



*Chapter – 10*

*Fellowships  
and  
Awards*



## Indira Gandhi Paryavaran Puraskar (IGPP)

### Introduction and Objectives

- In reverential memory of late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi, the Ministry of Environment and Forests, in the year 1987, instituted an award called “Indira Gandhi Paryavaran Puraskar (IGPP)” to give recognition to those having made significant contribution and their work has the potential to make the measurable and major impact in the protection of environment. In the beginning, a cash prize of Rs.1,00,000/- was awarded to deserving individual/organization of India. Since 1991, the prize of Rs. 1,00,000/- each were awarded separately to individual and organizational category. From the year 2002, the prize money has been enhanced to Rs.5,00,000/- in each category. Subsequently, the regulation governing the IGPP is revised from the year 2005 onwards, one prize of Rs.5,00,000/- under the Organisation category, and two prizes of Rs.3,00,000/- and Rs.2,00,000/- each to individuals in the Individual category shall be given annually. Along with the cash prize, each awardee is given a silver lotus trophy and a citation. Any citizen of India or organization working in India for the cause of environment is eligible for the award. The environmental Prize Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Hon’ble Vice president of India select the awardees. The nomination for the award can be recommended by any citizen of India. Self nominations are not considered. There is no age limit for the nomination. Short-listing of the nomination is carried out by three Expert Members selected by the Prime Minister’s Office.
- While selecting the awardees the term “environment’ is interpreted in the broadest sense possible and comprising of following areas of work:

- Prevention of Pollution.
- Conservation of Natural Resources.
- Rational use of depleteable resources.
- Environmental Planning and Management.
- Environmental Impact Assessment.
- Outstanding field work (innovative research work) for enrichment of environment e.g. afforestation, land reclamation, water treatment, air purification etc.
- Environmental Education.
- Creating awareness of environmental issues.

### Present Status

- The awardees for the Indira Gandhi Paryavaran Puraskar for the Year 2003 and 2004 were selected by the Prize Committee under the Chairmanship of Hon’ble Vice President of India. The awards were given away in the Award ceremony held on 5th June 2007. For IGPP-2005, the Ministry received a total number of 190 nominations (125 individuals and 65 organisations). Short-listing of the nominations has been carried out by three experts, selected by PMO. The ground-truth verification of these short listed nominations have been done by the Regional Offices of the Ministry. The combined short-listed nominations incorporating the ground truth verification will be placed before the Prize Committee for selecting the Awardees which is scheduled to be held on 13th March, 2008 under the chairmanship of Hon’ble Vice President of India. The nomination received for the year 2006 & 2007 are being processed for consideration of the Prize Committee.

## Indira Priyadarshini Vriksha Mitra (IPVM) Awards

### Introduction and Objectives

- The Indira Priyadarshini Vriksha Mitra (IPVM) Awards were instituted in 1986 to recognize the pioneering and innovative contribution made by the individuals and institutions in the field of afforestation/wasteland development every year.
- In all there are Twelve (12) categories in which nominations are invited. These categories are
  - Individual
  - Panchayat/Gram Sabhas/Village Level Institutions/cooperative Organisations at village level
  - Voluntary Agencies including Yuvak Mandals etc.
  - Women's Organizations for creating awareness
  - Government Servants (Individuals)
  - Educational Institutions
  - Government Agencies (not above the district level)
  - Corporate Sector (Private/Public Sector Agencies)
  - Municipalities / Municipal Corporations/Cantonment Boards
  - State Government Level Organisation
  - Forest Development Agency
  - Joint Forest Management Committee
- The awards are given on the basis of innovative efforts and outstanding work in Afforestation, with special reference to wastelands development and involvement of the people. The following activities are kept in view while deciding the awards:
  - establishing decentralized nurseries;
  - tree planting on wastelands/farm land;

- awareness-raising, motivation and extension work;
- involving the rural poor/tribals/cooperatives in Afforestation and tree planting;
- setting up grass-roots level institutions like the Tree Growers' Cooperative; and
- social fencing of community woodlots and pasture lands.

### Present Status

The Awards up to the year 2005 have been conferred. It is proposed to restructure the Awards to significantly improve the profile of the awardees so that they become long-time role models, which is required in view of longer management cycle of tree plantation activity.

## Pitamber Pant National Environment Fellowship

### Introduction and objectives

Pitamber Pant National Environment Fellowship instituted in 1978 is awarded every year to encourage and recognize excellence in any branch of research related to the environmental sciences. The fellowship is awarded every year and is in recognition of significant important research/development contributions and is also intended to encourage talented individuals to devote themselves to R&D pursuits in the field of environmental sciences. The duration of the fellowship is two years.

### Present status

So far, 27 fellowship Awards have been given to various Scientists throughout the country. No fellowship has been awarded for the year 2005 and 2006 as no suitable applicant was found for the award. Fellowship for the year 2006 is being processed. During the year, guidelines & norms for award of fellowship were revised; restricting the age of the applicant to 60 years. The application should

also be supported by at least two Fellows of the National Academy of Science/Engineering/Agriculture.

### **B.P.Pal National Environment Fellowship for Biodiversity**

#### **Introduction and objectives**

B.P.Pal National Environment Fellowship Award for Bio-diversity was instituted during 1993 and is awarded annually with a view to further develop, deepen and strengthen the expertise on Bio-diversity available in the country. The fellowship is in recognition of significant important research and development contributions and is also intended to encourage talented individual to devote themselves whole-time to R&D pursuits in the field of Bio-diversity. Duration of the fellowship is two years.

#### **Present status**

So far, 10 Fellowships Award have been awarded to various scientists throughout the country. Fellowship for the year 2005 was awarded to Dr. R. Sukumar, Centre for Ecological Science, Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore and fellowship for the year 2006 was awarded to Dr. K.S. Bangarva from the CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar, Haryana.

\* During the year the guidelines & norms for award of fellowship were revised, restricting the age of applicants to 60 years. The application should be supported by at least two Fellows of the National Academy of Science/Engineering/Agriculture.

### **Amrita Devi Bishnoi Wildlife Protection Award**

#### **Introduction and objectives**

– The “Amrita Devi Bishnoi Wildlife Protection Award” is a national award instituted by the Ministry for protecting wildlife, which carries a cash award of Rs. One lakh, apart from citation and medallion. The Ministry confers the award every year.

– This annual award is given to an individual/institution pertaining to rural communities for significant contribution in the field of wildlife protection, which is recognized as having shown exemplary courage and valor or having done some exemplary work for the protection of wildlife in the country. There is no age limit for individuals.

### **Rajiv Gandhi Wildlife Conservation Award**

#### **Introduction and objectives**

– The Rajiv Gandhi Wildlife Conservation Award is given each year for significant contribution in the field of wildlife which is recognized as having made or has the potential measurable and major impact on the protection and conservation of wildlife in the country.

– Two awards of Rs. 1,00,000/- each in cash, alongwith medallions trophy and citations, is given to

- Education and research institutions and organizations, and
- Forests and Wildlife Officers/research scholars or scientists/wildlife conservationists.

– A medallion is awarded in the individual category and a trophy in the institutional category.

– Any recognized institution, individual or Government and forest staff of India engaged in scientific work/filed for the cause of protection and conservation of wildlife are eligible. There is no age limit. The term ‘Wildlife’ is interpreted in the broadest sense possible.

Dr. Salim Ali National Wildlife Fellowship Award and Shri Kailash Sankhla National Wildlife Fellowship Award

– These fellowships are awarded by the Ministry to inspire and promote, particularly the younger generation of wildlife managers and scientists for taking



up research/experimental projects aimed at conservation of the rich wildlife heritage of this country as well as for Research/experimental projects on avian wildlife and on mammalian wildlife respectively.

### **Medini Puraskar Yozna**

#### **Introduction and objectives**

- The Medini Puraskar Yozna of this Ministry which was started in 1988 to encourage the Indian writers to write more and more books originally in Hindi on environment and forests and its related subjects was

continued during the year. Under this scheme, four cash prizes of Rs. 31,000/- ,Rs.25,000/-,Rs.20,000/- and Rs. 15,000/- each alongwith a citation are given every year to those writers whose books are adjudged as the best by the Evaluation Committee, constituted by the Ministry for this purpose.

#### **Present status**

- The entries received for the award year 2006 are being evaluated by the Evaluation Committee of the Ministry.