

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
ARTS AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT**

“The Guidelines for conferring State Literary Award to Authors”

1. **Title:** 1) This shall be called the guidelines for conferring State Literary Award to Authors.
2. **Description:** The State Literary Award is given principally on literary merit and content relevance to the Khasi and Garo Literature. It is an initiative to acknowledge, uplift the exemplary effort made by any individual who promotes and contributes to the development, growth and preservation of Khasi and Garo languages.
3. **Objectives:**
 - i. To encourage the authors who uplift the literary work to enrich Khasi and Garo languages.
 - ii. To give due recognition for outstanding works in the field of Literature.
4. **Definition:**
 - i. Literary:** means any written works in the form of Prose, Drama, Poetry, Novel, Folklore, etc that are significant for the development of Literature and promoting the Artistic value and Cultural Heritage of the State both tangible and intangible.
 - ii. Language:** Khasi language or Garo Language.
 - iii. Plagiarism:** means the wrongful appropriation, stealing and publication of another author's literary work.
5. **Eligibility criteria:**
 - (i) The book must immensely contribute to the language and literature to which it belongs (Khasi/Garo).
 - (ii) Authors should be bonafide residents of the State.
 - (iii) One author can submit only one book of only one category in one particular allotment year.
 - (iv) 3 (three) copies of the book should be submitted along with the application.
 - (v) The book so submitted may be a Novel, Poetry, Prose, Drama or Folklore.
 - (vi) An adaptation or recreation of Mythology, Folktales, History, etc., is also eligible.
 - (vii) Self-published books are eligible.
 - (viii) A creative or a critical work is also eligible.
 - (ix) A work of translation is not eligible.
 - (x) An anthology is not eligible.

- (xi) An abridgement or an annotation is not eligible.
- (xii) A treatise or research work prepared for a university degree or any other similar examinations is not eligible.
- (xiii) Monographs, Books published by the Directorate of Arts and Culture are not eligible.
- (xiv) Reprints of previously published books are not eligible.
- (xv) A book that has been republished by a different publisher is not eligible.
- (xvi) Books available in eBook format alone are not eligible unless printed copies of the same are submitted in 3 (three) copies.
- (xvii) A posthumous publication is eligible only if the author has died not more than five years period stipulated for the Award.
- (xviii) The book must show in print that it was published in the appropriate eligible year.
- (xix) The book must be published and distributed in bookstores in Meghalaya during the particular year.
- (xx) Plagiarized, propaganda and infringed Literary works are not eligible.

6. Nomination:

- a. Nominations will be accepted from publishers as well as writing and publishing individuals and organisations, etc.
- b. A Nomination should be made in a Nomination Format(**Annexure II**).
- c. There are no limits to the number of individuals who may submit a nomination. All nominations and their supporting materials are considered confidential.

7. Constitution of the Advisory Committee:

- i. There shall be an Advisory Committee comprising members specially selected by the Department of Arts and Culture. The term of the Committee shall be for a period of 3 (three) years.
- ii. The Advisory Committee shall be headed by the Director, Arts and Culture, and acceptance/approval of the recommendation made by the Advisory Committee shall be by the Administrative Department of Arts and Culture.

8. Composition of The Advisory Committee:

(1) Director, Arts & Culture, Meghalaya

- Chairman

(2) Compiler, Directorate of Arts & Culture, Shillong - Member-Secretary

(3) 3 (three) Members for Khasi Literature - Member

(4) 3 (three) Members for Garo Literature - Member

9. Terms of Reference of the Advisory Committee:

- i. The Members of the Advisory Committee shall recommend books for the consideration. The Department of Arts and Culture shall provide the books in advance to the Members, Chairman and Member Secretary for the purpose.
- ii. The Committee shall evaluate the Literary works on the basis of their originality, Social relevance and Literary merits and recommend the best book in Khasi and Garo languages for the Award.
- iii. The Advisory Committee will try to reach to a consensus in the matter of recommendation.
- iv. Where two or more books are found to be of equal merit, the total literary contribution and standing of their authors and the consensus opinion of the Advisory Committee Members shall be taken into consideration.

10. Declaration of the Award:

- 1) The declaration of the Award shall be made on having been approved by the Government.
- 2) A Cash Prize award of Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rupees one lakhs) only shall be given for Khasi language and Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rupees one lakhs) only for Garo language.
- 3) The Award will be conferred every year on the occasion of **Republic Day that is on the 26th January.**

11. Documents to be furnished along with the application:

- 1) Application form (**Annexure I**)
- 2) Copy of EPIC.
- 3) Brief description of the work done by him/her in the last five years either in English or local language.
- 4) Copy of Educational Certificates etc, if any.
- 5) One recent Passport size Photograph.
- 6) Attested copies of Documents enclosed.

12. Publicity/Advertisement of the Scheme:

An advertisement will be placed both on the Notice Board of the Directorate and District Offices of the Directorate of Arts and Culture as well as in the print media for inviting applications and also seek the list of exponents from the respective Deputy Commissioners.

On having been selected and approved, the awardee shall execute a Deed of Agreement (**Annexure III**) with the Director of Arts and Culture.

13. Disqualification:

The awardee shall be liable for disqualification if any of the clauses/ conditions of the Deed of Agreement is subsequently found violated or if any of the declaration made is subsequently found false or incorrect.