



Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration

1. Government of India has instituted a scheme in 2006 namely, “The Prime Minister’s Awards for Excellence in Public Administration” - to acknowledge, recognize and reward the extraordinary and innovative work done by Districts/ Organizations of the Central and State Governments. The Scheme was restructured in 2014 for recognizing the performance of District Collectors in Priority Programs, Innovations and Aspirational Districts. The Scheme has been restructured again in 2020, to recognize the performance of District Collectors towards economic development of the District. The Prime Minister’s Awards for Excellence in Public Administration under the restructured scheme shall be conferred by the Hon’ble Prime Minister on Rashtriya Ekta Diwas - October 31, 2020 at the Statue of Unity, Kevadia, Gujarat.

Restructured Scheme:

2. For the year 2020, the scheme for Prime Minister’s Awards for Excellence in Public Administration has been comprehensively restructured to recognize the contribution of civil servants in strengthening of:
 - (i) Inclusive Development through Credit Flow to the Priority Sector
 - (ii) Promoting people’s movements – “Jan Bhagidari” through Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban and Gramin) in the District
 - (iii) Improving Service Delivery and Redressal of Public Grievances

The scope of the awards has been expanded to identify areas of overall outcome-oriented performance in the districts across sectors. The contribution of District Collectors would be recognized for implementation of Inclusive Credit Flow to the Priority Sector, promoting people’s movements through Jan Bhagidari and Improving Service Delivery and Redressal of Public Grievances.

3. Further the Prime Minister’s Awards for Excellence in Public Administration seek to recognize the efforts of District level officials in Namami Gange Program.

4. The award for the Aspirational Districts Program has been revamped to reward the District having the best overall progress under the Scheme following 2 years of implementation.
5. The Innovations category has traditionally received the highest number of nominations. The scheme has been broad based to recognize Innovations at National/ State / District level in 3 separate categories.

6. Award categories:

6.1 District Performance Indicators Programme & Innovation

The category wise schemes under District Performance Indicators Program (DPIP) and implementation are identified for evaluation as follows:

i. Scheme1: Inclusive Development through Credit Flow to the Priority Sector

The Annual Credit Plan is prepared every year in each district which indicates a plan for purveying credit by the banks in the district for priority as well as non-priority sectors. In almost all the districts, priority sector credit plays an important role in development of various sectors of district's economy. Thus, performance of a district in selective categories under priority sector lending will be taken as the assessment criterion for forwarding the districts.

The PM's Awards Scheme 2020 seeks to recognise the contribution of the best performing districts in facilitating implementation of Annual Credit Plan. A maximum of two awards will be given for the scheme.

ii. Scheme 2 : Promoting People's Movements – “Jan Bhagidari” through Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban and Gramin) in the District

The Districts and urban local bodies would be evaluated based on the overall progress achieved in Swachh Bharat Mission by promoting people's movement through Jan Bhagidhari.

The scheme seeks to recognise the contribution of the best performing districts and urban local bodies in facilitating implementation of Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban and Gramin). These have witnessed high level of Jan Bhagidari with People's participation at the district level. A maximum of two awards will be given for the scheme with one award each for Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) and Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin).

iii. Scheme 3 : Improving Service Delivery and Redressal of Public Grievances

The District Collector has a direct interface with public and promotes ease of living at district level in a number of ways. Improved service delivery has been an integral focus of government policy that has promoted e-governance, providing e-services through integrated web portals, implementation of Citizens Charter and timely redressal of public grievances filed through online Portals.

Total number of e-services provided at district level, timely disposal of public grievances and other innovative interventions shall comprise the monitorable components of the scheme. A maximum of two awards will be given for the scheme.

A maximum of 6 awards will be given in the category of District Performance Indicators Programme & Innovation [2 Awards each for Schemes mentioned at Para 6.1 (i), (ii) and (iii)].

6.2. Innovation General Category:

The Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration Scheme has been revamped to recognise innovations at Central, State and District,

level by officers from all Services and State Service officers. Nominations can be submitted by Heads of Departments/ District Collectors/ Central and State Governments under the innovation category. In this category awards shall be given to Organizations of Central Government, State Governments and Districts for various innovations like **innovations in environment conservation, water conservation, energy, education, health, women & child centric initiatives, sustainable farming (Organic/Natural farming etc.), promoting livelihoods, boosting economy, improving governance, etc.** This is just an illustrative list and innovations in any field of administration are eligible for the Awards.

There **will be 6 Awards in this category**; two awards each for District, State and Central level initiatives respectively.

6.3. Aspirational Districts Program:

Two awards will be given for the totality of the performance under the Aspirational Districts Program. Assessment of overall performance of the aspirational districts along various parameters will be made. The aspirational districts would be evaluated based on the progress made in the evaluation period. Furthermore, Aspirational Districts will be ranked and then awarded.

6.4. Namami Gange Program:

A Flagship Programme and an integrated conservation Mission, “Namami Gange Programme” was launched in June 2014 to accomplish the twin objectives of effective abatement of pollution, conservation and rejuvenation of National River Ganga.

Under this award category **one award** shall be given to a district out of the 57 notified Districts Ganga Committees under Namami Gange Programme.

7. Eligibility:

7.1. The eligibility to submit nominations for the Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration 2020 would be open to the following:

- a) Awards for Districts Performance Indicators Programme for excellence to Districts based on Performance Indicators: District / Implementing Unit.
- b) Awards for Innovation: Organizations of Central/ State Governments / Districts/Implementing Units
- c) Aspirational District Program – the notified Aspirational Districts under the scheme
- d) Award for Namami Gange will be considered out of the 57 notified District Ganga Committees.

7.2. Period of consideration is 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2020.

7.3 The total number of Awards under the Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration 2020 would be 15.

8. Criteria for evaluation:

- a) The awards for District Performance Indicator Programme, Aspirational districts and Namami Gange will be evaluated based on pre-determined indicators in consultation with Line Ministries/ Departments/ NITI Aayog.
- b) The award for Innovation(General) will be evaluated based on the following criteria:
 - i. Introducing and implementing an innovative idea/ scheme/project to meet stakeholders' requirement.
 - ii. Bringing perceptible improvement in processes/ systems and building institutions.
 - iii. Making public delivery systems responsive, transparent and efficient particularly by leveraging technology.

- iv. Preparedness/ performance in emergent situations, disasters like cyclone, earthquake, flood etc.

9. Processing of applications:

9.1 Online applications shall be invited from Districts/ Implementing Units /Organizations under the various **District Performance Indicators Programme (DPIP) categories, Namami Gange, as well as Innovation (General)** in the prescribed format detailing their achievements specifically highlighting path-breaking innovation done by any functionary/ organisation.

9.2. Step I: Short-listing of Districts/ Organizations by Screening Committee (first stage)

Screening Committee(s) chaired by Additional Secretary level officer(s) shall examine the applications of identified Districts under DPIP, Namami Gange Programme and Innovation (General). For evaluation of Aspirational Districts Programme, Screening Committee would be headed by a senior officer (equivalent to the Additional Secretary level) of NITI Aayog. Inputs received with respect to overall work done in the Aspirational district would be taken into consideration.

The Screening Committees would be constituted with the approval of the Secretary (DARPG).

9.3. Step II: Short-listing of Districts/ Organizations by Screening Committee (second stage):

Presentations by DCs and feedback from beneficiaries/ stakeholders; shortlisted in the first stage will be obtained through a Call-Centre. Screening Committee(s) will then examine the shortlisted applications on the basis of presentations & analysis of feedback received from the Call Centre and will further shortlist the applications.

9.4. Step III: Evaluation by Expert Committee:

A two-member team of officers of Central Government, not below the rank of Deputy Secretary, will conduct 'on the spot study' of the implementation of various award Programmes/ initiatives for innovation in Districts/ Organizations shortlisted by the Screening Committee.

There would be two Expert Committees- one headed by Secretary, DARPG for DPI Programme, Namami Gange Programme and Innovation (General), second headed by CEO, NITI Aayog for Aspirational Districts Programme(ADP). The Expert Committees would evaluate the spot study reports and further shortlist the District(s)/ Organizations for making recommendation to the Empowered Committee chaired by the Cabinet Secretary.

The Expert Committee would be constituted with the approval of the Cabinet Secretary.

9.5. Step IV: Recommendation of the Empowered Committee: The Empowered Committee shall be chaired by the Cabinet Secretary.

9.6. The Empowered Committee will consider the recommendations of the Expert Committee and may ask the applicants to make a presentation and/ or make such inquiry as deemed fit.

9.7. The Empowered Committee will then make its recommendations to the Prime Minister for final selection of Awards.

9.8. The Empowered Committee shall be constituted with the approval of the Prime Minister.

9.9. Step V: Approval of the Prime Minister for the Awards.

10. Submission of application(s):

- (i) Applications for the Award shall be received online in the prescribed format. All the columns of the application form must be duly filled as per the instructions contained therein.

- (ii) Applications should contain a write-up on the District Performance Indicators Programme/ Innovation along with supporting documents like executive summary, field photographs (maximum 10), flow charts detailing uniqueness and success story of the initiative. Along with the application, a short film of 3-5 minutes duration highlighting the initiative/ innovation may also be appended.
- (iii) The write up should contain details of the programme/initiative, strategies adopted in implementation, period of implementation, exceptional achievements and outcomes, positive impact and sustainability.
- (iv) The application for award in innovation should contain the details of beneficiaries/ stakeholders of the initiatives/ projects.
- (v) For award in innovation, the organization may be represented by the serving Head of the organization or an officer nominated by him/ her for receiving the award.
- (vi) Applications with incomplete/ insufficient details shall not be considered.
- (vii) An index should be provided for all abbreviations/acronyms used in the application and documentation.

11.Details of Award:

- (a) The award shall consist of a (i) trophy, (ii) scroll and (iii) an incentive of Rs. ten lakh to the awarded District/organization to be utilized for implementation of project/ programme or bridging resource gaps in any area of public welfare.
- (b) The awardees will also be given a Certificate of Recognition, a copy of which will be placed in the APAR of the officer/ team submitting the nomination.

- 12.** In all matters of the Awards Scheme, the decision of the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, Ministry of Personnel, PublicGrievances and Pension, Government of India, would be final and binding.

13. Approval of the Prime Minister:

Prime Minister's approval will be taken on the recommendations of the Empowered Committee for the Awards.