abhijit Kumar | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. Smt. B. Visala | - | Additional Director |
| 3. Smt. Emma C. Barwa | - | Deputy Secretary |

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members of the Committee to the sitting convened to consider and adopt three Draft Reports viz. (i) Draft Report on the subject 'National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR), (ii) XXX XXX XXX and (iii) XXX XXX XXX in respect of Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Rural Development).

3. During the course of deliberation one of the Member requested the Chairperson for some more time to study the Draft Reports in detail. The Committee therefore, decided to meet on 29.08.2016 to consider and adopt the aforesaid draft Reports.

The Committee then adjourned.

XXX Not related with the Draft Report.

Annexure V**STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT (2015-2016)**

EXTRACTS OF MINUTES OF THE SEVENTEENTH SITTING OF THE
COMMITTEE HELD ON
MONDAY, THE 29 AUGUST, 2016

The Committee sat from 1100 hrs. to 1145 hrs. in Committee Room No. 139,
First Floor, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

Dr. P. Venugopal -- *Chairperson*

MEMBERS**Lok Sabha**

2. Shri Sisir Adhikari
3. Shri Kirti Azad
4. Shri Ajay Misra (Teni)
5. Shri Prahlad Singh Patel
6. Shri Gokaraju Ganga Raju
7. Shri Jugal Kishore Sharma
8. Dr. Yashwant Singh
9. Shri Ladu Kishore Swain
10. Shri Chintaman Wanaga

Rajya Sabha

11. Shri Bishnu Charan Das
12. Shri Ram Narain Dudi
13. Shri Ranvijay Singh Judev
14. Shri Shamsher Singh Dullo
15. Shri Mahendra Singh Mahra

Secretariat

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. Shri Abhijit Kumar | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. Smt. B. Visala | - | Additional Director |
| 3. Smt. Emma C. Barwa | - | Deputy Secretary |

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members of the Committee to the sitting convened to consider and adopt three Draft Reports viz. (i) Draft Report on the subject 'National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR), (ii) XXX XXX XXX (iii) XXX XXX XXX in respect of Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Rural Development).

3. After discussing the above Draft Reports in detail, the Committee adopted the same without any modifications. The Committee then authorised the Chairperson to finalise the aforesaid Draft Reports and after factual verification from concerned Ministries/ Departments, present the same to the Hon'ble Speaker

4. The Committee appreciated the work done and the assistance rendered to them by the Secretariat.

The Committee then adjourned.
