

## MOU between NIRD and CDAC for sharing knowledge database and promoting e-learning

The National Institute for Rural Development(NIRD), Hyderabad and Centre for Development of Advanced Computing(CDAC), Hyderabad, a scientific society of the Department of Information Technology, under Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Government of India. C-DAC has set up India's National initiative for the development of indigenous supercomputing technology, diversified into other advanced areas of Information Technology, more particularly in multilingual computing technology, network security, Geomatics, artificial intelligence, data warehousing/ data mining, real time systems, education and training has offered software solutions for sectors of Health, Power, Telecom, Financial Services, and e-Governance for various government agencies and corporates.

The initiative will aim at promoting the India Development Gateway(InDG) and is expected to act as a vehicle for disseminating information on various flagship programmes of MoRD viz NREGA, RTI etc and enhance the knowledge levels of rural development functionaries, Panchayati Raj representatives and local communities by NIRD, SIRD, ETC etc through organising outreach programmes. The initiative also facilitate developing e-Learning packages for various distance education courses (English, Hindi, Telugu, Tamil etc) offered by NIRD by making available the C-DAC's e-Sikshak platform.

The collaborative initiative aims at promoting interactive discussion forums among user groups through web based video conferencing, networking with SIRD, ETC, MoRD and Other Ministries, State and Local Bodies by web casting(broadcasting over the Internet), sharing digital resources in terms of databases, content, photographs and videos, training modules, e-training, development of self learning tutors etc.

The knowledge database will be shared through Grid Computing GARUDA Network of CDAC and sharing of resources of both the organizations for effective use. Micro level local level applications using ubiquitous peripherals at field level for farmers will be piloted for wider applications.