



Smt. Smita Pandey, IAS, District Election Officer & District Magistrate, Uttar Dinajpur receiving the National Award for Best Electoral Practices from the Hon'ble former President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam at Jawahar Lal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi on the observance of the National Voters' Day, 2015.

The award was given away by the Election Commission of India in recognition of her commendable contributions in the field of Infrastructure Management in the conduct of general elections to the Lok Sabha, 2014 in the district of Uttar Dinajpur.

Her initiatives and inspiring leadership brought about significant paradigm shift in addressing the issue of welfare of polling personnel and resulted in noticeable value addition in managerial effectiveness in personnel management.

Drawing a new dimension, she rolled out an innovative scheme, **Aponar Jonyo**, providing a fashionable kit containing bed roll, pillow and mosquito net for each polling personnel who were deployed for election duties in the district to extend reasonable comfort to them. With an objective to reduce inconveniences of the polling personnel and enhance quality and flow of distribution of materials as well as providing hand holding support to them at the dispersal centres, she also conceptualized and implemented laudable strategies like **Colour Coding**, **Unit Concept** and **Food at your doorstep**, which could derive ease, timeliness and inclusiveness in the process.

All these innovative measures were translated into action with active involvement of Self Help Groups and received wide appreciation from all the stakeholders and were acclaimed with showering accolades across the country.