



**Scheme for
Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence
in
Public Administration 2024**

**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 2024

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. With this in focus, the applications for Awards would be evaluated on three parameters; Good Governance, Qualitative and Quantitative.

2. It is expected that the Central Ministries, States and all Districts participate in this Scheme of Prime Minister’s Awards for 2024. The Prime Minister’s Awards for Excellence in Public Administration under this new scheme shall be conferred by the Hon’ble Prime Minister.

3. Prime Minister’s Awards for Excellence in Public Administration Scheme 2024

For the year 2024, the scheme for Prime Minister’s Awards for Excellence in Public Administration aims to recognize the contribution of civil servants under the following categories :-

Category 1 - Holistic Development of Districts

Category 2- Aspirational Blocks Programme

Category 3 – Innovation

The applications for the award would be required to cover all the aspects as stated below.

3.1 Holistic Development of Districts

For the year 2024, 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) PM SVANidhi
- (vii) Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana
- (viii) Kisan Credit Card Scheme for Farmers, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries
- (ix) PM Vishwakarma

- (x) Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0
- (xi) PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana

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) Quantitative: to include quantifiable parameters to assess the scheme in holistic manner and covering all the stages of implementation of a programme.
- ii) 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.
- iii) 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.

With the emphasis on the above, the parameters for evaluation would include quantifiable parameters provided by the concerned Nodal Departments for that Award and broad indicators for qualitative and governance to be laid down in the Application Form by the Department (DARPG), on which the specific and detailed information, along with evidence would be provided in the application. The Districts 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 2024.**

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.

3.2 Aspirational Blocks Programme

The Aspirational Blocks Programme (ABP) was launched on January 7, 2023, during the 2nd National Conference of Chief Secretaries. This aims to transform 500 blocks across 329 districts from 27 States & 4 Union Territories. The ABP focuses on improving governance to enhance the quality of life of citizens most difficult and underdeveloped blocks of India by converging existing schemes, defining outcomes, and monitoring them. Under ABP, 40 Key Performance Indicators are identified to measure the progress of the blocks under 5 themes of Health and Nutrition, Education, Agriculture and Allied Services, Social Development and Basic Infrastructure. The blocks are ranked on the basis of incremental progress achieved by the blocks, thus instilling a sense of healthy competition among them and financial incentives are also awarded on a quarterly basis.

The awards will be given for the totality of the performance under the Aspirational Blocks Program. Assessment of overall performance of the Aspirational Blocks along various parameters will be made. The Aspirational Blocks would be evaluated based on the progress made in the evaluation period.

3.3 Innovation

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 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 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 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.

4. Award categories:

4.1 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 15th 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. 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 Awaas 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. As on date, against a cumulative target of 2.95 crore houses, all the houses have been sanctioned by the States and UTs and 2.68 crore houses have been completed so far.

It has also been approved for the construction of 2 crore additional rural houses over the next 5 years (FY 2024-25 to 2028-2029) to meet the arising need for housing due to an increase in the number of families. Monitoring of PMAY-G is done through real time capture of progress using workflow 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. 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 all States and Union Territories (UTs) except for Delhi and West Bengal. As on date, approximately 8.39 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 29,929 hospitals including 13,222 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. 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.

vii. 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.

viii. Kisan Credit Card Scheme for Farmers, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries

The Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme was introduced in 1998 for issue of Kisan Credit Cards to farmers based on their holdings for uniform adoption by the banks so that farmers may use them to readily purchase agriculture inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, pesticides etc. and draw cash for their production needs. Considering the importance of this sector, the government in 2018-19 extended KCC facility to animal husbandry farmers and Fisheries Farmers to help them meet their working capital requirements. In December 2024, the RBI has also enhanced the collateral free loan limit under KCC from Rs.1.6 lakhs to Rs.2.00 lakhs which will be enforced from 1st January 2025.

The Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS), a Central Sector Scheme, 100% funded by GoI, was launched in the year 2006-07 with a view to provide short term Agri-loans availed by farmers through KCC for their working capital requirements at concessional interest rate. The MISS provides Interest Subvention (IS) of 1.5% per annum to financial institutions on use of their own resources used for lending short term crop loans up to Rs.3.00 lakhs per farmer, provided that the lending institutions make short-term credit available at 7% per annum to farmers. Additionally, 3% Prompt Repayment Incentive (PRI) is provided to farmers who repay on time, effectively bringing down the rate of interest to 4% per annum.

ix. PM Vishwakarma

PM Vishwakarma was launched in September 2023 with a financial outlay of Rs.13000 crore. The scheme aims to strengthen and nurture the Guru-Shishya prampara or family-based practice of traditional skills by artisans and craftspeople working with their hands and tools. The Scheme aims at improving the quality, as well as 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. Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0

Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 (Mission Poshan 2.0) is an Integrated Nutrition Support Programme. It seeks to address the challenges of malnutrition in children, adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers through a strategic shift in nutrition content. and delivery and by creation of a convergent eco-system to develop and promote practices that nurture health,

wellness and immunity. 'Mission Poshan 2.0' subsumes the Anganwadi Services (AWS), Poshan Abhiyaan and Scheme for Adolescent Girls (SAG).

Through the Anganwadi platform, supplementary nutrition for children below 6 years of age, Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers, pre-school non-formal education, nutrition & health education, immunization, health check-up and referral services are provided.

Poshan Abhiyaan under Mission Poshan 2.0 seeks to transform nutrition improvement into a Jan Andolan by use of information and communication technology, community mobilization and promoting positive behavioral change. To strengthen and bring transparency to nutrition delivery at Anganwadi centers, Poshan Tracker application has been rolled out on March 1, 2021.

Under the Scheme for Adolescent Girls, the beneficiaries are Adolescent Girls in the age group of 14 to 18 years across all the districts of North East Region and Aspirational Districts of other States. The scheme aims to address the inter-generational issues related to malnutrition by following a life cycle approach. The scheme provides supplementary nutrition in the identified areas of the country for improving their health and nutritional status. The non-nutrition component the scheme provides IFA supplementation, health check-up and referral service, nutrition & health education, skilling, etc.

xi. PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana

The PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana was approved with a total outlay of Rs.75,021 crore for installing rooftop solar and providing free electricity up to 300 units every month for One Crore households. The Prime Minister had launched the scheme on 13th February, 2024.

This initiative aims to provide free electricity to households by facilitating the installation of rooftop solar panels. The scheme offers a subsidy of up to 40 percent to households, making renewable energy more affordable and accessible. In just nine months, 6.3 lakh installations have been completed, resulting in an impressive monthly installation rate of 70,000, ten times higher than the pre-scheme average. With a goal to benefit one crore households, the program is also expected to save the government ₹75,000 crores annually in electricity costs, reinforcing India's commitment to sustainable development and energy innovation.

With installations projected to exceed 10 lakh by March 2025, and reaching the target of one crore by March 2027, the scheme is on track to deliver widespread benefits. Through substantial subsidies, accessible financing options, and a focus on renewable energy, the initiative will not only provide free electricity to households but also contribute to significant savings for the government, reduced carbon emissions, and job creation.

Five best performing Districts on cumulative aggregate criteria will be given awards under this Category. The progress achieved by Districts in adopting saturation approach in the period **1st April 2022 to 31st December, 2024** would be considered for the Award nomination.

4.2 Category 2 – Aspirational Blocks Programme

The awards will be given for the totality of the performance under the Aspirational Blocks Program. The Districts with Aspirational Blocks will participate in this Category covering 500 Aspirational Blocks. In districts with multiple Aspirational Blocks, a separate online Nomination Form by DARPG for this purpose, shall be required to be filled for each of the Aspirational Blocks. Independent evaluation will be carried on for each Aspirational Block. The Aspirational Blocks would be evaluated based on the progress made in the evaluation period. In assessment of an application for the Aspirational Blocks Programme, the overall weightage for

Quantitative, Governance and Qualitative parameters shall also be 50%, 30% and 20% for the year 2024.

Five Awards for best performing Aspirational Blocks shall be given to the concerned Districts.

4.3. Category 3 - 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.

Assessment of the award would be structured on the premise stated in the Online Application Form. The key aspects covered will include Innovative practices under any field of administration. There should be a focus on a clear identification of existing processes which needed improvement/change, creation of awareness about the suggested changes, stakeholders/ beneficiary participation in the change management process, and fulfilment of the stakeholders' requirements in the changed scenario. Use of Technology and digital capacity building under the revised processes will also be considered towards making the public delivery system more responsive, transparent and efficient. The applicants will elaborate if innovation resulted in a seamless, faceless, end to end service delivery mechanism

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.

5. Eligibility:

The eligibility to submit nominations for the Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration 2024 would be open to the following:

- (i) Awards for **Category 1 at 4.1 shall be open** for all District Collectors.
- (ii) Awards for **Category 2 at 4.2** shall be open for the best overall progress to be given to Districts covering 500 Aspirational Blocks.
- (iii) Awards for **Category 3 - Innovation at para 4.3** shall be open for Central Government Ministries / Departments, State/UT Governments and Districts.

The Period of consideration is 1st April 2022 to 31st December, 2024. The total number of Awards under the Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration 2024 would be 16

6. Criteria for evaluation:

(i) The awards for **PM's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration 2024 (Category 1)** will be evaluated based on pre-determined indicators in consultation with Line

Ministries/ Departments. For the **Category 2**, the pre-determined indicators will be decided by Niti Aayog.

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

7. 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, Category 2, and Category 3**. 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 Committee headed by Secretary, DARPG. The Expert Committee 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 Committee 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.

8. 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, Category 2 and Category 3** along with supporting documents like executive summary, field photographs, 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.

9. Details of Award:

(i) The PM Awards for Excellence in Public Administration 2024 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.

10. 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.

11. Approval of the Prime Minister:

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