

REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE INDIRA GANDHI PARYAVARAN PURASKAR

(REVISED)

1. Preamble

This national prize on environment is named after the former Prime Minister of India late Shrimati Indira Gandhi and shall be known as 'Indira Gandhi Paryavaran Puraskar'.

The prize will be given each year on any environment related occasion for significant contributions in the field of environment, which are recognized as having measurable impact on the protection/overall improvement of the environment.

2. Nature of the Prize

From the year 2009 onwards, two prizes of Rs. 5.00 lakh each along with silver lotus trophy under the organization category, and three prizes of Rs. 5.00 lakh, Rs. 3.00 lakh and Rs. 2.00 lakh respectively to individuals in individual category along with silver lotus trophy shall be given annually.

3. Eligibility

Any citizen of India or Indian organisation engaged in the Scientific Work/Field Work for the cause of protection of environment is eligible. There is no age limit for individuals. The term 'Environment' shall be interpreted in broadest sense possible. Following is an indicative but not exhaustive list of work areas concerned:

- i. Prevention of Pollution.
- ii. Conservation of Natural Resources.
- iii. Rational use of Depletable Resources.
- iv. Environmental Planning and Management.
- v. Environmental Impact Assessment.
- vi. Outstanding field work (innovative research work) for Enrichment of Environment e.g. afforestation, land reclamation, water treatment, air purification etc.
- vii. Environmental Education.
- viii. Creating Awareness on Environmental Issues.

4. Procedure of submission of Nominations

Wide publicity shall be given to invite nominations for the Prize each year. The total period of inviting nominations shall be two months from the date of publication of the advertisement. Besides, publishing advertisement in the prominent newspapers for adequate publicity, a circular inviting nominations shall also be sent to all the Secretaries concerned in the Government of India, all the Chief Secretaries/Administrators of the States/Union Territories for wider circulation of the advertisement. The advertisement shall also be given on the website of the Ministry. Any citizen of India having at least 10 years' work experience in the field of environment (substantiated in support of his experience by published/field work) /NGO working in the field of environment with at least five years experience /Environment and Forests Department of States/UTs /State Pollution Control Boards /District Collector /Magistrate; can propose a name of any citizen or organization of India who has at least five years working experience in the field of environment. Self nomination and nomination proposed by relatives will not be considered. The nominations may be accompanied by the following details:

- i. Name and address of the Nominee.
- ii. Area of work
- iii. Significant contributions made by the Nominee.
- iv. Measurable impact or likely impact of the Nominee's work in the field of environment.

The advertisement will be issued on 15th July every year. The last date for receipt of nominations shall be 15th September every year. The nominations signed by proposer should be sent in hard copy or through E-mail to the Adviser, EI- Division, Ministry of Environment and Forests. CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003.

5. Selection of Expert Members of the Prize Committee.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests will annually prepare a panel of 9 Expert Members consisting of legal Experts, Scientists, Industrialists etc. No government official shall be included in the panel. The three Expert Members will be selected out of panel of nine with the approval of the Prime Minister of India.

6. Short listing of nominations and Ground truth verification

Short listing of the nominations will be carried out by the 3 Expert Members selected by Prime Minister's Office. Ground-truth verification of the short listed nominations will be done by the Regional Offices concerned of the Ministry by visiting the sites of the work and interviewing the nominee and other related person(s) who are aware of the work done by the nominee. The Videography/ Photography will be done for the work done by the nominee for obtaining the credible evidence. The final

verification, if required will be done by the Ministry. Further, the credential verification of the selected nominee(s) will be done by District authority, if required.

7. Environmental Prize Committee.

On receipt of short listed nominations and duly verified by the Regional Offices of the Ministry, the Ministry of Environment and Forests shall circulate to Members of the Prize Committee such list of nominees along with detailed statement of works and attainment of each candidate/ organization. The Committee shall have 7 members as given below:

- i. Vice-President of India (Chairman)
- ii. Speaker of Lok Sabha
- iii. Minister for Environment and Forests
- iv. 3 Expert Members
- v. Secretary of the Ministry of Environment and Forests will act as Member Secretary to the Prize Committee.

8. Criteria for selection.

The Prize committee would, among other things, take into account the following criteria for contribution and merits of the nominee's work in the area of environment.

- i. Replicability
- ii. Innovativeness /Creativity
- iii. Target groups:
 - Unreached (remote areas),
 - Women,
 - Rural population,
 - Urban poor and
 - Broader community
- iv. Over and above call of duty
- v. Tangible impact in relation to resources employed (spread and intensity)
- vi. Educative value
- vii. Sustainability (financial, ecological and social)

However, the Prize Committee would make its independent assessment keeping in mind these criteria and any other relevant information available with them.

The Prize Committee can also suggest/select any Individual or Organisation for which the nomination might, or might not have been received for the year(s) under consideration.

The prize may be withheld by the Government in any year, if in the opinion of the Committee, no meritorious nomination is received.

9. Presentation

Prize will be given at a formal ceremony to be arranged by the Ministry of Environment and Forests on any occasion related to environment each year. At the ceremony citation on the recipients of the Award will be read out. The recipients of the Award may deliver an address on the occasion highlighting the importance and relevance of their works.