

HP State Innovation Award for 2015-16 for recognizing Best Innovations:

HP State Innovation Award Scheme was started from 2014-15 for recognizing & rewarding the innovative ideas by providing financial incentives to best innovations of identified sectors of Agriculture & Horticulture, Food Processing & Manufacturing, Academic, Social Development and Government Sectors.

Innovations awarded for 2015-16: For the year 2015-16, following five innovations of various sectors were awarded by Hon'ble Chief Minister, HP in State level function held on 15th April, 2017:

1. Winner in Social Development Sector

Tele-stroke Project of Dr. Sudhir Sharma, Associate Professor, Department of Neurology, IGMC, Shimla is a simple way to provide first aid & treat ischemic stroke even at far off Health Institution of the State by any trained Medical Officer without the help of a specialist. Medical officers in district hospitals with CT-Scan facilities were trained through workshops in recognizing stroke and taught reading plain CT-Scan head to rule-out hemorrhage even without the help of radiologist & written protocols for thrombolysis in ischemic stroke. Blood sugar and ECG were the only other investigations to be done apart from CT-head before thrombolysis. All the available neurologists were made available telephonically or through social networks like "Whatsapp for consultation on CT-Scan images. Without any extra infrastructure or new manpower, the project was a success as many acute stroke patients have been successfully treated at various hospitals throughout the State.

2. Winner in Agriculture & Horticulture Sector

Dr. Kamal Sharma & Dr. Sanjeev Thakur of Dr. YS Parmar University of Horticulture & Forestry have developed a **high yielding varieties of climate resilient species of commercial crop Harar (Terminalia Chebula)** with early bearing technology and improved genotypes for economic cultivation in monkey inhabited areas.

The grafting/budding techniques have been standardized by these scientists for reducing pre-fruit bearing period of these high yielding strains/varieties from 10-12 years to just 3 years. Benefits include immense potential for carbon sequestration & climate change mitigation, development of strains with high active ingredient content, site specific genotypes, good returns at early stages of plant growth, suitable in frost affected areas, marginal lands & areas rendered uncultivated due to monkey menace & threats from stray cattle. So far more than 35,000 grafted/budded plants of these strains have been supplied to the farmers and different research & development organizations.

3. Winner in Manufacturing & Food Processing Sector

Ready to cook spice mix - the products of R.R. Enterprises- include natural spices without any added preservatives, artificial colour or flavor and also do not need to add onion, ginger, garlic, salt or any other spice to make a dish like chicken, curry, rajmah, dal makhani etc. thus making cooking easy for everyone.

These products save time, effort, health & money and benefits working class population, students, people staying away from home, new cooks & overseas Indian population as people can spend time on productive work rather than on cooking avoiding unhealthy junk food or packed food.

4. Winner in Academic Sector

A program viz. **UDAAN** was started by DIET Mandi in association with District Administration, Mandi to understand the basic literacy and numeracy levels of the children of Standard 3-5 in the district with a view to address these learning gaps by starting a learning enhancement program for them. The improvements in learning level are being assessed by carrying out a baseline and an end line assessment by District Administration in association with DIET Mandi and Pratham Resource Team.

5. Winner in Government Sector

e-Services Project of Town & Country Planning Department has enabled the transparency & efficiency in ease of doing business through ICT interventions facilitated for citizen, architects, promoters, TCP field functionaries etc. These efforts have resulted in total transformation of department into digital and mobile governance taking the government services to the door steps of citizens. HP has become the first state in country to roll out building planning permission project in entire state. The applicants seeking planning permission can request online from anywhere anytime. This is the only website having state wide roll-out with paperless functioning over 90 percent.
