

‘e-Uttara’: The Manthan Award for Uttar Pradesh

The Manthan Award (www.manthanaward.org) recognizes the best practices in the area of digital content, solutions and innovations that seeks to address development challenges. The award was instituted 10 years back under the framework of World Summit on Information Society, and looks at how digital tools and digital media including web based applications impact the masses, especially people living in remote, difficult and underserved areas.

Due to the regular increase in nominations the competition was getting very tough for all nominees. Small-scale regional level innovations were suffering and getting overpowered by large-scale innovations. Keeping in mind the main objective of Manthan Award, which is to recognize small-scale local innovations Digital Empowerment Foundation in collaboration with India Development Alternatives Foundation (IDAF) and Fifth state is pleased to announce the launch of a separate entity **e-Uttara: The Manthan Award Uttar Pradesh,** in association with Government of Uttar Pradesh.in order to identify, recognize and promote digital innovations in Uttar Pradesh under the Manthan Award. The applications are open till September 3rd, 2014.

e-Uttara’ Award process aims at providing visibility to the existing and new digital content and applications in Uttar Pradesh thus demonstrating the richness and diversity of digital innovations for stakeholders in understanding and planning a digital technology based development framework across the State . It seeks to encourage grassroots Information and Communication Technology (ICT) innovators, products and services creating impact in sectors like health, sanitation, education, women empowerment, government accountability, livelihood and citizen services delivery.

The award looks forward to creating an information and content rich society in Uttar Pradesh where everyone, irrespective of caste, religion, race, region, gender etc., is empowered to create, receive, share and utilize

information, content and knowledge through digital content for their economic, social, cultural and institutional upliftment and development”.