



National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj

Hyderabad

Centre for Post Graduate Studies and Distance Education (CPGS&DE)

Ph.D. in Rural Development (2024-25)

(Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU - New Delhi)

Admission Notification – Phase - II

National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR), Hyderabad, invites applications for admission to its **Ph.D. programme in Rural Development**. Candidates who have cleared UGC-JRF/NET in any of the three categories or GATE and possessing Post-Graduate degree or its equivalent degree are eligible to apply. The Ph.D. degree in Rural Development will be awarded by **Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi**. The focus of this programme is on issues, challenges and solutions pertaining to rural development. NIRDPR provides opportunity to pursue research in rural development in a multi-disciplinary perspective.

About NIRDPR:

NIRDPR, as an autonomous organisation of the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India and has the mandate to function as a think tank, research and build capacities of rural development functionaries. The institute also provides two regular Post Graduate Diploma Programmes, one of which also provides training to in-service candidates from SAARC, African and Polynesian Countries through AARDO and CIRDAP. In addition, the institute offers four Post Graduate Diploma Programmes through distance education mode for the aid of in-service rural development functionaries from across India. NIRDPR offers more than 1500 training programmes per year, undertakes close to 50 research studies. NIRDPR also publishes a reputed quarterly journal “Journal of Rural Development” which is SCOPUS indexed and could provide researchers a very large dissemination environment.

About the Programme:

The Ph.D. programme is conceived with the aim of studying issues and challenges pertaining to rural development through disciplinary, multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives and devise solutions. The Ph.D. research topics chosen by the students shall be aligning with the mandate of NIRDPR, the faculties’ expertise and experience. Prospective students are advised to visit the profiles of the faculty members at NIRDPR website (www.nirdpr.org.in). This programme is governed by the NIRDPR-JNU Ph.D. Ordinance, UGC rules and regulations concerning Ph.D. and as amended from time to time. The standards and procedures set by the academic committee of NIRDPR-JNU Ph.D. programme and their amendments from time to time shall be applicable for the management of the Ph.D. programme.

Programme Duration:

Ph.D. Programme shall be for a minimum duration of three (3) years, including a one year mandatory residential course work, and a maximum duration of six (6) years from the date of admission to the Ph.D. programme. A maximum of an additional two (2) years can be given through a process of re-registration. However, the total period for completion of the Ph.D. programme shall not exceed eight (8) years from the date of admission in the Ph.D. programme.

Eligibility:

Prospective applicants to the Ph.D. programme must have qualified for JRF/NET/GATE conducted by NTA-UGC/GATE in one of the following subjects/allied subjects, held either in June 2024 or December 2024 and must meet the following eligibility criteria. **JRF holders who qualified in UGC-NET exam from earlier years may also apply, so long as their offer of fellowship is valid.**

Educational Qualifications	Relevant/Allied UGC NET Subject	No. of Seats and reservation
Master degree with 55% marks or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed, in one of the subjects/allied subjects listed in the adjacent column for which UGC conducts JRF/NET, obtained from a recognized University/Institute or Foreign University equivalent (approved by AIU). <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> M.Phil degree in one of the subjects/allied subjects listed in the adjacent column for which UGC conducts JRF/NET, obtained from a recognized University/Institute or Foreign University equivalent (approved by AIU). <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> A candidate seeking admission after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme in one of the subjects/allied subjects listed in the adjacent column should have a minimum of 75% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on a point scale wherever the grading system is followed. (University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedures for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2022.	Economics	4 (UR: 3 ; OBC:1)
	Public Administration	1 (ST: 1)
	Management Studies	1 (EWS: 1)
	Rural Health	1 (SC: 1)
	Environmental Science	1 (UR: 1)
	Gender Studies	1 (SC: 1)
	Population Studies	1 (OBC: 1)

Educational Qualifications	Relevant/Allied UGC NET Subject	No. of Seats and reservation
<p>Applicants who wish to apply for the GIS category should have qualified for JRF/NET in NTA-UGC examination in Geography/Environmental Science or should have cleared GATE in Geomatics Engineering/Environmental Science & Engineering with a master's degree - M.Sc/M.Tech in Geo-informatics/Remote Sensing/GIS or its related area, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade from any recognised institute/university.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>A candidate seeking admission after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme in Geography/Environmental Science/Geomatics Engineering/Environmental Science & Engineering/Geo-informatics/Remote Sensing/GIS or its related area should have a minimum of 75% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on a point scale wherever the grading system is followed. (University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedures for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2022.</p>	GIS NET/JRF/GATE	2 (UR: 1; OBC: 1)
<p>Should have qualified for GATE in Civil Engineering and must possess a master's degree (with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade, in Civil Engineering (CE) from a recognised institute/university.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>A candidate seeking admission after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme in Civil Engineering should have a minimum of 75% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on a point scale wherever the grading system is followed. (University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedures for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2022.</p>	GATE- Civil Engineering	1 (UR: 1)

No. of seats: 13 students, including 2 part-time seats for the academic year (2024-25).

Note: Part-time Ph.D. shall be considered subject to successful completion of course work and subject to approval of the Ph.D. Academic Committee. **(NET/JRF/GATE qualification mandatory for part-time Ph.D. also).**

Reservation Policy:

Category wise break up of seats for EWS, OBC, SC, ST and PwD is mentioned under “Reservation Roster Points” displayed separately on NIRDPR website.

Admission Process:

1. Applicants who have qualified in NTA-UGC- JRF (Category -1) shall be called first for personal Interviews. Their selection will be based on their performance in the personal interview.
2. Applicants who have qualified for Appointment as Assistant Professor and Admission to Ph.D. (Category -2) and Admission to Ph.D. Only (Category -3) shall also be called for personal interviews. However, their selection to the Ph.D. programme will be based on their combined merit of NET marks and the marks obtained in the personal interview with 70% weightage to the NET percentile and 30% weightage to their performance in the personal interview.
3. Applicants who have cleared GATE examination in Geomatics Engineering/Environmental Science & Engineering/Civil Engineering shall be called for personal interviews. However, their selection to the Ph.D. programme will be based on their combined merit of their GATE percentile and their performance in the personal interview with 70% weightage to the GATE percentile and 30% weightage to their performance in the personal interview.

Note:

- Minimum 70 percentile in NTA-UGC NET/GATE is the minimum requirement to be called for interviews.
- The marks obtained by the candidates in the UGC/NET/GATE June 2024/December 2024 examination conducted by UGC- NET and GATE shall be valid for a period of one year for the purpose of admission to Ph.D. programme. The validity of JRF will be as mentioned in the JRF award letter.

Research Proposal and Interview:

Applicants have to **submit a research proposal** related to rural development in not more than 2000 words in English along with their application. It must not be a copy of a study presented as part of any other programme. Applications without a research proposal will be rejected.

The research proposal related to rural development should present a critical understanding of the literature in the chosen area of research, the background of the issue/problem, research questions, objectives and some knowledge of the theoretical, conceptual and analytical frameworks.

Interview aims to assess

- the capacity of the applicant to undertake research.
- the relevance of the proposed research to rural development.
- feasibility of pursuing the proposed research at NIRDPR.

Fellowships:

Recognized and applicable fellowships could be availed by the Ph.D. students. NIRDPR offers no scholarships, however, in few select cases; NIRDPR will be providing Ph.D. students who do not have a fellowship, Trainee Research Fellowships (TRFs) across different centers of NIRDPR after completion of coursework and subject to the availability of research projects related to the area of research of the scholar. The TRFs will support the faculty of the concerned center in the training, research and other academic activities of the center including teaching in the training and academic programmes.

Irrespective of availing the fellowship or not, a Ph.D. scholar mandatorily has to participate in the training, research and teaching activities in his/her area of research at NIRDPR.

Fees:

Candidates offered admission have to pay a one-time admission fee of Rs.20,000, one-time JNU registration fee of Rs.10,000 and course fee of Rs.30,000 per year.

How to Apply:

1. Applicants need to visit <https://www.onlinesbi.sbi/sbicollect/icollecthome.htm?corpID=918472> and have to pay Rs.500/- towards application fee by selecting "Ph.D. application fee" from the Payment Category and save the fee payment acknowledgement.
2. Applicants need to visit <https://nirdpr.org.in/phd/phd.html>, download the application form, fill it up and email it along with self-attested supporting documents.
 - a. Fee payment receipt
 - b. Documents in support of educational qualifications from 10th standard to Masters/M.Phil., etc. (Self-attested)
 - c. UGC JRF offer letter/NET score card/GATE Score Card (Self attested)
 - d. Caste (SC/ST/OBC Non-Creamy Layer certificate) (Self attested)
 - e. Disability certificate (self-attested) if applicable
 - f. Income Certificate for EWS (self-attested) if applicable
 - g. Research publications if any
 - h. Research proposal on a topic related to rural development they wish to pursue Ph.D. in

Filled in application form with the supporting documents to be mailed to phd@nirdpr.org.in by 26th May, 2025 from the applicant's primary email address which is in use.

Important Dates:

Last date for receiving applications: 26th May 2025

Personal Interview: 9th June, 2025

Announcement of selected applicants for Ph.D. programme: 14th June, 2025

Commencement of the programme: 20th June, 2025

Applications received after the last date shall not be accepted. Applicants are advised to check the NIRDPR website at www.nirdpr.org.in for updates related to the admission to Ph.D. programme. Queries can be addressed to phd@nirdpr.org.in / 9700936499.

Disclaimer:

- NIRDPR reserves the right to make changes to the Ph.D. Programme, its design/content and the process of selection, depending upon the exigencies without assigning any reasons whatsoever.
