

संजय कुमार, भा.प्र.से
सचिव

Sanjay Kumar, IAS
Secretary

D.O.No.1-13/2025-NAT



स्कूल शिक्षा और साक्षरता विभाग

शिक्षा मंत्रालय

भारत सरकार

Department of School Education & Literacy

Ministry of Education

Government of India

03rd July, 2025

Dear Colleagues,

This Department organizes an annual national level function on Teachers Day, i.e. 5th September every year to confer the National Awards to best teachers of the country, selected through a rigorous, transparent and online selection process. The purpose of National Teachers' Award is to celebrate the unique contribution of some of the finest teachers in the country while projecting them as a role model and to honour those teachers who, through their commitment and industry, have not only improved the quality of school education but also enriched the lives of their students.

2. National Teachers' Awards were started in the year 1958-59 with the object of raising the prestige of teachers and giving public recognition to the meritorious services of outstanding teachers working in Primary, Middle and Higher Secondary schools.

3. In light of the prestigious nature of this award, you would appreciate that it is our endeavour that teachers with exceptional contributions in their profession, are not overlooked. It has been our experience that while we do receive several excellent nominations, a number of outstanding teachers are not considered due to a variety of reasons, viz. technical issues due to which they are unable to register online, lack of information about the award, reluctance to apply, etc. I would, therefore, request you to proactively make concerted efforts to identify such teachers whose quality and achievements deserve to be recognized and to support them in filing their online self-nominations by making appropriate arrangements. By taking these collective efforts to ensure that we honour the truly deserving and meritorious teachers, we will not only motivate the profession but also raise the stature and prestige of this award.

4. Online self-nominations from eligible teachers for National Teachers' Awards, 2025 are being invited with effect from 23rd June 2025 to 13th July, 2025 on Ministry of Education's portal, <https://nationalawardstoteachers.education.gov.in>. However, the last date of final submission is 15.07.2025. This year, 50 deserving teachers will be selected through three stages selection process i.e., District, State and National level selection process as per evaluation matrix given in the Guideline. The nominations/recommendations should contain all relevant details specified in the format available on the above portal. A copy of the Guidelines, governing these Awards is also available on the above portal.

5. School teachers and Heads of Schools working in recognized primary/middle/high/higher secondary schools run by State Govt./UTs Administration, local bodies, schools aided by State Govt./UT Admn. and Private schools affiliated to State/UTs Board are eligible for National Teachers' Awards. In addition, Central Govt. Schools i.e. KV, JNV, Sainik schools run by Ministry of Defence (MoD), schools run by Atomic Energy Education Society (AEES) and Eklavya

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Model Residential Schools (EMRS) run by Ministry of Tribal Affairs, schools affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and Council for Indian Schools Certificate Examination (CISCE) are also eligible.

Only regular Teachers and Heads of Schools with minimum ten years of services are eligible.

6. The online self-nomination procedure for application is as follows:

- i) All the applications would be received through an online web portal.
- ii) Ministry of Education would ensure coordination with States/UTs regarding timely submission / entry into the portal and resolution of technical and operational issues during data entry into portal through the portal development agency.
- iii) Ministry of Education is fully responsible for development and maintenance of the portal.
- iv) In case of State/UTs, teachers and Heads of schools themselves shall apply directly by filling out the application form online through the web portal before the prescribed cut-off date.
- v) Every applicant shall submit a portfolio, online along with the Entry Form. The portfolio shall include relevant supporting material such as documents, tools, reports of activities, field visits, photographs, audios or videos etc.
- vi) Each applicant shall give an undertaking that all the information/data submitted is true to the best of his/her knowledge and if anything is found at any later date to be untrue then he/she will be liable to disciplinary action.

7. In the above background, I request you kindly to issue suitable directions to encourage maximum teachers to register themselves for online self-nominations. The large number of registrations of self-nominations by the teachers will result in final selection of best 50 meritorious teachers at national level for conferring National Teachers' Awards on the occasion of Teachers' Day on 5th September, 2025 by the Hon'ble President at a ceremony held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

Best Wishes

Yours sincerely,

03/7/2025
(Sanjay Kumar)

1. The Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary (School Education), all States/UTs.
2. The Heads of all Organizations (CBSE, KVS, NVS, NCERT, NIOS and ICSE) Copy for information and necessary action to - All SCERTs, DIETs and State Boards.

F. No. 1-23/2023-NAT
Government of India
Ministry of Education
Department of School Education & Literacy

Revised Guidelines for Selection of Teachers for National Awards to Teachers from 2023

Introduction

The purpose of National Awards to Teachers is to celebrate the unique contribution of some of the finest teachers in the country and to honor those teachers who through their commitment and industry have not only improved the quality of school education but also enriched the lives of their students.

2. Conditions of Eligibility of Teachers for consideration for the Awards:

School teachers and Heads of Schools working in recognized primary/middle/high/higher secondary schools under the following categories:

- a) Schools run by State Govt./UTs Administration, schools run by local bodies, schools aided by State Govt. and UT Administration and Private schools affiliated to State/UTs Board.
- b) Central Govt. Schools i.e. Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs), Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs), Sainik Schools run by Ministry of Defence (MoD), Schools run by Atomic Energy Education Society (AEES) and Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) run by Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- c) Schools affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) (other than those at (a) and (b) above)
- d) Schools affiliated to Council for Indian Schools Certificate Examination (CISCE) (Other than those at (a), (b) and (c) above)

- i) Normally retired teachers are not eligible for the award but those teachers who have served a part of the calendar year (at least for four months i.e. up to 30th April in the year to which National Awards relate) may be considered if they fulfill all other conditions.
- ii) Educational Administrators, Inspectors of Education, and the staff of training Institutes are not eligible for these awards.
- iii) Teacher/Headmaster should not have indulged in tuitions.
- iv) Only regular Teachers and Heads of Schools with minimum ten years of services are eligible.
- v) Contractual Teachers and Shiksha Mitras are not eligible.

3. Considerations to guide the selection of teachers upto State/UTs/Organization levels:

Teachers will be evaluated based on the evaluation matrix given at **Annexure-I**. Evaluation matrix contains two types of criteria for evaluation:

- a) **Objective criteria:** Under this the teachers will be awarded marks against each of the objective criteria. These criteria are given a weightage of 10 out of 100.
- b) **Criteria based on performance:** Under this, teachers will be awarded marks on criteria

based on performance e.g. initiatives to improve learning outcomes, innovative experiments undertaken, organization of extra and co-curricular activities, use of Teaching Learning Material, social mobility, ensuring experiential learning, unique ways to ensure physical education to students etc. These criteria are given a weightage of 90 out of 100.

4. Procedure for application and selection:

- a) All the applications would be received through an online web portal.
- b) Ministry of Education would ensure coordination with States/UTs regarding timely submission / entry into the portal and resolution of technical and operational issues during data entry into portal through the portal development agency.
- c) Ministry of Education will bear the entire expenditure for development and maintenance of the portal.
- d) In case of State/UTs, teachers and heads of schools themselves shall apply directly by filling the application form online through the web portal before the prescribed cut-off date.
- e) Every applicant shall submit a portfolio, online along with the Entry Form. The portfolio shall include relevant supporting material such as documents, tools, reports of activities, field visits, photographs, audios or videos etc.
- f) Undertaking by the applicant: Each applicant shall give an undertaking that all the information/data submitted is true to the best of his/her knowledge and if anything is found at any later date to be untrue then he/she will be liable to disciplinary action.

5. District Selection Committee (DSC)

District Selection Committee may be constituted by State/UT Education Dept

- a) First level scrutiny will be done by **District Selection Committee (DSC)** headed by the District Education Officer. Members of DSC would be as under:

- i) District Education Officer: **Chairperson**
- ii) Representative of State/UT Govt.: **Member**
- iii) One Reputed academician nominated by District Collector: **Member**
Efforts may be made to the extent possible to change the names of nominated members every year.

- b) The major functions to be performed by DSC are as under:

- i) Physical verification of the facts/ information provided by the applicant by forming verification teams.
- ii) Evaluation/ marking of the applicants as per the format at **Annexure-I**.
- iii) Certificate by DSC: The DSC shall certify that marks have been awarded after due verification of the facts.
- iv) After the detailed evaluation of the applications, DSC will shortlist maximum **3 names** and forward these to **State Selection Committee** through online portal along with vigilance clearance certificate of each of the 3 applicants.
- v) In addition to the applications received, the DSC in exceptional circumstances, may suo-moto consider name of maximum one person among the outstanding teachers including special educators and differently abled teachers/heads of schools. The evaluation will be done as per the format at Annexure-I.

vi) DSC may take into account performance of teachers in various streams of studies viz. science, arts, music, physical education etc.

6. The State Selection Committee (SSC)

a) The State Selection Committee (SSC) will be headed by Principal Secretary/Secretary of State Education Department. Members of SSC will be as under:

- i) Principal Secretary/ Secretary of State Education Department: **Chairperson**
- ii) Nominee of Union Govt.: **Member**
- iii) Director/Commissioner of Education: **Member Secretary**
- iv) Director, SCERT or equivalent if there is no SCERT: **Member**

Efforts may be made to the extent possible to change the names of nominated members every year.

b) The major functions to be performed by SSC are as under:

- i) Re-verification of the facts/ information/marks of the nominations received from all the DSCs.
- ii) Evaluate all the nominations and prepare shortlist of the best candidates, subject to the maximum number allotted to the States/UTs as per **Annexure-III** and forward the same to Independent Jury at National level through online portal.

7. Regional Selection Committee (RSC) (For Organizations and Autonomous Bodies)

a. RSCs may be constituted by the Organizations

b. The major functions to be performed by RSC are as under:

- i) Physical verification of the facts/ information provided by the applicant by forming verification teams.
- ii) Evaluation/ marking of the applicants as per the format at **Annexure-I**.
- iii) Certificate by RSC: The RSC shall certify that marks have been awarded after due verification of the facts.
- iv) After the detailed evaluation of the applications, RSC will shortlist maximum **3 names** and forward these to **Organization Selection Committee** through online portal along with vigilance clearance certificate of each of the 3 applicants.
- v) In addition to the applications received, the RSC in exceptional circumstances, may suo-moto consider name of maximum one person among the outstanding teachers including special educators and differently abled teachers/heads of schools. The evaluation will be done as per the format at Annexure-I.
- vi) RSC may take into account performance of teachers in various streams of studies viz. science, arts, music, physical education etc.

8. Organization Selection Committee (OSC) (For Organizations and Autonomous Bodies)

a) The composition of OSC is as under:

- i) Chairperson/ Director/ Commissioner/ Head of the Organization: **Chairperson**
- ii) One officer from the Organization nominated by the Chairperson
- iii) Nominee of Union Govt.: **Member**
- iv) One reputed academician deputed by the Chairperson: **Member**

b) The major functions to be performed by OSC are as under:

- i) Re-verification of the facts/ information/marks of the nominations received from all the RSCs.
- ii) Evaluate all the nominations and prepare shortlist of the best candidates, subject to the maximum number allotted to the Organizations as per **Annexure-III** and forward the same to Independent Jury at National level through online portal.

Efforts may be made to the extent possible to change the names of nominated members every year.

9. **Independent Jury at National level**

A. There will be a Five Member Jury. All five members should have extensive experience in aspects related to school education. At least two members may be drawn from government, working or retired, but at or above the level of Joint Secretary. The Independent Jury at National Level will be headed and chaired by any of the experienced members of the Jury, as may be selected by the Union Education Minister.

B. Process for selection –

- i) The Independent Jury would review the list of candidates as forwarded by all the SSCs and OSCs and carry out **fresh assessment**, using the criteria and weightages given in the Evaluation Matrix for National Award to Teachers (Annexure I & Annexure II)
- ii) Each applicant is required to:
 - a) Submit an application letter (maximum 1500 words either in English/Hindi) addressed to the jury with a narrative that shows how they have fulfilled the criteria for the award. Further, this application letter should also include the names of a few (maximum five) students with whom the teacher's interaction has resulted in a positive outcome like retention in school despite adverse circumstances OR a student who is pursuing higher studies OR a student who has been recognised / awarded in the field / subject that the teacher is giving instruction in OR whose aspirations for higher achievements have been moulded by the candidate, etc
 - b) Make a 10 minute presentation before the Jury, elucidating his/her special qualifications, actions, achievements, abilities, etc
- iii) The Independent Jury would identify the best candidates through their qualitative assessment, on the basis of the application letter and the presentation, against each category using the indicative criteria given in Annexure II.
- iv) The jury may determine the category under which the teacher is recommended for the

award, based on the qualitative assessment which would be highlighted

- v) The jury will submit list of recommended candidates along with commendations about exemplary work done by each of the candidates.
- vi) The jury shall select candidates subject to the maximum of 50 (this may include two candidates from Special Category for differently abled teachers etc.).
- vii) Secretarial assistance to the Jury will be provided by NCERT.

10. The Independent Jury at National Level will submit their recommendations to Hon'ble Education Minister for acceptance and final approval.

11. TA/DA for the awardees and their companions shall be paid by Ministry of Education at the entitlement notionally equivalent to group A officer at entry level in the central government.

12. This has the approval of Hon'ble Union Education Minister.

The selection of teachers for the awards will be done based on their performance in the following indicative areas:

- a) **Innovative pedagogy and joyful learning** - Using joyful activities like story-telling, arts, games, sports, examples, etc in order to ensure that education is maximally relatable, relevant, interesting, and effective for our students.
- b) **Use of technology for learning** – Innovating and channeling cost-effective tech resources for enriching classroom learning, creating content using ICT as envisioned under NEP.
- c) **Learning material and mentorship** – Creation of low cost teaching learning materials, undertaking mentorship and nurturance beyond classroom walls for holistic development of students.
- d) **Engagement of community** – Mobilizing stakeholders in the community and engage them meaningfully in various school development activities like school management committee, social audit, increasing enrolment, uplifting deprived children, mobilizing resources, etc.
- e) **Governance** – Strengthening school administration by adopting innovative measures to improve attendance, school management systems, staff training, programme monitoring, etc
- f) **Delivery of FLN** – Adoption of various strategies to improve foundational literacy and numeracy skills in school

Evaluation Matrix for National Award to Teachers up to State/UT/ Organization Level

Category A: Objective Criteria		
S.No	Criteria	Maximum Marks / Ceiling
1	Publication (Research papers/Articles in international/national journals{with ISSN}, Books {with ISBN}, etc.) in the last 5 years	2
2	Annual Performance Appraisal Reports or other performance appraisal tools of last 3 years. <i>(Two marks will be awarded only if the candidate is graded 'outstanding' in last three years. Else no marks)</i>	2
3	Is the teacher attending school regularly without any complaints? <i>(Certificate from controlling officer needs to be uploaded)</i>	1
4	Whether the teacher has attended any in-service training he/she is deputed to? <i>(Certificate from controlling officer needs to be uploaded)</i>	1
5	Work done by teacher to increase enrolment and reduce dropouts. <i>(Certificate from controlling officer needs to be uploaded)</i>	1

6	Whether the teacher is enrolled for any course under SWAYAM or any other MOOCs platform. Any other efforts undertaken by the teacher individually to upgrade their skills along with educational improvements	1
7	Development of e-contents, textbooks, teacher handbooks for SCERTs, Boards or NCERT	2
Subtotal		10

Category B: Performance against criteria		
S.No.	Criteria	Maximum Marks
1. Use of technology, innovative pedagogy and joyful learning	<p>A. Use of ICT Innovating and channeling cost-effective technological resources for enriching classroom learning, creating content using ICT as envisioned under NEP, etc</p> <p>B. Joyful learning technique, creative methods, etc like story-telling, arts, games, sports, examples, etc undertaken by teacher for greater impact of his/her teaching on the students.</p> <p>C. Development and use of appropriate pedagogic approaches in day to day teaching activities including delivery of FLN involving adoption of various strategies to improve foundational literacy and numeracy skills in school, etc</p> <p>D. Active involvement in the process of improving teaching practices in classroom to create an environment conducive to learning, using enrichment activities for students, relating the topic to real life situation, encouraging open discussions, etc</p>	30
(Each Sub-head carries a maximum of 7.5 marks)		
2. Learning material and mentorship	<p>A. Development and use of Teaching Learning Material, Low cost teaching aids etc. (Based on number, scale and impact of innovations/experiments)</p> <p>B. Successful teacher disseminates and shares, participating in collaborative effort.</p> <p>C. Capacity building and acting as mentor for other teachers.</p> <p>D. Undertaking mentorship and nurturance beyond classroom walls for holistic development of students</p>	30

	<p>E. Organization of extra and co-curricular activities (Based on number, scale and impact of experiments/activities)</p> <p><i>(Each Sub-head carries a maximum of 6marks)</i></p>	
3.Governance and engagement of community	<p>A. Strengthening school administration by adopting innovative measures to increasing enrollment, improving attendance, school management systems, programme monitoring, etc.</p> <p>B. Mobilizing stakeholders in the community and engage them meaningfully in various school development activities like school management committee, social audit and mobilizing resources through parents, alumni to contribute to school in anyway i.e., physical infrastructure, computers, PM POSHAN, books, Scholarship, etc.</p> <p>C. Work done by teacher for spreading social awareness among children, especially in socially sensitive issues like nutrition, toilet and menstrual hygiene, child marriage, uplifting deprived children, etc .</p> <p>D. Promotion of nation building and national integration</p> <p><i>(Each sub-head carries a maximum of 7.5 marks)</i></p>	30
	Subtotal	90
	Grand Total	100

Qualitative Assessment by Independent Jury & Criteria for category of awards

- Candidates will be evaluated based on their application letter and a presentation comprising of following aspects, which are indicative in nature, not exhaustive
 - I. Demonstration of an innovative **mindset**.
 - II. Teacher's **design and implementation** of methods showed innovation and out of the box thinking.
 - III. The innovation in the methodology **addressed a felt need/issue** in school / classroom / students / community.
 - IV. Besides innovation, the design and delivery of the pedagogy reflected on **sustainability, quality, inclusiveness and impact**.
 - V. Contributed significantly to **strengthening collaboration and communication** in the school teaching community.
 - VI. Demonstration of **community spirit and going the extra mile** for others in the interactions with students and their parents.
 - VII. The teacher has been able to **effectively align the school's / nation's vision and mission with the aspirational goals of the student** and parent community.
 - VIII. Demonstration of a clear-cut idea and **vision for change**
 - IX. Designing and implementing **actions for achieving** the change
 - X. The **interventions adopted showed a clear visualisation of the change sought** and the process to be followed for making that change happen.
 - XI. The teacher was able to achieve the change sought successfully and it made **a visible difference in the students** and community.
 - XII. The design and delivery of the interventions ensured that the **changes were long-term and sustainable in nature**.
 - XIII. The teacher demonstrated **agreed community values** throughout the initiative.

Annexure-III

State / UT / Organizations wise maximum number of nominations allowed

S.No	States/UTs/Organizations	Max. nominations
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3
3.	Assam	3
4.	Bihar	6
5.	Chhattisgarh	3
6.	Goa	3
7.	Gujarat	6
8.	Haryana	3
9.	Himachal Pradesh	3
10.	Jharkhand	3
11.	Karnataka	6
12.	Kerala	6
13.	Madhya Pradesh	6
14.	Maharashtra	6
15.	Manipur	3
16.	Meghalaya	3
17.	Mizoram	3
18.	Nagaland	3
19.	Odisha	6
20.	Punjab	6
21.	Rajasthan	6
22.	Sikkim	3
23.	Tamil Nadu	6
24.	Telangana	6
25.	Tripura	3
26.	Uttar Pradesh	6
27.	Uttarakhand	3
28.	West Bengal	6
Subtotal		126
Union Territory		
29.	A&N Islands	1
30.	Chandigarh	1
31.	D&N Haveli and Daman & Diu	1
32.	Delhi	2
33.	Jammu and Kashmir	2
34.	Ladakh	1
35.	Lakshadweep	1
36.	Puducherry	1
Subtotal		10
Others		
37.	Atomic Energy Education Society under Department of Atomic Energy)	1
38.	CBSE	6
39.	C.I.S.C.E.	2
40.	Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan	5
41.	Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti	2
42.	Sainik Schools Under M/o Defence	1
43.	Eklavya Model Residential Schools under Ministry of Tribal Affairs	1
Subtotal		18
Grand Total		154