

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE

There is no Registration Fee. The paper should be submitted in 'Times New Roman', font size 12, 1.5 spaced with margin 1 ½ " on the left side and 1" on the other three sides which will be screened by review committee. Abstract /paper (Max 500/3000 words) may be submitted electronically to [tvijayakumar.nird@gov.in](mailto:tvijayakumar.nird@gov.in); [lakhaniips@gmail.com](mailto:lakhaniips@gmail.com).

However it may be noted that in view of the limited accommodation, the Center may accept a maximum of 30 participants with thematically Relevant Papers on first cum first basis. The selected participants will be Given 25minutes time (15 minutes for presentation and 10 minutes for Interaction) in the seminar.

## ACCOMMODATION AND TRAVEL:

Contributors of papers will be provided free board and lodging at the NIRD&PR NERC Guest House, Guwahati. Select paper contributors May be eligible for travel allowance as per NIRD&PR norms.

## SEMINAR CO-ORDINATORS:

**Dr.T.Vijaya Kumar**, Associate Professor, NIRDPR -NERC. Guwahati

**Dr.Lakhan Singh**, Asst. Professor, NIRDPR.Hyderabad.

## IMPORTANT DATES

Last date for Abstracts and Full paper submission: **Aug 06, 2024**

Acceptance notification of Abstract and full paper: **16 August, 2024**

**Seminar dates: 02-03 September, 2024**

## SEMINAR VENUE:

*National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj.*

*NERC Guwahati*

## ABOUT NIRD&PR

The National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR), an autonomous organization under the Union Ministry of Rural Development, is a premier national Centre of Excellence. The North Eastern Regional Centre of the National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj (NIRD & PR-NERC) came into existence in July 1983 at Guwahati with the aim to orient its training and research activities to the specific needs and potentials of North Eastern States. The Centre 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. The NERC is located at Jawaharnagar, Khanapara, Guwahati.



**National Seminar on  
"Skill Development Initiatives and Empowerment of  
Rural Youth: Challenges and Opportunities"**

**(September 2-3 2024)**



**National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj**

(Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India)

**North Eastern Regional Centre**

Khanapara, Jawaharnagar, Guwahati, Assam

Website: [www.nirdpr.org.in/nirdnerc.nic.in](http://www.nirdpr.org.in/nirdnerc.nic.in)

## BACKGROUND

Rural development and prosperity are deeply integrated with a nation's overall growth. Skilled workers and entrepreneurs are essential to drive this progress. In recent years, skill development has emerged as a critical component of India's strategy for economic growth and youth empowerment. Empowering rural youth through skill development initiatives is crucial for fostering economic growth and social progress in rural areas. By equipping young individuals with the necessary skills and knowledge, we can enhance their employability, entrepreneurship potential, and overall quality of life.

### Skill India Initiative

The "Skill India" initiative, launched by the Government of India in 2015, aims to equip the country's burgeoning youth population with relevant vocational skills. This initiative seeks to make young people more employable and capable of contributing to the nation's socio-economic progress. Mobilizing available and willing youth, and transforming them into skilled individuals, is crucial given India's vast youth demographic.

### Economic Ascent of India

India is on its way to becoming the third-largest economy globally, aiming to achieve a USD 5 trillion economy target. Currently in its 'Amrit Kaal,' a transformative period envisioned to make India a fully developed nation by 2047, the nation has almost all it takes to emerge as an economic powerhouse. One of its strongest assets is its youth, with over 65% of the population below the age of 35. Tapping into their potential can significantly boost the country's progress.

### Preparing Youth for the Future

To realize the potential of its youth, India must equip them with the right skills and knowledge, making them job-ready. This preparation is critical because a report predicts that India might face a 29-million skill deficit by 2030. Furthermore, the gap between talent and opportunities is widening: while many young talents are unemployed, companies face a shortage of skilled workforce.

The job market is constantly transforming and becoming more competitive. Organizations are shifting from traditional hiring methods focused solely on degrees or work experience to skill-based hiring processes. They now look for candidates who possess not only relevant skills but also the ability to meet

evolving workplace demands and adapt to dynamic environments. India's rural youth possess immense potential to drive economic growth and social progress.

The National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR) is organizing a two-day national seminar to address the challenges and opportunities in skill development for this vital demographic.

## THE SEMINAR OBJECTIVES

- ✓ Discuss strategies to bridge the gap between the skills of young people in rural areas and the skills needed in the job market.
- ✓ Explore the importance of mentorship and guidance in skill development programs and identify effective strategies.
- ✓ Discuss how skill development programs can foster entrepreneurship and create livelihood opportunities
- ✓ Encourage Collaborative partnerships between government agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to enhance skill development efforts in rural areas.

## SEMINAR FOCUS:

This seminar will address the challenges and opportunities in skill development for rural youth and research papers are invited on the below given themes

- ✓ Vocational Training and Enhancing Employability of Rural Youth
- ✓ Skill Training Initiatives and Entrepreneurship Promotion-challenges and opportunities
- ✓ Skill Training and Social Empowerment
- ✓ Digital Literacy Campaigns and Empowerment of Rural Youth
- ✓ Agricultural Skill Development and Livelihoods for Rural Youth
- ✓ Role of Mentorship and Guidance in Skill Trainings
- ✓ Collaboration between Government and NGOs in Skill Development of Rural Youth

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Academics, subject experts, policymakers, practitioners in rural development, agriculture, education, social welfare, and skill development, along with project functionaries and NGO representatives working in rural development are invited to participate.

## OUTCOMES:

To generate insights and recommendations for policy and practice in skill development for rural youth. Presented papers will be published in an edited book, and observations will be integrated into training programs.