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ACADEMIC
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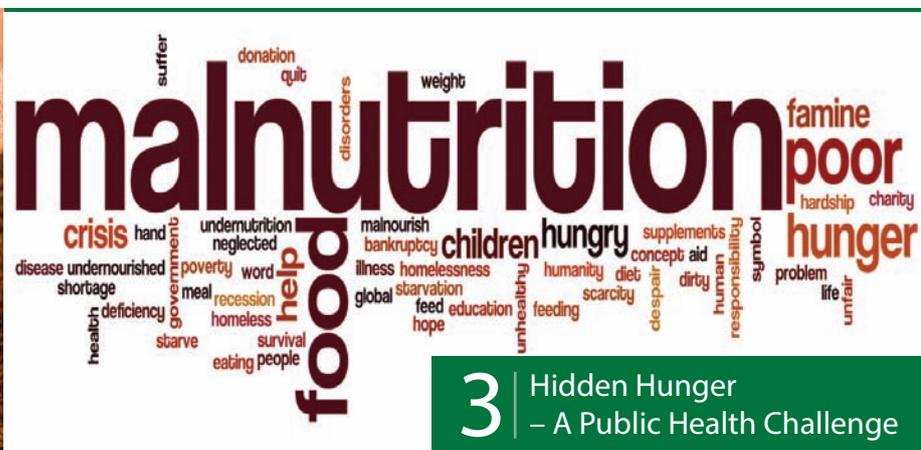
PRAGATI

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Hidden Hunger: A Public Health Challenge



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Hidden Hunger – A Public Health Challenge

Malnutrition is one of the biggest challenges faced by the global community. Today, hidden hunger affects more than two billion individuals or one in three people globally. According to Food and Agricultural Organisation, malnutrition and poor diet are the biggest risk factors for the global burden of diseases. In 2012, World Health Assembly adopted the 2025 global targets for maternal, infant and young child nutrition. In 2015, the UN Sustainable Development Goals enshrined the objective of ending all forms of malnutrition. This was a call for all nations to think and

processed foods to highly processed, energy-rich, micronutrient-poor foods and drinks, which lead to obesity and diet-related chronic diseases. With this nutrition transition, many developing countries face a phenomenon known as the 'triple burden' of malnutrition, undernourishment, micronutrient deficiencies and obesity (Pinstrup-Andersen 2007). Malnutrition and poor diets constitute the number one driver of the global burden of disease. The burden of malnutrition falls heavily on all of us. In the United States, for example, when one person in a household is obese, the household faces additional

annual healthcare costs equivalent to eight per cent of its annual income. In China, a diagnosis of diabetes results in an annual 16.3 per cent loss of income for those with the disease.

Nutrition is the Key to SDGs:

Out of 17 Sustainable Development Goals, 12 goals contain indicators that are highly relevant for nutrition. Improved nutrition is the platform for progress in health, education, employment, women empowerment and reduction of poverty and inequality. Poverty, inequality, water, sanitation and hygiene, education, food system,



act differently on malnutrition; focus on all of its faces and work to end it for all people by 2030. The effects of malnutrition can be devastating, leading to mental impairment, poor health, low productivity and even death. Children are the most affected, especially within the first 1,000 days of a child's life. Malnutrition in this age period results in serious physical and cognitive consequences. Even mild to moderate deficiencies can affect a person's well-being and development. More than two billion people across the world suffer from hidden hunger and more than double the 805 million people don't get enough calories to consume (FAO, IFAD, and WFP 2014).

Developing countries are moving from traditional diets based on minimally



climate change, social protection, and agriculture, all have significant impact on nutrition outcomes.

The food policy of India substantially focused on staples i.e. rice, wheat and reducing hunger since 1940. However, it made little progress on reducing malnutrition. By the year 2050, the world will face the task of feeding nine billion people, the majority of whom live in developing countries. This goal has to be achieved in spite of rapid dwindling of resources by using less energy, land and water, minimising environmental impact and maximising biological and social sustainability. In future, food must not only be produced in sufficient quantity, but it must be of high quality to support health of huge population.

The burden of malnutrition i.e. inadequate or imbalanced intake of nutrients and energy with respect to the body needs is referred as hidden hunger. It affects large population, especially the rural population. The problem of hidden hunger which is the micro-nutrient deficiency; iron deficiency and vitamin deficiency has long term consequences on public health. For children, this will result in stunted growth and for adults it can lead to poor nutrition outcome such as anaemia, maternal mortality, goitre and severe visual impairment, etc.

Hidden hunger affects the overall lifestyle, health and productivity of the human workforce. Addressing the balance between rice, wheat and nutrition is a transition stage and it is a major challenge for countries. Therefore, it necessitates the shift of attention from green revolution to a policy that creates a more balanced food supply system. Otherwise the productive population will be affected and we cannot sustain economic growth of the country.

Time to think about Pulses and Vegetables

Now, the time has come to think about taking care of pulses to address



protein deficiency problem. Farmers should be given incentives to increase pulse productivity along with other crops such as vegetables, fruits and dairy products. Policy reforms should be brought to enhance incentives for farmers and to increase pulses productivity. Awareness among farmers should be raised and marketing and procurement system should be ensured so that farmers can move towards other crops. The micro-nutrient deficiency is another problem that can be tackled by focussing on vegetable supply. Since there is no organised supply system for vegetables, a supply chain has to be built by putting in the transport. Cold storage system should be provided so that small farmers can produce and supply fresh nutrient vegetables by shifting from rice and wheat crops to vegetables and horticulture crops.

Food Inflation

The food inflation in recent years is the major cause of concern. The staple food (rice and wheat) prices have been relatively stable, however, price rise has been alarming in pulse, vegetables and onions and the prices of these items are affecting the overall food inflation of country. To address the issue of food inflation, one should concentrate on

the contributing causes rather than at all the products. We should address the problem of pulse and vegetable supply today, because these will have impact on the overall food inflation.

Learning from Bangladesh

To address the nutrition problem, Bangladesh has done fairly better in this front and had created more awareness among farmers along with attitude and behaviour change, and improved the access to more nutrition-rich crops to the rural communities by promoting backyard garden, kitchen garden in small landholdings. In India, we have opportunities to strengthen the supply chain mechanisms, particularly in the rural areas. We can think about MGNREGS assets of village i.e. village ponds. The water of village ponds can be used to promote vegetable gardens, horticulture productive systems. Further in MGNREGA, the development of rural roads will improve connectivity to markets for the farming community and motivates them to shift from staple food production to pulse and vegetable production.



Bio-fortification

Bio-fortification is a relatively new intervention that involves breeding food crops, using conventional or transgenic methods to increase their micro-nutrient content. Plant breeders also improve yield and pest resistance as well as consumption traits like taste and cooking time to match or outperform conventional varieties.

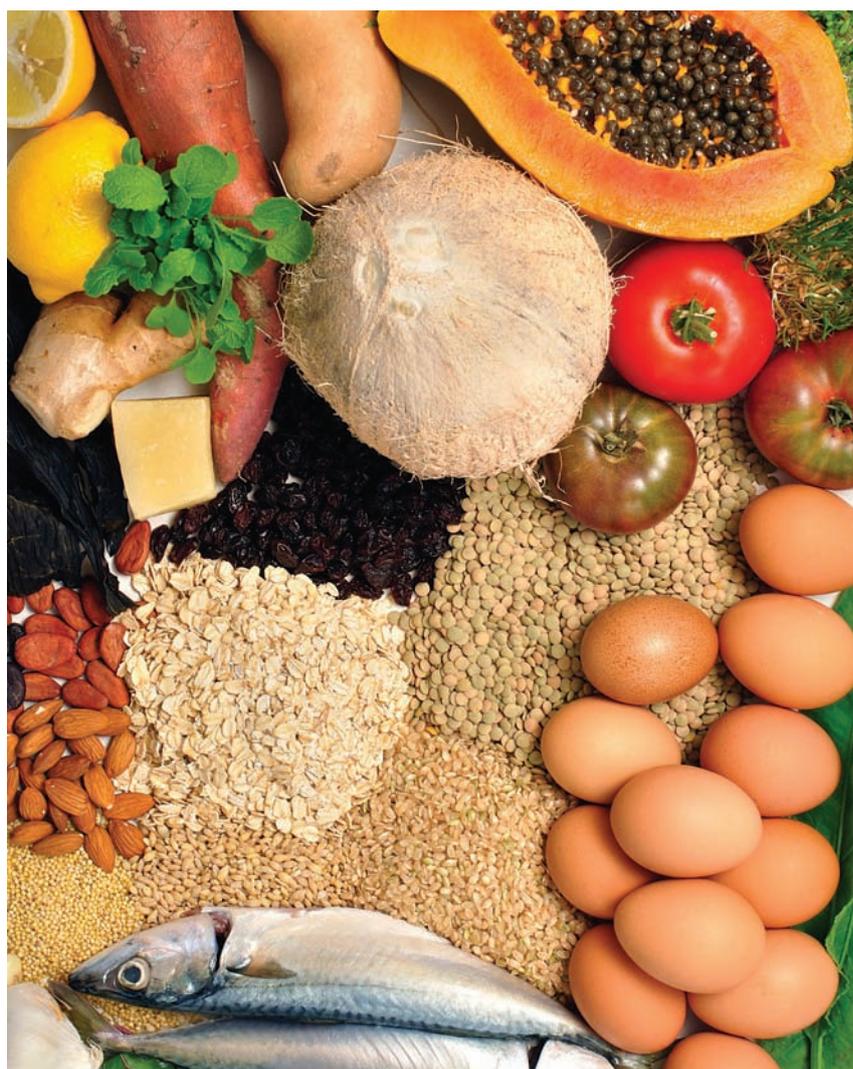
Dr. T. Vijaya Kumar
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Solutions to Hidden Hunger Problem *Diversifying Diets*

Increasing dietary diversity is one of the most effective ways to sustainably prevent hidden hunger. Dietary diversity is associated with better child nutritional outcomes, even when controlling socio-economic factors. In the long term, dietary diversification ensures a healthy diet that contains balanced and adequate combination of macro-nutrients (carbohydrates, fats, and protein) essential micro-nutrients and other food based substances such as dietary fibre. Effective way to promote dietary diversity involves food based strategies such as home gardening and educating people on better infant and young child feeding practices.

Fortifying Commercial Foods

Commercial food fortification, which adds trace amounts of micro-nutrients to staple foods or condiments during processing, helps consumers get the recommended levels of micro-nutrients. But the fortification of foods has a number of challenges which are related to the belief system of the consumers, especially acceptability.





ToT Course on Skill Development for Rural Youth

Centre for Livelihoods (CFL) organised a Regional TOT Course on 'Skill Development for Rural Youth' from August 8 to 12, 2017 at DDU-SIRD, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. A total of 30 officials (09 female and 21 male) attended the programme. The participants were senior and middle level officials from Regional Institute of Rural Development (RIRD), Rural Self Employment Training Institute (RSETI), UP State Rural Livelihood Mission (SRLMs); Nehru Yuva Kendra Sanghathan (NYKS); UP State Skill Development Mission (SSDM), Backward Class Finance Corporation and District Rural Development Agency (DRDA).

On the first day, the course design was presented by Dr. P. Raj Kumar, Assistant Professor and Course Director. It was followed by a seed mixing session, organised by Dr. P SivaRam, Prof. & Head, Centre for Livelihoods, to enable the participants get familiar with each other. He also stressed on the need and role of skill and entrepreneurship development for youth development in Uttar Pradesh. The course team had also conducted a session on 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan'. In this session, discussions on personal hygiene, environmental sanitation, open defecation-free initiatives, attitudes, behavioural change and roles of individual responsibility, etc., were held.

The following topics were dealt by NIRD&PR faculty members and guest faculty:

- Basic Concepts of Youth, Poverty and Inequalities
- Youth Population in India - Advantages and Unemployment Challenges
- Youth Entrepreneurship and Sustainability
- Strategies for Increasing Production Capabilities
- Self-Employment Opportunities for Rural Youth through DDU-GKY, RSETI and PMKVY, etc.
- Innovative Opportunities for Fine-tuning the Deliverables

- Marketing Skills for Increasing Promotion of Productivity, Value Chain and Income Generation
- Soft Skills (Building Positive Attitude and Time Management)

Exposure Visits

A one-day field visit was organised to Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship (IIE), Lucknow, Community Managed Bio-Gas Plant, Mullaikeda Gram Panchayat and Plastic Recycling Enterprise at Lucknow for exposing the participants to skills and entrepreneurship development. The participants interacted with trainees of different skill development courses/trades under different programmes at IIE, Lucknow campus. Based on the field visit, the participants had prepared a group report and the same was presented before course team. The participants learned various aspects including:

- Identification of needy rural youth for skill training
- Upgraded knowledge and skills in preparation of curriculum and
- Designing of various skill training programmes
- Placement-linked training courses
- Tracking the participants post-training

On the first and last day of the course, the DDU-SIRD-Additional Director General, Dr. Vardhani, interacted with the participants. He highlighted the importance of youth development in the country. He also delineated that India is the country with highest youth population in the world and human resources should to be utilised to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

The programme was coordinated by Dr. Raj Kumar Pammi, Assistant Professor, Dr. U. Hemantha Kumar, Associate Professor and Dr. P. SivaRam, Professor and Head, Centre for Livelihoods, NIRD&PR.

National Training Programme on Strategies of Third Party Monitoring Tools for Service Delivery Governance

National Training Programme on 'Strategies of Third Party Monitoring Tools for Service Delivery Governance' was organised by Centre for Good Governance and Policy Analysis (CGGPA) from August 11 to 17, 2017 at NIRD&PR.

Governance consists of the traditions and institutions by which authority is exercised in a country. This includes the process by which governments are selected, monitored and replaced; the capacity of the government to effectively formulate and implant policies; and the respect of citizens and the State for the Institutions that govern economical social interactions among them. Good Governance is about the processes for making and implementing decisions. It's not about making 'correct' decisions, but about the best possible process for making those decisions. Good Governance is a combination of characteristics of accountable, transparent, which follows the rule of law, responsiveness, equitable, inclusive, effective, efficient and participatory qualities.

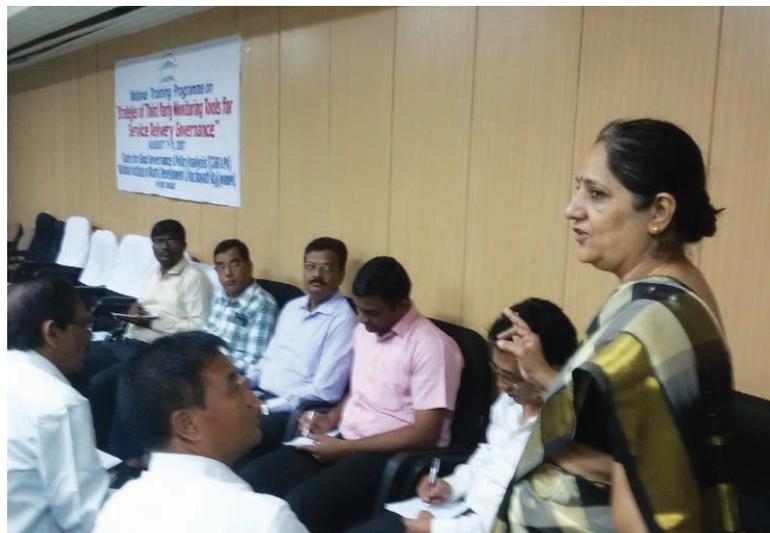
Challenges to Good Governance for Better Service Delivery

Poor monitoring, weak accountability, inefficacy, poor transparency mechanisms, less public participation/weak civic engagement, weak public voice, corruption, eliminating conflict of interest, extremism, and workplace deviance are major challenges for good governance for better service delivery.

Third Party Monitoring Tools

The last decade has seen a resurgence of social accountability initiatives across the globe. From spontaneous expressions like protests and sit-ins to more organised form of actions like social audits, report cards, score cards and budget tracking, civil society interventions on the accountability terrain provide many inspiring and enabling vignettes. Very often, social accountability pilots are driven purely from a technical point of view, with very little linkages built around the larger political economy. From a more practical level, there is also a compelling need to share emergent experiences and insights from a practitioner's perspective to deepen the knowledge on implementing social accountability tools and approaches.

The aim of this civic engagement is to stimulate demand from citizens and thus put pressure on the State or private sector to meet their obligations to provide quality services. The supply side of this equation is about building State's capability and responsiveness. While implementing different stages of the public financial management cycle, third party monitoring tools enable the development practitioners and



the civil societies with the knowledge to generate demand for and ultimately improve governance at the local, regional, and national levels.

Prospectus of the Training Programme

- This specialisation will give the participants the knowledge and tools that an organisation needs to record and produce professionalism in dispensing public services
- The participants will learn the technical aspects of assessing public issues, including the involvement of the stakeholders
- The application of tools stimulate achievement of goals, fulfilment of duties and responsibilities and promote public faith and trust in public office

The programme aimed at addressing the following objectives:

- To discuss the need and concept of Good Governance and Service Delivery
- To highlight the challenges to the government as well as CSOs in implementing social accountability mechanisms
- Provide a hands-on introduction to third party monitoring tools and approaches
- To inquire about the state of service delivery in social sectors especially focusing on flagship programmes by adopting third party monitoring tools
- To identify and list out the appropriate tools for analysing present existing flagship programmes of rural development

The training programmes focussed to cover the following modules:

- Concept, approaches and elements of good governance
- Good governance is leading to best practices, transparency, accountability and better service delivery
- Concepts, approaches, rationale and tools of third party monitoring
- Application of third party monitoring tools, techniques, community score cards, citizen report cards, social audits, RTI, budget analysis, fund utilisation and participatory budgeting

This programme was planned to cover different topics related to 'Third Party Monitoring Tools' by different subject experts, covering the scope and need of 'Third Party Monitoring Tools' for better service delivery, good governance; third party monitoring tools - introduction to citizen report card (CRC), context and rationale, features, applications, CRC methodology, etc.

The training programme contents were delivered through a judicious mix of lecture-cum-discussion, role playing, debate, hands-on training on CRC, CSC, budget analysis, group exercises and presentation by groups. A field



test was planned after completion of the classroom teaching of each tool.

A total of 17 participants including the officials from DRDA, planning department, agriculture, scholars, faculty members and NGO partners from different parts of the country attended the programme. On final day, participants made a presentation on their training and field visit observations, especially focussing on Citizen Report Card (CRC) and Community Score Card (CSC) learning experiences.

Dr. K. Prabhakar, Assistant Professor, Centre for Good Governance and Policy Analysis (CGGPA) organised this five-day certificate training programme.

Training Programme on Investment Credit in Agriculture and Allied Sectors for Bankers



A training programme on Investment Credit in Agriculture and Allied Sectors for Bankers was organised by Centre for Financial Inclusion and Entrepreneurship from August 28 to September 1, 2017 at NIRD&PR. The main objective of the programme was to upgrade the skills of officers of banks in the areas of project finance and appraisal of high value proposals. The need for increasing the investment credit, which helps for capital formation in the farming sector and ensures regular flow of income to the farmers was highlighted in the training programme. The emerging trends such as contract farming, farmer producer organisation, organic farming, green house cultivation and tissue culture were discussed in detail. Technical and financial aspects of dairy

and poultry along with micro and minor irrigation projects and farm mechanisation were also covered in the training.

To achieve the goal of doubling the farmers' income by 2022, the bankers are geared up with several ideas, schemes, and action plans. A detailed session on Non-performing Assets (NPA), recovery management and important contemporary issues for banks was taken up for discussion. The participants were also taken to National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) to understand the functioning of fisheries sector and various initiatives of the Government to boost this sector. The programme was coordinated by Dr. M. Srikanth and Shri V. Rama Mohana Rao of CFIE.

Training of Trainers Programme on SBCC for Child Rights and Child Protection Issues



A newly launched Communication Resource Unit, a joint initiative of NIRD&PR and UNICEF conducted its Training of Trainers programme on SBCC for Child Rights and Child Protection from August 29 to 31, 2017 at NIRD&PR Campus, Rajendranagar. Thirty three participants from six districts Viz. West Godavari, East Godavari and Prakasham of Andhra Pradesh and Siddipet, Mahabubnagar and Adilabad of Telangana participated in the training programme.

The three-day ToT was inaugurated by Dr. Gyanmudra, who delivered the welcome address. Later, Shri Kishore from UNICEF shared the objectives of the training programme.

Being the first ToT of the programme, it paved way for different stakeholders of different departments like Head Master, District Child Protection Officer, Child Welfare Committee, ICDS Supervisor, Sarpanch to come together and discuss on child rights and protection issues. Experts on child rights and child protection from child based NGOs were the resource persons. Murali from Sadhana, David from UNICEF, Philips from Divya Disha, Swamy from Women and Child Department and Kishore, UNICEF, Hyderabad were the external resource persons apart from the CRU team Ms. Mrudula, Preethi Suvarchala and Srinivas made the sessions lively and meaningful.

First day of the training started with child, childhood and charter of Rights. The 54 articles of UN charter were divided into four categories. They explained about the four categories of Child Rights namely Right to Survival, Protection, Development and Participation.

On the second day of training programme, participants were taken to the Juvenile Home for Girls at Nimboliadda and Shishu Vihar, Women and Child Department, Ameerpet as a field work practicum after the theory class in the first half. They interacted with the children.

At the end of the third day, participants planned their district roll-out plan in six districts of AP and Telangana. It was decided that participants (ToT) should in turn train 100 PRI members in their districts to make their village a child free panchayat. Participants learnt about child helpline number 1098 to rescue children from crisis or danger.

The ToT came to an end with distribution of certificates by Dr. Gyanmudra, Shri Kishore and Ms. Jones from UNICEF and CRU team.



Independence Day Celebrations at NIRD&PR



Distinguished Visitors



Shri Arvind Mayaram, Former Finance Secretary, Government of India, and officials of Asian Development Bank visiting NIRD&PR



Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena, Chairman, Khadi Village Commission, Government of India, visiting NIRD&PR



Shri Bhagawanth Khuba, Member of Parliament from Bidar, visiting NIRD&PR



Shri Alo Libang, Rural Development Minister of Arunachal Pradesh visiting NIRD&PR

Sourcing the Conceptual Foundations of Development Practice: Reflections on How Paradigms Emerge and Shift



Development practice is based on certain world view, and influence. This world view or influence can be as strong as an ideology or simply an alternative view with an underlying concept, assumption or proposition. The view one holds about the world determines what concept one shall *conceive and put to use* in order to be able to reach 'the ideal world' one holds as a mental construct for reference. This reference point could relate to a set of beliefs, values, and techniques shared by development practitioners or members of a scientific community, which provide the guidance towards a certain development direction. Development literature is filled with such concepts, approaches, and differing perspectives. Paradigm is often an outline of major concepts, assumptions, propositions, and procedures one gets down to explain as to how something happens / could happen in the social world.

Tracking the source of ideas that have largely influenced the fundamentals of development practice (and thus development doctrines) at various points of time; and determining the source of such influence could be an interesting academic exercise towards understanding development paradigms. The source of influence and context that determined the choice of a given paradigm are vital development directions a country takes. Methodologically, one way of doing this is through discourse analysis – perhaps one of the least used tools in qualitative research, which one can put to use in order to track the paradigmatic shifts that have come up in the past 50 – 70 years.

India has been talking about people's participation and addressing the *felt needs of the people* even during the days of Community Development movement. But essentially people's participation as a serious concept in development practice started emerging in the late 1980s and 1990s along with the concept of participatory methods that came with a variety of tools for development practitioners to practically analyse community problems, and facilitate chalk out people's plans. Practice apart, conceptually participatory paradigm went to the extent of arguing that it is not about people's involvement in programmes designed by the government, rather it's about government participating in people's plans. It was a complete turn over. This offered a paradigmatic shift in understanding and operationalising *the concept* of participatory development.

Incidentally in India during 1990s, local self-governance system in the form of Panchayati Raj Institutions emerged. This provided the constitutionally recognised *institutional infrastructure* (Panchayati Raj System) required for doing participatory plans. It was coincidental during the same period the market-based policies were being introduced, to which a section of the civil society expressed discontent saying that globalisation and privatisation policies would push the poor to further edges of the societal margin. In order to moderate such probable social exclusion, a series of *rights-based legislations* emerged, for instance, Right to Education; Right to Employment; Right to Information; and Right to Food Security.

“
The view one holds about the world determines what concept one shall conceive and put to use in order to be able to reach ‘the ideal world’ one holds as a mental construct for reference.
 ”

Yet another major shift in development policy and practice in the recent times is about ‘skilling and entrepreneurship’. This is a major shift in the sense, almost all our previous Rural Development programmes premised on: ‘Do better than the earlier scheme’, correcting the inadvertent mistakes made in the content of programme or in the implementation process. It was essentially about correcting the past mistakes through lessons learnt, and try to do it better at the current moment. Whereas ‘skilling’ is future-oriented aiming at catering to the

career aspirations of over 55 million rural youth who are likely to get into the employment market or commence enterprises of their own. Programmes like Make in India, Startup India, Standup India, are all part of the skilling and entrepreneurship promotion endeavour. It has very little connection to the past in terms of content or process.

Sourcing and reflecting on the perspectives that served as the foundation for development practitioners and policy makers, and the major paradigmatic shifts we have come across in the past 100 years, starting from, say, the Mahatma’s first mass mobilisation of people for taking up hand weaving, and hand spinning as a mark of self-reliance (non-cooperation movement) in 1920; and Tagore’s ‘Sriniketan village reconstruction experiment’ in 1921 would render an excellent analysis of how paradigms emerge and shift, establishing a large fund of knowledge to literature on rural development practice in India.

Dr. R. Ramesh
 Associate Professor, CRI
 NIRD&PR, Hyderabad



NIRD&PR Reinforces the Public Education through Uddeepana

Nakrekal Assembly constituency of Nalgonda district stands as testimonial because of an initiative, taken up in the constituency during 2016-17 academic year. The initiative was taken up by proactive Mandal Parishat president of Narketpally, who had sensed the debacle of public funding schools when he was organising Mandal-level School Management Committee meeting with sole agenda to develop Government schools and drawn conclusion towards a constructive action plan.

In this action plan, it is decided to start pre-primary schools with English medium in Government primary schools with logistics and infrastructure facility and appointing volunteers

to gain confidence. Immediately, all the stake-holders had been pressed into action by campaign and propagating the importance of Government schools and the need to protect them by reaching all villages of Mandal.

As a result, 1020 children had a comeback to Government run schools. Taking this message, the local MLA Shri Vemula Veeresham who is inclined towards Government schools, started sensitising the public representatives, school management committee members, Government functionaries, teacher unions, Anganwadi staff and journalists duly involving the District Collector and Administration of Nalgonda district of Telangana State.

The district administration also decided to convert primary schools of Nakrekal constituency from Telugu medium to English medium with administrative consent with an initiative 'Uddeepana - An initiative to strengthen the public educational system' and subsequently approached NIRD&PR for technical support and guidance. Dr. T. Vijaya Kumar, Associate Professor, Centre for Human Resource Development, NIRD&PR extended full support to Uddeepana Committee in designing and developing strategic plan for three years. The plan was well received by the committee and they appreciated the support of NIRD&PR and inducted Dr. T. Vijaya Kumar, NIRD&PR as one of the advisors of 19 members Constituency-level Educational Committee to promote the initiative 'Uddeepana'.

Under the guidance and support of NIRD&PR, the committee started several activities such as enrolment drive, mobilisation of parents and capacity building. The initiative has attracted and motivated the parents in this academic session. A total of 12,318 students were enrolled in 178 Primary and Upper Primary schools of Nakrekal constituency. The students' enrolment went up from 9,858 to 12,318. In English Medium classes, 6670 students got enrolled.

On July 11, 2017, the Honourable Deputy Chief Minister and Education Minister of Telangana, Shri Kadiyam Srihari formally launched the 'Uddeepana' initiative in presence of District Collector of Nalgonda, Member of Parliament of

Bhongiri, Government Whip, MLC of Telangana Legislative Council, NIRD&PR representatives and other stakeholders like elected representatives of District Panchayat and Mandal Panchayat, parents, teachers and students, etc.

NIRD&PR is continuously supporting the Uddeepana initiative in planning and implementation. Dr. T. Vijaya Kumar extended his resource support in workshop of Development of Teaching Skills to the Teachers, Head Masters and Vidya Volunteers. Further as a part of three year strategic plan, NIRD&PR is undertaking orientation-cum-training of Master Trainers for strengthening Pre-school Education and Primary Education for improving the Quality of education and reinforcing the WASH programme in public schools of Nakrekal Constituency under Swachh Bharat Mission in collaboration with Uddeepana. The identified SHGs in the constituency will be trained in maintenance of clean and hygiene cooking of Mid-Day Meals in public schools along with the unemployed youth in preparation of white phenyl, dish wash powder, liquid soap, toilet cleaners and liquid hand wash as income generating activity for improving the school sanitation in Nakrekal constituency and also to sustain the initiative.

Dr. T. Vijaya Kumar
Associate Professor
CHRD, NIRD&PR

Batch - 14 of Post Graduate Diploma in Rural Development Management Started

The 14th batch of one-year Post Graduate Diploma in Rural Development Management (PGDRDM) of NIRD&PR, commenced on August 14, 2017. This batch consists of 55 (18 girls and 37 boys) students who belong to different parts of the country including Bihar, Jharkhand, Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, New Delhi, Kerala, Meghalaya, West Bengal, Odisha, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. In this batch, there are eight in-service officials from Afghanistan, Fiji, Iraq, Iran, Myanmar, Sudan and Zambia. The international students of this batch are sponsored by AARDO and CIRDAP.

This batch commenced with the revised syllabus which is rigorous. The syllabus includes 27 days of orientation, where students will be oriented to the field realities. During the orientation programme, each student will be given opportunities to interact with different stakeholders to get the first hand information. This experience would be presented in a day long workshop to the faculty members for better

understanding of the ground realities to appreciate and relate the classroom level knowledge.

Dr. C. S. Singhal, Professor and Head, and Dr. A. Debapriya, Associate Professor, CPGS & DE explained the course design and advised them to work hard with commitment. The Professors and Heads of different centres of NIRD&PR including Dr. Madhava Rao, Dr. Y. Gangi Reddy, Dr. Y. Bhaskar Rao, Dr. G. Venkata Raju, Dr. Gyanmudra and Dr. Siddaya interacted with students and explained the activities of their respective Schools. On the occasion, Ms. J. Padma, and Shri G. Murlidhar, Chief Mentor, Akshara Network Hyderabad, both resource persons, also spoke to students.

Dr. C. S. Singhal, Prof. & Head, Dr. A. Debapriya, Dr. Akanksha Shukla, both Associate Professors, CPGS & DE, and Dr. Sonal Mobar Roy, Assistant Professor, CPGS & DE, are coordinating the PGDRDM programme.

The 14th batch of one-year Post Graduate Diploma Rural Development Management (PGDRDM) of NIRD&PR, commenced on August 14, 2017. This batch consists of 55 students.

Batch - 4 of M. Tech Programme Commences at NIRD&PR

The National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR) and National Institute of Technology, Arunachal Pradesh (NIT, AP) have been jointly organising a two-year M. Tech Programme in Appropriate Technology and Entrepreneurship since 2013. The main objective of the programme is to develop entrepreneurship skills among the students. As a part of M. Tech programme, the first year is conducted at NIT, AP. The students join NIRD&PR in the second

year of the course. In the 4th batch of M. Tech programme, seven students have joined NIRD&PR on 17 July, 2017.

Dr. C. S. Singhal, Professor and Head, CPGS & DE interacted with students of M. Tech batch on their first day at NIRD&PR. Earlier, Dr. A. Debapriya, Associate Professor explained the course design. This programme was coordinated by Dr. C.S. Singhal, Prof. & Head, and Dr. A. Debapriya, Associate Professor.

Contact Session for Distance Mode Programme

Centre for PG Studies and Distance Education, NIRD&PR offers three Post Graduate Diploma Programmes including the Post Graduate Diploma in Sustainable Development (PGDSRD), Post Graduate Diploma in Tribal Development Management (PGDTDM) and Post Graduate Diploma in Geo Application in Rural Development (PGDGARD) in Distance Mode.

In order to help learners of the distance education programmes (session 2016-17), the CPGS&DE organised contact programme for 10 days from July 1 to 9, 2017 at Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, Mysuru, Nilokheri, Haryana and Kabul study centres. Several students from various parts of the country attended the contact programmes and interacted with subject experts. A total of 26 in-service officials attended contact classes and appeared for in-term end exam at Afghanistan Rural Development Department, Kabul. A total of 194 learners appeared for the term end exam in different study centres in India. The programme was coordinated by Dr. C. C Singhal, Prof. & Head, CPGS & DE.



Brainstorming Workshop on Syllabus Finalisation of Social Accountability and Social Audit



The Centre for PG Studies and Distance Education (CPGS&DE) organised a brainstorming workshop on Syllabus Finalisation of Social Accountability and Social Audit on August 9, 2017 at NIRD&PR, Hyderabad. The main objective of the workshop was to finalise the syllabus of the six-month distance-cum-online certificate/ diploma programme.

One of the outcomes of the workshops was a suggestion to constitute a Programme Advisory Committee consisting of both subject and distance education experts to guide and approve the structure and content of the course. The course is being designed to be employment oriented so that students who finish the course should get preference in the social audit units. The prospective writers were identified with their consent to develop distance/online programme.

Apart from the NIRD&PR faculty members, thirteen experts including Ms. Sowmya Kidambi, Director, Social Audit, Government of Telengana, Dr. Geeta Pothuraju, Associate Professor from Institute of Public Enterprises of Osmania University, Dr. S. V. Rangacharyulu, Consultant, NIRD&PR, Dr. G. Rajani Kanth, Consultant, Dr. Digambar Abaji from Centre for Wage Employment, NIRD&PR took part in the programme.

The programme was jointly organised by Dr. C. S. Singhal, Professor and Head, Dr. C. Dheerja, Associate Professor & Head, Centre for Social Audit and Dr. Akanksha Shukla, Associate Professor, CPGS&DE.

Workshop on Syllabus Finalisation of PGD Course of Water Resource Management



A brainstorming workshop on Water Resource Management was organised on August 16, 2017 at NIRD&PR, Hyderabad. The main objective of the workshop was to formulate the syllabus for distance/online programme.

Twelve subject experts including the NIRD&PR faculty members participated in the workshop. Dr. K. P. Reddy, Visiting Professor, NIRD&PR chaired the session and gave several suggestions. Some of the experts who attended the workshop were Dr. Anil Kumar, T. Dandekar, Assistant Professor of Soil and Water Conservation Engineering, College of Agriculture, Raichur, Dr. G. Laxma Reddy, Director, B. R. Ambedkar Open University, Hyderabad, Prof. S. Jeelani, Director (Distance Education), Centre for Distance and Virtual Learning, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, Dr. K. Y. Reddy, Director, WALAMTARI, Hyderabad, Dr. R. Mahender Kumar, Principal Scientist, Indian Institute of Rice Research, Hyderabad, Dr. M. V. S. S. Giridhar, Professor, Jawahar Lal Nehru Technical University,



Hyderabad, Dr. S. K. Palaisani, Emeritus Scientist, International Water Management Institute, New Delhi.

Speaking at the workshop, Dr. W. R. Reddy, IAS, Director General, NIRD&PR opined that subjects of course should be available as core and elective subjects so that students will have an option to choose relevant subjects under any programme.

There was a suggestion to make the programmes practical-oriented. Details for different modules were worked out keeping in mind the different stakeholders who may opt for the programme.

The programme was coordinated jointly by Dr. C. S. Singhal, Professor and Head, Dr. Akanksha Shukla, Associate Professor, CPGS&DE and Dr. Siddayya, Associate Professor and Head, Centre for Natural Resource Management.

NIRD&PR UNICEF Communication Resource Unit: An Institutional Mechanism for Strategic Communication



Communication Resource Unit (CRU), a joint initiative of NIRD&PR and UNICEF was launched on July 6, 2017 at NIRD&PR premises to operate as full-time unit to serve as an institutional mechanism for strategic communication to support government departments in the States of AP, Telangana and Karnataka. Following to the launch, a Social and Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) Coordination Committee was constituted to act as an advisory group to the CRU. The first meeting of the SBCC Coordination Committee was organised on August 3, 2017 at NIRD&PR, Hyderabad. For inaugural session, dignitaries like Dr. Yasmin Haque, Country Representative, UNICEF India Country Office, Ms. Meital Rusdia, UNICEF Chief Field Office and Dr. W.R. Reddy, IAS, Director General, NIRD&PR and Dr. Gyanmudra, Professor and Head, CHRD graced the occasion and emphasised that CRU in the guidance of SBCC Coordination Committee should focus in the areas of research, implementation of the communication programmes, trainings and evaluation of communication interventions.

This committee will be chaired by the DG, NIRD&PR and the Head, CHRD will be the Convener. There were 21 representatives from the key government departments of three States of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Karnataka to act as members of the committee. Detailed discussion on role and responsibilities of the committee took place and also finalised two major areas to be focussed more in planning SBCC strategy, capacity building, IEC, Swachh Bharat Mission and Child Rights.

The Social and Behaviour Change Communication Coordination Committee will meet at least once in a quarter and will offer leadership to CRU in facilitating inter-State and inter-departmental coordination and collaboration; guidance for communication strategies and planning; advice on areas related to institutional capacity development of government departments in SBCC; enable mobilising resources and exchange lessons and learnings.

NIRD&PR Faculty Submits Paper in International Conference

Dr. Gyanmudra, Professor and Head, Centre for Human Resource Development of National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Hyderabad attended the Twelfth International Conference on Interdisciplinary Social Sciences and presented the CG Paper 'Promoting Livelihoods in a Gram Panchayat in India: Action Research' from July 26 to 28, 2017 at International Conference Centre, Hiroshima, Japan.

Dr. Gyanmudra played an important role in this International Conference. Founded in 2006, the Interdisciplinary Social Sciences Research Network is brought together by common interest in disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches, within and across the various social sciences, and between the social, natural, and applied sciences. This event brought together some of the world's leading thinkers and practitioners in this field.



Orientation Programme on Sexual Harassment at Workplace (Prevention) Act

The Centre for Gender Studies and Development, NIRD&PR in collaboration with UN Women, organised a series of orientation programmes on 'Sexual Harassment at Workplace (Prevention) Act' from July 31 to August 4, 2017. All employees from NIRD&PR including project staff of DDUGKY and NRLM, all faculty members of NIRD&PR, all employees of group A, B, and C and the project staff from all centres participated in this programme. There were a total of ten sessions with different themes. The programme focussed on provisions and procedures included within the Act as well as to clarify doubts on the Act. The programme focussed on making everybody aware about the Act. At the end of the programme,

the participants clarified their queries and gave some recommendations to make proper use of this Act.

Ms. Sanya Seth, Programme Analyst from UN Women was the lead trainer for the training programme. She was ably supported by Ms. Rachana Sharma of Partners for Law in Development (PLD), New Delhi. Ms. Devi, a freelance journalist was one of the resource persons for the programme. Dr. N.V. Madhuri, Head, CGSD, Dr. Vanishree Joseph, Programme Analyst from UN Women, and Ms. Hiramani Das, Project Consultant, with help of other staff of CGSD coordinated the programme.

National Conclave on Promoting Zero Waste Communities

'Zero Waste Communities' - the expression sounds interesting. But is it possible at all? Another question mark that hangs over close to this question is: Okay if you are not for zero waste, how much waste are you for? There are interesting YouTube videos and TED Talks of families that claim generating Zero Waste. They create absolutely 'no waste'. Their lifestyle is wonderful, surprising and unbelievable. Thus, the point is it's about lifestyle, and principled living.

The next agenda under Swachh Bharat Mission after declaring many villages as ODF (Open Defecation Free) is, clean villages with zero garbage. Any waste generated must be scientifically managed in a socially acceptable way. Therefore, Zero Waste is a journey. The approach is conscious and progressive reduction of waste creation holding in view Zero Waste as the destination. However, we need to acknowledge the fact that some families are there already. [Visit TED Talk: Lauren Singer, Bea Johnson's family, and many others].





The Centre for Rural Infrastructure (CRI) and the Centre for Innovations and Appropriate Technology (CIAT) conducted a 'National Conclave on Promoting Zero Waste Communities' on August 2 and 3, 2017 at NIR&DPR campus. Over 150 representatives from various Institutions including government, NGO and private entrepreneurs attended the conclave. There were participants from 15 States of India representing Directorate of State Swachh Bharat Mission - G, UNICEF, ADB, WaterAid, and several other NGOs and private technology providers/innovators.

The programme's content included:

- Presentations of case studies on successful initiatives with respect to solid and liquid waste management
- Review of sustainable technologies which can be scaled-up
- Identifying the challenges in promoting and sustaining Zero Waste Communities
- Discussions on the possible modes of engaging members of SHGs, local youth, entrepreneurs, and private sector partners in waste management deliberations on the way forward towards achieving an enabling policy environment to make Zero Waste Communities a reality
- Display of potential technology options by R&D Institutes, NGOs and Private Partners.

There were also stalls that demonstrated technologies for solid and liquid waste management. The workshop identified several areas that require strengthening in order to manage waste in a scientifically acceptable way at the Gram Panchayat level. They are listed below.

- Individual and Institutional Capacity Building
- Identifying and Building up resource persons and institutions (Empaneled resource persons and Institutions) for solid waste management.

- Creating a repository of existing materials and making it available on-line as 'one-stop shop' for reference materials, guides, DPR models, good practices, technologies that work/do not work, etc.
- E-learning modules/courseware, and DVDs on simple waste management technologies
- Documentation of Success/ Failure Stories/ Good Practices
- Short-film on Technologies in use - explaining the process
- Making the details of scrap dealers readily available (GPS-based): Identifying, collecting and making it readily available. Every GP must know how many scrap dealers are there near their Panchayat, along with their contact details
- Live demo models of technologies on solid waste management and wastewater treatment at the RTP, NIR&DPR, Hyderabad for the trainees to pay a visit and learn. States and districts can arrange exposure visits to RTP. Similar demo models at NERC Guwahati that would be suitable for hilly terrains
- Enlistment of Private Technology Service Providers/ Innovators – Private and the Institutions of the Government. This would be a repository of technology options available in the market
- Regional / National Level Technology Mela exclusively on SLWM
- Business Model Generation Workshops on Solid Waste Management
- Public-Private Partnership Arrangements on Solid Waste Management
- Regional / National Level Interactive Learning Workshops
- Making the idea of 'Swachh Citizen' contagious as human chain, and not merely in the social media



Consultative Workshop on Strengthening PRIs in Preparation of GP Development Plan

A one-day consultative workshop on Strengthening PRIs in Preparation of Gram Panchayat Development Plan was organised by Centre for Good Governance and Policy Analysis (CGGPA) on August 28, 2017 at NIRD&PR.

The Centre for Good Governance and Policy analysis is associated with a collaborative pilot project 'Digital Corridor', a pilot study on Digital Village E-Governance Initiative at Nuthankal Village, Medchal District, Telangana State. It is a joint initiative in collaboration with S. M. Sehgal Foundation, Gurugram and NIC India.

In this connection, as first step of initiative of the pilot project, CGGPA organised exposure-cum-consultative workshop on 'Strengthening PRIs in Preparation of Gram Panchayat Development Plan' for elected representatives, GP level government functionaries and different committee members of Nuthankal village. About 45 participants actively participated and they were taught on topics like roles and responsibilities of the PRI functionaries, preparation of GDPD plan and exercise on situation analysis and problem tree, using PRA technique. At the end of the programme, all participants visited the Rural Technology Park at NIRD&PR campus.

Dr. K. Prabhakar, Assistant Professor, Centre for Good Governance & Policy Analysis (CGGPA) organised this one-day certificate training programme.



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