



सचिव
भारत सरकार
ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय
पेय जल आपूर्ति विभाग
Secretary

Government of India

Ministry of Rural Development
Department of Drinking Water Supply

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D.O. No. W-11037/8/2004-CRSP

Dated the March 14, 2006

Dear *Smt. Roy,*

Rural Sanitation promotion has been one of the important priorities of Government of India. This requires social mobilization on a wider scale for which Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) play a vital role. To energise the PRI functionaries in taking up the cause of rural sanitation, Government of India has introduced the Nirmal Gram Puraskar (NGP), an incentive scheme for those PRIs who attain 100% open defecation free status. This award was announced on 2nd October 2003 and the first such award was distributed by His Excellency, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, President of India on 24th February, 2005. Last year, 40 PRIs from six States received the awards. The NGP has motivated the PRIs to take up sanitation promotion and in the current year, more than 600 PRIs have qualified for the Nirmal Gram Puraskar (NGP).

This year too His Excellency, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, President of India has agreed to give away the awards to these PRIs on 23rd March, 2006 at Vigyan Bhawan at 12.00 Noon.

On behalf of the Department of Drinking Water Supply, I extend an invitation to you to attend this award distribution ceremony. This will give a lot of encouragement to the PRIs who are involved in sanitation promotion.

With regards

Yours sincerely,

S. Basant

(Sunila Basant)

Smt. Aruna Roy,
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