



**National Conference on**  
**RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN HIMALAYAN AND HILLY REGIONS OF INDIA:**  
**ISSUES, CHALLENGES AND THE WAY FORWARD**

**February 27-28, 2023**

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

**IMPORTANT DATE**

**Registration and Submission of Extended Abstract**

**ON OR BEFORE FEBRUARY 05, 2023**

[\(seminar.nird.ghy@gmail.com\)](mailto:seminar.nird.ghy@gmail.com)

**Organised by**

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYATI RAJ**

**(Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India)**

**NORTH EASTERN REGIONAL CENTRE**

**Khanapara, Guwahati-781022**

## CONCEPT NOTE

The Indian Himalayan Region (IHR) and Hilly regions are rich in natural resources and have great potential for development. But the sustainability of livelihood in rural areas of this region is threatened by various exogenous and endogenous factors. These are growing population, deterioration of forest resources, land degradation, depleting water resources, climate change, subsistence agriculture, dispersed habitations, the influx of tourists, dumping of waste, poor basic infrastructure, increasing poverty, high rate of migration and poor implementation of various RD&PR programmes for enhancing livelihoods and providing social protection. These factors put the region and its inhabitants on the threshold of vulnerability.

The regions are primarily rural and dominated by the tribal and socio-economically backward population. The rural economy of these regions revolves around subsistence agriculture and forest resources which are insufficient to meet the growing demand of its inhabitants. The programmes/schemes of rural development implemented in this region have failed in accruing the benefit due to isolated planning, poor implementation, poor people's participation, lack of synchronization among the capitals and overlooking the vulnerability context, especially the environmental concern. The cost of delivery of public services in the Himalayan region, particularly in the northeastern region, is also much higher. Ultimately this leads to economic stagnation, poverty, unemployment, poor infrastructure & communication and higher out-migration.

In this context, a conference-cum-workshop is proposed to understand the issues and impediments. The conference-cum-workshop will also look for a suitable development model that reduces vulnerability and promotes resilient livelihood through holistic planning from bottom to top by taking care of the Himalayan Ecosystem.

### ❖ OBJECTIVES:

- To discuss the existing potentials and status of various sectors of the rural economy of the IHR & Hilly region;
- To assess the progress and gaps in various sectoral/ rural development programmes/schemes undertaken for the rural people, environment and sustainability of Himalayan bio-cultural ecology;
- To identify the emerging challenges and identify the priority sectors for interventions for sustainable rural development strategy in IHR & Hill region.
- To suggest the way forward to create enabling environment and options for sustainable rural development.

### ❖ SUB THEMES:

- Structure of rural economy of the IHR & Hilly region;
- Environment, Agro ecology, Biodiversity, Natural Resources and Its Management
- Community, Culture and Emerging Changes

- Livelihood Portfolio, Household's Income Sources
- Programmes/ Schemes for Rural Development and its Impact on Rural Lives & Livelihoods
- Functioning of Local Self-government
- Gram Panchayat/ Village Development Plan and its Implementation
- Border Villages
- Women in Society, Politics and Development
- Indigenous Knowledge
- Achieving Sustainable Development Goals
- Successful Case Study
- Policy Prescription for further Action Plan
- Any other sub-theme relevant to the main theme

❖ **OUTCOMES:**

- The discussion will be generated on important aspects of Rural Economy in India. Based on assemblage of ideas and suggestions about the Rural Economy a concrete policy document for the future course of action would be drafted and shared with the State and Central Ministries and its Departments.
- The papers presented will be published in the form of a book with reputed national level publisher with ISBN.

❖ **GUIDELINES FOR PAPERS:**

- The abstract should include the title of the proposed paper, Name of author/s, Institutional affiliation , Email address, Mobile No and Postal address, key words upto six and finally a paragraph of not more than 500 words summarizing the main findings and the argument of the proposed paper, and its significance.
- It is also recommended that the length of full paper should not exceed 6,000 words, excluding preliminary pages, annexure and references. It should be written in Times New Roman, 12 pt. and line spacing- 1.15 lines. For reference we recommend the APA style.
- The full paper should be arranged as follows: Title page, the presenter's name, institutional affiliation (if any), email address and postal address, Abstract, Key-words, Introduction, Methods, Findings, Discussion, Citations and references.

❖ **PARTICIPATION & PARTICIPANTS:**

- The participation will be by invitation and through submission of abstracts (not more than 500 words).

- The presentations shall be in the form of PPT, Key Note Speaker, Invited Talk, Oral Presentation, and Poster Presentation.
- Papers are invited on the above-mentioned themes/ sub-themes from Government Officials, Policymakers, Planners, Faculty Members and Research Scholars from the Universities, Colleges, National/State level Research Institutions and Research Organisations; Members from reputed NGOs, Corporate Sectors; Independent Researchers, Practitioner, and Social activist working in this area.
- Interested participants may send their abstracts and full papers through email to [seminar.nird.ghy@gmail.com](mailto:seminar.nird.ghy@gmail.com); and [mkshrivastava.nird@gov.in](mailto:mkshrivastava.nird@gov.in) as per the following schedule ( Important Dates)

❖ **IMPORTANT DATES:**

- Submission of Abstract: 05<sup>th</sup> February 2023
- Intimation of Accepted Abstract: 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023
- Submission of Full Paper: 19th February 2023

❖ **PARTICIPATION/REGISTRATION FEE:**

- **There is no participation fee. No TA/DA will be provided.** Free boarding & lodging will be provided.
- [Registration Link-<https://forms.gle/iW2JnD9dquXGB7Nv8> ] (Click /copy & paste in the browser)

❖ **VENUE FOR THE CONFERENCE:**

National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj

(Ministry of Rural Development (Govt. of India)

North Eastern Regional Centre

Khanapara, Guwahati-781022

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*(The Institute is located at Jawaharnagar, Khanapara, adjacent to Assam Administrative Staff College and Veterinary College, Assam Agriculture University, Khanapara. It is at a distance of about 15 km from Guwahati Railway Station and Central ASTC Bus Stand and nearly 35 kms from Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport.)*

❖ **SEMINAR CONVENORS:**

Dr. M. K. Shrivastava, Assistant Professor; Dr. R. Murugesan, Director

- **FOR ANY QUERY –Please CONTACT to:**

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