REGULATIONS GOVERNING NATIONAL MINERAL AWARDS

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES

NEW DELHI
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Regulations Governing
National Mineral Awards

PREAMBLE

1. The National Mineral Awards Scheme was instituted by the Ministry of Mines, Government of India in the year 1966 with the objective to honour individuals/team of scientists for their extraordinary achievements and outstanding contributions in the field of fundamental or applied geosciences, mining and allied areas with a view to provide an incentive for striving towards excellence. The awards shall be given annually.

2. The awards shall be conferred on persons who, in the opinion of the Award Making Authority, have made outstanding contributions in the particular field of their endeavor ordinarily during the previous ten years with due consideration to the totality of the achievements of the nominee(s).

3. As many as six awards may be given every year to scientists below 40 years of age including two teams, in which at least one member is below 40 years of age as on the 31st December preceding the year for which the award is given.

4. NATURE OF THE AWARDS

The National Mineral Awards shall be of two categories as stated below:

(A) National Mineral Awards, hereinafter referred to as the "Awards".
(B) National Mineral Award for Excellence, hereinafter referred to as the "Award for Excellence".

NUMBER OF AWARDS

Fourteen (14) annual Awards shall be given to scientist(s) / technologist(s) / engineers individually or to team(s) in recognition of their meritorious contribution in any of the fields under the following three sections, except Field (vi) & (xiv) in which there is a provision for two awards each. Thus the total awards will be sixteen (16).

FIELDS COVERED

SECTION-I: Minerals and Geoinformation

Fields:

i) Mineral discovery (excluding coal & lignite and oil & natural gas) of economic and/or strategic importance.

ii) Mineral exploration (excluding coal & lignite and oil & natural gas) including application of innovative geophysical/geochemical techniques etc.

iii) Mining technology, including "development and application of new methods and innovative techniques through research & development, leading to increase in productivity / conservation of mineral resources (excluding oil & natural gas), systematic mine planning, concurrent mine reclamation, waste utilization etc.

iv) Mineral beneficiation/project development and planning leading to exploitation of mineral, resources (excluding oil & natural gas) etc.
v) Geoinformation System: Development, structuring and implementation of geoinformation systems; databases, maps, manuals / publications in various fields of geosciences, mining and allied areas (including scientific expeditions and global programmes).

SECTION-II: Basic and Applied Geosciences

Fields:

vi) **Geology**: Stratigraphy, structural geology, tectonics, seismotectonics, petrology, paleontology, mineralogy, geomorphology, mineral economics, mineral chemistry, mineral physics etc.

vii) Applied Geology: Engineering geology, hydrogeology, glaciology, geothermal exploration, remote sensing etc.

viii) **Geophysics/Applied Geophysics**: Application of geophysical methods to the study of earth sciences, geomagnetism, seismology, ground, airborne & marine geophysical survey techniques and instrumentation.

(ix) Geochemistry as applied to earth sciences, geochronology, isotope geology etc.

x) Environmental Geosciences and management studies including coastal and desert environmental management, medical geology etc.

xi) Disaster Management:- Management of natural hazards such as earthquakes, landslides, floods, safe geo-tourism, volcanic events including management of disasters in underground mines etc.

xii) Ocean Development: Oceanography, Antarctic research, Marine Geology etc.
SECTION-III: Fuel Minerals

Fields:

xiii) **Studies on coal and lignite.** including their discovery, exploration & development etc.

xiv) **Studies on oil & natural gas** including their discovery, exploration using various geophysical methods & techniques, project development and planning leading to exploitation of oil & natural gas resources & reservoir management etc.

7. **NATIONAL MINERAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE**

The Award for Excellence (single award) shall be made to an outstanding scientist, technologist, or engineer with an exceptionally high lifetime achievement for his/her sustained and significant contributions in any field(s) of Geosciences, Mining, and allied areas as indicated in Clause 6.

8(A). (i) Each Award will carry a cash prize of Rs. 100,000/-*, a certificate, citation, and trophy.

(ii) In case of each Award a maximum of two individuals and a team may be selected if they are adjudged to be of equivalent merit. However, such shared awards shall not exceed two. In such a case, each individual will get a cash prize of Rs. 100,000/-* and in case of team(s) sharing the award, each team member shall receive a minimum of Rs. 40,000/-. 

(iii) The sixteen awards may include a maximum of four team awards. In case of team award the prize money will be shared equally by the team members subject to a minimum of Rs. 40,000/-* each.

8(B). The Award for Excellence shall carry a cash prize of Rs. 300,000/-*, a certificate, citation, and trophy.

* The award money is exempt from Income Tax under Section (10)(17 A) of Income Tax Act,
9. **ELIGIBILITY**

Any citizen of India who is a professionally qualified geo-scientist, technologist, or engineer having meritorious background with significant contribution in any of the fields specified in Clause 6 of the Regulation shall be eligible for the Award for Excellence and the Awards.

10. **NOMINATIONS**

The nominations for the Award for Excellence and the Awards shall be invited every year from scientific organizations in the field of Geosciences and allied areas as given below:

(i) **Central Government Ministries/Departments engaged in geoscientific work**

(a) Ministry of Mines
(b) Ministry of Coal
(c) Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas
(d) Ministry of Steel
(e) Ministry of Water Resources
(f) Department of Ocean Development
(g) Planning Commission
(h) Geological Survey of India
(i) Indian Bureau of Mines
(j) Department of Science & Technology
(k) Atomic Minerals Division (DAE)
(l) Survey of India (Geodetic Branch)
(m) Indian Space Research Organization
(n) Central Ground Water Board

(ii) Professional Societies

(a) Geological Society of India
(b) Geological Mining & Metallurgical Society of India
(c) Indian National Science Academy
(d) Institute of Geoscientists (India)
(e) Institution of Engineers (India).
(f) Mining, Geological & Metallurgical Institute of India
(g) Indian Geological Congress (Roorkee)

(iii) Academic & Research Institutions /Centre of Excellence, such as:

(a) Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (including Research Institutes/Laboratories dealing with Earth Sciences, Environmental & Mining Technology related R&D, Science & Technology etc.)
(b) University Grants Commission/Universities/Deemed Universities and autonomous academic institutions recognised to award post-graduate level degrees
(c) Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology
(d) Centre for Earth Sciences Studies, Thiruvananthapuram
(e) National Institute of Rock Mechanics
(f) National Geophysical Research Institute
(g) National Institute of Oceanography
(h) Indian Institutes of Technology
(i) Indian School of Mines
(j) Central Mining Research Institute
(k) Indian Institute of Science
(m) Birbal Sahani Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow

(iv) State Government Directorates of Geology & Mining

(v) Central and State Government Departments controlling public sector undertakings engaged in mining, mineral processing, production, mineral exploration including coal and lignite, ground water development and oil & natural gas exploration.

11 (A) Each organisation shall ordinarily be entitled to nominate only one person or a team of scientists/technologists in anyone of the fields specified in Clause 6. However, in special case more than one nomination may also be accepted, provided the sponsoring authority fully justifies the reasons for doing so on grounds of the candidate's eminence. Acceptance of such recommendations, however, will be subject to the decision of the Award Making Authority without further reference to the Sponsoring Authority.

11 (8) Organisations where multidisciplinary work is being carried out may make one nomination in each field of their activity, provided that for the Award for Excellence, each nominating organisation can sponsor only one candidate.

12. A person may be nominated for the National Mineral Award / Award for Excellence not more than three times for the same or similar work for which he has to be nominated afresh each year. However, in exceptional cases, he/she may be nominated afresh for significant contribution in a totally different field.
13. As person on whom National Mineral Award has once been conferred will not ordinarily be considered for a second time for the Award. However, in exceptional cases, he/she may be considered for a second time if he/she has made outstanding contributions in a totally different field.

14. The nominations shall be forwarded under the signatures of the Head of the Sponsoring Organisation or any designated person not below the rank of Joint Secretary to the Government. In the case of the CSIR, the nominations may also be sent directly by the Director of the respective Regional Research Laboratory/Research Institute.

15. The list of organisations given in Clause 10 from whom nominations are invited may be revised by the Government from time to time as and when required.

16. SCHEDULE

The grant of Award for Excellence and National Mineral Awards for a particular year shall be based on the calendar year ending the 31st December. The time schedule for the Awards will be as follows:

(i) Circulars calling for nominations for the Award for Excellence and the Awards will be issued by the 30th November each year or by any subsequent date as approved by the Chairman of the Award Making Authority.

(ii) Nominations (on the prescribed format only) stating the significant achievements made by the nominee upto the 31st December preceding the year of Award (the date of assessment) must reach the office of Shri K.P. Lall, Advisor,
Ministry of Mines, Room No. 527, Block No. 11, C.G.O. Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110 003, Email kpladvisor.mom@sb.nic.in

latest by the 31st March following the issue of the circular letter inviting nominations or by any other date as specified in the circular referred to in Clause 16(i).

(iii) Nominations in the prescribed format received beyond the stipulated date, incomplete nominations or nominations made in any format other than the prescribed one will be rejected.

(iv) The case of a nominee immigrating permanently out of the country after being sponsored shall not be considered.

(v) Presentation of the Award for Excellence and the Awards will be made at Award Presentation Ceremony on a date and time as may be decided by the Chairman of the Award Making Authority / Chief Guest of the Award Ceremony latest by the 31st December the following year or any subsequent date as decided by the Chairman of the Award Making Authority.

17. PROFORMA

Prescribed proforma for nominations along with regulations governing NMA shall be provided to Sponsoring organisations and can also be downloaded from the website of Ministry of Mines: www.mines.nic.in

18. AWARD MAKING AUTHORITY

The selection committee for making the Award for Excellence and the Awards shall be constituted by the Government in the Ministry of Mines and shall be known as the Award Making Authority*,
hereinafter referred to as the "Authority". The Authority will consist of:

(1) Secretary to Government of India Ministry of Mines
   Chairman
(2) Director General, Geological Survey of India
   Member
(3) Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines
   Member
(4) An eminent earth scientist / technologist
    (nominated by Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas)
   Member
(5) An eminent earth scientist / technologist
    (nominated by Secretary, Ministry of Coal)
   Member
(6) An eminent earth scientist preferably in the field of Geology (to be nominated by Chairman, UGC)
   Member
(7) An eminent scientist / technologist (to be nominated by DG, CSIR)
   Member

19. (i) While the Chairman and Members at Sl. No. (2) and (3) of Clause 18 above are ex-officio, the tenure of the other members shall ordinarily be for 3 years. Any casual vacancies among such members may "be filled up by nomination of a new member. No decision of the Authority shall be invalid because of the existence of any vacancy or vacancies in the membership of the Authority.

(ii) In assessing the nominations for the National Mineral Awards, the Authority shall be advised by a panel of experts known as 'Screening Committee of Experts' constituted by the Chairman of the Authority.

(iii) The Screening Committee of Experts will be provided recommendations of three 'Sectional Scrutiny Committees' to be constituted by the Chairman of the Authority for short listing / screening the candidates.
The secretariat for implementing the scheme

(8) For the Award for Excellence, the Authority shall be advised by a 'High level Expert's Committee' in evaluating the nominees. The Committee will be constituted by the Chairman, Award Making Authority.

20. If any Member of the Authority is to be considered for the Award, he/she shall cease to be a member of the Authority for the year in question.

21. While considering Award for Excellence as a lifetime achievement award for exceptionally outstanding contribution in the field of Geosciences, Mining and allied areas, the Award Making Authority, if deem necessary, may consider credentials of any renowned geoscientist; technologist; engineer with very high attainments for conferring the Award for Excellence for the year.

22. (a) The decision of the Authority on the Awards and the Award for Excellence shall be final and binding.

(b) No recommendations of the Sponsors.

23. SECRETARIAT

The secretariat for implementing the scheme and servicing the Authority will be the secretariat of the Advisor, Technical Planning & Policy Committee, Ministry of Mines, Room No. 527, Block No. 11, C.G.O. Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110 003, Phone 011 - 24363199, Fax 011 - 24363199, Email kpladvisor.mom@sb.nic.in and Shri K.P. Lall, Advisor, Technical Planning & Policy Committee, Ministry of Mines will be the Member-Secretary to various expert committees and the Authority.