



**Indian Council for Cultural Relations
Azad Bhavan, I.P. Estate, New Delhi**

**Guidelines for
'ICCR Distinguished Alumni Award'**

Preamble:

Indian Council for Cultural Relations (Hereinafter referred to "ICCR") shall institute 'ICCR Distinguished Alumni Award' (Hereinafter referred to as "the Award") which shall be intended to recognize ICCR's alumni who have made significant achievements in his/her field and/or have made outstanding contribution to the promotion of understanding, goodwill and friendship between India and their country.

**Part I
General Terms**

- (i) There shall be five Award every year.
- (ii) ICCR's alumni who have studied and completed a course in India under a scholarship scheme sponsored or administered by ICCR shall be eligible for the Award. The nominees should have made significant achievements in his/her chosen field of endeavour and/or should have made outstanding contribution to the promotion of understanding, goodwill and friendship between India and their country.
- (iii) The Award is open to all individuals regardless of nationality, race, creed or sex.
- (iv) A deceased person cannot be the subject of an Award. If, however, his/her death has occurred subsequent to his nomination having been submitted to the Jury in the manner stipulated in this document, then a Posthumous Award may be made.

- (v) To be considered for the Award, it would ordinarily be necessary that a person shall be nominated in writing by someone with the competence thereof in accordance with the provisions contained in Part in III. Personal applications for the Award shall not be considered.

Part II Period of Award

- (i) The Award shall be made annually starting with the year 2015 and every calendar year thereafter.
- (ii) If, however, it is considered that none of the nominations that have been made merit recognition, the Jury will be free to withhold one or more Awards for that year.

Part III Competence to Submit Nominations

- (i) Competence to submit nominations for the Awards shall be enjoyed by:
- (a) Heads of Indian Missions/ Posts abroad;
 - (b) Persons who have received the Award;
 - (c) Former members of the Jury;
 - (d) Ministries of Foreign Governments responsible for education and/ or cultural matters;
 - (e) Presidents, Vice-Chancellors and academicians of Universities which have ICCR scholars; and
 - (f) Any other person whom the Jury may wish to invite to submit nominations for the Award.
- (ii) Every year ICCR shall issue letters in the first week of January, inviting nominations, from competent persons in accordance with the provisions of article (i) of this part.
- (iii) 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 31st May of the year for which the Awards are to be given, unless the Chairman is of the opinion that such time should be extended either in general or with reference to a particular nomination.

- (iv) 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 article (i) of this part. In all such cases, the decision of the Jury shall be final.
- (v) Nomination to be considered should be accompanied by adequate supporting evidence.

Part IV Evaluation of Proposals

- (i) No individual shall merit an Award unless he/ she, in the opinion of the Jury, has made outstanding contribution in his/her field and/or in promoting understanding, goodwill and friendship between India and their country.

Part V Selection of the Awardee

- (i) 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.
- (ii) The Jury shall consist of seven members who shall all be Indian nationals.
- (iii) The President of 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:
 - (a) One Vice-President of ICCR;
 - (b) One Vice-Chancellor of an Indian University/ eminent academician;
 - (c) One eminent personality from the field of culture;
 - (d) One former Foreign Secretary/Head of Indian Mission; and
 - (e) One eminent person from public life in India.
- (iv) 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.
- (v) 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.
 - (vi) If for some reasons it is not possible for the Chairperson to be present then the Vice-President of ICCR will act as the Chairperson.
 - (vii) The Jury shall not be competent to take a final decision unless at least four of its members are present.
 - (viii) 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.
 - (ix) The discussions, deliberations, opinions and proceedings of the Jury in connection with the Awards shall not be made public or otherwise revealed.
 - (x) The Jury shall announce its decision, as far as possible by August every year.
 - (xi) 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

- (i) The Award will comprise a Plaque and a Citation to each awardee.
- (ii) As far as possible, presentation of the Awards shall be made at New Delhi at a special ceremony on 11 November. In case it is not possible for any reason, ICCR will then take a decision on the fresh date.

- (iii) The awardee 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.
- (iv) The awardee will be provided return class air ticket and a week's full local hospitality including domestic travel and stay in India.

Part VII
Other Provisions

- (i) 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 a change so proposed will not be incorporated in these regulations until the consent of the Governing Body of Indian Council for Cultural Relations is obtained.
- (ii) The Indian Council for Cultural Relations shall also have the right to make changes in these regulations.
- (iii) The necessary finance for the Awards and for all expenses incidental thereto shall be provided by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations.
