

**GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
DIRECTORATE OF EDUCATION, AWARDS BRANCH
OLD PATRACHAR BUILDING, TIMARPUR, DELHI-110054**

No.F.DE 23(87)/Awards Br./NTA/2026/149-159

Dated: 29.06.2026

To

1. All RDEs & DDEs.
2. The Director of Education (Delhi Municipal Corporation), 15th floor, Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee, Civic Centre, Minto Road, New Delhi-110002.
3. The Director of Education (NDMC), Palika Kendra, New Delhi-110001.
4. The Chief Executive Officer, Delhi Cantonment Board, Delhi Cantt., Delhi-110010.
5. Sanskrit/Urdu/Hindi Academy.


Sub.: National Teachers' Awards 2026.

Sir/Madam,

Please find enclosed herewith a copy of National Teachers' Awards guidelines, Timeline and Banner (issued by the Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India on their official website <https://nationalawardstoteachers.education.gov.in>) regarding registration for self-nomination by the Teachers and Heads of Schools for National Teachers' Awards 2026.

Accordingly, the interested Teachers and Heads of Schools may apply directly to <https://nationalawardstoteachers.education.gov.in> from 15/06/2026 to 10/07/2026.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.


RAS 29/06/2026

Addl. DE (AWARDS)

Encl: as above

No.F.DE 23(87)/Awards Br./NTA/2026/149-159

Dated: 29.06.2026

Copy forwarded for information & necessary action to the:

1. Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister, GNCT of Delhi.
2. Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Education, GNCT of Delhi.
3. P.S. to Secretary (Education), Directorate of Education, GNCT of Delhi, Old Sectt., Delhi-54.
4. P.P.S. to Director (Education), Directorate of Education, GNCT of Delhi, Old Sectt., Delhi-54.
5. O.S. (IT), Directorate of Education, GNCT of Delhi, Old Sectt., Delhi-54, with the request to upload the same on the official website of Directorate of Education, GNCT of Delhi.


DDE (AWARDS) 29/6/26



NATIONAL TEACHERS' AWARDS

2026



> REGISTRATION

OPEN

From 15th June to 15th July 2026

Timelines for National Teachers Awards 2026

Sl. No.	Activity	Timeline
1	Opening of web portal for inviting online self-nominations by teachers	15 June – 10 July 2026
2	Final submission of self-nominations by teachers	11 – 13 July 2026
3	Constitution of Independent National Jury	Mid-July 2026
4	Shortlisting by District/Regional Selection Committees	14 – 21 July 2026
5	Shortlisting by State/Organization Selection Committees	22 – 29 July 2026
6	Intimation to shortlisted candidates for interaction with Jury	30 – 31 July 2026
7	Selection process by Independent National Jury	3 – 7 August 2026
8	Finalization of recommendations by Jury	8-Aug-26
9	Intimation to selected awardees after approval of Hon'ble Education Minister	10 – 20 August 2026
10	Rehearsal and Award Ceremony	4 & 5 September 2026



Prachi Pandey

Joint Secretary (Inst. & Trng.)

Email: prachi.p@gov.in

D.O. No. 1-3/2026-NAT

Dated the 15th June, 2026

Respected Madam/Sir,

As you are aware, the National Teachers Awards seek to recognize and celebrate the exceptional contributions of teachers who, through their dedication, innovation and commitment, have not only improved the quality of school education but also enriched the lives of their students and thereby contributed to nation-building.

2. I am glad to inform you that the National Teachers Awards Portal (<http://nationalawardstoteachers.education.gov.in>) has been opened for submission of online self-nominations by eligible school teachers with effect from 15th June, 2026. The portal shall remain open for receipt of nominations up to 10th July, 2026, while self-nominations may be finalized and submitted by applicants up to 13th July, 2026.

3. In order to ensure timely completion of the selection process, I would request you to constitute the District/Regional and State/Organization Level Selection Committees, as prescribed in the Guidelines, well in advance. A copy of the Guidelines and the timeline for National Teachers Awards, 2026 is enclosed for ready reference.

4. I would also request you to initiate necessary action for giving wide publicity to the Awards among eligible teachers so as to encourage maximum participation. The enclosed banner may kindly be hosted on the official website of your Department/Organization and disseminated through appropriate communication channels.

5. To facilitate effective coordination and smooth implementation of the Awards process, a Single Point of Contact (SPOC) may kindly be nominated from your Department/Organization. The nominated officer shall liaise with this Department and support promotion of self-nominations by eligible teachers from the State/UT/Organization. For the sake of continuity, the officer who served as SPOC during previous years may, to the extent feasible, be nominated again and the particulars of the nominated officer may kindly be communicated at award-event.section@gov.in and ajay.kr71@gov.in by 16th June, 2026

6. I shall be grateful for your personal intervention in ensuring timely action on the above.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Prachi Pandey

(PRACHI PANDEY)

- Encl. 1. National Teachers Award Guidelines
2. Timelines for NTA 2026
3. Link for the Banner.

The Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary/Commissioner
(Education), All States/UTs.

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/herspecial 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> <p><i>(Each Sub-head carries a maximum of 7.5 marks)</i></p>	30
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