

## **Dr. Welthy Fisher Award - Code of Procedure**

### **Foreword**

United States-born Dr. Welthy Housinger Fisher (September 18, 1879 to December 16, 1980), popularly known as Akshardatri Maa, took the initiative to eradicate the darkness of illiteracy in India with the inspiration of Mahatma Gandhi. Her journey to remove illiteracy in India started in the year 1953 from Prayagraj.

In the year 1956, she came to Lucknow, where she established 'Saksharta Niketan, India Literacy Board and Kisan Vidyapeeth'. During the next three decades, by mobilizing resources every year from all over the world, she made a significant and pioneering contribution in eradicating illiteracy from India. Through continued experimentation, she developed more than 500 text books and a literacy kit for new adult learners, equipped with which the teacher could teach the students.

Under her leadership, the Indian Literacy Board has done unprecedented work for the eradication of illiteracy through the State Resource Center as a nerve center and mother center of master trainers in the country. Representatives from more than 10 developing countries received training in the field of adult education at Saksharta Niketan. Apart from being a great educationist, Dr. Fisher was also a brilliant journalist, writer and dynamic speaker. Her statement "Why curse the darkness. It is good to light a lamp" is the torch of inspiration for the creation of literature for adult education. She was honored with many prestigious awards like Nehru Literacy Award, Ramon Magsaysay Award, UNESCO Literacy Award etc. She contributed the entire money received from the Ramon Magsaysay Award for the establishment of Yuva Kisan Vidyapeeth under the aegis of Saksharta Niketan for training of farmers in progressive farming. A postage stamp was also issued in her honour by the Government of India in the year 1980.

To honour the unprecedented contribution made by Dr. Welthy Housinger Fisher in the field of literacy, lifelong education and skill development and to generate interest in her life ideals and works, it has been decided by the India Literacy Board to start a '**Dr. Welthy Fisher Award**' from the year 2022. The award will be given every year and it will carry a cash award of Rs. One lakh, citation in scroll, plaque and attractive traditional handicraft/handloom item

## **Chapter 1** **Award details**

1. This award will be given to a Person/Institution who has made outstanding contribution in the field of literacy, lifelong education and skill development.
2. An award will be given every year in which an amount of one lakh rupees, a citation in a scroll, a plaque and an attractive traditional handicraft/handloom item will be given.
3. The award can be divided among such two Individuals/Institutions as the Executive Committee of the India Literacy Board considers equally entitled to receive the honour in a particular year.
4. Work done by a person who has passed away will not be considered for the award. But if such person dies after the proposal has been sent to the jury in accordance with the method specified in this Code of Procedure, the award may be given posthumously.

## **Chapter 2** **Eligibility for Award**

1. Citizens of India will be eligible to receive this award.
2. Institutions or Organizations of India will also be eligible for the award.

## **Chapter 3** **Award period**

1. The award will be given every year. It will be started from the year 2022 and after that it will be given every year.
2. However, if it is considered that none of the proposals given is worthy of honour, the Executive Committee shall be free not to confer the award for that year.
3. Only recent work completed within a period of 10 years from the date of nomination will be considered for the award.
4. Notwithstanding the preceding clause, work prior to this period may also be considered if the importance of that work has come to light recently.

## **Chapter 4** **Ability to send proposals**

1. Any Person/Institution of the country working in the field of adult literacy, lifelong education and skill development in India will be considered competent to send a proposal for the award mentioning their long outstanding works.
2. The executive committee can also nominate any person and organization on its own initiative.

3. A detailed article should be sent along with the proposal for consideration.
4. The proposal for consideration will be acceptable in Hindi or English language only.
5. The decision of the Executive Committee will be final in all matters.

## **Chapter 5**

### **Inviting proposals and submitting proposals**

1. Every year the India Literacy Board will issue a notice inviting proposals for the award as soon as possible in the month of April after the announcement of the previous year's award. In the First year, proposals can be invited in any month.
2. Those proposals will be considered by the Executive Committee, which have been received in the office of the India Literacy Board by 30<sup>th</sup> June of the year, for which the award is to be given. Provided that the Chairman, India Literacy Board is not of the opinion that such period should be extended either generally or with reference to a particular proposal.
3. The India Literacy Board will scrutinize the nominations received and seek clarifications, if any, and prepare an outline of each nominee in a booklet form and forward it to the Chairman of the Executive Committee for organising the meeting of the Executive Committee.

## **Chapter 6**

### **Evaluation of proposals**

1. Any such Person/Institution will be considered eligible for the award only if, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, He/She has received credit for outstanding achievement in the field of literacy, lifelong learning and skill development through innovative methods/strategies, especially in conflict or extreme circumstances.
2. This award will be given to such a person/institution who has worked selflessly in the field of literacy, lifelong education and skill development, whether in a high public position or not.

## **Chapter 7**

### **Jury and selection**

1. The requisite scrutiny and final selection for the award will be done by the Executive Committee of the India Literacy Board.
2. The Chairman of the Executive Committee of the India Literacy Board shall have the right to nominate two other eminent persons in the Executive Committee in this behalf.

3. The Executive Committee will be able to take the final decision only when its quorum including the Chairman of the Executive Committee is complete.
4. The deliberations, discussions, opinions and proceedings of the Executive Committee relating to the award shall neither be publicly told nor disclosed.
5. As far as possible, the Executive Committee will announce its decision on 18th September, the birth anniversary of Dr. Welthy Hössinger Fisher, or 16th December, on the occasion of her death anniversary.
6. The decision of the Executive Committee will be final and no appeal or objection can be made against the decision.

## **Chapter 8** **Prize distribution**

1. The award will be presented at a special function to be held in Lucknow.
2. The recipient of the award will be invited to the special function to receive the award in person.
3. The awardee Person/Institution or organisation will be requested to deliver a public lecture/presentation of the work for which the award has been given.
4. In addition to the prize money, each awardee will also be given a citation in scroll, a plaque and an attractive traditional handicraft/handloom item.
5. The award money will be paid by the India Literacy Board from the Welthy Fisher Endowment Fund.
6. If the awardee declines to accept the award, the amount shall be immediately returned to the Welthy Fisher Endowment Fund. However, if the awardee accepts the award but fails to withdraw the amount within a period of 36 months, the amount shall be returned to the Welthy Fisher Endowment Fund.
6. In case of death of the awardee without receiving the award, his next of kin will be entitled to receive the award.

## **Chapter 9** **General**

1. The right to make changes in the Code of Procedure shall be vested in the Executive Committee of the India Literacy Board.
2. Necessary funding for the award and all contingencies related to it will be arranged from the Welthy Fisher Endowment Fund.

Format for application (Individual) : Appendix I

Format for application (Institution) : Appendix II

**APPLICATION FORMAT FOR DR. WELTHY FISHER NATIONAL AWARD (INDIVIDUAL)**

1. NAME (IN BLOCK LETTERS):  
(BOTH IN ENGLISH AND DEVNAGARI SCRIPT)
2. SEX (MALE / FEMALE):
3. FATHER'S NAME:
4. DATE OF BIRTH (IN WORDS & FIGURES):
5. ADDRESS
  - (a) CONTACT ADDRESS:
  - (b) PERMANENT ADDRESS:
  - (c) E-MAIL:
  - (d) TELEPHONE/MOBILE NO.:
6. AADHAR NO.:
7. PAN NO.:
8. OCCUPATION:
9. EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS:
10. FIELD OF ACTIVITY: (ADULT LITERACY, LIFE LONG LEARNING & SKILL DEVELOPMENT)
11. OUTSTANDING WORK DONE DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD FOR WHICH AWARD IS TO BE GIVEN.  
*(PLEASE ADD A DULY SIGNED BRIEF NOTE ON A SEPARATE SHEET IN ABOUT 350 WORDS, UNDER THE HEADING "MY OUTSTANDING WORK" INDICATING THE CONCRETE WORK DONE AND ITS IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY)*
12. PLEASE INDICATE HOW THE WORK INDICATED IN POINT NO. 11 ABOVE IS MEASURABLE/ VERIFIABLE IN QUANTITATIVE TERMS.
13. WHETHER THE WORK DONE WAS WITH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, STATE GOVERNMENT OR ANY OTHER SOURCE OR PURELY VOLUNTARY. IF DONE WITH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, PLEASE INDICATE THE EXTENT OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE RECEIVED FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.
14. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FOR YOUR OUTSTANDING WORK.
15. WAS THE WORK DONE IN RURAL AREA/ URBAN AREA.
16. THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE COMMUNITY WAS INVOLVED.

PHOTOGRAPH

17. IMPACT ON SOCIETY INDICATING GEOGRAPHICAL AREA.
18. HAS THE INDIVIDUAL RECEIVED ANY AWARD PREVIOUSLY AT THE STATE/NATIONAL LEVEL IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICES RENDERED? IF SO, PLEASE GIVE DETAILS.
19. NAME, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE/MOBILE NUMBER/EMAIL ID OF TWO EMINENT PERSONALITIES FROM YOUR AREA WHO RECOGNIZES THE WORK DONE BY YOU FOR THE COMMUNITY.
20. WHETHER CONVICTED BY ANY COURT OF LAW OR ANY CASE IS PENDING IN ANY COURT?

DATE:

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT  
SEAL/STAMP

**RECOMMENDATION**

THE APPLICANT IS KNOWN TO ME SINCE \_\_\_ YEARS AND I CERTIFY THE PARTICULARS GIVEN ABOVE AS CORRECT. (SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATION CLEARLY INDICATING THE REASON FOR SUGGESTING THE NAME OF INDIVIDUAL FOR THE AWARD TO BE GIVEN)

THE INDIVIDUAL IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE DR. WELTHY FISHER NATIONAL AWARD AND I RECOMMEND HIM FOR THE SAME.

DATE:

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE NUMBER

MOBILE NUMBER

E-MAIL ID

**N.B.:**

\* INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR THE AWARD.

\*\* PROPOSAL TO BE CONSIDERED SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY 3 PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE CANDIDATE AND ALSO BY ADEQUATE EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF THEM.

\*\*\* **THE NAME OF THE PERSON WHO RECOMMENDS THE INDIVIDUAL WITH DESIGNATION, SERVING INSTITUTION AND COMPLETE POSTAL ADDRESS WITH TELEPHONE /MOBILE NUMBER AND EMAIL ID SHOULD BE GIVEN.**

\*\*\*\* THE RECOMMENDING AUTHORITY IS SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DECLARATION MADE BY THE APPLICANT.

SIGNATURE  
NAME AND DESIGNATION  
SEAL/STAMP

## APPENDIX-2

### APPLICATION FORMAT FOR DR. WELTHY FISHER NATIONAL AWARD (INSTITUTION)

1. NAME OF THE INSTITUTION  
(BOTH IN ENGLISH AND  
DEVNAGARI SCRIPT)
2. ADDRESS IN FULL  
PLEASE ALSO INDICATE PIN CODE, TEL. NO. /EMAIL ID / MOB. NO)
3. REGISTRATION NUMBER AND DATE OF REGISTRATION  
(PLEASE ENCLOSE A CERTIFIED COPY OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE IN ENGLISH OR HINDI)
4. PAN NO.:
5. GST NO. :
6. NAMES AND ADDRESS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS
7. OBJECTIVES OF THE INSTITUTION
8. FIELD OF ACTIVITY: (ADULT LITERACY, LIFE LONG LEARNING & SKILL DEVELOPMENT)
9. OUTSTANDING WORK DONE DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD FOR WHICH AWARD IS TO BE GIVEN.  
*(PLEASE ADD A DULY SIGNED IN BRIEF NOTE ON A SEPARATE SHEET IN ABOUT 350 WORDS, UNDER THE HEADING "OUR OUTSTANDING WORK" INDICATING THE CONCRETE WORK DONE AND ITS IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY)*
10. PLEASE INDICATE HOW THE WORK INDICATED IN POINT NO. 09 ABOVE IS MEASURABLE/ VERIFIABLE IN QUANTITATIVE TERMS.
11. WHETHER THE WORK DONE WAS WITH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, STATE GOVERNMENT OR ANY OTHER SOURCE OR PURELY VOLUNTARY. IF DONE WITH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, PLEASE INDICATE THE EXTENT OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE RECEIVED FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.
12. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FOR YOUR OUTSTANDING WORK.
13. WAS THE WORK DONE IN RURAL AREA / URBAN AREA:
14. THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE INSTITUTION WAS IN A POSITION TO INVOLVE COMMUNITY IN ITS WORK.
15. IMPACT ON SOCIETY INDICATING GEOGRAPHICAL AREA.
16. HAS THE INSTITUTION RECEIVED ANY AWARD PREVIOUSLY AT THE STATE/ NATIONAL LEVEL IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICES RENDERED? IF SO, PLEASE GIVE DETAILS.

17. NAME, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE/MOBILE NUMBER/EMAIL ID OF TWO EMINENT PERSONALITIES FROM YOUR AREA WHO RECOGNIZE THE WORK DONE BY YOUR INSTITUTION FOR THE COMMUNITY.

18. WHETHER CONVICTED BY ANY COURT OF LAW OR ANY CASE IS PENDING IN ANY COURT?

SIGNATURE OF HEAD OF ORGANIZATION  
NAME  
SEAL/STAMP

DATE :

### **RECOMMENDATION**

I AM AWARE ABOUT THE ACTIVITIES OF THIS INSTITUTION SINCE ---- YEARS AND I CERTIFY THAT THE PARTICULARS GIVEN ABOVE ARE CORRECT. (SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATION CLEARLY INDICATING THE REASON FOR SUGGESTING THE NAME OF INSTITUTION FOR THE AWARD TO BE GIVEN)

THE INSTITUTION IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE DR. WELTHY FISHER NATIONAL AWARD AND I RECOMMEND IT FOR THE SAME.

SIGNATURE  
NAME/DESIGNATION  
SEAL/STAMP

DATE :  
ADDRESS  
TELEPHONE NUMBER  
MOBILE NUMBER  
E-MAIL ID

**N.B.:**

- \* INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR THE AWARD.
- \*\* 3 PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND ONE MEMBER, WHO WILL BE RECEIVING THE AWARD IF SELECTED, SHOULD BE ENCLOSED.
- \*\*\* **THE NAME OF THE PERSON WHO RECOMMENDS THE INDIVIDUAL WITH DESIGNATION, SERVING INSTITUTION AND COMPLETE POSTAL ADDRESS WITH TELEPHONE /MOBILE NUMBER AND EMAIL ID SHOULD BE GIVEN.**
- \*\*\*\* THE RECOMMENDING AUTHORITY IS SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DECLARATION MADE BY THE APPLICANT.