

**gfiles**  
INSIDE THE GOVERNMENT

**GOVERNANCE  
AWARDS  
2018**  
30-11-2018

**SPECIAL  
JURY AWARD**

*Amarjeet Sinha*, IAS

(Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development & Ministry of Panchayati Raj)

For his outstanding contribution in the field of education, health and rural development

*A* 1983-batch IAS officer of the Bihar cadre, Shri Amarjeet Sinha graduated from St. Stephen's College in 1982, securing first position in the University. He was President of the St. Stephen's Students Union in 1981-82, Student Editor of the college magazine, a debater, and recipient of the National Talent Scholarship, the Oxford and Cambridge Society of India Scholarship, and the Rhodes scholarship.

Shri Sinha's lasting contribution during his three and a half decades of public service has been the crafting of a credible public system in the education, health, and rural development sectors. He is credited with designing the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan for universal elementary education and the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) to provide quality healthcare for all. He has also been a faculty at LBSNAA, Mussoorie, and trained over 25 batches of civil servants.

By involving 3 million elected local government representatives and 55 million women's self-help group members in leading public programmes and making them accountable, he has been instrumental in reforming programmes like MGNREGS for per-day wage employment, PMAY-Gramin for rural housing, PMGSY for rural roads, DDUGKY & RSETI for rural skills, NSAP for social security, and DAY-NRLM for livelihood diversification and economic activity through women members of self-help groups.

Shri Sinha combines a deep feeling for the social sector with continuous engagement in academics and has travelled widely in India, having visited over 90% of the districts in each state and Union Territory. Besides publishing 7 books on themes of social development, democracy, and governance, he has also contributed to reputed international and national journals like Lancet, Economic and Political Weekly, Business Standard, The Indian Express, The Hindu, and others. His latest book, published in 2013 by Harper Collins, An India for Everyone A Path to Inclusive Development, chronicled the journey of crafting credible public systems.

**12**  
YEARS OF  
PUBLICATION

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THE  
JURY

**Prabhat Kumar**  
Former Cabinet  
Secretary

**Anil Razdan**  
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Former Chief  
Secretary, Haryana

**M B Kaushal**  
Former Secretary,  
Internal Security