



Dr. P. Chandra Shekara
DIRECTOR GENERAL

Ref.: DGO-3/1395
Date: 15 April, 2025

Dear Honorable Technical Committee Member,

Sub.: Requesting to attend the special Webinar on National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj Institution as a part of the CIRDAP Knowledge Circuit - Reg.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Greetings from Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP)! Hope this email finds you well.

As you kindly aware, CIRDAP is a Regional Organization working with 15 member countries spread across Asia and Pacific. Important mandate of CIRDAP is to establish cross learning platform for knowledge exchange, sharing and learning from good practices among member countries.

In order to operationalize above mandate, it is proposed to have CIRDAP Knowledge Circuit where CIRDAP Link Institutions interact closely on digital platform and physically to exchange knowledge and share good practices on rotation basis. It is my honor to initiate this process from **National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj (NIRD & PR)**, which is globally renowned Rural Development Institute.

In view of this, CIRDAP is going to organize a webinar on NIRD & PR on **April 24, 2025 at 12:00 pm Bangladesh time (11:30 am in India time)**. The Webinar (1-hour) will be for 45 minutes covering the mission, mandate, organization structure, programmes of NIRD & PR followed by 15 minutes discussion with the Heads of other link institutions and technical Committee (TC) members of CIRDAP. The program is open ONLY to the TC members, CIRDAP Experts and MoU partners of CIRDAP.

This Webinar provides opportunity for other member countries of CIRDAP to internalize good practices and initiatives of NIRD & PR in Integrated Rural Development and also to share their good practices with others.

Subsequent to Webinar, the Heads of CIRDAP Link Institutions would visit NIRD & PR under study cum exposure visit programme. And this webinar would also motivate the heads of the Institutions or their representatives to take part in study visit. Details of the profile of the Speaker (DG NIRD&PR) is attached herewith.

The Zoom Link of the Webinar:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/99530433536?pwd=lahDXTb3amCAB4nw2VaXaZxXCxhyji.1>

Meeting ID: 995 3043 3536

Passcode: 175264

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/acZlssyZJz>

You are kindly request to attend the Webinar and provide your valuable input for the knowledge exchange and success of the study visit which is part of CIRDAP Knowledge Circuit.

Looking forward for your kind cooperation and participation.

Yours sincerely,

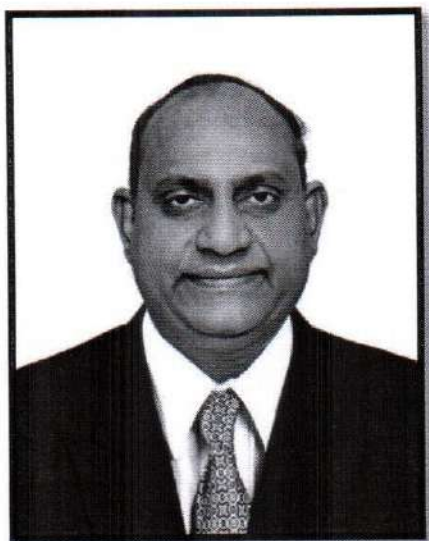
With warm Regards


Dr. P. Chandra Shekara
Director General

CENTRE ON INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (CIRDAP)
(An Inter-Governmental, Autonomous Organization for Asia and the Pacific)

Chameli House, 17, Topkhana Road, GPO Box 2883, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh
PABX: +88-02-41053923, +88-02-41053924 Ext.201; Cell: +88-01713 031891, WhatsApp: +91 9848308111; Tel.:+88-02-41053920 (Direct)
E-mail: chandradgcirdap@cirdap.org; Web.: www.cirdap.org

*Profile of DG NIRD&PR
Dr. Narendra Kumar*



Dr. Narendra Kumar is a senior IAS officer from 1989 batch, currently at Secretary Rank, working as Director General at National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj. His work experience spans in various levels from sub-divisional to international organizations and Influenced transformation in sectors like development, administration and academics makes his profile unique. Dr. Narendra holds wide spectrum of development domains such as Technical Education, Information Technology, Environment, Industries, Commerce, Co-operative, Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Building, Performance Monitoring & Evaluation and few more.

He received 'Golden Icon Award' for exemplary leadership and ICT achievement for eGovernance in education. Dr. Narendra Kumar is known for developing Pondicherry as the Hardware Capital of India. He was instrumental in setting up of 4 specialized Universities in Delhi and in increasing access to quality technical and higher education in Delhi. Puducherry's School Mid-Day Meals program was recognized as a national best practice, while Dr. Narendra was holding charge of the Education department in Puducherry. Conceptualized and commissioned a bio-fertilizer project for converting polluting sugar mill & distillery waste into useful bio fertilizer in Pondicherry. Pioneered "Laadli", the girl child protection scheme of Delhi.

Dr. Kumar Implemented a national quality initiative as part of the performance management division of the Cabinet Secretariat. He contributed to the setting up of Govt wide Performance Management System in a short span of 6 months, while advanced countries such as USA took more than 3 years. Dr. Kumar developed and implemented the Delhi eGovernance plan as well as developed the National Code of Good Governance for India. He was instrumental in getting started a new Advanced Research Centre on IT in Health at the IIT-Delhi and introduced for the first time in the country an online pollution monitoring system for highly polluting units in Pondicherry.

At NIRDPR, in a short span, Dr. Narendra initiated reforms like enhancing the vision from 'alleviation of poverty' to 'quality of life at rural'; launched SIRD Grading system and initiated SIRDs as Regional Centres of Excellence; standardization and strengthening of research for effective policy advocacy and capacity building; new models of Rurban clusters; framework for strengthening the transparency and capacity of NGOs; collaboration with national and international organizations like ICRISAT, CIPS; reforms in training calendar; connecting SHG products with various e-commerce

platforms; regularization of TNA (Training Needs Assessments); launch of 250 model GP clusters; activating school system and development of IT platforms for effective governance and few more.

Dr. Narendra Kumar also served as Director, Country Relations and Business Affairs at ICRISAT, where he led South-South cooperation between India and Africa for agricultural development. At Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), as Advisor to Center for Energy, Environment and Technology, led a nation-wide program on the adoption of alternative fuels in the transport sector.

Got ITIs of Delhi and India's National Authority CWC ISO 9001 certified, while working as Secretary Technical Education and as Jt Secretary. Under his authority, IAS AGMUT Cadre (Delhi segment) Restructuring Proposal was developed and got approved by the Government of India and set up Pondicherry's Village Information Centers for e-governance in partnership with the MSSRF.

A number of qualifications he acquired reflects his passion for the knowledge. Dr. Kumar achieve a Ph.D. in Chemistry from Osmania University and Masters in Bio-chemistry from IIT Delhi and also holds Master's Degree in Public Administration from Maxwell School of Public Affairs, USA. He completed a certificate Course in Information System and Telecommunications Management from the Syracuse University New York.