



सत्यमेव जयते

**Scheme for  
Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence  
in  
Public Administration 2023**

**Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances  
Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions  
Government of India**

## **Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration 2023**

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 was restructured again in 2020, to recognize the performance of District Collectors towards economic development of the District. The Scheme was revamped with a new approach in 2021 with the objective to encourage Constructive Competition, Innovation, Replication and Institutionalisation of Best Practices. Under this approach, emphasis would be on good governance, qualitative achievement and last mile connectivity, rather than only on achievement of quantitative targets.

2. The Award Scheme is now being restructured to recognize the performance of the District Collector through targeted individual beneficiaries and implementation with a saturation approach. With this in focus, the applications for Awards would be evaluated on three parameters; Good Governance, Qualitative and Quantitative.

3. It is expected that the Central Ministries, States and all Districts participate in this Scheme of Prime Minister’s Awards for 2023. The Prime Minister’s Awards for Excellence in Public Administration under this new scheme shall be conferred by the Hon’ble Prime Minister.

### **4. Prime Minister’s Awards for Excellence in Public Administration Scheme 2023:**

For the year 2023, the scheme for Prime Minister’s Awards for Excellence in Public Administration aims to recognize the contribution of civil servants in holistic development of the District under the following schemes:

- (i) Har Ghar Jal Yojana
- (ii) Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramin)
- (iii) Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban)
- (iv) Mission Indradhanush
- (v) Pradhan Mantri -Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY)
- (vi) Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)
- (vii) PM SVANidhi
- (viii) Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana
- (ix) PM Vishvakarma Yojana
- (x) PM MUDRA Yojana
- (xi) Pradhan Mantri Poshan Yojana
- (xii) Kisan Credit Card Scheme for Farmers, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries

The applications for the award would be required to cover all the aspects of implementation of the cumulative implementation of the above schemes in a holistic manner, with focus on saturation approach, such as, activities covering production stage, quality control, governance and outcomes. Any application for the awards is expected to comprise of three parts:

- i) Governance: To include governance model to implement the programme, capacity/ skill of deployed Human Resource (HR), capacity building mechanism for HR deployed in the implementation, methodology to enhance transparency, Public Grievance redressal mechanism and its functioning, technology driven governance architecture.
- ii) Qualitative: Quality Control mechanism, Jan Bhagidari, Capacity Building/ skilling for quality control, Behavioural change brought about through the scheme, feedback mechanism and impression of beneficiaries covered under the scheme.
- iii) Quantitative: to include quantifiable parameters to assess the scheme in holistic manner and covering all the stages of implementation of a programme.

With the emphasis on the above, the parameters for evaluation would include quantifiable parameters to be laid down by the concerned Nodal Departments for that Award and broad indicators for qualitative and governance to be provided by the Department (DARPG), on which the specific and detailed information, along with evidence would be provided in the application. The Districts and the implementing agencies would be expected to emphasize such elements in the strategy that have enhanced quality and good governance in the scheme. The elements of good governance that are to be promoted include measures towards:

- I. Enhancing transparency and checking corruption.
- II. Effectiveness of administration and regulatory quality
- III. Accountability
- IV. Inclusiveness and community participation
- V. Grievance Redressal mechanism and feedback system
- VI. Quality and Capability of Human Resource and mechanism of capacity building
- VII. Replicability and Sustainability
- VIII. Convergence of schemes

Further, the good governance practices and methodology vary among the Districts/ implementing agencies. The measures introduced to strengthen the scheme administrative architecture on the above stated eight parameters may be included in the applications. In assessment of an application for all the Awards the overall weightage for Quantitative, Governance and Qualitative parameters shall be 50%, 30% and 20% for the year 2023.

Since “Jan Bhagidari” is an important plank of implementation of government schemes, this would be analysed by following ecosystem approach, where the contribution of Jan Bhagidari at all the stages of implementation, such as mobilisation, production, quality control, seeking

feedback of persons covered, as well as implementation of scheme shall be assessed. Further, additional weightage would be given to such applications where the Jan Bhagidari is successfully deployed through novel approaches.

5. The Innovations category has traditionally received the highest number of nominations. The scheme aims to recognize Innovations at National/ State / District level in 3 separate categories. The scheme will aim to recognise and award projects which demonstrate a high level of impact, sustainability and replicability. Towards this, along with the evidence of impact of innovation, random feedback of citizens, sustainability plan/ roadmap for the innovative practice, a tool-kit for replication would be required to be mandatorily provided by the concerned applicant. Further, such an innovation model is desired to be part of implementation of an ongoing scheme or pertain to governance, rather than being a stand-alone innovation. The impact of such an innovation in overall achievement/ implementation of scheme would be assessed and the applications would be expected to include supportive evidence/ data.

## 6. Award categories:

### 6.1 Category - 1

This Category will have the following components under which the performance of the Districts will be evaluated in a cumulative manner. The Scheme seeks to encourage last mile delivery, saturation approach and citizen centricity. District Collectors will present a comprehensive picture of the progress achieved across the listed schemes and their leadership role over the implementation period in the nomination form.

#### i. Har Ghar Jal Yojana

Announced by Hon'ble Prime Minister on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2019, Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) is implemented in partnership with States, to make provision of potable tap water supply to every rural household and public institution like Schools, Anganwadi centers, Ashramshalas, health care centres, etc. of the country by 2024. To bring transparency and effective monitoring, an online 'JJM dashboard' has been put in place, which provides State/ UT, district and village-wise progress as well as information regarding the provision of tap water supply to rural homes, schools, Anganwadi Centers (AWCs), Ashramshalas etc. The assessment under the award shall be overall performance of districts in ensuring potable water supply to rural households and public institutions.

#### ii. Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramin)

In order to achieve the target of "Housing for All" in rural areas, the Ministry of Rural Development is implementing Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Gramin (PMAY-G) with effect from 1st April, 2016 to provide assistance to eligible rural households with an overall target to construct 2.95 crore pucca houses with basic amenities by March, 2024. Against the target of 2.95 crore houses, a total of 2.92 crore houses have been sanctioned to the beneficiaries by various States/Union Territories and 2.41 crore houses have been completed as on 19.07.2023.

Monitoring of PMAY-G is done through real time capture of progress using work flow enabled transactional data in MIS i.e. Awaas Soft. For process monitoring, inspection is done by central teams [Area Officers and National Level Monitors (NLM)], monitoring is also done by District Development Coordination and Monitoring (DISHA) Committee headed by Member of Parliament, Social Audit, etc.

### **iii. Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban)**

Launched in 2015, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) is changing the lives of people by addressing the urban housing shortage among the Economically Weaker Section (EWS)/Low Income Group (LIG) category, including slum dwellers, by providing eligible urban households with a pucca (permanent) house. The scheme also promotes women empowerment by providing the ownership of houses in the name of female member or in a joint name. Since 2015, more than 74.25 lakh houses have been completed (as on May 24, 2023). Moreover, there has been a significant increase in approved PMAY(U) has transformed the lives of the poor by providing affordable housing, improving living conditions, and empowering women. The scheme has offered financial assistance for home ownership, slum rehabilitation and access to basic amenities, leading to reduced slum populations, increased employment opportunities, and enhanced social inclusion. Overall, it has significantly improved the Ease of Living for the citizens.

### **iv. Mission Indradhanush**

Mission Indradhanush was launched in 2014 to rapidly increase the full immunization coverage to 90%. It aims to reduce child mortality and accelerate the process of full immunization coverage for children at a rapid pace, ensuring that all children under the age of 2 years and pregnant women are fully immunized with all available vaccine. Through Mission Indradhanush, the government aims at generating a high demand for immunizations services by addressing communication challenges; Enhancing administrative and financial commitment through advocacy with key stakeholders; and; Ensuring that the unvaccinated and partially vaccinated children are fully immunized as per the national immunization schedule.

### **v. Pradhan Mantri - Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY)**

Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri -Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY), India's flagship programme was launched on 23rd September 2018. The scheme was launched as recommended by the National Health Policy 2017, to achieve the vision of Universal Health Coverage (UHC). Currently, Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri-Jan Arogya Yojana is being implemented in 33 States and Union Territories (UTs) except for Delhi, Odisha and West Bengal. Approximately 5 crore hospital admissions have been authorised under the scheme. Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY has resulted in huge out-of-pocket expenditure saving for the targeted beneficiaries. Further, a total of 28,351 hospitals including 12,824 private hospitals have been empanelled under the scheme. Also, as the scheme has portability feature enabled, beneficiaries are availing treatment across the country through a wide network of public and private hospitals.

#### **vi. Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)**

Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) was started in May, 2016 with an objective to provide clean cooking fuel to poor households across the country. Under PMUY, a deposit free LPG connection is provided to adult women from poor households. The target to release 8 crore connections under PMUY Phase-I was achieved in September, 2019. To cover the remaining poor households, PMUY Phase-2 (Ujjwala 2.0) was launched in August 2021 with a target to release 1 crore additional PMUY connections, which was achieved in January 2022. Subsequently, the Government decided to release 60 lakh more LPG connections under Ujjwala 2.0 and the target of 1.60 crore under Ujjwala 2.0 connections was achieved in December, 2022. LPG consumption of PMUY beneficiaries is monitored on regular basis. Consumption of domestic LPG by households depends on several factors like food habits, household size, cooking habits, price, availability of alternate fuels etc. The Government has approved the extension of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) in September 2023 for release of 75 lakh LPG connections over three years from Financial Year 2023-24 to 2025-26.

#### **vii. PM SVANidhi**

One of the main objectives of PM Street Vendors' AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Scheme is to increase the adoption of digital transactions by the beneficiary Street Vendors through a cashback Scheme. The Scheme aims to bring the hitherto unbanked street vendor into the fold of formal banking channels thereby assimilating them into the formal urban economy. The scheme was launched in June 2020 and is operational in more than 4,600 Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), Industrial Development Areas, Cantonment Boards and Hill Area Councils. The activities that would be assessed would include the qualitative, good governance aspects in implementation and quantitative outcomes achieved under the scheme. The Scheme has three distinct components – credit delivery, safety net for Vendor's families and digital transactions. The entire scheme including digital transactions is implemented through an innovative digital platform, which connects various stakeholders electronically. The good governance activities for digital payment transaction include activities towards financial literacy, mechanism to check fraudulent activities, complaint redressal and mechanism in place, as well as facility for taking action on the frauds committed and investigations of offences registered. To evaluate good governance under this scheme all actions taken by the implementing agency/ applicant towards the above stated activities would be required to be included in the application for the assessment.

#### **viii. Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY)**

From 01.01.2017, the Maternity Benefit Programme is implemented in all the districts of the country. The programme is named as "Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY). Under PMMVY, cash incentives of ₹5,000/- is provided directly to the Bank/Post Office account of the beneficiary in Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode for first child. The eligible beneficiaries receive the remaining cash incentive, as per approved norms towards maternity benefit under Janani Suraksha Yojana after institutional delivery, so that on an average a woman gets ₹6,000/-. Cash incentive of ₹6,000/- is also provided to eligible beneficiaries under revised PMMVY with effect from 01.04.2022 for second child subject to the second child being a girl. PMMVY is implemented using the platform of Anganwadi Services scheme

of Umbrella Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) of Govt. of India in respect of States/UTs implementing scheme through Women and Child Development Department/Social Welfare Department and through Health system in respect of States/UTs where scheme is implemented by Health & Family Welfare Department.

**ix. PM Vishwakarma Yojana**

PM Vishwakarma was launched in August 2023 with a financial outlay of Rs.13,000 crore for a period of five years (FY 2023-24 to FY 2027-28). The scheme aims to strengthen and nurture the Guru-Shishya parampara or family-based practice of traditional skills by artisans and craftspeople working with their hands and tools. The scheme also aims at improving the quality, as well as the reach of products and services of artisans and craftspeople and to ensure that the Vishwakarmas are integrated with the domestic and global value chains. Under PM Vishwakarma scheme, the artisans and craftspeople will be provided recognition through PM Vishwakarma certificate and ID card, Credit Support upto Rs.1 lakh (First Tranche) and Rs.2 lakh (Second Tranche) with a concessional interest rate of 5%. The Scheme will further provide Skill Upgradation, Toolkit Incentive, Incentive for Digital Transactions and Marketing Support.

**x. Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY)**

The Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY) was launched on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2015 by Government of India with the aim to facilitate easy collateral-free micro credit of up to ₹10 lakhs to non-corporate, non-farm small and micro entrepreneurs for income generating activities. The loans under PMMY are provided by Member Lending Institutions (MLIs), i.e., Banks, Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs), Micro Finance Institutions (MFIs) and other financial intermediaries. The government policy of promoting MUDRA has led millions of MSME enterprises in the formal economy and has helped them to get out of the clutches of money-lenders offering very high cost funds.

**xi. Promoting “Jan Bhagidari” or Peoples’ participation in Poshan Abhiyan**

POSHAN Abhiyaan aims to improve nutritional outcomes for children, adolescents, pregnant women & lactating mothers. The Abhiyaan focuses on converting the agenda of improving nutrition into a Jan Andolan through Behavioural Change while addressing malnutrition across the nation through components like Convergence, ICT Application, Community Mobilization and Behavioural Change, Jan Andolan, Capacity Building, Incentives and Awards, and Innovations. Further, the outcome of Poshan Abhiyan is dependent on the activities preceding provision and availability of Poshan at the Anganwadi. Such prior activities covering production, quality control, community participation in production, quality control and transportation of Poshan to the Anganwadi are essential in evaluation of the Abhiyan in a holistic manner. POSHAN Abhiyaan has taken up a number of initiatives in improving the nutritional status of women and children by conducting activities relating to i) Nutritional Parameters, ii) Community Mobilization, and iii) Improvement of the infrastructure at the Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) in the districts.

## **xii. Kisan Credit Card Scheme for Farmers, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries**

The Government of India launched the Kisan Credit Card Scheme for Farmers on July 04, 2018. The scheme aims at providing adequate and timely credit support from the banking system under a single window with flexible and simplified procedure to the farmers individual/joint borrowers who are owner cultivators, tenant farmers, oral lessees & share croppers, Self Help Groups (SHGs) or Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) of farmers including tenant farmers, share croppers etc. for their cultivation and other needs Considering the importance of this sector, the government in 2018-19 extended the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) facility to animal husbandry farmers and Fisheries Farmers to help them meet their working capital requirements. The detailed guidelines were issued by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2019 covering the eligibility criterion, scale of finance etc. Bank authorities have been instructed to issue KCC within 14 days of receipt of the completed application from the fish farmers. The KCC has been extended to the farmers doing allied activities including Animal Husbandry and dairying and Fisheries. From February, 2020 Government of India is running KCC Saturation drive in order to increase coverage under Kisan Credit Card Scheme.

**Ten best performing Districts** on a cumulative aggregate criteria will be given awards under this Category. The progress achieved by Districts in adopting saturation approach in the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2024 would be considered for the Award nomination.

### **6.2. Category 2 - Innovation:**

(i) The Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration Scheme recognise innovations at Central, State and District level by officers from all Central Services, as well as from the State Service officers. Nominations can be submitted by Central Ministries/Departments, State/UT Governments and District Collectors under the innovation category. In this category, awards shall be given to Central Ministries / Departments, State/UT Governments and Districts for various innovations in any field of administration.

There **will be 6 Awards in this category**; two awards each for Central level, State level and District level initiatives respectively for its demonstration of innovation which is sustainable and can be replicated. Assessment of the award would be structured on the premise stated at para 4 above.

### **7. Eligibility:**

The eligibility to submit nominations for the Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration 2023 would be open to the following:

- (i) Awards for **Category 1 at 6.1 shall be open** for all District Collectors.
- (ii) Awards for **Category 2 - Innovation at para 6.2** shall be open for Central Government Ministries / Departments, State/UT Governments and Districts.

**The Period of consideration is 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2024. The total number of Awards under the Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration 2023 would be 16**



## **8. Criteria for evaluation:**

(i) The awards for **PM's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration 2023 (excluding Innovation)** will be evaluated based on pre-determined indicators in consultation with Line Ministries/ Departments. There would be a mix of common parameters across schemes and flexible parameters which would be provided by the concerned Line Ministries/Departments.

(ii) The award for Innovation Category will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- a) Introducing and implementing an innovative idea/ scheme/project to meet stakeholders' requirement.
- b) Bringing perceptible improvement in processes/ systems and building institutions.
- c) Making public delivery systems responsive, transparent and efficient, particularly by leveraging technology.
- d) Preparedness/ performance in emergent situations, disasters like cyclone, earthquake, flood etc.
- e) Replication of best practices
- f) Sustainability of the Innovation
- g) Evidence of impact, the sustainability plan/ roadmap and tool-kit for replication
- h) Innovation model should desirably be part of implementation of a scheme or governance, where its impact could be observed and evaluated.

## **9. Processing of applications:**

(i) Online applications shall be invited from Central Ministries / Departments / State/UT Governments /Districts/ Implementing Units /Organizations under aforementioned schemes in the prescribed format detailing their achievements specifically highlighting path-breaking innovation done by any functionary/ organisation.

(ii) **Step I: Short-listing by Screening Committee (first stage):**

Screening Committee(s) chaired by Additional Secretary level officer(s) shall examine the applications of identified Central Ministries / Departments, State/UT Governments and Districts under **Category 1 and Category 2- Innovation**. Inputs received with respect to holistic approach by the district and evidence of governance improvement done in the district would be taken into consideration. The Screening Committees would be constituted with the approval of the Secretary (DARPG).

(iii) **Step II: Short-listing by Screening Committee (second stage):**

Presentations by DCs and other applicants and feedback from beneficiaries / stakeholders on the applications shortlisted in the first stage will be obtained through a Call-Centre. The feedback will aim to verify whether the stated convergence of schemes and improvement in governance has been achieved. It would also aim to check the level of Jan Bhagidari in the districts. 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.

**(iv) 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 schemes/ initiatives for innovation in Central Ministries / Departments, State/UT Governments and Districts shortlisted by the Screening Committee. The team would look at the impact of implementation in inducing behavioural changes and improvement in governance.

There would be an Expert Committees headed by Secretary, DARPG. The Expert Committees would evaluate the spot study reports and further shortlist the Central Ministries / Departments, State/UT Governments and Districts level initiatives for making recommendation to the Empowered Committee chaired by the Cabinet Secretary. The Expert Committees would be constituted with the approval of the Cabinet Secretary.

**(v) Step IV: Recommendation of the Empowered Committee:** The Empowered Committee shall be chaired by the Cabinet Secretary.

**(vi)** 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.

**(vii)** The Empowered Committee will then make its recommendations to the Hon'ble Prime Minister for final selection of Awards.

**(viii)** The Empowered Committee shall be constituted with the approval of the Hon'ble Prime Minister.

**(ix) Step V:** Approval of the Hon'ble Prime Minister for the Awards.

**10. Submission of application(s):**

(i) Applications for the PM Awards shall be received online through current incumbent 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 based on common and flexible parameters on the **Category 1 and Category 2- 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, replication and sustainability.

(iv) The application for award in innovation should contain the details of beneficiaries/ stakeholders of the initiatives/ projects.

(v) For an award, the organisation may be represented by the serving Head of the organization or an officer nominated by him / her for receiving the award or an Officer who has contributed towards the initiative, and the decision in this regard will be taken by the concerned Central Ministry / Department or State Government.

(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:**

(i) The PM Awards for Excellence in Public Administration 2023 shall consist of a (i) trophy, (ii) scroll and (iii) an incentive of Rs. 20 lacs to the awarded District/Organization to be utilized for implementation of project/ programme or bridging resource gaps in any area of public welfare.

(ii) A letter of appreciation to be issued by the Secretary, DARPG to the officers who have contributed towards the initiative with a copy to Secretary of concerned Central Ministry/ Department/ Chief Secretary of the concerned State/UT . A copy of the letter to be sent to DOPT for placing in the Performance Appraisal Dossier of the officer.

**12.** In all matters of the Awards Scheme, the decision of the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances 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 for the Awards.