

NATIONAL TASKFORCE ON RURAL HOUSING AND HABITAT

The National Taskforce on Rural Housing and Habitat was constituted vide an Order of MoRD, dated 25th March, 2014 to take a holistic, systemic view of the rural habitat sector while imaginatively implementing programmes such as Indira Awaas Yojana. The terms of reference of the Task Force is as follows:-

- 1) Suggest ways to improve:-
 - a. Quality of houses constructed under IAY
 - b. Quality of owner participation and contribution and community engagement
 - c. Quality of settlements with IAY houses
 - d. Utilisation of government, community and owner resources
 - e. Social and physical integration with the parent village
 - f. IAY role in repair, retrofitting and extension of the existing houses
 - g. IAY's contribution to poverty alleviation by providing long term economic assets for the beneficiary families.
- 2) Make specific recommendations regarding convergence of IAY with other development schemes.
- 3) Examine issues related to accessing natural resources and material needed for rural housing.
- 4) Identify appropriate, immediate and cost effective local technologies; suggest ways to put in place appropriate technology transfer mechanisms.
- 5) Examine potential for creation of small and medium enterprises for production of components and products for housing and infrastructure creation.
- 6) Suggest role, organizational structure and financing arrangement for reviving Building Centres.
- 7) Examine current institutional models for rural housing finance and suggest modifications for greater suitability, enhanced coverage and selective scaling up.
- 8) Suggest ways to strengthen the role of Panchayats in IAY, land resource planning, infrastructure provision, grievance redressal, coordination and support to people's housing actions.
- 9) Suggest ways to ensure accrual of maximum economic benefits of building activity to the local area and populace in terms of employment generation and habitat development.

- 10) Examine potential and ways of training para-professionals – barefoot architect, engineer, site supervisor,- and suggest demand and supply side interventions to enable access to professional services.
- 11) Suggest role of CBOs, NGOs and concerned professional in improving access to knowledge, professional services, finance, skills and other material resources.

The members of the Taskforce are as follows:-

- 1) Additional Secretary (RD): Chairman
- 2) Joint Secretary (RH): Convenor
- 3) Dr. P. K. Das, Consultant
- 4) Mr. Anand Shekhar
Water and Sanitation Expert, Vice President NR Management Construction India (P) Ltd.
- 5) Mr. Kirtee Shah
Ahmedabad Study Action Group (ASAG) and Habitat Forum
- 6) Mr. V. Suresh
Ex. CMD, HUDCO and Shelter Expert
- 7) Mr. B. Venkatesham
MD, AP Housing Corporation
- 8) Mr Sandip Virmani
Hunnarshala Foundation for Building Technology & Innovations
- 9) Principal Secretary (RD), Government of Meghalaya
- 10) Principal Secretary (RD), Government of Bihar
- 11) Prof. CVR Murthy, Director, IIT Jodhpur
- 12) Mr Ravi Kant Goantiya
Chief Engineer, Chief Minister Rural Housing Mission, M.P.
- 13) Ms. Zeenat Niazi, Senior Programmer, Development Alternatives
- 14) Mr. A. Gurunathan
- 15) Ms. Gayatri R. Rajesh, DGM, HUDCO
- 16) Mr. P. B. Sajan, Joint Director, COSTFORD
- 17) Ms. Santhi Kumari, COO, NRLM
- 18) Mr. Sudhin Choksey, Managing Director, GRUH Finance Ltd.
- 19) Prof. V.M. Chariar, IIT Delhi
- 20) Shri Joe Madiath, Gram Vikas, Odisha