



**GOVERNANCE
AWARDS
2015**
28-11-2015

EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTION AWARD

Dr. Shalini Rajneesh, IAS

For outstanding contribution towards women's empowerment
and developing measures to improve public administration efficiency

*D*R. Shalini Rajneesh, the women's topper and youngest member of the 1989 batch of the IAS, is a Gold Medallist in BA and MA from Punjab University. She earned a PhD in Rural Development from Mangalore University and an MBA from Latrobe University, Australia. As Principal Secretary, Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms, Government of Karnataka, she was instrumental in implementing Karnataka's Guarantee of Services to Citizens Act, 2011, popularly known as SAKALA. The Act ensures time-bound delivery to citizens of 478 services covering 47 departments. In a span of just two years since April 2012, 60 million citizens successfully availed of time-bound services that earned SAKALA the Prime Minister's Award, Google Innovation Award, National e-Governance Award for Outstanding Performance in Citizen Centric Service Delivery, QCI-DL Shah Quality National Award, and CAPAM Award.

During her stint as Deputy Commissioner, Belgaum district, the first historic legislative session was held outside the state capital. She was also credited with averting massive disaster by deft management of unprecedented floods. Her special contribution through a book on inclusive growth for upliftment of the backward regions of Karnataka bore fruit in the form of an amendment to the Constitution vide Article 371 J, giving special status to the Hyderabad-Karnataka region. As Secretary, Panchayati Raj, she saw Karnataka win the 2nd Best Panchayati Raj National Award. She also served as Secretary, Women and Child Development, and her contributions towards women's empowerment and public administration earned nationwide appreciation and recognition. Karnataka State Women's University made her a 'Doctor of Literature' in 2013.

Besides Karnataka, she has worked in many capacities in the Central Government including the Ministries of Finance, Civil Aviation, Shipping, Agriculture and Road Transport. She has written 10 books in English and Kannada covering subjects like management, personality development, women's empowerment and so on. She is a regular weekly columnist in *Kannada Prabha* newspaper and gives lectures/interviews on TV and radio and at seminars.

Presently Dr. Rajneesh is the Principal Secretary, Backward Classes Welfare Department, Government of Karnataka.



THE
JURY

Prabhat Kumar
Former Cabinet
Secretary

Anil Razdan
Former Secretary,
Power

Vishnu Bhagwan
Former Chief
Secretary, Haryana

M B Kaushal
Former Secretary,
Internal Security