

RULES & GUIDELINES GOVERNING MSKA YOUNG WRITER AWARD

Short Title: Rules & Guidelines Governing Manipur State Kala Akademi Young Writer Award.

1. General:

- i) There shall be one award every year for the most promising or outstanding book in Manipuri language (in Bengali script or Meitei Mayek) by an Indian author whose age is 35 or below as on 1st January of the year of Award.
- ii) While assessing books for the Award, the literary merit of the books shall be the main consideration. Where two or more books are found to be of equal merit, the total literary contribution and standing of the authors shall be taken into consideration.
- iii) The Award shall carry a cash amount of Rs. 25,000/- (Rupees twenty-five thousand) only, a memento, and a certificate of honour. The amount may be changed from time to time as decided by the Executive Board and the General Council of the Akademi.
- iv) The Award may not be given in any year if, in the opinion of the Jury, constituted under Rule 3(vi-b), there are no books which merit the Award.

2. Criteria for Eligibility of the Award:

- i) In order to be eligible for the Award, the book shall be a highly promising or outstanding contribution to Manipuri Literature. The book shall be a creative or a critical work but not a work of translation.
- ii) A work of anthology, abridgement or a compilation shall not be eligible for the Award.
- iii) A fresh collection of writings published earlier in book-form or revised editions of books published shall not be eligible for the Award.
- iv) A book published in part shall not be considered for the Award.
- v) A treatise or a research work prepared for a university degree or examination shall not be eligible for the Award.
- vi) A posthumous publication is not eligible for the Award.
- vii) A book which may cause communal disharmony or may hurt the sentiment of a section of society or community or may affect national integrity shall not be considered for the Award.
- viii) Books written by members of the Executive Board, General Council and Standing Committees/Advisory Committees of Manipur State Kala Akademi shall not be eligible for the Award.
- ix) No author who had earlier received the Award is eligible to receive it again.
- x) A book shall be disqualified for the Award if it is established to the satisfaction of the Executive Board and General Council of the Akademi that canvassing has been done by the author.

3. Preparation of Ground List, Obtaining of Recommendation and Constitution of Jury:

- i) The Standing Committee for Literature shall recommend a panel of five (5) names for preparation of preliminary ground list consisting of ten (10) books. Secretary, Manipur State Kala Akademi shall choose one (1) expert out of this panel for preparation of the preliminary ground list.
- ii) Preliminary ground lists, each comprising ten (10) books, shall also be invited from literary organisations recognised by Manipur State Kala Akademi.

- iii) The ground lists from the expert and the literary organisations shall be collated.
- iv) A list of ten (10) books that receive maximum entries in the collated preliminary ground list shall make up the Final Ground List.
- v) The Final Ground List so prepared shall be sent to all the members of the Standing Committee for Literature with request to recommend, by such date as may be fixed by the Akademi, three (3) titles. A member may select all the titles from the ground list or two (2) titles from the ground list and the other one on his/her own.
- vi) (a) The Standing Committee for Literature shall recommend a panel of not less than twenty (20) experts and Secretary, Manipur State Kala Akademi shall choose fifteen (15) experts out of this panel to form the Preliminary Panel.

(b) The Standing Committee shall also recommend a panel of ten (10) names of writers, scholars and critics for a three-member Jury. Secretary, Manipur State Kala Akademi shall select the three (3) Jury members out of the panel.
- vii) Each of the fifteen (15) experts shall recommend three (3) titles. He/she may select all the titles from the Final Ground List or two (2) titles from the ground list and the other one on his/her own.
- viii) (a) The recommendations from members of the Standing Committee and those from the experts shall be collated.

(b) The three (3) books which receive maximum recommendations are shortlisted by Secretary, Manipur State Kala Akademi for sending to the Jury. The number of shortlisted books may exceed three if more than three books receive the same number of recommendations.

4. The Jury and its Function:

- i) The Secretary of the Akademi shall be the convener of the meeting of the Jury. He/she shall conduct the meeting of the Jury and shall countersign the report of the Jury.
- ii) The Jury members shall, either by consensus or by majority, recommend a book for the Award. They may also recommend that, in their opinion, no book is eligible for the Award during the year. In the event of a member not being able to attend the meeting, he/she may convey his/her views in writing.
- iii) Each member of the Jury shall be paid such remuneration as may be determined by the Akademi.

5. Declaration of Award:

- i) The recommendation of the Jury shall be placed before the Executive Board and the General Council of Manipur State Kala Akademi for formal approval and announcement of the Award along with the names of the Jury members.
