

## **CAPACITY BUILDING UNDER NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE ACT**

The SIRD, Assam has been regularly organizing training courses on various aspects relating to National Rural Employment Guarantee Act. It has organized the courses in two phases and covered 6230 officials and elected representatives belonging to different categories. In total it has organized 169 courses in both the phases and the process is continuing. The institute has covered all the nodal officials working at various levels and responsible for implementation of the programme under the courses.

### **Clientele groups covered:**

- a. State and District level officials.
- b. Block Development officials.
- c. Jr. Engineers.
- d. Secretaries of Gram Panchayats.
- e. Field level Extension Workers.
- f. Elected representatives of Panchayats.
- g. Representatives of NGOs and CBOs.



**Broad areas covered during the courses:**

The SIRD has been covering the following major subjects during various courses.

- a. General features of the Act.
- b. Entitlement of the rural people.
- c. Role of implementing agencies.
- d. Various components, steps in the implementation process.
- e. Preparation of Perspective and Annual Plans.
- f. Technical and administrative norms in the planning and implementation of permissible works.
- g. Selection and planning for the implementation of permissible works based on local situation.
- h. Social audit.
- i. MIS.

**Separate courses on permissible works:** Considering the importance of meaningful planning, designing and implementation of permissible works, the institute has been organizing separate courses on the permissible works under the Act. This has given an exposure to the departmental officials



working at different levels to various permissible works that can be taken up in an integrated manner for sustainable growth of agriculture as well as related activities.

**Special training on social audit:** The institute has been making effort to popularize the concept of social audit. The institute has been organizing separate courses on social audit for officials working at different levels, representatives of NGOs and CBOs, social workers etc. On being requested by district authorities, the institute has been organizing special training programmes on social audit at district level.

**National level Resource Persons:** Sri Gurjit Singh and Sri Balram, prominent Resource Persons for social audit under NREGA have been invited by SIRD, Assam for three times for organizing ToT courses on social audit under NREGA. They have been helping the institute by providing reading materials as well as module on social audit.

**Off campus training on social audit by NIRD, Hyderabad:** In the month of February' 2008, NIRD, Hyderabad organized an off-

campus training at SIRD, Guwahati on social audit under NREGA. It was a ToT course wherein Faculties of institutes, representatives of NGOs and CBOs and officials participated. Resource Persons from NIRD including Mr. Gurjit and Mr. Balram took sessions including field exercise in the district of Morigaon.

**Reading material on NREGA:** The institute has made reading materials in various local languages on NREGA. NREGA guidelines have been translated into Assamese, Bengali and Bodo. Even the third edition of the guidelines have recently been translated into Assamese for easy understanding of the officials and elected representatives working at the grass root level.

**Separate book on permissible works:** The institute is working on making of a book exclusively on permissible works covering various aspects like selection of sites, holistic plan preparation, design and dimension, estimates etc. help from technical experts has been taken.

**A guide book on social audit:** The preparation for separate guide book on social audit in assamese is continuing. This book will of



big help for those who want to get involve in the social audit process.

**CD on social audit:** The institute shows CD on social audit activities being undertaken in the states like Rajesthan, Andhra Pradesh to participants in training programmes etc. The institute has also prepared CD on social audit exercises taken up during training programmes of the institute in the field.

**Training at National Institute of Technical Teachers Training & Research, Chandigarh:** The institute has made an arrangement with National Institute of Technical Teachers Training & Research, Chandigarh for organizing special training programmes on application of appropriate technology in the implementation of permissible works under NREGA. Selected officials mostly Jr. Engineers working at DRDA and Block level have been deputed to undergo training programme of 12 day in the institute at Chandigarh. Besides the theoretical sessions, the course covers visit to various sites of permissible works implemented in Punjab. So far around 40 officials including Jr. Engineers have participated in the course.