

STREE SHAKTI PURUSKAR

Indian Women have taken on different roles before and after Independence and excelled in many fields. The achievements of such women are made all the more precious by the fact that in most cases, success has been achieved in the face of adversity and difficulties and with the strength of courage initiative and determination.

It is important that such success stories should be publicly recognized so that such women become role models for the future generations of Indian Women. Such recognition will also go a long way in molding societal mind sets to accept and encourage the versatile roles of women in Indian Society. The awards will help in reducing the influence of negative attitudes and practices such as Sati.

As a measure of recognition of achievements in individual women in the field of social development, the Government of India has instituted of 6 National Awards, which are called “**Stree Shakti Puruskar**”. These awards are in the name of the following eminent women personalities in the Indian history, who are famous for their personal courage and integrity:-

- **Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar**
- **Kannagi**
- **Mata Jajabai**
- **Rani Gaidinliu Zeliang**
- **Rani Lakshmi Bai**
- **Rani Rudramma Devi (for both men & women)**

The first four awards are given to women who have done work in any of the following areas.

- Support and rehabilitation of women and children in especially difficult circumstances like destitute women and children, widows, victims of atrocities and conflicts disabled women and children, aged women etc.
- Education and training
- Promoting self help groups
- Support to women in agriculture and rural industry including promotion of technology to reduce drudgery.
- Environment protection
- Empowerment of Women for community and political participation:
- Health performance including though propagation of indigenous systems of medicine
- Creating awareness and consciousness on women’s issues though the arts, media (including electronic and mass media), community based programmes etc

Rani Laxmi Bai award is given to recognize the spirit of courage and the personal achievement of a woman in difficult circumstances, who has established this spirit of courage in her individual or professional life.

Government of India has also added another sub-category of Stree Shakti Puruskar, in the name of Rani Rudramma Devi, which will be awarded to individual men or women for their outstanding administrative skill, leadership quality and courage.

Each of the above award carries a cash prize of Rs 3 Lakh and citation.

Mode of calling for nominations for the awards.

At the Central Government level an advertisement is issued in all the leading newspapers inviting nominations from the eminent persons to be sent in respective Chief Secretaries of State Government by a certain date. The advertisement contains briefly the areas of the awards as well as eligibility criteria.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development also invites the nominations for the awards from Non-Governments, Women Development Corporations, National and State level Commissions for Women etc. through the State Governments and Union Territory Administration.

Each State Government is asked to set up its own Screening Committee which would include representation from the State Commissions for women. If available, State Social Welfare Advisory Boards, Secretary dealing with Welfare of Women and 2-3 eminent NGOs who are working on this area. This Screening Committee will invite nominations and other screening, send short-listed 6 nominations to the MWCD. The Screening Committee may be headed by Minister dealing with welfare of women each State Government is asked to send six nominations in the prescribed format.

Selection Process

The Nominations received are screened by a national level Selection Committee headed by Minister of Women & Child Development comprising of the following members:

- ***Secretary (WCD), Member***
- ***Chairperson, NCW, Member***
- ***Chairperson, CSWB, Member***
- ***Secretary or his nominee from M/O Social Justice & Empowerment, Member***
- ***Secretary or his nominee from M/o Rural Development, Member***
- ***National level eminent NGOs/individuals as co-opted, Members***
- ***JS (WD) Member-Secretary.***

The National Selection Committee may at its discretion also consider individuals other than those recommended by the State Governments.

Criteria for Selection

- The nominee should be alive on the date of nomination
- The nominee should have been working in the relevant field for at least five years.
- The achievement of the nominee in the relevant field should be clearly documented.
- The achievement of the nominee should be verified and subjected to objective appraisals.
- Preference should be given to women/men who have come up in life after a great deal of struggle and adversity.

These awards are generally presented in New Delhi on the occasion of International Women's Day Celebration i.e. 8th March.

The Award are received personally by the awardees. The Ministry of Women and Child Development will pay the awardees expenditure involved in traveling and daily allowance as per rules.

Application Form

PARTICULARS OF THE INDIVIDUAL RECOMMENDED FOR STREE SHAKTI PURASKAR.

- i. **Name**
- ii. **Date of birth (duly attested)**
- iii. **Place of birth**
- iv. **Educational Qualifications (with certificates, if applicable)**
- v. **Telephone No.**
- vi. **Present Address.**
- vii. **Field of Achievement:**
- viii. **A brief life –sketch of the individual including press clippings/certificates etc.**
- ix. **Award for which recommended.**
- x. **How is the performance of the Individual adjudged as exceptional achievement for above award:**
- xi. **Sponsored by (Government other agencies etc. with details):**
- xii. **Remarks of the State Govt. /UT Admn.**

Signature