

Himachal Pradesh State Innovation Award Scheme

State Innovation Council (SInC):

In order to create a climate for fostering, accelerating & diffusing innovation in public systems through sharing of experiences across various sectors within State and for mobilisation of practical experiences, Government of Himachal Pradesh has constituted HP State Innovation Council on 7th January, 2011 under the Chairpersonship of Chief Secretary to the Government of Himachal Pradesh. Administrative Secretaries of the concerned departments and Vice-Chancellors of the Universities are the members of the committee.

State Innovation Fund:

To promote excellence and creativity in the functioning of Government Departments/Offices and sub-offices and to encourage departments to try new initiatives to improve the service delivery for the benefit of general public, State of Himachal Pradesh has constituted a State Innovation Fund (SIF) with an initial outlay of Rs.5.00 crore in the State Budget for 2013-14 and guidelines for the implementation of projects under this fund has also been notified.

Innovation Award Scheme:

The Government of Himachal Pradesh has decided to institute awards for Government Departments, Local Governments, Community Development Societies, Public Sector Units/Autonomous Bodies under Government, NGOs and Individuals from 2014-15 for best innovation practices in the selective sectors at the first instance.

Objectives/Purpose of the Award Scheme:

To promote innovation by fostering an innovation culture & establishing an environment conducive to innovation in the State, it has further been decided to provide financial incentives for the best innovation practices being adopted at the various sector levels. Those innovations /innovative practices will be recognised/ rewarded which improve service delivery and bring out positive impact in the society at large.

Scope & Coverage:

The said award scheme will cover the following innovative initiatives in the concerned sector:

1. Innovations brought forth through organizational restructuring/changes.
2. Introduction of new products, services, paradigms, technologies, systems, processes, strategies and policy frameworks which will result

- in the improvement in efficiency, effectiveness, quality and social outcomes/ impacts.
3. Creation of a cost effective solution to the age old problems of the sector with future sustainability to compete with modern competitive era.

Areas/Sectors for Awards:

The following seven sectors have been identified for selecting and awarding the best innovation practices in the State:

1. **Agricultural/Horticultural Sector:** Department of Agriculture will be the Nodal Department of this sector for the purpose of this award scheme.
2. **Academic Sector:** Department of Technical Education will be the Nodal Department of this sector for the purpose of this award scheme.
3. **Food Processing & Manufacturing Sector:** Department of Industries will be the Nodal Department of this sector for the purpose of this award scheme.
4. **Social Development Sector:** Department of Rural Development will be the Nodal Department of this sector for the purpose of this award scheme.
5. **Tourism Sector:** Tourism Department will be the Nodal Department of this sector for the purpose of this award scheme.
6. **Government Sector:** This sector will include all the Departments, Boards and Corporation of the State Government. Administrative Reforms Department will be the nodal department of this sector for the purpose of this award scheme.
7. **Water Resources & Waste Management:** Irrigation & Public Health Department will be the Nodal Department of this sector for the purpose of this award scheme.
8. **Sustainable Urban Management:** Urban Development Department will be the Nodal Department of this sector for the purpose of this award scheme.
9. **Environment Conservation:** Department of Environment Science & Technology will be the Nodal Department of this sector for the purpose of this award scheme.

Amount for Award Scheme:

The winning proposal under each sector will be given cash award and a fixed amount will be given to concerned Government Departments/Institutes/ Organizations/NGOs/Entrepreneurs/Innovators etc. for promoting and replicating innovative ideas and practices at their own level. The amount of cash award & financial incentives to concerned departments will be decided by the State Innovation Council every year.

Selection Process:

To identify the best innovation practices in above mentioned sectors, the concerned departments will constitute sectoral committee to scrutinize and recommend the eligible proposals on the basis of standard qualifying criteria and one best proposals of each sector will be sent to State Innovation Council for its approval at State level. State Innovation Council will consider the proposals and select & approve the best innovations for award.
