

The Department of Environment Ecology and Remote Sensing has been awarded National e-Governance Award for 2012-13 in the category “Innovative use of Technology in e-Governance” for its project “Measuring Physical Accessibility to Healthcare Network and Population Coverage Modeling in J&K State using Geo-informatics.”

The Director Environment Ecology and Remote Sensing Suresh Chugh, along with the team received the award from the Chief Minister of Rajasthan in the presence of Union Minister for Administrative Reforms and Trainings and MOS in PMO Mr V Narayanswamy in a conference held from 11-12th February, 2013 at Jaipur, Rajasthan.

The Project is related to the ability of a population to obtain specified set of health care services. The objective was to provide an insight into the existing Healthcare Network and its catchment areas based on travel time and population coverage capacity of the various types of health institutions in State besides rationally identifying locations for setting up new healthcare facilities in the future so that patients could reach these within a predetermined travel time irrespective of their location.

This is for the first time that the Technology has been put to use for decision making in the context of Health care accessibility among masses using a software package by the name ACCESSMOD-3 developed by the World Health Organization (WHO) and suitably modifying it in the context of the State.

The Principal Investigator for the project was Sh. Humayun Rashid, Scientist and other project based staff including Mr Gowhar Nasim, Mr majid Farooq, Mr sayeed Asif Farooqi and Mr Muzamil Ahmad also participated. The project was funded by the Department of Health and Medical Education Department, Government of J&K.