

THE GAZETTE OF INDIA EXTRAORDINARY
PART-I, SECTION-1
Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of
Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divangjan)

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, dated the 14th July, 2022

Subject: Guidelines for the National Award for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, 2021

No. F.No. 5-2/2020-National Awards - Empowerment of Person with disabilities is an inter-disciplinary process, covering various aspects namely, prevention, early detection, intervention, education, vocational training, rehabilitation and social integration etc. Section 24 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 provides formulation of schemes and programmes to safeguard and promote the rights of persons with disabilities. Further, section 39 of the said Act mandates the Government to promote awareness campaigns and sensitization programmes inter alia for advance recognition of the skills, merits and abilities of persons with disabilities and of their contributions to the work force, labour market and professional fee.

Keeping in view the spirit of the above provisions of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, the Government intends to confer National Awards in recognition of contributions/skills of persons with disabilities individually or otherwise and also in recognition of the contribution made by Individual, the Government and the private bodies in the field of empowerment of persons with disabilities.

Now, therefore, with a view to give effect to the intention of the Government to confer such National Awards, the Central Government hereby prescribes guidelines for the National Awards for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, namely –

- 1(a) These guidelines may be called as “Guidelines for the National Awards for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, 2021”.
- (b) These guidelines come into force from the date of its publication in the Gazette of India.

2. Guidelines for the National Awards for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities:

2.1 Description and categories of the awards.

I. National Awards for Individual Excellence-

(व्यक्तिगत उत्कृष्टता के लिए राष्ट्रीय पुरस्कार)

No.	Category of Award	No. of Awards.	Component of Awards
1.	<p>Sarvshresth Divyangjan</p> <p>(सर्वश्रेष्ठ दिव्यांगजन)</p> <p>(Belonging to any field or activity i.e. Education/ Health/ Employment /Art & Culture/ Sports/ Creative work/ Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities/ Social service/ etc. - a Role Model)</p> <p>Open to all persons with disabilities having any of the specified disabilities under the RPwD Act.</p>	06 (03 for Male and 03 for Female)	A certificate, a medal and Cash component of Award: Rs. 2.00 lakh to every awardee
2.	<p>Shresth Divyangjan</p> <p>(श्रेष्ठ दिव्यांगजन)</p> <p>A Locomotor Disability (Locomotor, Muscular Disability, Dwarfism, Acid Attack Victims, Leprosy Cured, Cerebral Palsy)</p> <p>B Visual Impairment (Blindness, Low Vision)</p> <p>C Hearing Impairment (Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Speech & Language disability)</p> <p>D Intellectual Disability (Mental Retardation, Mental Behavior, Specific Learning Disability,</p>	10 (01 for male and 01 for Female in each category- A to E)	A certificate, a medal and Cash component of Award: Rs. 1.00 lakh to every awardee

	<p>Autism Spectrum Disorder,) E Any specified disability except the disabilities mentioned from Sr. (A) to (D) above. (Developmental Disorder, Disability caused due to Blood Disorder, Hemophilia, Thalassemia, Sickle Cell Diseases, Chronic Neurological Conditions, Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinson's Disease, Multiple Disability)</p> <p>Note: If suitable person(s) in any one or more of the above sub-categories are not found, the awards may be given to additional person(s) in other sub-categories.</p> <p>(In the fields of employment/self-employment, health/sports, art, culture drawing, painting, music, or any other type of creative work, empowerment of PwDs,)</p>		
3.	<p>Shresth Divyang Bal/Balika</p> <p>(श्रेष्ठ दिव्यांग बाल / बालिका)</p> <p>(Children with disabilities upto the age of 18 years) (belonging to any of category of specified disabilities under the RPwDAct) –</p> <p>(In the field of art & culture drawing, painting, music, or any other type of creative work etc.)</p>	<p>02 (01 for male and 01 for female)</p>	<p>A certificate, a medal and Cash component of Award: Rs. 1.00 lakh to each awardee</p>
4	<p>Divyangjano Ke Ssashaktikaran Ke Liye Karyarat Sarvshrestha Vyakti</p> <p>(दिव्यांगजनों के सशक्तिकरण के लिए कार्यरत सर्वश्रेष्ठ व्यक्ति)</p>	<p>01 Award Rs. 1.00 lakh</p>	<p>A Certificate, a medal and cash component of Award: Rs. 1.00 lakh</p>

5.	<p>Divyangatha Ke Kheshttra Mein Karyarath Sarvshrestha Punarvas Peshevar (Rehabilitation Professional)</p> <p>(दिव्यांगता के क्षेत्र में सर्वश्रेष्ठ पुनर्वास पेशेवर)</p>	<p>01 Award Rs. 1.00 lakh</p>	<p>A Certificate, a medal and cash component of Award: Rs. 1.00 lakh</p>
6.	<p>Divyangatha Ke Sashaktikaran Ke Kheshttra Mein Sarvshrestha Anusandhan/ Navpravartan /Utpad Vikas</p> <p>(दिव्यांगता के क्षेत्र में सर्वश्रेष्ठ अनुसन्धान / नवप्रवर्तन/ उत्पाद विकास)</p>	<p>01 Award Rs. 1.00 lakh</p>	<p>A Certificate, a medal and cash component of Award: Rs. 1.00 lakh</p>
	Total	<p>21 Awards and 21 medals Rs. 27 lakhs</p>	

II. National Awards for Institutions engaged in Empowering persons with disabilities

(दिव्यान्गजनों के सशक्तिकरण के लिए कार्यरत संस्थानों हेतु राष्ट्रीय पुरष्कार)

Sr N.	Category of Award	No. of Awards	Component of Award
1.	Divyangjanon Ke Sashaktikaran Men Karyrat Sarveshrestha Sansthan (Private organization, NGO) (दिव्यान्गजनों सशक्तिकरण हेतु सर्वश्रेष्ठ संस्थान)	02 (01 Award for providing Comprehensive Rehabilitation Services 01 Award for Inclusive Education)	A certificate and a shield to each awardees
2.	Divyangjano Ke Liye Sarvshrestha Niyoktha (Govt. organisation/ PSEs/ Autonomous bodies/ Pvt. Sector) (दिव्यान्गजनों के लिए सर्वश्रेष्ठ नियोक्ता)	01 Award	A certificate and a shield to the awardee
3	Divyangjano Ke Liye Sarvshresth Placement Agency (excluding Govt./ State Govt./Local Bodies) दिव्यान्गजनों के लिए सर्वश्रेष्ठ प्लेसमेंट एजेंसी)	01 Award	A certificate and a shield to the awardee
4	Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan Ke Karyanvayan/Badhamukta Vatavaran Ke Srijan Mein Sarvshrestha Rajya/UT/Zila (सुगम्य भारत अभियान के कार्यान्वयन / बाधामुक्त वातावरण के सृजन में सर्वश्रेष्ठ राज्य / संघ राज्य क्षेत्र / जिला)	01 Award	A certificate and a shield to the awardee
5.	Sarvshrestha Sugamya Yatayat ke Sadhan/ Soochana Ewam Sanchar Prodyogiki (Govt./Private organization) (सर्वश्रेष्ठ सुगम्य यातायात के साधन/ सूचना एवं संचार प्रौद्योगिकी)	01 Award	A certificate and a shield to the awardee
6.	Divyangjano Ke Adhikar Adhiniyam/UDID Evam Divyang	02 (01 Award for	A certificate and a shield

	Sashktikaran ki Anya Yojanaon ke Karyanvayan Mein Sarvshrestha Rajya/UT/Zila (दिव्यान्गजनों के अधिकार अधिनियम / विशिष्ट दिव्यान्गता पहचान पत्र एवं दिव्यांग सशक्तिकरण की अन्य योजनाओं के कार्यान्वयन में सर्वश्रेष्ठ राज्य / संघ राज्य क्षेत्र / जिला)	State/UT and 01 award for District)	to each awardee
7.	Divyangjano Ke Adhikar Adhiniyam, 2016 Ke Apne Rajya Mein Karyanvayan Mein Sarvshrestha Rajya Divayngjan Aayukta (दिव्यान्गजनों के अधिकार अधिनियम के अपने राज्य / संघ राज्य क्षेत्र में कार्यान्वयन में सर्वश्रेष्ठ प्रदर्शन करनेवाले राज्य दिव्यान्गजन आयुक्त)	01 Award	A certificate and a shield to the awardee
8.	Punarvaas Peshewaron Ke Vikas Mein Sanlagn Sarvshrestha Sangathan (पुनर्वास सेवाओं हेतु पेशेवर तैयार करनेवाली सर्वश्रेष्ठ संस्थान)	01 Award	A certificate and a shield to the awardee
9.	Additional Awards – In category (i) or in category (ii) or in both as considered appropriate by the National Selection Committee	03 Awards	(Cash component of Award of Rs. 1.00 lakh each only in the case of 'Individual Excellence' i.e. category (i) above. Medal or Shield as the case may
	34 Awards and Rs. 33 lakhs cash component 21 medals and 10 shields.		

2.2. Procedure for inviting applications for the awards and selection of Awardees:

- (i) Applications to be submitted by eligible candidates or establishments or institutions in categories as prescribed in Para 2.1 above in the Common portal of National Awards of Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India (after it becomes operational) in prescribed application form as at Annexure to these Guidelines. Applications may be submitted through self-nomination including the documents and the applicant will be solely responsible for the authenticity of the documents submitted. The Department may verify the authenticity of the documents as and when considered necessary.
- (ii) Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) shall intimate the opening of the National Awards Portal as well as the prescribed period for submission of applications through advertisement in the newspapers/web site of the Department.
- iii) A recipient of National Award for Empowerment of Divyangjan can apply for the National Award subsequently only after 5 years.

2.3. For short-listing of applications by Screening Committees

- (i) There shall be Screening Committees for short listing of awardees in different categories of national awards. The Screening Committees shall comprise of four to five members, including the Chairperson, out of the following:
 - a. Serving or retired officers of the rank of Joint Secretary or above of the Central Government or Officers of the reputed Government Institutions;
 - b. Eminent personalities and experts in the field of disability or expert in the relevant field of award;
 - c. Representatives of Non-Governmental Organizations;
 - d. Officers of the rank of Deputy Secretary and above of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities and organizations under the Department shall act as Convener of the Screening Committees.
- (ii) The National Selection Committee shall decide the nomination of the awardees for various categories on the basis of recommendation of the Screening Committees.
- (iii) The Chairpersons & Conveners of the Screening Committees shall assist the National Selection Committee in the selection process.
- (iv) The non-official members of the National Selection Committee/Screening Committees shall be entitled to TA and DA in

accordance with the financial rules and procedures as applicable in Government of India.

- (v) The awardees nominated under different categories of the national award shall be informed about date and venue of the national award function each year through Post/Telephone. The awards may be received personally by the selected individuals or representative of the institution.

2.4 National Selection Committee

- (a) The selection of the awardees shall be made on the basis of recommendations of the Screening Committees by a National Selection Committee.
- (b) The National Selection Committee shall consist of the following officials:

(i)	Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment	Chairperson, ex-officio
(ii)	Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment	Vice-Chairperson, ex-officio
(iii)	Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divangjan) M/o SJ&E	Member, ex-officio
(iv)	Chairperson, National Commission for Women,	Member
(v)	The Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities	Member
(vi)	Chairperson, Rehabilitation Council of India	Member
(vii)	Chairperson, National Trust, New Delhi	Member
(viii)	Special Secretary/Additional Secretary, M/o Social Justice & Empowerment	Member
(ix)	Director, Lalit Kala Academy or his/her representative	Member
(x)	Representative of CSIR not below the rank of JS	Member
(xi)	Representative of Rehabilitation Wing of DRDO	Member
(xii)	Head of Department, Deptt. of Rehabilitation, Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi	Member
(xiii)	Representative of Confederation of Indian Industries (CII).	Member
(xiv)	Joint Secretary/JS level Officer of Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) MSJE	Convener

- (c) The National Selection Committee referred to above may select higher number of awardees in any or all the categories or sub-categories referred to in the above Table.
- (d) The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities may co-opt members to the National Selection Committee.
- (e) The decision of the National Selection Committee shall be by a majority vote and in the extent of votes on both sides being equal, the Chairperson presiding over a particular meeting shall have a casting vote.
- (f) Selection Committee while selecting the awardees in the category give due representation to both rural and urban disabled persons and shall ensure equitable regional representation.
- (g) The decision of the National Selection Committee shall be final.

2.5. Criteria for selection.

2.5.1 For Category I - National Awards for Individual Excellence

(A) (i) Sarvshresth Divyangjan – There shall be 6 Awards (3 for male and 3 for female).

Open to all persons with disabilities having any of the 21 specified disabilities under the RPwD Act, 2016 and engaged in any field or activity i.e. Education/Health/Employment/ Art & Culture/Sports/Creative work/ Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities/Social service/ etc.- who may exceptionally be a Role Model).

(ii) Shresth Divyangjan – There shall be 10 Awards with 2 Awards (1 for male and 1 for female) in each of the following categories:-

- a) Locomotor Disability- (Locomotor, Muscular Disability, Dwarfism, Acid Attack Victims, Leprosy Cured, Cerebral Palsy)
- b) Visual Impairment-(Blindness, Low Vision)
- c) Hearing Impairment - (Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Speech & Language disability)
- d) Intellectual Disability – (Mental Retardation, Mental Behavior, Specific Learning Disability, Autism Spectrum Disorder,)
- e) Any specified disability except the disabilities mentioned from Sr. (a) to (d) above.

(Developmental Disorder, Disability caused due to Blood Disorder, Hemophilia, Thalassemia, Sickle Cell Diseases, Chronic Neurological Conditions, Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinson's Disease, Multiple Disability)

In the fields of employment/ self-employment, health/sports, art, culture, drawing, painting, music, or any other type of creative work, empowerment of PwDs, etc.

However, if suitable person(s) in any one or more of the above sub-categories are not found, the awards may be given to additional person(s) in other sub-categories.

Sl. No.	Criteria	Weight
(i)	Type of Disability Extent of Disability a) 40% to 59% :04 b) 60% to 79% : 10 c) 80% and above : 20	20%
(ii)	Disability a) By birth or early childhood (0-6) years): 5 b) Subsequently : 2	05%
(iii)	Education/Qualification acquired before getting disability: 0 Qualification with & after having disability: 5	05%
(iv)	Extent of mobility, self-care and independence etc. a) Independently: 4 b) With the help of escort/assistive device: 10	10%
(v)	Staying in a) Rural: 10 b) Urban areas/Towns: 5 c) Metropolitan Cities : 2	10%
(vi)	A. Level of participation in sports or any other activity a) Participation: International: 20, National :10, State level: 5 b) Awards: i) International level (Gold, Silver, Bronze): 10,9,8 respectively, ii) National level: (Gold, Silver, Bronze): 6, 5, 4 respectively. iii) State level (Gold, Silver, Bronze): 3, 2, 1 respectively. B. Level of participation in other fields/ initiatives including, arts, culture, music, social sector, academics, entrepreneurial activities teaching etc. i) Participation: International:20, National 10, State :5 ii) Awards	50%

	a): International level (Gold, Silver, Bronze): 10,9,8 respectively, b) National level: (Gold, Silver, Bronze): 6, 5, 4 respectively. c) State level (Gold, Silver, Bronze): 3, 2, 1 respectively.	
(vii)	For facilitation of shortlisting of applicants in any category of disability the Screening Committee may devise any other assessment parameter. Marking with ratios as given above are indicative but weightage for Col. (vi) will remain 50% of the total marks.	

iii) Shresth Srijansheel Divyang Bal/Balika – 2 Awards (one for male and one for female)

(Open to Children with disabilities upto the age of 18 years and belonging to any of category of specified disabilities under the RPwD Act, 2016) – In the field of art & culture drawing, painting, music, or any other type of creative work etc.)

Sl. No.	Criteria	Weight
(i)	Type of Disability Extent of Disability a) 40% to 59% : 04 b) 60% to 79% : 10 c) 80% and above : 20	20%
(ii)	Disability a) By birth or early childhood (0-6) years): 5 b) Subsequently : 2	05%
(iii)	Education/Qualification acquired before getting disability: 0 Qualification with & after having disability: 5	05%
(iv)	Extent of mobility, self-care and independence etc. a) Independently: 4 b) With the help of escort/assistive device: 10	10%
(v)	Staying in a) Rural: 10 b) Urban areas/Towns: 5 c) Metropolitan Cities : 2	10%
(vi)	A. Level of participation in sports or Arts, Culture, Music, social sector, or any other creative activity	50%

	i) Participation: International: 6, National :3, State level: 1 ii) Awards: a) International level (Gold, Silver, Bronze):12,10,8 respectively, b) Awards National level: (Gold, Silver, Bronze): 8, 5,4 respectively. iii) State level (Gold, Silver, Bronze): 3,2,1 respectively.	
(vii)	For facilitation of shortlisting of applicants in any category of disability the Screening Committee may devise any other assessment parameter. Marking with ratios as given above are indicative but weightage for Col. (vi) will remain 50% of the total marks.	

iv) Sarvshrestha Vayakti- Divyangjano Ke Sashaktikaran Ke Liye Karyarath - one National Award shall be given to individuals working for the cause of the persons with specified disabilities. Eminence of individual shall be determined on the following basis:-

The organization in which he/she works considers him/her as outstanding:

- (a) He/she has been responsible for initiating new program or services in the last 10 years resulting in benefiting the people with disabilities particularly in rural areas.
- (b) Paid officers of the Institution shall not be eligible for selection. However, paid workers/officers of the NGOs working for the cause of the disabled could be eligible.
- (c) His/her contribution should be outstanding in the areas of disabled welfare/rehabilitation/education/training etc.
- (d) His/her contribution in developing rehabilitation model for Community Based Rehabilitation and replicating the same in the inaccessible rural areas.
- (e) Outstanding person championing the welfare and overall development of the disabled and sensitizing the community regarding rights and equal opportunities for the disabled.
- (f) The quality of the work performed by the individual in the cause of the disabled and its significance for the cause shall also be given due weightage.
- (g) He/she has outstanding professional achievements to his/her credit.

v) Sarvshrestha Punarvaas Peshevar (Rehabilitation Professional/ Worker) – Divyangatha Ke Kheshttra Mein Karyarath – One Award

(One National Award shall be given to the best Rehabilitation Professional/Worker engaged in providing rehabilitation services or empowerment of persons with disabilities):-

Sr	Item	%age
1	Nature of Rehabilitation given to Persons with Disabilities	20%
2	Academic, Technical, Professional achievements in the field of rehabilitation qualifications	10%
3	Rehabilitation services provided in urban or rural areas	10%
4	No. of years of rehabilitation services provided	10%
5	Total number of persons benefitted	10%
6	Achievements in developing rehabilitation model for Community Based Rehabilitation and replicating the same in the inaccessible rural areas.	10%
7	Screening Committee may devise any other assessment parameter which may facilitate short-listing of applicants	30%

vi) Sarvshrestha Anusandhan/ Navpravartan /Utpad Vikas - Divyangatha Ke Sashaktikaran Ke Kheshttra Mein – One Award

One National Award shall be given to the best research or technological innovation aimed at improving the life of persons with disabilities or the development of new cost-effective product for manufacture aimed at improving the life of persons with disabilities. The selection criteria for

a) The innovative projects or technology shall be:

- Development of an outstanding device, aid or adaptation which substantially improves the chances of the persons with disabilities in receiving education, obtaining or retaining employment and in being totally integrated in the socio-economic life of the community; and
- The effectiveness of the device in increasing the mobility, productivity and employment prospects of the persons with disability, maintainability of the device and its reparability.

- b) The criteria for easy and most cost-effective adaptability of technology shall be as follows:

The criteria for easy and most cost-effective adaptability of technology shall be as follows:-

Sr.No.	Evaluation criteria	Maximum marks
1	State of Development idea/Concept prototype working model	30%
2	Innovation New Product Alternative	15%
3	Patented/Applied	10%
4	Cost Effectiveness/affordability	10%
5	Adding import substitution and self reliance	5%
6	Safety of use	5%
7	Commercialization	5%
8	Effectiveness of device in promoting education, enhancing mobility, promoting accessibility	10%
9	Publication: Journal/Other scientific magazine/published in newspapers	10%
		100

B. National Awards for Institutions engaged in Empowering Persons with Disabilities

1. Divyangjanon ke Sashktikaran Hetu Sarveshrestha Sansthan (Private organization, NGO) –Two Awards

- One Award for providing holistic comprehensive Rehabilitation Services; and
- One Award for promoting and imparting Inclusive Education or educational institutions that are preparing children with disabilities for inclusive education for higher studies.

The criteria for giving awards in this category shall be as under:-

Sl.No.	Criteria	Weight
(i)	Has started comprehensive service for people with various disabilities.	10%
(ii)	Has adapted new equipments.	10%
(iii)	Has provided new services.	15%

(iv)	Has undertaken new strategies for improving existing services	10%
(v)	Has followed-up the clients in rehabilitation.	5%
(vi)	The Institution should have at least 10 years' experience in the field in the area of education/training/ rehabilitation etc.	10%
(vii)	The contribution of the institution in extension of outreach services in and around its working headquarters.	5%
(viii)	Motivation, involvement and participation of community for rehabilitation of the disabled particularly in rural areas	10%
(ix)	While selecting the institutions due weight age would be given to voluntary action through participation of local public and efforts for rendering rehabilitation services to the persons with disabilities.	5%
(x)	The geographical area in which the Institution is providing services	5%
(xi)	The category(ies) of disability for which the institution is providing services	5%
(xii)	Screening Committee may devise any other assessment parameter which may facilitate short-listing of applicants	10%

2. Divyangjano Ke Liye Sarvshrestha Niyoktha – One Award

(a) The outstanding employers of the disabled under

- (i) Government organization;
- (ii) Public Sector Undertaking or Autonomous Body or Local Government Body; and
- (iii) Private or Non Governmental Organization; shall be assessed on the basis of the following criteria:-

Sl. No.	Criteria	Weightage
(i)	That at least 10% of the employees are disabled subject to a minimum of disabled persons in a given establishment. (In case of large Establishment employing 100 disabled persons or more, the condition of 10% need not be rigidly adhered to)	20%
(ii)	That wherever necessary minor adjustment/ modifications in the machinery have been made;	5%

(iii)	That necessary environmental modifications at the worksite have been made including barrier free access;	10%
(iv)	That the employees with disabilities are offered the same conditions in service, including the rates of pay as given to other employees for similar work;	15%
(v)	That the employers have shown sympathetic understanding of the problems of the disabled	5%
(vi)	That when necessary and feasible, such additional facilities such as accommodation and transport etc, are provided	5%
(vii)	Retention rate	10%
(viii)	Employees assessment	10%
(ix)	Productivity ensured	10%
(x)	Screening Committee may devise any other assessment parameter which may facilitate shortlisting of applicants	10%

There shall be one National Award under the category of placement agency of person with disabilities (excluding Government/State Government/local bodies). The best placement agency for placement of persons with disabilities shall be assessed on the basis of the following criteria:-

3. Divyangjano Ke Liye Sarvshrestha Placement Agency – One Award

Sl. No.	Criteria	Weightage
(i)	Placed at least 50% registered unemployed disabled persons in employment during the last five years and that at least 30% of them were women;	20%
(ii)	Total number of persons with disabilities placed during the last five years	10%
iii)	His/her follow-up during the last five years coupled with placements of the people registered with him/her up to the end of the last year is outstanding;	25%
(iv)	The percentage of dropout employees should not exceed 20% in a given year;	15%
(v)	The placement officer shall provide placement to all categories of disabled persons and maintain a balance amongst them while assisting for placement.	10%

(vi)	Screening Committee may devise any other assessment parameter which may facilitate short-listing of applicants	20%
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4. Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan Ke Karyanvayan/Badhamukta Vatavaran Ke Srijan Mein Sarvshrestha Rajya/ UT/ Zila

One award shall be given for the outstanding work in Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan and creation of barrier free environment/working condition for the persons with disabilities, the working place with easy mobility, toilet facilities and directions in the sign language and other indicators, which facilitate easy movements and integrate the persons with disabilities in its overall working milieu.

Sr. No	Criteria	Weightage
1.	i) Total number of Public buildings in the State* ii) Total Number of Public buildings* identified for creation of barrier free environment. iii) Total number of public buildings out of the above made accessible from Accessible India Campaign funds. * Offices, Cinema Halls, Theatre, Parks, Hospitals, Museums, Police Stations, Tourists places, Monuments, Educational Institutes, Banks, Post offices, ATMs, Commercial Complexes, Market places, Streets, Libraries, Courts etc.	15%
2.	i) Total number of cost estimates sent to the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities ii) Total number of buildings for which funds have been given and utilized. (financial year- wise details to be given beginning 2015-16 onwards)	15%
3	Total number of buildings retrofitted with following details:- a) Accessible Parking with marking as per accessibility standards b) Accessible route connecting parking to alighting point c) c) Tactile tiles/pavers from parking to main accessible entrance and till rooms d) Accessible reception counter e) Accessible entrance/doors/corridors f) Ramps – wherever there are level differences or liftis absent g) Accessible lift h) Signage (audio-visual) conspicuously placed i) Accessible toilet at each floor	30%

	j) Accessible staircase (color contrasting strip and Continuous handrails.	
4.	i) Total number of buildings made accessible from state funds. ii) Other important initiatives taken up improve accessibility of public buildings.	20%
5.	Screening Committee may devise any other assessment parameter which may facilitate short-listing of applicants	20%

5. Sarvshrestha Sugamya Yatayat Ke Sadhan/Soochana Evam Sanchar Prodyogiki

The criteria for selection shall be as under:-

Sl.No.	Criteria	Weightage
(i)	Overall planning and strategy in providing/setting up good Institutional infrastructure including monitoring of the existing one.	10%
(ii)	i) Total number of Terminals/Depots/ buses (fleet)/bus Stops under Department. ii) Total number of Terminal/Depots/Buses (fleet)/bus Stops fully made accessible. iii) Total number of Terminal/Depots/Buses (fleet)/bus Stops not accessible	20%
(iii)	(i) Total number of state government websites. (ii) Total numbers of websites identified and made accessible from Accessible India Campaign fund. (iii) Total numbers of websites made accessible from state funds	20%
(iv)	Other important initiatives taken up to improve accessibility of information example – annual reports in Braille, accessible content creation of documents etc.	25%
(v)	Screening Committee may devise any other assessment parameter which may facilitate shortlisting of applicants	25%

6. Divyangjano Ke Adhikar Adhiniyam/ UDID Evam Divyang Sashktikaran ki Anya Yojanaon Ke Karyanvayan Mein Sarvshrestha Rajya/UT/Zila

Outstanding work in empowerment of persons with disabilities and the criteria for selection shall be as under:

Sl. No.	Criteria	Weightage
(i)	Overall planning and strategy of the state in providing comprehensive rehabilitation services to the persons with disabilities and setting up good Institutional infrastructure including state commissioner for persons with disabilities (PwDs).	10%
(ii)	Percentage of persons with disabilities who have been issued disability certificates	5%
(iii)	Percentage coverage of identified persons with severe multiple disabilities under IGNDPS	5%
(iv)	Achievement of State in implementing Central Sector Schemes:	10%
(v)	Percentage of government elementary secondary schools having: (a) Ramps with railings (b) Special teachers (c) Disabled friendly toilets	10%
(vi)	PwDs who have been placed in Government jobs against the stipulated 3% quota for them	10%
(vii)	Special efforts made to provided barrierfree environment in public spaces/Implementation of AIC	5%
(viii)	Expenditure on State Sector schemes for PwDs as % of the total State Plan Outlay	5%
(ix)	Percentage of PwDs provided vocational training during last five years	5%
(x)	Screening Committee may devise any other assessment parameter which may facilitate short-listing of applicants	35%

7. Divyangjano Ke Adhikar Adhiniyam 2016 Ke Apne Rajya Mein Karyanvayan Mein Sarvshrestha Rajya Aayukta Divayangjan

Under the RPwD Act, 2016, State Governments /UT Administrations have been mandated to take forward programmes and policies for empowerment of persons with disabilities. The State Commissioner, Persons with Disabilities is accordingly take the steps:

- Identify, suo motu or otherwise, provision of any law or policy, programme

and procedures, which are in consistent with the RPwD Act, and recommend necessary corrective steps;

- ii. inquire, suo motu or otherwise deprivation of rights of persons with disabilities and safeguards available to them in respect of matters for which the State Government is the appropriate Government and take up the matter with appropriate authorities for corrective action
- iii. review the safeguards provided by or under the Act or any other law for the time being in force for the protection of rights of persons with disabilities and recommend measures for their effective implementation;
- iv. review the factors that inhibit the enjoyment of rights of persons with disabilities and recommend appropriate remedial measures undertake and promote research in the field of the rights of persons with disabilities;
- v. promote awareness of the rights of persons with disabilities and the safeguards available for their protection;
- vi. monitor implementation of the provisions of this Act and schemes, programmes meant for persons with disabilities;
- vii. monitor utilisation of funds disbursed by the State Government for the benefits of persons with disabilities; and perform such other functions as the State Government may assign.

In order to promote excellence and recognition of performance of a State Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities in achieving the mandated activities under the RPwD Act, 2016 in any State/UT, a National Award has been instituted for the purpose.

Criteria for selection:-

Sl.No.	Criteria	Weightage
(i)	Overall planning and strategy in providing comprehensive rehabilitation services to the persons with disabilities and setting up good Institutional infrastructure.	20%
(ii)	Grievances of persons with disabilities registered and disposed off during the last 3 years	20%
(iii)	Steps taken/Coordination with the State authorities on issues concerning persons with disabilities including issuance of disability certificates/UDID/Implementation of RPwD	20%

	Act/Rules etc.	
(iv)	Conference/Workshops, seminars organized/conducted in disseminating disability rights, rehabilitation, economic empowerment of persons with disabilities	10%
(v)	Screening Committee may devise any other assessment parameter which may facilitate shortlisting of applicants	30%

8. Punarvasan Peshewaron Ke Vikas Mein Sanlagn Sarvshrestha Sangathan – One Award

Criteria for selection:

Sl.No.	Criteria	Weightage
(i)	Nature of Rehabilitation service provided to persons with disabilities	10%
(ii)	Professional achievements (Academic & Technical)	10%
(iii)	No. of Years of providing rehabilitation services to persons with disabilities	15%
(iv)	Total number of persons with disabilities rehabilitated	20%
(v)	Conference/Workshops, seminars attended/organized/conducted for upgradation of rehabilitation skills.	15%
(vi)	Awards/appreciation received at the National/State levels	10%
(vii)	Screening Committee may devise any other assessment parameter which may facilitate short-listing of applicants	20%

4. Calendar of Activities to be followed each year

The calendar of activities to be followed each year with regard to the awards is given at Annexure- C.

5. Presentation of awards:

- The awards will be presented in New Delhi on 3rdDecember, every year which has been declared as the “International Day of Persons with Disabilities”.

- (ii) The boarding and lodging expenses of the awardees and one escort shall be borne by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- (iii) To and fro travelling expenses and accommodation for up to one day prior and after the day of awards ceremony shall be arranged and the expenditure shall be reimbursed by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- (iv) The TA/DA admissibility of the awardees and their escorts shall be equivalent to a Class-I officer of the Central Government.

(Kishor B. Surwade)
Deputy Director General

Application form for National Awards for individual excellence
(Input needed on points during filling up the application form online)

1.	Category of Award 1. Sarvshresth Divyangjan 2. Shresth Divyangjan 3. Shresth Divyang Bal/Balika 4. Divyangjano Ke Liye Karyarath Sarvshrestha Vyakti 5. Divyangatha Kay Keshtra Mein Sarvshresth Punarvas Pesheyvar (Rehabilitation Professional) 6. Divyangatha Ke Keshtra Mein Sarvshrestha Anusandhan/Navpravartan/Utpad Vikas (Tick mark only one category) (Separate application if to apply for more than one)	
2.	Name: (a) in English (in BLOCK Capital letters) (b) in Hindi	
3.	Address: (a) Residential (b) Office	
4.	Telephone numbers: (a) Residential (b) Office	
5.	E-mail address, if any	
6.	Sex	
7.	Date of Birth/Age	
8.	Nature/Category of disability	
9.	Percentage of disability(Certificate of competent authority to be attached)	
10	Qualification: (a)Academic (b) Technical/Professional Qualifications acquired after onset of disability should be clearly indicated. (Certificate and testimonial should be attached)	
11.	Field or Activity associated with: a) Education b) Health c) Employment d) Art & Culture e) Sports f) Creative Work	

	g) Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities h) Social Service	
12.	Whether employee or self-employed i) If employee : (a) Name of the Employer (b) Designation or Post held (c) Scale of pay and salary drawn (d) Nature of work engaged on ii) If self-employed : (a) Trade/Profession with which associated (b) Monthly Income (c) How far you have upgraded your skill in that trade/profession with a view to absorb yourself fully as a self-employed?	
13.	Achievements (Certificates/Appreciation letters) in the field of activity at the a) International level b) National Level c) State level d) District level e) Organisation level	
14.	Awards, Medals, honours received (a) Name of the Award (b) Conferring Agency (c) Year of conferment	
	Any other achievement for consideration of the National Award	

It is certified that the information furnished above is correct and based on facts and records available with me.

(Signature of the Applicant with date)

Application form for National Awards for Institutions engaged in Empowering Persons with Disabilities

(Input needed on points during filling up the application form online)

1	Award Category applied for:	
i)	Divyang Sashaktikaran Hetu Sarveshrestha Sansthan	
ii)	Divyangao Ke Liye Sarvshrestha Niyoktha	
iii)	Divyangao Ke Liye Sarvshresth Placement Agency	
iv)	Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan Kay Karyanvayan/Badhamukta Vatavaran Kay Srijan Mein Sarvshrestha Rajya/UT/Zila	
v)	Sarvshrestha Sugamya Yatayat ke Sadahan/Soochana Evam Sanchar Prodyogiki Govt./Private organisation	
vi)	Divyangjano Ke Adhikar Adhiniyam/UDID Avem Divyang Sashktikaran ki Anay Yojanaon kay Karyanvayan Mein Sarvshrestha Rajya/UT/Zila	
vii)	Divyangjano Ke Adhikar Adhiniyam, 2016 Ke Apne Rajya Mein Karyanvayan Mein Sarvshrestha Rajya Divayngjan Aayukta	
viii)	Punarvas Sevyano Pradhan Karnewaley Pesheyvar Taiyar Karne wali Shresth Sanstha	
(Tick mark only one category of award) (Separate application if to apply for more than one)		
1	Name of the Institution in English (In BLOCK Capital letters) and Hindi	
2.	Postal address of Institution with Pin Code and telephone number.	
3.	Web-site/E-mail address	
4.	Year of establishment	
5.	Nature of work undertaken by the Institution	
6.	Details of work done by the Institution including places and the number of disabled persons covered by the Institution.	
7.	Specify the outstanding achievements/ Contribution of the Institution in the Past ten years in the area of welfare of persons with disabilities and rehabilitation/ education including technical education and vocational training to persons with disabilities.	
8.	Whether Institution have received any Award in the past. If so, specify and give brief account.	

Signature of President/Secretary of the Institution with date

ANNEXURE-C**CALENDER OF ACTIVITIES TO BE FOLLOWED EACH YEAR****(From 2022 onwards)**

S.N	Activities	Date and Month
1.	Advertisement of National Awards/Opening of National Awards Portal	After 1 st May
2.	Last date of receipt of applications/	45 Days from the date of opening of portal
3.	Constitution of Screening Committees and National Selection Committees	31st July
4.	Meetings of the Screening Committees	By middle of September
5.	Meeting of the National Selection Committee	After 1st week of October
6.	Verification of short-listed candidates Information/confirmation to awardees	31st October
7.	Presentation of National Awards	3rd December

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)
on
National Awards for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities

Q 1. What is 'National Awards for Individual Excellence'?

Ans. The National Awards for Individual Excellence is a highly prestigious National Award conferred by Department of Empowerment of persons with Disabilities in recognition of contribution/skills of persons with disabilities and to persons engaged in promoting and empowering persons with disabilities.

Q 2. What are the 6 categories of National Awards for Individual Excellence?

Ans. The categories of the awards and eligibility under the category of Individual Excellence are given below:

i) Person with any of the specified disabilities under the RPwD Act, 2016 with benchmark of 40% disability or more can submit his/her nomination for any of the following category of awards:-

- a) Sarvshresth Divyangjan
- b) Shresth Divyangjan
- c) Shresth Divyangjan Bal/Balika (upto the age of 18 years)

ii) Person with disability **or** a Person without any disability can submit his/her nomination, if otherwise eligible, for any of the following category of awards:-

- a) Sarvshresth Vyakti- Divyangjano ke Shashktikaran ke liye Karyarath.
- b) Sarvshresth Punarvas Peshevar (rehabilitation professional/worker) – Divyangatha ke Kheshta mein Karyarath.
- c) Sarvshresth Anusandhan/Navpravartan/Utpad Vikas – Divyangatha ke Shashktikaran ke Kheshta mein.

Q 3. Is it necessary to submit nomination through Award Portal?

Ans. Yes. Nominations submitted on the Award Portal will only be considered for the award.

Q.4. Can a person submit his/her nomination in physical form/Soft copy direct to the Department?

Ans. No. Nomination for any category of awards is to be submitted on the Award Portal only. Application/Nomination sent direct to the Department will not be considered for the award.

Q.5 Whether nominations for two or more category of awards is permissible?

Ans.: Separate Nomination for more than one category of award can be submitted if eligible for those categories of awards but only one award can be given in a year. The award to be given will be as decided by the National Selection Committee

Q. 6 Who can nominate?

Ans. The nomination process is open to the citizens of India. There is a provision of self-nomination and there is also a provision of nomination by others. In no case recommendation of any authority is required.

Q 7. Is a person with disabilities eligible for all 6 categories?

Ans. Yes, any individual with 40% and above disability can apply for all 6 categories if eligible. However, person without disability is eligible only for 03 category of awards as described in reply to question No. 2 (ii) above.

Q 8. What is 'National Awards for Institutions engaged in Empowering Persons with Disabilities?'

Ans. National Awards for Institutions engaged in Empowering persons with disabilities are conferred by the Department in recognition of the contribution made by the Government bodies or the private bodies in the field of empowerment of persons with disabilities.

Q. 9. What are the Award categories of Institutional Empowerment and who can nominate them?

Ans. Following are the award categories under the Institutional Empowerment and provision for who can nominate:-

Sr.No.	Institutional Empowerment category of Award	Who can nominate
i)	Divyangjanon Ke Sashaktikaran Men Karyat Sarvshrestha Sansthan (Private organizations, NGOs)	Either self nomination or nomination by others.
ii)	Divyangjano Ke Liye Sarvshrestha Niyoktha (Govt. organisation/ PSEs/ Autonomous bodies/ Pvt. Sector)	-do-
iii)	Divyangjano Ke Liye Sarvshresth Placement Agency (excluding Govt./ State Govt./Local Bodies)	-do-
iv)	Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan Ke Karyanvayan/Badhamukta Vatavaran Ke Srijan Mein Sarvshrestha Rajya/UT/Zila	Concerned Department of the State/UT
v)	Sarvshrestha Sugamya Yatayat ke Sadhan/ Soochana Ewam Sanchar Prodyogiki (Govt./Private organization)	Concerned department of the State/UT and in the case of Private Organisation its authorized signatory.
vi)	Divyangjano Ke Adhikar Adhiniyam/UDID Evam Divyang Sashktikaran ki Anya Yojanaon ke Karyanvayan Mein Sarvshrestha Rajya/UT/Zila	Concerned Department of the State/UT
vii)	Divyangjano Ke Adhikar Adhiniyam, 2016 Ke Apne Rajya Mein Karyanvayan Mein Sarvshrestha Rajya Divayngjan Aayukta	Concerned Department of the State/UT
viii)	Punarvaas Peshewaron Ke Vikas Mein Sanlagn Sarvshrestha Sangathan	Either self nomination or nomination by others.

Q 10. What is the need of asking ‘Do you have Aadhar’?

Ans. Aadhar Number is required to authenticate the user’s identity. Mobile Number entered should be linked to the Aadhar Number provided by the applicant.

In case the person does not have Aadhar Number, registration can be done by uploading any other Identity document like Driving License, Passport, PAN Card, etc.

Q 11. How can an Organization/ Individual register itself?

Ans. Individuals:

- Go to Registration/Login Button on the top right corner of the screen.
- Click 'Individual' radio button and select nominator type (e.g. Citizen, Chief Minister, Governor, NRI, Foreigner, etc.)
- Fill your First Name, Last Name (as per the Aadhar Number/Valid Identity Proof) and other requisite details, and click 'Submit Button'.

Organization:

- Go to Registration/Login Button on the top right corner of the screen.
- Click 'Organization' radio button.
- Select the Type of Organization, fill the Name of Organization, Name of the Authorized Person and other requisite details, and click 'Submit Button'.

Q 12. How do I log in?

Ans. On the Home page of the Portal, Click 'Ongoing Award Nominations'.

- Click 'View Details' of National Awards for Individual Excellence Awards.
- Click on the 'Nominate Now' button available on Awards details page.
- Enter your Login ID, Password and Captcha. Click 'Sign In' button, enter the OTP received and Captcha. Click 'Submit' button.

Q 13. What to do in case you forget your Login Id?

Ans. On the Login page click on 'Forgot Login Id?' button. Select the Registration type which you chose at the time of Registration. Enter your registered Mobile Number and given Captcha. Enter the OTP received on the registered Mobile Number. Thereafter Login Id will be sent on your registered Mobile Number.

Q 14. What to do in case you forget your password?

Ans. On the Login page, click on 'Forgot Password?' button, enter your Login Id and the Captcha. Enter the OTP received on your registered Mobile Number. Thereafter you will be able to create a new password.

Q 15. How would an individual know which field suits the work of the nominee?

Ans. The Award seeks to recognize work of distinction and is given for distinguished and exceptional achievements/service in all fields of activities/disciplines. The field can be chosen keeping in mind the area of work of the nominee.

Q 16. What is a Subfield?

Ans. Subset of a given field is known as a Subfield

Q 17. What is self-nomination?

Ans. Self-nomination means any individual who has indicated an interest in being considered for an Award can nominate him/her in the portal by registering themselves.

Q.18. What is meant by a significant contribution?

Ans. A significant contribution is the result of effort research/product etc. made in specific field of work by the nominee.

Q.19. What is 'Impact/Outcome of the work done by a person being nominated'?

Ans. It includes impact in the field of work and social impact done by the person being nominated.

Q.20. What kind of Award can be written in 'Previous received Award section'?

Ans. This section allows nominator to enter the details of the Awards received in the past by the nominee. One section allows nominator to enter the details about National Awards for Individual Excellence received in past (i.e. any of the National Award given previously by the Department). If yes, the details

may be submitted in the section provided in the form. The other section allows nominator to enter the details for any other awards received in the past.

Q. 21 What reply can be given to the question regarding receipt of National Awards for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities previously?

Ans. Name of the category in which the National Award of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities/Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment was given as also the year in which it was given, to be written in the space provided for giving reply.

Q.22 What reply can be given for receipt of National Award for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, 2021?

Ans. This question will be applicable for the National Awards for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities for the year 2023 on-wards, as in the drop down box names of National Awards applicable for the year 2021 onwards have been given, hence the reply for the National Awards 2021 or National Awards 2022 will be Not applicable.

Q 23. Can more than one Award be added in ‘Previous received Award section?’

Ans. Yes, any number of previous awards or honors received by the nominee throughout their field of work can be entered in this section.

Q 24. What can I upload as Supporting Documents?

Ans. Any document related to the contributions made by the nominee in their field of work needs to be uploaded.

Q 25. How can I upload a document?

Ans. In the ‘Uploading of Photograph/Other Necessary Documents’ Section, the second part ‘Any Supporting Document (PDF)’ click on ‘Choose File’ Select a PDF file (size of the file should not be greater than 5 MB) to be uploaded.

Q 26. Why I am not able to upload more than one Document in the Supporting Documents Section?

Ans. Only one document is allowed to be uploaded in the ‘Supporting Document’ Section. However, the Document may contain more than one page.

Q 27. Can I preview my application?

Ans. Yes, the application can be viewed before final submission.

Q 28. Can I edit my nomination details after I already filled it?

Ans. Yes, the applicant can edit the information any number of times during the nomination process. However, once the final application is submitted, the information provided by them cannot be edited/modified.

Q 29. What happens next after I nominate myself?

Ans. All nominations/recommendations received for within the stipulated time are placed before the Screening Committees, constituted by the Department every year for shortlisting of applications and their recommendation for consideration by the National Selection Committee. No Award is conferred except on the recommendation of the National Selection Committee. The recommendations of the National Selection Committee are submitted to the Department for approval. The approved names are uploaded on the web portal of the Department (www.disabilityaffairs.gov.in) as also written communication is also sent to the recommended applicants intimating the programme..

Q 30. What happens after I submit the application?

Ans. After the final submission of the application form, you will receive a confirmation message on the registered Mobile Number: ‘Your Nomination Submitted Successfully with Nomination Id.’ from NATAWD.

Q 31. I have submitted the application form but have not received the confirmation? What should be done in this case?

Ans. To review the confirmation status of the application form, an individual can log in again using their previous login credentials and can see the confirmation status. Also, the Helpdesk may be contacted for any other assistance.

Q 32. Do I need to upload a disability certificate?

Ans. Yes. Application for National Awards for the category of Awards pertaining to persons with disabilities disability certificate issued by a prescribed medical authority indicating the disability and the percentage of disability needs to be mentioned in the application and uploaded with the application. Application for National Award of persons with disabilities without disability certificate will not be considered.

Q 33. Is submission of photo for any category of Individual Excellence of Awards is mandatory?

Ans. Yes. Soft copy of Passport size photograph with high resolution is to be submitted/uploaded in the nomination form.

Q.34. Are documents relating age, education, achievements, Awards are to be uploaded?

Ans. Supporting documents of achievements if any are to be uploaded in the space provided for supporting documents.