

## **Himachal Pradesh Awards for Developmental Journalism Rules**

### **I) Short Title, Commencement and definitions.**

- 1) These rules shall be called "Rules for Himachal Pradesh Government Awards for Development Journalism. "
- 2) These rules shall come into force from the date of their notification in the Official Gazette.
- 3) In these Rules, the following words shall have the meaning assigned to them, unless a different intention appears from the subject of context:-
  - a) "Government " means the Government of Himachal Pradesh.
  - b) "Development reporting " is reporting the change that is taking place or the change that is not taking place in the lives of the people. It should tell the story of what is going well as well as what is going wrong. It includes reporting on non-official initiatives in States" Development, educational reforms, social welfare etc. and in depth reporting of official development programmes. All development reporting is necessarily investigative.
  - c) "Director" means the Director of Information and Public Relations appointed as such by the Government.
  - d) "Journalist" means a person engaged in the profession of Journalism and working in newspapers/ news agencies/ offices/ as Editor, Associate Editor, Assistant Editor, Chief Sub- Editor, Senior Sub-Editor, Sub-Editor, Staff-Correspondent, Special Correspondent, Principal Correspondent and Correspondents but shall not include a Government employee.
  - e) "Newspaper" includes dailies, weeklies of standing having a good circulation, not less than 10,000 copies and other periodicals being published regularly in English or Hindi.
  - f) "Screening Committee" means a committee constituted by the Government for the purpose from time to time.
  - g) "Year" means the year starting from 1<sup>st</sup> January and extending to 31<sup>st</sup> December of year.

### **II) Objective of the Scheme:-**

The objective of the scheme is to honour journalists for writing the best developmental stories on Himachal Pradesh.

### **III) Value of awards: -**

1. There shall be three awards, one called National award which will be open to the journalists working through out the country. Second award shall be called State Award confined to journalist stationed or posted or working in Himachal Pradesh. Third award shall be called District Award confined to journalists who are working in any district of Himachal Pradesh.
- 2) The value of National Award shall be a cash prize of Rs. 25,000/-, State Award Rs. 20,000/- and the District Award Rs. 15,000/-

#### **IV Entitlement for the Award : -**

1. The award will be given to journalists for writing the best developmental story about the State which can be on any aspect of developmental as defined in rule 3 (b).
2. The language and presentation of the story shall also be taken into account while selecting the best stories.
3. In the case of State Award, where two or more than two stories are found to be equal merit, the amount of the award will be apportioned equally.
4. Journalist who received an award shall be considered again after three years from the year he has been given award.
5. A journalist shall be disqualified for the award, if it is established to the satisfaction of the Government that canvassing has been done on his behalf for the award.
6. Only those stories which have been published during the preceding year will be considered for the award.

#### **V Procedure for Selection:**

- (1) Entries for the Award may be received by the Director, Information and Public Relations through any of the following methods : -
  - (i) The Director may select stories  
Published during the year, at his own initiative.
  - (ii) Story of deserving journalists may be sponsored by any individual or organization.
  - (iii) A Journalist may, on his own file an entry. The Director will announce the Awards in the Press, and will also circulate the Scheme of Awards, to all Directors of Public Relations in different States of the Country for further circulation to the newspapers in their States, as also directly to major newspapers.
- (2) No Entry fee shall be charged.
- (3) Each person/ organization will mention whether the entry is for the District level, State Level or the National Level Award. Each entry shall be accompanied by four Photostat copies of the Story, as published in the newspaper, alongwith one copy of the entire news paper in which it was published.

- (4) There shall be a Screening Committee consisting of the Secretary (I & PR) the Director and one eminent journalist to be nominated by the government. This Committee shall select the entries, which in their view deserve further consideration by the Board of Judges.
- (5) The government shall, every year nominate a Board of three judges, who shall be eminent journalists and at least one of whom shall be a journalist of a Hindi newspaper.
- (6) The Screened entries shall be sent to each judge for his consideration, but the decision of the Board of Judges will be taken in a meeting. The Board may if it so thinks fit recommend that no story deserves an award.
- (7) Each judge of the Board of judges and the Non- Official Member of Screening Committee shall be entitled to an honorarium of Rs. 2000/-. Besides, he shall be declared as State Guest and also be entitled to journey expenses by any mode of travel (including air).
- (8) The evaluation by the Board of Judges shall be considered by the Government and awards will be announced every year.
- (9) The decision of the Government on the award shall be final and shall not question in any court of law.

**VI Presentation of Award :-**

- (1) The award shall be given in a simple but befitting function to be organized by the Information and Public Relations Department.
- (2) The award winners shall be treated as State Guests and shall be given to and fro free expenses from his place of normal residence from any mode of commutation.

**VII Miscellaneous Provisions:-**

- (1) The Government shall have the power to make any change in the scheme or issue any clarification in respect of the scheme whenever necessary.
- (2) The Director of Information and Public Relations will be over all incharge of the scheme and may issue necessary instructions in regard to its proper implementation from time to time.

By Order  
Pr. Secretary I & PR