

## **Rupsho and Karsha Blocks honoured at Sampoonata Abhiyan Samman Samaroh for exemplary performance under Aspirational Block Programme**

Leh, July 29, 2025: The Sampoonata Abhiyan Samman Samaroh was organised in Leh as part of the Aspirational Block Programme (ABP), a national initiative aimed at improving development indicators in identified blocks through focused interventions and active community participation.

The event was graced by Principal Secretary Sanjeev Khirwar, along with senior district officials and block-level officers from both Leh and Kargil, in the ceremonial gathering that highlighted the spirit of local empowerment and grassroots entrepreneurship.

During the event, ADDC Leh, Sonam Nurbu, delivered a detailed briefing on the purpose and objectives of the programme. He highlighted the success of the Aspirational Block Programme (ABP) launched by NITI Aayog in 2023 and emphasized the importance of convergence of schemes, targeted interventions, and real-time data monitoring to drive development outcomes.

He further informed that in the Union Territory of Ladakh, Rupsho Block in Leh district and Karsha Block in Kargil district have been selected under the ABP to accelerate development across various key sectors.

In Leh, Rupsho Block successfully achieved all 6 out of 6 saturation target indicators, while in Kargil, Karsha Block achieved 4 out of 6 priority Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

In recognition of these accomplishments, NITI Aayog awarded Rupsho Block the Gold Medal and Karsha Block the Bronze Medal, acknowledging the strong community involvement and effective departmental coordination.

In his address, Principal Secretary, Sanjeev Khirwar noted that achieving developmental goals in Ladakh should be more effective given its administrative structure. He expressed hope that officials would replicate successful models and demonstrate strong leadership particularly from both Deputy Commissioners in establishing a robust framework to achieve saturation targets in both Leh and Kargil.

Commissioner Secretary Dr. Laltinkhuma Franklin highlighted that a wide range of Government of India schemes are currently being implemented across the region, aimed at improving the quality of life and ensuring inclusive development. These include flagship programmes in the sectors of health, education, sanitation, nutrition, and livelihood, with a special focus on achieving saturation in key indicators at the block level.

Additionally, the officials visited Akansha Haat at Main Market Leh, a vibrant marketplace featuring Self-Help Groups (SHGs) from across the Leh district. These SHGs showcased a diverse array of local products, including traditional handicrafts, handwoven textiles, artisanal items, and authentic regional cuisines, representing the rich cultural heritage of different blocks and as a platform for knowledge sharing, collaboration, and strengthening the commitment to development led by local communities.

Earlier, the individuals were awarded for their outstanding contributions and achievements across the blocks. These awards highlighted the vital role played by local leaders, officers, and community members in implementing welfare schemes, promoting social initiatives, and ensuring effective delivery of government services under the Aspirational Block Programme, as stated by Principal Secretary Sanjeev Khirwar.

The event was attended by Principal Secretary, Sanjeev Khirwar; Commissioner Secretary, Dr. Laltinkhuma Franklin; Deputy Commissioner, Leh, Romil Singh Donk; Deputy Commissioner, Kargil, Rakesh Kumar; ADDC Leh, Sonam Nurbu; Chief Planning Officers of Leh and Kargil; Chief Medical Officers of Leh and Kargil; ACD, Leh; and all the officials and officers from both the District and Blocks of Leh & Kargil.



