

(IPR) The State Rural Management and Development Department was bestowed with 5 national awards for Implementation of MGNREGA for the assessment Year 2016-17 in a function held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on 19th June, 2017. Secretary RMDD, Shri D.R.Nepal handed over the awards to the Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Pawan Chamling at Mintokgang today along with representatives from the Department and respective Panchayats.

Sikkim is the only State in the country to have received awards in all 3 categories at the State level. Another two awards were received in the District level and Gram Panchayat level Category. A team headed by Secretary, RM&DD along with senior officials of the department received the National Award from Hon'ble Union Minister for RD Shri. Narendra Singh Tomar

Following were the awards which the state received at various categories:

State category:

- (i) Transparency and Accountability
- (ii) Sustainable Livelihood through Convergence
- (iii) Geo-tagging of assets under Geo-MGNREGA

District Category:

The East District received the National Award in the best performing district Category

Gram Panchayat Category:

Maniram Phalidara Gram Panchayat, Namchi Block, South Sikkim received the award for the best performing Gram Panchayat in implementation of MGNREGA.

The Directorate of Panchayati Raj also received awards in the Panchayat Award 2015-16 which are as under:

- i. Best Performing State for e-Panchayat in 2015-16 – Sikkim
- ii. Best District Panchayat Award under Deen Dayal Upadhaya Panchayat Sashaktikaran Puraskar for appraisal year 2015-16, Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) - East District Zilla Panchayat
- iii. Best Gram Panchayat Panchayat Award under Deen Dayal Upadhaya Panchayat Sashaktikaran Puraskar for appraisal year 2015-16, Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) - Poklok Denchung GPU, South Sikkim
- iv. Best Gram Panchayat Panchayat Award under Deen Dayal Upadhaya Panchayat Sashaktikaran Puraskar for appraisal year 2015-16, Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) - Dolepchen GPU, East Sikkim
- v. Rashtriya Gaurav Gram Puraskar for Best Gram Sabha for appraisal year 2015-16, Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) - Rey Mendu GPU, Sikkim
- vi. National Level Felicitation under Best Practices 2016-17 – Maniram Phalidara GPU, Sikkim.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister while receiving the award congratulated each and everyone for the hardwork which has resulted in the state being recognized at such a national level. He said that he just gave dream and vision but it is the people who have implemented the work ethics and made the state proud by turning it in reality. Shri Chamling stressed that recognitions give encouragement and thus this should be a stepping stone for more effective implementation of policies. He said that the Sikkimese people should take advantage of the fact that the state is the first Organic state in the country and we should fall back to our roots and be a self sufficient state on its own. He also highlighted that there are many plans of the state government in the pipeline which will focus on tourism, cultural and pilgrimage aspect of the state which will further the state in unparalleled growth, thus he asked people to have a sense of ownership and work harder. The Chief Minister also elucidated that the state government is fulfilling all possible needs of the Sikkimese people to the best of its capabilities and he asked everyone to come forward to make the Sikkim of its dreams.

Secretary RMDD, Shri D.R.Nepal while handing over the awards to the Hon'ble Chief Minister said that the awards are indicators of Sikkim doing exemplary work under Panchayati Raj which has been achieved due to devolution of power to the Panchayats and support by the state government. He said that the awards and accolades received by the State have been possible only due to good governance and encouragement of local self governance which has been promoted by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Pawan Chamling.



