Sethrichem Sangtam awarded Rohini Nayyar prize for rural development

Rohini Nayyar prize: Sethrichem Sangtam, who helped triple the incomes of 1,200 marginalised farmers in Eastern Nagaland, was awarded the first Rohini Nayyar prize.

≥ Sumit Arora ● Published On December 23rd, 2022



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Rohini Nayyar prize 2022:

Rohini Nayyar prize: Sethrichem Sangtam, who helped triple the incomes of 1,200 marginalised farmers in Eastern Nagaland, was awarded the first Rohini Nayyar prize for outstanding contribution to rural development. The prize awarded to an individual 40 years or under in age, was presented by the Niti Ayog Vice-Chairman Suman Bery. The winner was selected by an eminent jury from civil society consisting of Dr. Ashok Khosla, founder, Development Alternatives; Dr. Rajesh Tandon, founder, PRIA; and Ms. Renana Jhabwala, national coordinator, SEWA.

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Mr. Sangtam works with 1,200 marginalised farmers in Eastern Nagaland through his organisation 'Better Life Foundation', which focusses on rural livelihood security, environment sustainability and education for change. Among his many achievements were encouraging farmers in the region to abandon wasteful slash, burn cultivation and move to permanent farming. The average income of the farmers tripled as a result of his interventions.

About the Prize:

- The prize had been instituted by the family of the late **Dr. Rohini Nayyar**, an eminent scholar-administrator who spent much of her professional life working on issues related to rural development in India.
- Dr. Nayyar, a well-known economist and former principal adviser at the erstwhile Planning Commission, was one of India's foremost authorities on rural development. She passed away in October 2021.

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