

**Indian Council for Cultural Relations**

**Azad Bhavan, I.P. Estate, New Delhi**

**Guidelines for**

**‘ICCR World Sanskrit Award’**

**Preamble:**

Indian Council for Cultural Relations (Hereinafter referred to “ICCR”) shall institute ‘ICCR World Sanskrit Award’ (Hereinafter referred to as “the Award”) which shall be intended to recognize eminent Sanskrit scholars who have made outstanding contribution to the study/ teaching/ research in Sanskrit language and literature.

**Part I**

**General Terms**

1. There shall be one Award every year. It could however be shared by more than one persons.
2. Sanskrit Scholars working abroad shall be eligible for the Award. The nominees should have made outstanding contribution to the study/ teaching/ research in Sanskrit language and literature.
3. The Award is open to all individuals regardless of nationality, race, creed or sex. An association, institution or organization shall not be eligible for the Award.
4. A deceased person cannot be the subject of an Award.
5. To be considered for the Award, it would ordinarily be necessary that a person shall be nominated in writing by an individual/ institution with the competence thereof in accordance with the provisions contained in Part III. Personal applications for the Award shall not be considered.

**Part II**

**Period of Award**

1. The Award shall be made annually starting with the year 2015 and every calendar year thereafter.
2. If, however, it is considered that none of the nominations that have been made merit recognition, the Jury will be free to withhold the Award for the particular year.

**Part III**

**Competence to Submit Nominations**

1. Competence to submit nominations for the Award shall be enjoyed by :
2. Heads of Indian Missions/ Posts abroad;
3. Persons who have received the Award:
4. Former members of the Jury;
5. Ministries of Foreign Governments responsible for education and/ or cultural matters;
6. Presidents/ Vice-Chancellors/ Rectors/ Heads of Foreign Universities or Academic Institutions where Sanskrit is taught; and
7. Any other person whom the Jury may wish to invite to submit nominations for the Award.
8. Every year ICCR shall issue letters in March inviting nominations from competent persons in accordance with the provisions of article (i.) of this part. This may be relaxed by the Chairperson of the Jury if considered necessary.
9. The Jury shall consider such nominations as have been received in the office of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, New Delhi up to and including 30 June of the year for which the Award is to be given, unless the Chairperson of the Jury is of the opinion that such time should be extended either in general or with reference to a particular nomination.

2

1. Ordinarily, only nominations emanating from competent persons invited to nominate shall be considered. However, a nomination shall not be invalid for consideration by the Jury merely on the ground of not having emanated from competent persons mentioned in the article (i) of this part. In all such cases, the decision of the Jury shall be final.
2. Nomination to be considered should be accompanied by adequate supporting evidence.

**Part IV**

**Evaluation of Proposals**

1. No individual shall merit an Award unless he/ she, in the opinion of the Jury, has made outstanding contribution to the study/teaching/ research in Sanskrit language and literature..

**Part V**

**Selection of the Awardee**

1. The requisite scrutiny and final selection for the Award shall be made by a Jury to be appointed by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations for this purpose.
2. The Jury shall consist of seven members who shall all be Indian nationals.
3. The President of ICCR or in his absence, Vice President of ICCR nominated by President, ICCR shall be the Chairperson of the Jury and the Director General of ICCR shall be the Member-Secretary of the Jury. The other five members shall be nominated by the Governing Body of ICCR in the following manner:
4. President of International Association for Sanskrit Studies, Paris;
5. Four eminent Indian Sanskrit scholars/ Persons from public life in India;

3

1. Members of the Jury shall be appointed for a period of two years. After two years those chosen, other than the Chairperson and Member-Secretary, shall retire. The retiring persons shall, however, be eligible for reappointment.
2. If a member of the Jury retires or dies before the expiry of the term of his office, another shall be appointed in his/ her place for the unexpired part of that term by the other members of the Jury.
3. The Jury shall not be competent to take a final decision unless at least four of its members are present.
4. All efforts will be made by the Jury to arrive at a consensus decision. However, if it is not possible, the decisions of the Jury shall be by a majority vote. In the event of the votes on both sides being equal, the Chairperson presiding over the particular meeting shall have a casting vote.
5. The discussions, deliberations, opinions and proceedings of the Jury in connection with the Awards shall not be made public or otherwise revealed.
6. The Jury shall announce its decision, as far as possible by August every year.
7. Decision of the Jury shall not be subject to confirmation by any other authority and no appeal or protest can be made against it.

**Part VI**

**Presentation of Award**

1. The Award will comprise of US$ 20,000 (US Dollars Twenty Thousand), a Citation and a Gold Plated Medallion. If it is awarded to more than one person, the amount will be shared equally. Also, the Awardee receives return business class air ticket and a week’s full local hospitality including domestic travel and stay in India)

4

1. As far as possible, presentation of the Award shall be at a special ceremony in New Delhi.
2. The awardee(s) shall be invited to receive the Award in person. However, if this is not possible, the Award will be given by the Ambassador/ High Commissioner of India where the awardee is located.

**Part VII**

**Other Provisions**

1. Any member of the Jury may propose any amendment in these regulations. The members of the Jury shall decide whether such a change should be made or not but change(s) so proposed will not be incorporated in these regulations until these are approved by the Governing Body of Indian Council for Cultural Relations.
2. The Indian Council for Cultural Relations shall also have the right to make changes in these regulations.
3. The necessary finance for the Awards and for all expenses incidental thereto shall be provided by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations.

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