

# Nirmal Gram Puraskar

A National Award Under Total Sanitation Campaign

Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission, Department of Drinking Water Supply, Ministry of Rural Development

Distribution of Awards to Panchayati Raj Institutions by His Excellency, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, President of India Today, 4th May 2007 at Dr. Ambedkar Stadium, New Delhi



### MESSAGE

I am happy to know that the distribution of 3<sup>rd</sup> Nirmal Gram Puraskar (NGP) is being held at May 4, 2007.

Last year, on this occasion I had emphasized that 'Sanitation is a Noble Mission for the Nation' aimed at transforming India into a developed country as well as to ensure good quality of life for our people. I am delighted that there has been an overwhelming response culminating in the unprecedented number of NGP award winners from all across the country. I am sure that this is leading to action. We have to continue with this pace of progress to achieve developed country standards of basic hygiene and sanitation in Rural India.

I extend my greetings and felicitations to all award winners and hope their missionary zeal will trigger a countrywide sanitation revolution.

*A.P.J. Abdul Kalam*  
IA.P.J. Abdul Kalam



### MESSAGE

I am glad to know that the Department of Drinking Water Supply, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, is organizing the Award Presentation Ceremony of Third Nirmal Gram Puraskar on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2007.

With exponential growth in population, unplanned urbanization and industrialization, there is an imperative need for provision of good sanitation to the poor and the marginalized sections of the society. A comprehensive and well thought out action plan to promote rural sanitation through Nirmal Villages shall go a long way in ushering in a healthy and happy rural India. The village communities, the Panchayat Raj Institutions and other civil society institutions could play a important role in building a Nirmal Bharat.

I congratulate the award winners and hope that they would inspire others to make the Total Sanitation Campaign a great success.

My best wishes for the success of the Award Presentation Ceremony.  
*Bharon Singh Shekhawat*  
Bharon Singh Shekhawat



### MESSAGE

I am happy to learn that the Nirmal Gram Puraskar has received unprecedented response from village communities and Panchayati Raj institutions, taking the goals of total sanitation and clean, healthy villages to all parts of the country. The momentum that has been generated should be harnessed to achieve the Millennium Development Goal of rural sanitation well before 2012.

I congratulate all NGP winners, the State and Central Departments of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation and NGOs who have come together to make Sustainable Sanitation Systems in the villages of India a reality. I hope these awards will inspire more citizens to dedicate themselves to the goal of 'total sanitation'.

*Manmohan Singh*  
Manmohan Singh



### MESSAGE

I am delighted to note the extraordinary progress made in attaining sanitation coverage in rural India, especially, through the Nirmal Gram Puraskar. Women and children benefit very significantly from access to safe sanitation facilities and it is important that we make them central to any programme that seeks to instill higher standards of personal hygiene and health care. School sanitation, and in particular the needs of the adolescent girls, should be an important part of sanitation and health education.

I have no doubt that the current emphasis on achieving clean and sustainable environments in the rural countryside along with the momentum gained through competition for the Nirmal Gram Puraskar, we can achieve a nationwide commitment to Nirmal Bharat.

*Sonia Gandhi*  
Sonia Gandhi



### MESSAGE

The Nirmal Gram Puraskar has triggered a silent revolution in rural sanitation all across the country. I am very proud and happy that from just 40 Nirmal Gram Puraskar winners in 2005 we have today over 4000 winners in 2007.

The spirit of competitive achievement which the Nirmal Gram Puraskar has fostered amongst village communities is a study in social engineering that has produced very welcome and desirable results. We need to consolidate our achievements to provide access to Safe Sustainable Sanitation Facilities to every citizen in the rural areas.

A Clean, Green and Healthy Rural India will be the most enduring sign of our country's progress and development.

I convey my heartiest congratulations to all this year's NGP Award Winners and sincerely hope that every "Nirmal Gram" will serve as a model and shining example to achieve our common goal of Total Sanitation.

*Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh*  
Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh

## Empowered Panchayats: Clean Villages

Mahatma Gandhi had always believed in the ability and strength of the local self governments (Panchayat Raj Institutions) in developing rural India. Nirmal Gram Puraskar (NGP) launched by Department of Drinking Water Supply in Ministry of Rural Development has converted the Mahatma's vision into reality. NGP, an incentive and award scheme for the PRIs, for promoting sanitary conditions in rural India has motivated and empowered the local bodies. These local leaders are taking up the big challenge of eliminating the practice of open defecation. Islands of transformation are now evident in rural areas - where a clean and green India is emerging.



Large scale involvement of PRIs in rural sanitation programme in West Bengal's Midnapur District led to the realization that only if local panchayats are actively involved in sanitation and hygiene promotion initiatives can total sanitation in the villages be achieved. This insight led to the conceptualization

of Nirmal Gram Puraskar. The NGP award recognizes the efforts made by PRIs in promoting total sanitation. The award amount ranges from Rs. 50 thousand to Rs 50 lakh.

As anticipated, local panchayats have proved that if given the responsibility with authority, they can achieve even seemingly unreachable goals. The number of open defecation free PRIs has been exponentially increasing since the first NGP awards were distributed on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2005 to 40 PRIs from 6 states. The number of awarded PRIs increased to 769 from 14 states in 2006. In 2007, more than 4,437 PRIs from 22 states are being awarded the NGP today by H. E. Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, President of India at Ambedkar Stadium in Delhi.

The Hon'ble President has been pivotal in keeping this enthusiasm growing among the panchayat representatives. His motivating address to the awarded grassroot level leaders during the previous two NGP award ceremonies has converted a slow moving government programme into a national movement among the PRIs. The growing enthusiasm of the PRIs in ensuring clean villages gives India hope and confidence that we will be an open defecation free nation by 2012.



### MESSAGE

I am delighted to note that the Nirmal Gram Puraskar for the year 2006 are being distributed on 04<sup>th</sup> May, 2007.

One of the development priorities of the Government of India is to provide complete sanitation facilities in rural areas. We cannot hope to build a healthy nation unless such basic amenities are provided to our population.

Sanitation and hygiene are extremely important to improve the basic health of our population and we must commit the nation to a major national campaign to ensure this.

I am happy that Department of Drinking Water Supply, Ministry of Rural Development has taken a major step in this direction through the Nirmal Gram Puraskar. The tremendous response that the Puraskar has evoked is creating unprecedented mass awareness for behavioural changes in area of sanitation and hygiene in the rural areas.

I congratulate all the winners and hope that more panchayat leaders emulate their example.

*Chandra Sekhar Sahai*  
Chandra Sekhar Sahai

## People Speak

"It's difficult to even imagine that our village was so dirty and we were living in it!" Ms Shakila Bano Ex Pradhan Shahpur Jot Usuf in Bahraich District, UP

"My village now has a new name and identity" Mr. Shankar Singh, Sarpanch, Bachhoda in Indore district, MP

"Many children in my school have influenced their parents to get a toilet at home" Mrs K Khandekar Primary school teacher from Ahmednagar District in Maharashtra

"I have started advising diarrhoea patients to construct and use toilets" Dr. S Gosh from East Midnapur

"I would like to get villagers from Burkina Faso on an exposure visit to Nirmal Gram Panchayats in India. It is very difficult to explain the enthusiasm and drive in the NGP villages to the people back in my country." Mr. Togola Soungalo, visitor in International Learning Exchange 2006 during visit to NGP awarded village in Tamil Nadu

## Gram Panchyat Khandapur: A Clean And Green Village

Located in the Digras Block, Yavatmal District of Maharashtra, Khandapur is a small village of 162 households with majority of people belonging to the nomadic Banjaras tribe. Their major occupation is agriculture and dairy. Before the Total Sanitation Campaign started in the village sanitation situation was very poor and incidences of epidemics like cholera, malaria, and dengue were rampant in the village.

The ZP functionaries motivated the people for improving the sanitation through activities like construction of toilets, management of solid and liquid waste, maintenance of gutter, and plantation of trees. The villagers unanimously decided to make the village free from open defecation. Within 15 days after the resolution by the Gram Sabha, toilets were constructed in all the households. However this initiative faced many problems like fund and material constraint and reluctance of few households to construct and use toilets.

A monitoring committee consisting of men and women from the Gram Sabha was formed to address these problems. They made continuous and sincere efforts to encourage people to stop open defecation. Several unique Cleanliness initiatives were taken like making community gardens and an Oxygen park.

Today Khandapur is proud to be an Open Defecation Free 'Clean and Green' Village.

## Success of NGP over the years

State	Number of PRIs		
	2005	2006	2007
Andhra Pradesh	-	10	143
Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	2
Assam	-	1	3
Bihar	-	4	40
Chattisgarh	-	12	90
Gujarat	1	4	576
Haryana	-	-	60
Himachal Pradesh	-	-	22
Jharkhand	-	-	12
Karnataka	-	-	121
Kerala	1	6	226
Madhya Pradesh	-	1	190
Maharashtra	13	381	1974
Mizoram	-	-	3
Orissa	-	8	33
Rajasthan	-	-	23
Sikkim	-	-	27
Tamil Nadu	13	119	296
Tripura	1	36	46
Uttar Pradesh	-	40	488
Uttarakhand	-	13	109
West Bengal	11	134	475
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>769</b>	<b>4959</b>



### MESSAGE

I am happy that Department of Drinking Water Supply, Ministry of Rural Development has instituted Nirmal Gram Puraskar (NGP) to facilitate the PRIs for their contribution to the cause of rural sanitation. The Nirmal Gram Puraskar has started competition amongst villages of India to become clean.

This campaign has initiated a social revolution by bringing basic sanitation facilities in a cost effective and sustainable manner to rural India, especially women.

On the occasion, I congratulate all the winners and urge them to commit themselves to the task of transforming the landscape of rural India with a clean and healthy environment. I hope the winners of Nirmal Gram Puraskar will work as guiding agents to rest of villagers of rural India.

*Smt. Suryakanta Patil*  
Smt. Suryakanta Patil

## What to do for Nirmal Gram Puraskar?

Panchayati Raj Institutions, (PRI) can look forward to getting cash prizes ranging from Rs. 50 thousands to Rs. 50 lakhs under the NIRMAL GRAM PURASKAR

- All households in the Panchayat have access to toilets with full usage.
- There is no open defecation.
- All schools in the area have sanitation facilities, which are fully in use and all coeducational schools have separate toilets for girls and boys.
- All Anganwadi centres have access to sanitation facilities.
- There is general cleanliness all around.

## Basic facts: Total Sanitation Campaign

- TSC was launched in 1999.
- TSC is operational in 572 districts in the country with a total outlay of Rs. 11376 crore.
- Rs. 545 crore contributed by community.
- More than 3.11 crore household toilets constructed since 2001.
- Goal to achieve open defecation free India by the year 2012.
- Total budgetary outlay increased from Rs. 400 crore in 2004-06 to Rs. 1060 crore in 2007-08.

## Nirmal Gram Puraskar: Award Amount Norms

Particulars	Gram Panchayats				Block			District	
	Less than 1000	1000 to 1999	2000 to 4999	5000 to 9999	10000 & above	Upto 50000	50000 & above	Upto 1000000	More than 1000000
PRI	Rs. 50 thousand	Rs. 1 lakh	Rs. 2 lakh	Rs. 4 lakh	Rs. 5 lakh	Rs. 10 lakh	Rs. 20 lakh	Rs. 30 lakh	Rs. 50 lakh
Individuals	Rs. 10000				Rs. 20000			Rs. 30000	
Organizations other than PRI	Rs. 20000				Rs. 35000			Rs. 50000	

