

**REPORT OF NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON “GOOD PRACTICES IN
RURAL DEVELOPMENT SECTOR UNDER “SAANSAD ADARSH
GRAM YOJANA” ON 23 -24TH SEPTEMBER, 2015 AT VIDHAN
SABHA PARISAD, BHOPAL.**

The two-days “National Workshop on “Good Practices in Rural Development Sector” from 23-24th September, 2015, jointly organized by the Ministry of Rural Development Government of India and Department of Panchayat and Rural Development, Madhya Pradesh at Mansarovar Sabhagar, Vidhan Sabha premises, Bhopal attended by this Directorate.

SAGY is a rural development programme broadly focusing upon the development in the villages which includes social development, cultural development and spread motivation among the people on social mobilization of the village community. The programme was launched by the Hon’ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi on the birth anniversary of Jayaprakash Narayan, on 11 October 2014.

The National Workshop on Good Practices in Rural Development was inaugurated by Hon’ble Union Rural Development Minister Shri Chaudhary Birendra Singh and also addressed by Hon’ble Union Minister of State for Rural Development Shri Sudarshan Bhagat, Hon’ble Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Shri Thawarchand Gehlot, Hon’ble Madhya Pradesh Assembly Speaker Shri S. Sharma, Hon’ble M.P. State Rural Development Minister Shri Gopal Bhargav, The workshop was presided over by Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Hon’ble Chief Minister Madhya Pradesh.

The workshop was attended by several Hon’ble Members of Parliaments, senior officers of Central and State Government. An exhibition was also organized on this occasion. Sankalan e-book, Sankalan book on Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana and a book containing guidelines on Gram Panchayat Development Plan of Madhya Pradesh: Smart Gram – Smart Panchayat were released on the occasion.

In his inaugural address, Hon’ble Union Rural Development Minister Shri Chaudhary Birendra Singh, has said that financial empowerment of villages is possible through financial inclusion. He said that there is a need for providing infrastructure facilities in villages. The economic activities of the villages can be strengthened through providing employment opportunities and overall development of the villages. ‘Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana’ is the vision of the Hon’ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi to translate the comprehensive vision of Mahatma Gandhi of an ideal Indian village into a reality. There is a good response from the Members of Parliament to the ‘Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana’. Prime Minister’s ‘Jan-dhan Yojana’ has enabled the financial unification of the country. The Union Minister also said that there is a need for protection of environment and farmers must be encouraged for making massive plantation in their villages. He said that concept of “Adarsh Gram” can be put into practice only through economic empowerment of villages. For this, major changes should be made in villages’ economy.

Union Minister Singh said that 300 clusters of villages will be formed under RURBAN Mission. Each cluster having 25 thousand to 50 thousand population will be developed to have all facilities. Concept of villages’ development does not cover only extension of basic amenities, but also make villages economically empowered.

Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Rural Development Shri Sudarshan Bhagat said that development should reach the doorstep of the common man of the villages. Rural development can be achieved only through an integrated approach of developing villages.

-2-

Shri Thawarchand Gehlot, Hon'ble Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment said that the Government has taken several measures for the development of scheduled castes in several States like Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Karnataka, Punjab etc. Several social security measures initiated by the Prime Minister of India like 'Atal Pension Yojana', 'Jeevan Suraksha Yojana', 'Jeevan Jyothi Yojana' will help the poor. The government has taken several initiatives for liberating the manual scavengers. About 1,80,000 scavengers were liberated and the women scavengers were given training in skill development, commercial driving licenses and motor mechanical driving etc. to bring change in their lives. Several de-addiction centres were setup for saving the drug-addicted youth. The Right to Education legislation is being implemented effectively.

Speaking on the occasion Hon'ble Chief Minister of M.P. Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan said that urbanization is not solution of every problem. Villages need to be developed as complete unit. He said that the basic facilities like construction of roads, drinking water, housing, electricity are to be provided to villages for their self-sufficiency. "We cannot achieve national development without development of villages", he opined.

Ministry of Rural Development organised this workshop so as to bring best of such initiatives to the mainstream debate and provide a platform for their participation to interact and share their learning with the Adarsh Grams identified under SAGY by Hon'ble Members of Parliament. By an open advertisement, entries were called from Central Ministries, PRIs, Civil Society Organization and individuals. A total 592 entries were received and after scrutiny, 82 entries were finally selected. The entries were validated and evaluated by the Tata Institute of Social Science, Mumbai after field visits. After recommendation by the respective state Government, they were examined by a National Level Committee headed by Addl. Secretary, Rural Development. Out of these 82 initiatives 31 top selected entries were presented on good practices in rural development sector in this workshop.

On 24th September, 2015 the workshop was addressed by Hon'ble Union Rural Development Minister Shri Chaudhary Birendra Singh. He said that RURBAN Scheme will be launched soon for overall development of the villages. He said that 88 per cent of the Members of Parliament have adopted villages under 'Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana'. The villages can be developed through village development plans, by coordinating the state and central schemes related to village development.

The Union Minister announced that the Cabinet has recently approved RURBAN Scheme for making village clusters for rural development, for providing urban facilities in rural areas which includes improving drainage, sewage systems, providing electricity, street lights, drinking water, irrigation facilities, communications and constructing roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. The agricultural produce of the villages can reach the markets through transport facilities. Education facilities up to higher secondary level can also be provided in the villages. Suitable eco-friendly technologies can be adopted for liquid, solid waste management in villages for environmental protection. Rural infrastructure can be created by connecting the villages to the main stream.

The Workshop concluded with Vote of thanks by Shri Raghubeer Shrivastva Commissioner, Panchyat Raj, Government of Madhya Pradesh.