

JANAKI AMMAI NATIONAL AWARD FOR TAXONOMY

Taxonomy is the science of identification, classification and naming of organisms. Taxonomic work involves study of morphological characteristics and phylogenetic relationship of organisms which is essential for applied biological sciences including medicine, agriculture, forestry and fisheries. Current requirements of taxonomic work and available expertise and studies indicate a dire need to encourage excellence and motivate experts to do work in hitherto neglected groups of organisms e.g. microbes, lower groups of plants, animals etc. The challenge is quite serious because while on the one hand the existing expertise is aging and retiring, on the other not many young scholars are opting for studies in taxonomy.

In order to encourage work of excellence in taxonomy and also to encourage young students and scholars to work in this science, the Ministry has instituted a National Award in Taxonomy named after the late Prof. E.K. Janaki Ammal. The award has been approved by the Minister for Environment and Forests, Prime Minister and the President of India. Late Prof. Janaki Ammal did taxonomic work of outstanding merit and excellence particularly in the area of cytotaxonomy and was a source of inspiration to many young scientists. She devoted her entire life to taxonomic work. She was associated with the Botanical Survey of India also in the capacity of Director, Central Botanical laboratory, BSI, Allahabad.

This award carries a cash prize of Rs.1,00,000/- and a citation. A Selection Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests and Joint Secretary(Conservation-I) as Member Secretary has been set up. The other members of the Selection Committee include: Additional Secretary(Conservation-I), Ministry of Environment and Forests, DG, CSIR, DG, ICAR, Director, BSI, Director, ZSI, Prof. K.S. Manilal, Prof. K.S. Ghadatkar and Prof. G. Panigrahi.

The eligibility criteria for the award are given below:

Any Indian taxonomist engaged in taxonomic research work on flora, fauna or micro-organisms in the country is eligible. There will be no age limit. The following is a list illustrated, though not exhaustive, eligibility criteria for the award:

- (a) Outstanding contribution in the area of taxonomic revision of species/ genus/family/ order;
- (b) Outstanding original "contribution in the area of taxonomic monographic work (assessment of overall aspects of knowledge of species/ genus/family / order;
- (c) Ability to recognize new taxa as evident by discovery of new Species/genus;
- (d) Outstanding experimental taxonomic work in areas such as cytotaxonomy, molecular taxonomy, chemotaxonomy etc.
- (e) Research experience' in the field of taxonomy as evident by number of Years spent in taxonomic research and teaching;

- (f) Experience in research guidance in taxonomy as evident by number of M.Phil and Ph.D thesis guided;
- (g) Number of research publications including original research papers, Review and popular -semi-technical articles, contribution in symposia and workshops and books published in taxonomy.

E.K. JANAKI AMMAL NATIONAL AWARD FOR TAXONOMY

LIST OF PREVIOUS AWARDEES

01. Prof. Mohammad Shamim Jairajpuri - 1999
 02. Prof. C.V. Subramanian - 2000
 03. Prof. M.S. Mani - 2001
 04. Dr. G. Panigrahi - 2002
 05. Prof.(Dr.) K.S. Manilal - 2003

Sr. No	Category	Description
1	Name of Award	E.K Janaki Ammal National Award for Taxonomy
2	Division Dealing with the Award	Conservation & Survey Division
3	Year when the award was institute	1999
4	Number of Categories in which the award is given	One
5	Procedure for inviting Application for the award	Nomination for the award is invited in the prescribed format through circulating the particulars to Universities, Research Organisations, institutions, etc. The period for inviting nomination is three months after circulating the particulars. The awardee is selected by National Taxonomy award selection committee.
6	Eligibility Criteria	Any Indian Taxonomist engaged in taxonomic research work on flora, fauna or micro-organism in the country is eligible. The area of works considered for the award are: 1. Outstanding contribution in the area of taxonomic revision of species/genus order. 2. Outstanding original contribution in the area of taxonomic monographic work.

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Ability to recognize new taxa as evident by discovery of new species/genus. 4. Outstanding experimental taxonomic work in areas such as cytotaxonomy, molecular taxonomy, chemotaxonomy etc. 5. Research experience in the field of taxonomy as evident by number of years spent in taxonomic research and teaching. 6. Experience in research guidance in taxonomy as evident by number of M.Phil and Ph.D. thesis guided. 7. Number of research publications including original research papers, review and popular semi-technical articles, contribution in symposia and workshops and books published in taxonomy.
7	Constitution of the Committee(if the selection is made by committee)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Secretary (E&F) Chairman 2. Director General ,CSIR 3. Director General , ICAR 4. Director, BSI 5. Director, ZSI 6. Three eminent taxonomists nominated by the Ministry 7. Addl. Secretary/Special Secretary in charge of CS Division , Member Secretary
8	Contents of the Award	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cash prize of Rs 1 lakh 2. A Citation
9	Periodicity of the award	Annual

PROFORMA FOR NOMINATION
FOR
E.K. JANAKI AMMAL NATIONAL AWARD ON TAXONOMY.

01. Name and address of the nominee
02. Date and place of birth
03. Academic qualifications(Bachelor's degree onwards with University, year and subjects)
04. Field of specialization
05. Significant contribution:
 - a) Taxonomic revision
 - b) Monographi work
 - c) New species/genus discovered
 - d) Research/teaching experience in taxonomy
 - e) Details of M.Phil/Ph.D thesis guided in taxonomy
 - f) Any other details
06. Publications/periodicals etc. wherein the work has been referred to give citation index of the contribution as follows:
 - (i)
 - (ii)
07. Enclose a complete list of publications in standards journals
08. Any additional information of relevance.