

जितेन्द्र शंकर माथुर, आई.ए.एस  
संयुक्त सचिव  
*Jitendra Shankar Mathur, I.A.S*  
Joint Secretary



भारत सरकार  
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता मंत्रालय  
Government of India  
Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation  
12th Floor, Paryavaran Bhavan, C.G.O. Complex  
Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110 003  
Tel. No. : 24362705 Fax : 24361062  
E-mail : js.tsc@nic.in

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Dear

The Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) being run in all rural districts of India has registered significant progress. Nirmal Gram Puraskar (NGP) is an incentive under TSC, given to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), which are open defecation free and ensuring clean environment.

The NGP has gained immense popularity since its inception. Appending more stringent norms set for the award and more intensive monitoring in selection procedure has added to the prestige of the award. With the constructive support and extensive efforts put in by the State implementing agencies and other stake holders, the total number of PRIs that have received this prestigious award including 2875 awardees for the year 2011 has reached 28195.

Her Excellency, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil, the President has kindly consented to honour the awardees at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2012 (11.00 hours). Select PRI representatives from all the States will receive the award in the esteemed function.

I extend my cordial invitation to you to attend this award distribution function, as your presence will boost the morale of the representatives of the Panchayati Raj institutions and give a fillip to the successful implementation of the Total Sanitation Campaign in the country. The formal invitation card is being sent separately.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,



[J.S. MATHUR]

The Principal Secretaries (In-Charge Rural Sanitation)  
The Resident Commissioners  
All States and UTs