

National Tribal Awards

1. Background

The Scheduled Tribe (ST) population in India accounts for 8.2% of the total population. The Human Development Indicators (HDI) of the ST population continues to be much lower than the rest of the population in terms of all parameters such as education, health, income, etc. To further compound the problem, these deprived sections of the society also suffer from geographical and cultural exclusion, which are not reflected in the HDI.

In spite of these adverse conditions in which they live, several members of the Scheduled Tribes manage to excel in different fields. Their achievements are made all the more precious by the fact that the success has been achieved in the face of adversity and with strength, initiative and determination. Such success stories should be publicly recognized so that the individuals concerned become role models for future generations of the tribal population. Such recognition will also go a long way in reinforcing a positive image of tribal people and in moulding the societal mind to accept and encourage the versatile role of tribal people in the Indian society. In order to recognize such achievements, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs instituted “**National Tribal Awards**” also known as the **Rashtriya Janjatiya Puraskar** from the year 2008.

2. Nature of Awards

A. **National Award for the Best Janjatiya Achiever**

Two awards (preferably one for a male Scheduled Tribe achiever and the other for a female Scheduled Tribe achiever) covering any of the fields:–

- (i) Sports (Outstanding performance at National /International level).

- (ii) Education (Outstanding performance in engineering, medical or any discipline at Graduate and Post Graduate level course).
- (iii) Culture (Outstanding and long time contribution in the performing arts such as dance/drama/visual arts, etc.).
- (iv) Science, Technology, Entrepreneurship and Biodiversity conservation and any other field(Outstanding contribution).

Each award will carry an amount of Rs. 2 lakh, a citation and a trophy.

B. National Award for Exemplary Community Service rendered to the Scheduled Tribes:

An award for exemplary work done among the tribal people in any field that has resulted in their rapid or remarkable development to:

- (i) Individuals
- (ii) Panchayati Raj Institutions
- (iii) Non-Government Organisations/Voluntary Organizations
- (iv) Community Based Groups/Organisations

The award in this category will carry a cash prize of Rs. 5 lakh, a citation and a trophy.

C. National Award for the best performing ITDP/ITDA

An award to the best performing Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP)/ Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA). This award carries Rs.5 lakh cash prize, a citation and a trophy. The ITDP/ITDA would be required to use the award money for creation of community assets. The award money can be dovetailed with the money available under any other scheme or their own funds.

3. **Procedure for nomination, screening and selection.**

To be considered for the awards, a person or body would have to be recommended by a person of standing (public official, well-known personality, etc) who will vouch for the genuineness of the information submitted, as per format at **Annexure-I.** **Self nomination will not be accepted.** For the ITDPs/ITDAs, the State/UT Government will have to recommend. All nominations must be received by the due date (to be specified by the Ministry) of a particular year for consideration for the award that year. Recommendations received after the due date will not be considered.

District Level: Nominations for awards under category A and B shall be made to the District Collector/District Magistrate/Deputy Commissioner of the District where the individual/Organisation normally resides/ is registered. The District Level Screening Committee (DLSC) headed by the District Collector/District Magistrate/Deputy Commissioner with a representative each from the District level Sports authority/Art and Culture/University/reputed NGO working in the field of tribal welfare as members of the DLSC shall verify the genuineness of the nominations; shortlist (only one in each field) and recommend the shortlisted individuals/Organisations, as the case may be, to the State Level Screening Committee(SLSC) by the due date to be notified by the State/UTGovernment. Recommendations received after the due date will not be considered.

State Level: The recommendations made by the DLSCs would be screened and shortlisted by the SLSC under the Chairmanship of the Secretary of the

Department dealing with tribal affairs in the State/Union Territories. In case recommendations are not received from all or any of the districts, the SLSC would proceed to make its recommendations taking into account only such recommendations received, or if no recommendation is received, to make recommendations *suo moto*.

The composition of the SLSC shall be decided by the Department of Tribal Welfare/Development of the State/UT Government. In doing so, the Secretary of the Department shall ensure that experts from the concerned fields are associated as members of the SLSC, while scrutinizing the nominations received from the DLSCs.

The SLSC, while recommending the names/Agencies, shall ensure that only:

- (a) Names of the best achievers (male and female) in different fields under Category **A** are recommended. The SLSCs shall recommend names of only one male and one female achiever in each field.
- (b) Name of the best individual/NGO/Institutes/Community Based Group recommended under Category **B**.
- (c) The best performing ITDP/ITDA of the State/UT is recommended.

The recommendations of the SLSCs shall be forwarded by the Department of Social/Tribal Welfare/Development of the State/UT Government to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs alongwith all the necessary documents by **31st October*** for awards for the preceding year. Recommendations received after the due date will not be considered.

National Level: At the National level, a Central Screening Committee (NLSC) will scrutinize the recommendations received from all the State Governments/UT Administrations and place them for final selection by the Selection Committee chaired by the Minister of Tribal Affairs.

National Screening Committee (NSC)

The Committee would be chaired by the Joint Secretary or equivalent officer incharge of Research and Media Division of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. The NSC would assess, scrutinize and verify the recommendations received from the State/UT Governments.

The composition of the Screening Committee would be as follow:

Sl. No. Designation of the Member of the Screening

Committee

1.	Joint Secretary/Equivalent Officer in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs	Chairperson
2.	Director(Education), Ministry of Tribal Affairs	Member
3.	Director (NGO) Ministry of Tribal Affairs	Member
4.	A representative from Planning Commission	Member
5.	Deputy Secretary (CP&R)Ministry of Tribal Affairs	Member
6.	Director/ Deputy Secretary (Media)Ministry of Tribal Affairs	Member Secretary

National Selection Committee

A National Selection Committee consisting of the following persons will make the final selection for all the awards:

S.no. Members of the National Selection Committee

1	Hon'ble Minister of Tribal Affairs	Chairman
2	Hon'ble Minister of State for Tribals Affairs	Co-Chairman
3	Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs.	Member
4	A representative of Ministry of Culture (not below the rank of Joint Secretary or equivalent)	Member
5	A representative of Ministry of Human Resource Development (not below the rank of Joint Secretary or equivalent)	Member
6	A representative of Ministry of Science & Technology (not below the rank of Joint Secretary or equivalent)	Member
7	A representative of Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (not below the rank of Joint Secretary or equivalent)	Member
8	A representative of Ministry of Environment & Forests (not below the rank of Joint Secretary or equivalent)	Member
9	Deputy Director General, CAPART	Member
10	Joint Secretary level officer in charge of R&M Division, Ministry of Tribal Affairs.	Member Secretary

The Ministry shall have the right to co-opt Member/Members, if necessary.

4. **Conditions rendering nominations ineligible:**

- a) Nominations not received as prescribed in Para -3 above will not be considered.
- b) Nominations not received in prescribed proforma/incomplete in any respect and /or received after the last date will not be considered.
- c) Nominations found to be suppressing information or giving false and misleading information would be disqualified for the grant of an award.

5. The Ministry reserves the right not to grant any award for a year if suitable nominations have not been received. Proforma for nomination can be downloaded from the Ministry's website www.tribals.gov.in. Nominations in hard copy can be sent by post to the **Deputy Secretary(R&M), Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Room No. F-281, August Kranti Bhawan, Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi – 110066.**

6. **Date and Venue of Awards:**

The award will be announced every year on the date to be specified by the Ministry and will be given away in New Delhi. The awardees shall be invited to come to receive the award and the travelling and other admissible costs incurred by him/her would be reimbursed.

7. For meeting the administrative costs for management of the scheme, 5 per cent of the funds allocated under the scheme may be utilized.

8. **General guidelines and conditions.**

- (a) Presentation of the award shall be made at a special ceremony at a convenient date and time to be announced by the Ministry each year.

- (b) The awardees shall be invited to receive the award in person.
- (c) The awardees would be given TA/DA by First Class/AC 2-tier return rail fare and arrangements for their stay would be made by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Lady and handicapped awardees are entitled to bring one escort. They will also be given TA/DA at par with the awardees.
- (d) Awardees and escorts from the North-Eastern Region including Sikkim may be allowed airfare up to Guwahati/Kolkata to and fro. Awardees and escorts from Jammu and Kashmir may be allowed airfare up to Jammu/Delhi to and fro. Awardees and escorts from Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep are entitled for airfare both ways to the venue of the award.
- (e) The Government of India, Ministry of Tribal Affairs is competent to amend any of the above conditions, without any prior notice whatsoever.
- (f) In case of any dispute, the decision of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs shall be final and binding on all concerned. No representation will be entertained.
- (g) Normally the Award will not be presented posthumously. If, however, the death occurred subsequent to a proposal having been submitted to the jury in the manner stipulated, then the Award may be presented posthumously.
- (h) The State Government shall ensure that the nominee has not received any award for the same achievement in the past.

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*** Exception for the current financial year i.e. 2009-10 for which the last date is 30th November, 2009.**

Proforma for nomination

National Tribal Award for the Best Janjatiya Achiever

1. The year for which nomination is made:
2. Name of the person proposed for the award (In capital letters):
(3 recent passport size photographs and bio-data to be attached)
3. Sex of nominee: Male / Female
4. Full address of nominee with Telephone No., Fax No., and email id.
5. Category for which the person is being nominated (✓ mark the category)
(The person being nominated should possess a Scheduled Tribe Certificate issued by the competent authority and a copy to be enclosed).
 - (i) Sports (Outstanding performance at National/ International level)
 - (ii) Education (Outstanding performance in Engineering, Medical or any other discipline at Graduate/ Post Graduate level course.)
 - (iii) Culture (Outstanding contribution in the performing arts such as music, dance/drama/visual arts etc.)
 - (iv) Science
 - (v) Entrepreneurship
 - (vi) Biodiversity conservation
 - (vii) Any other (Please specify)
6. Details of achievement (certificates to be enclosed).
7. Name, occupation, designation, contact details of the proposer.

VERIFICATION

Verified that all statements made above are true to the best of my knowledge and have been made in the clear understanding of being true.

Signature of the proposer:

Official Seal:

Place:.....

Date:.....

National Award for Exemplary Community Service rendered to the Scheduled Tribes.

1. The year for which nomination is made:
2. Name of the person /body proposed for the award (In capital letters):
(For individual category recent photograph may be attached)
3. Full address with Telephone No.,Fax No. and email id.
4. Category for which the person is being nominated (✓ mark the category)
 - (i) Individual
 - (ii) NGO/ Voluntary Organization
 - (iii) Community Based Group/Organisation
5. Details of achievement, specifically including, wherever relevant, verifiable or published data comparing the changes brought about over a period of time by the individual / NGO/ Institute/Community Based Group.
6. Name of the proposer (State Government)
7. Name, full designation and contact details of the officer recommending on behalf of the State Government.

VERIFICATION

Verified that all statements made above are true to the best of my knowledge and have been made in the clear understanding of their being true.

Signature.....

(Name of the proposer on behalf of the State Government)

Designation

Place:.....

Date:.....

National Award for the Best Performing ITDP/ITDA

1. The year for which nomination is made:
2. Name of the ITDP/ITDA proposed for the award (In capital letters)
3. State in which ITDP/ITDA located.
4. Specific achievement of ITDP/ITDA for which recommendation is made, with verifiable and comparable data (in about 500 words).
5. Name, designation and contact details of the officer recommending on behalf of the State Government.

VERIFICATION:

Verified that all statements made above are true to the best of my knowledge and have been made in the clear understanding of their being true.

Signature.....

(Name of the proposer on behalf of the State Government)

Designation

Place:.....

Date:.....