F. No. J-35012/1/2016-e-Gov.
Government of India
Ministry of Water Resources,RD & GR
(e-Governance Cell)

Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg,
New Delhi, dated the 23 August, 2016.

To

All Head of Attached Offices/ Subordinate Organizations under the Ministry.

Subject :- Nominations for the Digital India Awards 2016 - reg.
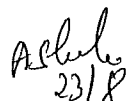
Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith a D.O. letter No. 331407/2016/DCWS dated 04.08.2016 received from Secretary, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology and to convey that Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, Government of India is inviting nominations for Digital India Awards 2016 in the following categories:-

i.   Web Ratna – Ministry / Dept.
ii.   Web Ratna – State / UT
iii.   Web Ratna District
iv.   Exemplary Online Service
v.   Open Data Champion
vi.   Outstanding Digital initiative by Local body
vii.   Best Mobile App
viii.   Most Innovative Citizen Engagement.

2.   It is therefore, requested that suitable nomination(s) in the above categories, if any, may be submitted online at http://digitalindiaawards.gov.in, under intimation to the Ministry. The last date for submission is 1st September, 2016.

Encl:- As Above

Yours faithfully,
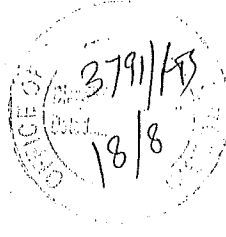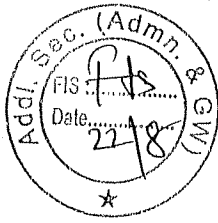
23/8/16

(Ashok Kumar Gupta)
Under Secretary to the Government of India
Ph:- 011-23714350,
Email:- ashok.kgupta@nic.in.

Copy to :-

1. All Wing Heads in the Ministry.
2. NIC Cell for uploading on IntraMoWR

अरुणा सुंदरराजन, आई.ए.एस.
Aruna Sundararajan, I.A.S.

सचिव
इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार
Secretary
Ministry of Electronics &
Information Technology (MeitY)
Government of India

D.O. No.: 331407/2016/DCWS
Date: 4th August, 2016

Sub: Nominations for the Digital India Awards 2016.

Dear Secretary,

Government departments at Centre & State level are leveraging upon the benefits of ICT to provide better services to the citizens. A number of initiatives have been undertaken in this direction and some of these are also running quite successfully in different parts of the Country. In order to promote innovative e-governance initiatives and honour the exemplary efforts in this direction, **Digital India Awards** have been instituted in following categories:-

1. Web Ratna - MINISTRY / DEPT.
2. Web Ratna - STATE / UT
3. Web Ratna District
4. Exemplary Online Service
5. Open Data Champion
6. Outstanding Digital initiative by Local body
7. Best Mobile App
8. Most Innovative Citizen Engagement

Since a number of e-governance initiatives have been taken under your leadership, we invite you to send nominations from your Ministry/Department under various categories. We also solicit your cooperation in promoting 'Digital India Awards' among the offices & institutions associated with your Ministry/Department .

Nominations for the Awards can be submitted online at http://digitalindiaawards.gov.in. The last date for submission is 1st September, 2016.

With regards,

Yours sincerely

(Aruna Sundararajan)

To,
All Secretaries of Ministries of Government of India

BACKGROUND

The Digital India programme is a flagship programme of the Government of India with a vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. With the penetration of internet and its availability on wide range of devices, delivery of information and services to the citizen across the country becomes critical. Today, almost every Government department is trying to leverage upon the benefits of ICT to provide better services to the common citizen.

An endeavour like the National Portal provides an ideal front-end for e-Governance initiatives as the citizen gets to access diverse services and information from a single point. National portal acts as a comprehensive one-stop source of government information and service delivery; as it is a common gateway for over 8000 Indian government web sites.

National Portal of India has a vision to promote more and more engaging e-Governance initiatives. To give due recognition to the exemplary efforts in this direction, the Digital India Awards have been instituted under the ambit of the National Portal of India, http://india.gov.in.

The award not only aims to recognise the noteworthy and sustainable initiatives in the realm of e-Governance but also to disseminate information about such initiatives for others to customise and replicate the success stories.

AWARD

CATEG

1 Most Innovative Citizen Engagement

In a democratic system, citizen participation is one of the key components of decision making process. The Award aims to honour initiatives taken by Government entities which have leveraged the use of ICT to solicit active engagement of public in the process of governance. The winning entries should display relevance of context, multiple modes of participation, involvement of stakeholders and innovative use of ICT, both for response acquisition as well as for analysis of inputs received.

2 Web Ratna - MINISTRY / DEPT.

The Award shall felicitate a Ministry or Department of the Government of India which has a comprehensive web presence and displays the level of accountability in terms of quantity, quality, spectrum of coverage, innovation and performance report in order to ascertain user satisfaction. Level of convenience provided to the citizen for availing the services and aspects of usability and accessibility would also be assessed.

3 Web Ratna District

To reward the accomplishments of the District administration which has displayed exemplary focus on providing online services and information to the citizen. Entries must display the level of convenience provided to the citizen for availing the services in terms of accessibility, quantity, service maturity and spectrum of coverage in order to ascertain user satisfaction in its web based information & service delivery initiative.

4 Web Ratna - STATE / UT

The Award aims to acknowledge the State/UT of India for displaying exemplary initiative in establishing comprehensive web presence and display the level of accountability in terms of quantity, quality, spectrum of coverage, innovation and performance report in order to ascertain user satisfaction. Level of convenience provided to the citizen for availing the services and aspects of usability and accessibility would also be assessed.

5 | Exemplary Online Service

The Award shall felicitate those ICT based services by a Government Department (Central/State) which have displayed exemplary citizen focus, reach, scope and innovation in approach. The service should have effectively contributed to enhancement in efficiency, productivity as well as in imparting transparency and accountability in the governance process. The winning entries should display extent of service maturity and the convenience provided to the citizen for availing the services.

6 | Outstanding Digital initiative by Local body

The Award aims to felicitate outstanding Local Body initiative with a focus on providing exemplary information quality and extent of service provisioning by enhancing the maturity level, service catalogue, transparency, cost effectiveness and efficiency ensuring better service delivery. The entries would also be assessed on the level of convenience or empowerment provided to the citizen through the initiative.

7 | Best Mobile App

India is going mobile. More people today are accessing the internet on their devices than ever before. The Award aims to honour the Best Mobile App launched by a Government entity. Nominated app should have well designed and intuitive mobile interface. The entry should also display ease of use and personalisation features. Usability, content organisation and availability on multiple platforms will be considered. Back end dashboards and analytics functionality are desirable.

8 | Open Data Champion

To acknowledge proactive release of resources(datasets/apps) in an Open/Machine readable format on the Open Government Data (OGD) Platform (http://data.gov.in), by the ministries/ depts./ organizations/ states in compliance with the National Data Sharing and Accessibility Policy (NDSAP). The selection criteria includes overall consumption of resources by public at large with respect to their ratings, views, downloads etc. Potential usage of such datasets for development of Apps to deliver citizen services innovatively would be an added advantage.

NOMINATION ELIGIBILITY

Central Government Ministries/ Departments/ Offices/ Institutions, State Government Departments/ Offices/ Institutions, District Administrations and Indian Missions Abroad are eligible to apply for the Digital India Awards. An initiative may be nominated for more than one category.

The Digital India Awards aim at encouraging Government entities, which have made significant contributions towards the implementation of e-Governance and have displyed an exemplary & innovative approach to achieve administrative efficiency and transparency.

For submitting your nominations, log on to http://digitalindiaawards.gov.in

http://digitalindiaawards.gov.in

All entries should be submitted online in the prescribed performa. The nomination should be supported by an Authorisation Certificate as per the prescribed format, duly signed by the respective nominating authority. A scanned copy of the certificate should be submitted online and original to be sent by post to the National Portal Secretariat (Address given overleaf).