STRENGTHENING OF NIRD, GUWAHATI

3950 SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to strengthen the development activities of National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD) of North Eastern Office at Guwahati;
(b) whether it is a fact that NIRD, Guwahati office is without a full fledged Director, if so, when will Government appoint a full fledged Director at Guwahati office; and
(c) whether the NIRD is coordinating with different State Government Universities, NGOs, etc. in providing training, if so, what is the success ratio?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a) National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj (NIRD & PR) is strengthening North Eastern Regional Centre (NERC), Guwahati, including the academic staff. It has also acquired a plot of land adjacent to the existing premises for construction of a state-of-the-art training/academic centre to meet the growing demand of North-East (NE) states.

(b) NIRD & PR has one sanctioned post of Director, NERC, which is presently lying vacant. The posts are filled up by following the due procedure. If any post at senior level, including the post of Director, NERC, falls vacant, additional charge is given to some other officer as an interim measure, so that the work does not suffer. With the approval of the Executive Council of the Institute, a Professor of NIRD&PR has been given the additional charge of Director, NERC.

(c) NIRD & PR organise training programmes, conferences, seminars and workshops for senior-level development professionals, elected representatives, bank officials, NGOs and other stakeholders, which is a continuous process. NIRD&PR coordinates with State Governments through State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (SIRD&PR), including the North Eastern States, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj (RD&PR) and various others line departments for effective implementation of various Central/State sponsored Schemes. NIRD&PR-NERC is working with various State and Central Universities i.e. Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh, North Eastern Hill University, Tura Campus, Krishna Kanta Handique State Open University, Assam, Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) of the Region and also having Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with some reputed Institutions for undertaking training and research. The training programmes on strengthening the capacity building of function and functionaries of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj in North East are being received enthusiastically.

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