

History of Kalinga Prize

The Kalinga Prize was established in 1951 by UNESCO with a generous grant from Late Shri Biju Patnaik, Founder President of the Kalinga Foundation Trust. First awarded in 1952, the Kalinga Prize is presented annually by UNESCO to a person or persons, who have made outstanding contribution to the interpretation of science and technology to the general public. The Director General of UNESCO selects the prize winner out of nomination received from Member States on the recommendation of a Four Member International Jury. The Kalinga Prize is regarded as a prestigious international recognition for outstanding science popularisation work. It has so far been awarded to 63 brilliant promoters of science & technology since its inception. Some of the great scientists/personalities who have been awarded Kalinga Prize are Louis de Brogile (1952), Julian Huxley (1953), George Gamow (1956), Bertrand Russel (1957), Karl von Frisch (1958), Arthur C. Clarke (1961), Fred Hoyle (1967) and Sergei Kapitza (1979).

The purpose of the prize is to reward the efforts of a person who has had a distinguished career as writer, editor, lecturer, radio/television programme director or film producer, which has enabled him/her to help to interpret science, research and technology to the public. He/she is expected to have knowledge of the role of science,

technology and general research in the improvement of public welfare.

Purpose

The purpose of the prize is to reward the efforts of a person who has had a distinguished career as writer, editor, lecturer, radio/television programme director or film producer, which has enabled him/her to help to interpret science, research and technology to the public. He/she is expected to have knowledge of the role of science, technology and general research in the improvement of public welfare, the enrichment of the cultural heritage of nations and the solutions to the problems of humanity. The objective of the Prize is in conformity with UNESCO's policies and is related to the programme of the Organization in the field of promoting public awareness in science.

Designation, amount and periodicity of the Prize

- The Prize shall be entitled "*UNESCO Kalinga Prize for the Popularization of Science*".
- The Prize shall be funded by contribution of the Kalinga Foundation Trust, the Government of the state of Odisha, India and the Government of India (Department of Science and Technology) and shall consist of a recurrent payment of

£14,000 sterling, which shall cover both the monetary value of the Prize, certificate, UNESCO Albert Einstein silver medal and the cost of the Prize. Any interest that may accrue will be added to the overall contribution. The contribution of each donor is as follows: the Kalinga Foundation Trust, £4,000, the Odisha Government £4,000 and the Government of India £6,000. The donors should submit their contributions to UNESCO, under coordination of the Kalinga Foundation Trust, not later than 31 December of the year preceding the prize award.

The Prize winner will be offered Kalinga Chair by Government of India (Department of Science and Technology) and will be invited to travel to India, for a two to four week period to interact with scientists and science communicators. He/she will be provided with appropriate facilities to familiarize him/herself with Indian life and culture, Indian research and educational institutions, and the development of India's industry and economy. The Chair also comprises a certificate and cash award of US\$5,000. He/she will also be invited to visit Indian Universities and attend meetings of Indian scientific societies, particularly those of the Indian Science Congress Association. While in India, the recipient will be asked to deliver lectures in English and take part in meetings, with a view to giving an interpretation to India of recent progress in science and technology or the social, cultural and educational consequences of modern science. Thus, he/she should preferably be proficient in English.

- All funds and the interest accrued thereon shall be kept in a special interest-bearing account of the Prize.
- The full staff support and operating management costs of the Prize, including all costs related to the award ceremony and public information activities, estimated at £4,000 shall

be fully covered by donors. To this end, the Director-General will determine a mandatory overhead cost amount to be applied and charged against the funds in the special account, which is to be established under the financial regulations for the Prize.

- The Prize shall normally be awarded biennially in the same year of the UNESCO General Conference.

Conditions/Qualifications of candidates

Candidates shall have made a significant contribution to the popularisation of science. Prizes may be conferred only upon individuals.

Designation/Selection of prize-winner

The Prize winner shall be selected by the Director-General of UNESCO on the basis of the assessments and recommendations made to him/her by a jury.

Jury

- The Jury shall consist of five independent members, of different nationalities and gender, appointed by the Director-General for a period of six-years, eligible for re-election, one of the jury members having been recommended by the Kalinga Foundation Trust. The members of the Jury from different countries of the world shall be designated on the basis of equitable geographical distribution. Representatives and alternatives of Members of the Executive Board cannot be appointed as jurors. Jurors involved in a real or potential conflict of interest shall recuse themselves from further deliberations or be asked by the Director-General to do so. The Director-General may replace members of the Jury for reason.
- The Jury shall elect its own chair Members and shall receive no remuneration for their work, but will receive reimbursement of any expenses linked with the evaluation process, up to a limit of

US\$500. A quorum of three jurors who submit their evaluation results will be required for jury deliberations to proceed. The working languages for deliberations by the Jury shall be English and French.

- The Jury shall adopt its own working procedures in conformity with these Statutes and shall be assisted in the performance of its task by a member of the UNESCO Secretariat designated by the Director-General. Decisions shall be taken by consensus to the extent possible and otherwise by secret ballot until a simple majority is obtained. A member shall not take part in a vote concerning a nomination from his or her country.
- The Jury need not physically meet. The correspondence among them could be ensured by airmail, facsimile, or electronic mail.
- The Jury shall send an assessment on nominations and accompanying recommendations to the Director-General of UNESCO not later than 31 August of the year of the Prize.

Nomination of candidates

- When UNESCO has received the funding of the Prize, the Director-General of UNESCO shall officially invite the submission of nominations to the Secretariat of the Prize, by 15 May of the year of the Prize, from the governments of Member States, in consultation with their National Commissions and non-governmental organizations maintaining formal relations [associate or consultative] with the Organization and active in relevant fields covered by the prize.
- Nomination shall be submitted to the Director-General by the governments of Member States, in consultation with their National Commissions, and by non-governmental organizations maintaining formal relations with UNESCO. A self-nomination cannot be

considered. Each Member State and non-governmental organization may designate one candidate.

- Each nomination shall be accompanied by a written recommendation, which shall include four copies of the following documents, in English or French:

- (i) Description of the candidate's background and achievements;
- (ii) Summary of the work or the results of the work on popularization of science, publications and other supporting materials, submitted for consideration; and
- (iii) Definition of the candidate's contribution of a review of the way in which the work submitted has contributed to the popularisation of science.

Procedure for the awarding of the Prize

- The Prize shall be awarded by the Director-General at an official ceremony held for that purpose in the place where UNESCO celebrates World Science Day, on 10 November. UNESCO shall present to the prize-winner a cheque for the amount of the prize £10,000, a certificate and the UNESCO-Albert Einstein silver medal. UNESCO shall officially announce the name of the prize-winner.
- The prize may be conferred only upon individuals. A work that has been produced by two or three persons shall not be considered.
- The prize-winner, if possible shall give a lecture on a subject relevant to the work for which the prize has been awarded.
- The work produced by a person since deceased shall not be considered for an award. If, however, a prize-winner dies before he/she has received the prize, then the prize may be presented posthumously to relatives or an institution.

- Should a prize-winner decline the prize, the Executive Board shall decide on the destination of the amount of the prize.

Sunset clause-mandatory renewal of the Prize

- After a period of six years, the Director-General of UNESCO together with the donors will undertake a review of all aspects of the Prize and decide about its continuation or termination. The Director-General will inform the Executive Board of UNESCO about the results of this review.

- In case of termination of the Prize, the use of any unspent balance of funds shall be determined by the Director-General, in accordance with the Financial Regulations of the Prize.

Appeals

No appeal shall be allowed against the decision of UNESCO with regard to the award of the Prize. Proposals received for the award of the Prize may not be divulged.

Amendments to the Statutes of the Prize

Any amendment to the present statutes shall be submitted to the Executive Board for approval.

Source : www.kalingafoundationtrust.com



Birds enjoying in Chilika lake