

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3323
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28/03/2025

**INITIATIVES BY NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
& PANCHYATI RAJ**

3323 SHRI RYAGA KRISHNAIAH:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the specific initiatives undertaken by the National Institute of Rural Development and Panchyati Raj (NIRD&PR) to promote rural development during 2019-2025;
- (b) proposed or supported new projects for the coming Financial year, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the opportunities created by the Ministry for the NIRDPR and other rural development institutions?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI KAMLESH PASWAN)

(a): Some of the specific initiatives undertaken by National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR) to promote rural development during 2019-25 are as under:-

- i. Capacity building support to block-level officers for operationalisation of Aspirational Block Programme (on request from NITI Aayog);
- ii. Establishment of the School of Excellence in Panchayati Raj;
- iii. Organisation of thematic National Conclaves and workshops on rural development and Panchayati Raj;
- iv. Rollout support for People's Plan Campaign (Gram Panchayat Development Plan, Localization of Sustainable Development Goals, Citizen Charter initiative);
- v. Development and delivery of a focused training calendar for rural stakeholders;
- vi. Research and policy impact studies on schemes such as Aajeevika Grameen Express Yojana, Sanitation (WASH), social audits, and Corporate social responsibility initiatives;
- vii. Launch of a solution-oriented Ph.D. programme in Rural Development with Jawaharlal Nehru University 's recognition;
- viii. Strengthening of capacity building network of NIRD&PR by engaging State Institutes of Rural Development (SIRDs) and Extension Training Centres (ETCs);
- ix. Promotion of sustainable rural housing technologies and low-cost model houses;
- x. Setting up a Centre of Internal Audit in Rural Development at NIRD&PR;
- xi. Took initiatives for setting up of Centre of Excellence in Artificial Intelligence so that development in rural areas is not denied the benefits from AI revolution;
- xii. For the Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU GKY) program, end to end software systems were developed and implemented and these included Kaushal Bharat, Kaushal Aapti, Kaushal Panji and Rozgar Manch which enable easy mobilization,

- motivation, training and placement of rural skill seekers through the Project Implementing Agency;
- xiii. Creation of e-repositories on Child Rights Resources and Gender Responsive Governance;
 - xiv. NIRD&PR is recognized as a key resource centre for Ministry of Jal Shakti and Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) Nodal Centre by Ministry of Education.

(b) & (c): Ministry continues to create enabling opportunities for NIRD&PR and other Rural Development Institutions through dedicated capacity building action plans under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM), besides engaging NIRD&PR as the Central Technical Support Agency (CTSA) under DDU-GKY. Further, Ministry proposes to provide programmatic support to NIRD&PR through the following:-

- i. National Rural Livelihood Mission Resource Cell (NRLMRC) programmes based on NIRDPR's request for an amount of Rs.36.80 crores
- ii. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act Annual Action Plan (MGNREGA AAP) substantially focusing on training of Gramin Rojgar Sevak (GRS) for an amount of more than Rs.200 Crores.
- iii. Pradhan Mantri Aawas Yojna capacity building programs.
- iv. Annual Capacity Building Plan programs for Ministry of Rural Development and state officials.
